



**Sunday, February 18, 2024**

**First Sunday of Lent**

Worship Service — 10 am

Worship Leader – Paul Cornies

Speaker – Chris Hutton

*With voice and heart we worship God together at NLUMC.  
We strive to be a welcoming community who live our faith  
in active and practical ways of discipleship and service.*

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## **Order of Worship Christ Among Us**

Welcome and announcements

VT #84, *To God Be the Glory*

Call to worship

VT #590, *I Know Not Why God's Wondrous Grace*

For the Young in Heart

Offering and VT #636, *Spirit, Open My Heart*

Worship music — The Heart of Worship, David Hrynyk

Scripture reading — Mark 1:9-15

Message — Christ Among Us: Enter the Desert

Sharing and prayer

VT #557, *Spirit of God! Descend*, vs. 1,3,4

Benediction

*Please join us for coffee and fellowship after the worship service.*

There is no children's Sunday School today.  
Children's Sunday school will resume next week.

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## **Church Life . . .**

◆ **Second Sunday of Lent, February 25**, join us for worship with Chani Wiens leading worship and UMEI participating in the worship service.

◆ **Home Churches Begin This Week!** Looking for a place to connect with others, have fun, serve others, and experience God outside of Sunday

morning? Then feel free to drop in and check out a home church starting this week! All ages are welcome, and you can drop in as you feel able to!

► **Marshwoods Home Church**

22 Marshwoods Blvd, Kingsville, Wednesdays 6:30 — 8 pm

► **Cherokee Home Church**

30 Cherokee Lane, Leamington, Thursdays 6:30 — 8 pm

Contact Chris Hutton if you have questions!

◆ **Looking For a Prayer Experience this Lent?** We have purchased, for the church, this year's Lenten Guided Prayer produced by the Mennonite Spiritual Directors of Canada. If you would like a program to pray through the season of Lent, this is a great experience! Contact Chris Hutton to receive this material.

◆ **Missions Team News**

► **Missions Team is excited to share a new local project** that everyone can get involved in! The Leamington Community Hope Centre (LCHC) is participating in the **Coldest Night of the Year** fundraiser and we are inviting everyone to join the NLUMC Team to support this local organization providing much needed services in our community. LCHC opened in January 2023 as a drop-in program for those experiencing homelessness and hardships of any kind. They offer a hot meal daily (even weekends and holidays) from 6 -10 pm, currently serving between 50-70 people/night. They also provide addictions counseling and support, AA, NA, and Al-Anon programs.

We are inviting you to join our team - North Leamington United Mennonite Church and walk with us on **Saturday, February 24**. What's involved? Go to the CNOY website to register for our team at this link: <https://secure.e2rm.com/registant/TeamFundraisingPage.aspx?teamID=1011736&langPref=en-CA>

Team members will spend some time over the next few weeks fundraising toward our team goal of \$1000. We think we can exceed this goal! On **Saturday, February 24** we will meet at the **Leamington Community Hope Centre**, 58 Erie Street South, at 4 pm and walk, either 2 km or 5 km, starting at 5 pm. All funds raised by our Team will go to the Leamington Community Hope Centre.

If you aren't able to join us on February 24, you can still participate, either by fundraising and walking at a time and place that works for you, or by donating to the NLUMC Team, at the link above. Thank you for considering this meaningful local project! . . . Missions Team

*P.S. Last year, over 37,000 walkers across Canada joined this event, raising \$13.1 million dollars - it's Canada's National Walk for Homelessness.*

► We also invite you to show you care, by joining a carpool to view an exhibit at the Caboto Club on **Saturday, February 24** between 11 am and 7 pm. **The Women's Movement for Palestine presents "Gaza will Rise."** We are all part

of the global family, and this is one way we can show our Muslim brothers and sisters that the Christian Community cares and sees their suffering. Many in Windsor have family who have died in Gaza. "Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted." We will have a carpool in the morning leaving at 10:30, and one in the afternoon leaving at 2 pm. Please call Barbara Martens at 519-324-3116 to indicate your participation.

### ◆ **For Your Winter Reading Pleasure**

Come downstairs and browse the shelves of the church library for your winter reading selections. New additions are displayed on the carousel for your convenience. Please sign the bookcard and leave it in the box on the desk. Enjoy your reads!

▶ ***Her Daughter's Dream*** by Francine Rivers. Sequel to *Her Mother's Hope*. Explore the relationship between daughters, mothers and grandmothers by following four generations in one family.

▶ ***Tiffany Girl*** by Deeanne Gist. In preparation for the 1895 Chicago World's Fair Louis Tiffany designed a stained-glass chapel. A glassworker's strike halts construction and Tiffany turns to the female students of the New York School of applied Design. See how these young ladies rise to the challenge and become the "Tiffany Girls".

▶ ***Who Will be a Witness*** by Drew G. I. Hart. Join the author in exploring the church's role in social change/justice and being a faithful witness to the way of Jesus.

### ◆ **An Investment for You, Bonus Interest for What You**

**Believe In.** Kindred Credit Union offers you a unique way to invest through Community Inspiration GICs. You invest in a guaranteed investment certificate (GIC) that earns a competitive interest rate and, in return, Kindred donates an additional quarter percent interest to your congregation or qualifying charity. This offer is available for a limited time. If you are interested in investing, please contact Kindred before June 30 and consider naming NLUMC as the bonus interest recipient. For more information, call or visit Kindred in Leamington or [kindredcu.com/CI-GIC](http://kindredcu.com/CI-GIC).

◆ **Vacation Bible School. Save the date! July 8-12** is SCUBA VBS together with LUMC. If you are interested in volunteering, let David know.

**The church office will be closed  
Tuesday, February 20  
for the Family Day holiday.  
We will reopen on  
Wednesday, February 21 at 9 am.**

## ◆ Tax Receipts

2023 NLUMC Tax Receipts **were emailed** on Friday, February 16, 2024. If you do not have an email address on file with the church office, your tax receipt is either in your church mailslot or was mailed out to you by Canada Post on Friday, February 16. If you have any questions, please call Susan in the church office, 519-326-7928.

## ◆ Donations to NLUMC

- ▶ Have you considered increasing your automatic transfer donation amount?
- ▶ Your donations to NLUMC can also be offered through Abundance Canada if your family is setting up a Gifting Fund through charitable stocks and bonds in-kind. Visit <https://abundance.ca>
- ▶ Donations are accepted by:
  - 1) Automatic transfers – contact Susan
  - 2) E-transfer – email [treasurer@nlumc.com](mailto:treasurer@nlumc.com) - include member # in message
  - 3) Offering on Sunday morning

Contact Susan Klassen, [office@nlumc.com](mailto:office@nlumc.com); or Brenda Klassen, [treasurer@nlumc.com](mailto:treasurer@nlumc.com)

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## Community/Conference Events . . .

◆ **Carolinian Wild Church, Sunday February 18**, at 4 pm. Love is the theme for the February outdoor service of worship with creation with personal time for wandering & reflection. ALL ARE WELCOME! Meeting at the parking lot at Hillman Marsh Conservation Area, 1826 Mersea Road 2, Leamington. Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at 4 pm. Meeting SNOW, RAIN or SHINE. Dress accordingly. Washrooms not available. Facilitators: Karen Sheil, Susan Kennel Harrison, Ruth Boehm. For more information: [carolinianwildchurch@gmail.com](mailto:carolinianwildchurch@gmail.com)

## ◆ Essex Kent Mennonite Historical Association News

▶ **Travelogue, Friday, February 23:** *Prague and Budapest* by Luise Taves. All are welcome. Admission by donation.

▶ **Friday, March 8: Video presentation:** *Those Who Remained during the Stalin Era*.

All events at the Heritage Centre at 7 pm. Everyone Welcome. Admission by donation

## ◆ UMEI Christian High School News

**Volleyball Tournament Fundraiser, Saturday, March 23**, beginning at 9 am. This is a co-ed, 6 versus 6, event (with a minimum of two girls per team), and \$450 per team minimum. All athletic abilities are welcome! Pizza lunch will be provided. Prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place! Email [driedge1@gmail.com](mailto:driedge1@gmail.com) before March 12 to enter.

◆ **Mennonite Historical Society of Ontario Annual Meeting & Niagara Russlaender Centenary Tour, Saturday, June 15.** Join the Society for a day tour of sites in the Niagara region to commemorate the centenary of the arrival of *Russlaender* Mennonite immigrants in Ontario. Visit [www.mhso.org](http://www.mhso.org) and fill out a form to be notified when registration opens.

◆ **Save the Date – Watermelon & Rollkuchen fundraiser**, for the local growing project of the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, will take place **Sunday, June 23** at the Tiessen family farm.

### ◆ **Employment Opportunity**

The **Leamington Mennonite Home** is seeking qualified candidates for the position of **Chief Financial Officer**. This senior management position plays an integral role in the day-to-day functioning of LMH. Candidates should possess a business degree from an accredited university/college. Qualified candidates will demonstrate a high level of energy and commitment with an understanding of the senior population we provide care for. The Leamington Mennonite Home is a senior's community that provides safe and secure housing to over 350 seniors from a variety of backgrounds and traditions. Qualified candidates will understand our Home's Christian background rooted in Mennonite/Anabaptist tradition and show a commitment to maintaining this organizational identity. Applications will be received until April 1, 2024. Only applicants demonstrating the proper qualifications will be contacted for an interview. Interested and qualified candidates should submit their application to Human Resources Specialist, Jacquie Turnbull ([jacquie@mennonitehome.ca](mailto:jacquie@mennonitehome.ca)). A full job description for review can be requested by contacting Jacquie Turnbull.

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## **Prayer List . . .**

**Neighbouring Congregation** — Today, in our cycle of prayer, area churches are remembering **South Point Community Church** and their pastor David Bretzlaff.

Each week **MCEC, Mennonite Church Eastern Canada**, prays for one of our congregations. This week we are praying for **Famille Assemblée de la Grâce** in Montreal, Quebec.

**Missions** — see Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) for giving opportunities, [www.mcc.org](http://www.mcc.org)

**To view more information from MCEC** go to [News & Events - Mennonite Church Eastern Canada \(mcec.ca\)](http://News & Events - Mennonite Church Eastern Canada (mcec.ca))

Please pray for *Irma Warkentin* as she withdraws her membership from NLUMC effective March 15, 2024.

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## Thought for the Day

Listen! It's the voice of someone shouting,  
"Clear the way through the wilderness for the LORD!  
Make a straight highway through the wasteland for our God!  
Fill in the valleys, and level the mountains and hills.  
Straighten the curves, and smooth out the rough places.  
Then the glory of the LORD will be revealed,  
and all people will see it together. The LORD has spoken!"  
Isaiah 40: 3-5

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## Connect . . .

- Check out our church website at [nlumc.com](http://nlumc.com), including YouTube videos of our past services.
  - Watch our Sunday morning service via YouTube livestream at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCdn1sLuXDZYqHsEyd92k0g/featured>
  - Get updates on our ministries by joining our Facebook group.
  - See photos of what we are doing on our Instagram page.
  - Contact the church office, pastor or Council members for information.
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## Care . . .

If you are aware of any crises needs or visitation needs within our community of faith, please contact the church office or Pastor Chris, 519-613-1971, at this time.

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## Contacts . . .

Chris Hutton ..... cell 519-613-1971 ..... [pastor@nlumc.com](mailto:pastor@nlumc.com)

David Hrynyk..... cell 613-743-9299 ..... [youthleader@nlumc.com](mailto:youthleader@nlumc.com)

Church Council Chairperson; Brenda Fischer; Council members; Dennis Dick, Dennis Driedger, Brenda Klassen, Susan Neufeld Dick, Sonya Cornies, Paul Tiessen, Ryan Derksen, Linda Driedger, Kevin Fischer, Barb Fischer, Ken Hamm, Joanne Brown, Paul Cornies, Greg Driedger.

Church phone: 519-326-7928 ..... Email: [office@nlumc.com](mailto:office@nlumc.com)

Facebook: North Leamington United Mennonite Church.....

Website: [www.northleamington.com](http://www.northleamington.com) ..... Instagram: [wethenorthchurch](https://www.instagram.com/wethenorthchurch)

Office hours: Tuesday – Friday, 9 am – 3 pm