



**Sunday, December 2, 2018**

**First Sunday of Advent**

**Communion**

Worship Service — 10 am

Worship Leader: Brenda Fischer

Speaker: Charleen Jongejan Harder

Communion: Kendall Jongejan Harder

*Growing relationships, in Christ.*

NLUMC Vision Statement, 2011

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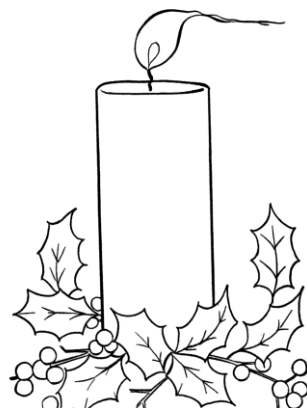
## **Order of Worship**

*The Lord is our Righteousness –*

*What does Good look like?*

*The prophet Isaiah claimed this as the official motto  
for the new Jerusalem;*

*what would it mean to have God's justice and goodness  
as our motto to live by?*



Prepare ye the way of the Lord

Call to worship

Advent candle lighting

Opening prayer

STS #1, *Praise the One who breaks the darkness*

Children's feature

Announcements

Sharing time & prayer

Worship music — O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Scripture reading — Jeremiah 33:14-18

Message — Quod Dominus Iustus Noster! Living out our Motto!

Hymn, *Come, thou long expected Jesus* (insert in back of Hymnal)

Communion — Sharing the Bread

STJ #87, *Put peace into each other's hands*

— Sharing the Cup

Hymn #182, *Oh, how shall I receive thee*

Worship music — Welcome to our World

Sending prayer



*The Pastors will remain at the front of the sanctuary following the service  
to offer anointing and prayer if you desire.*

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

*Today* —

► **Mindful Movement for Mental Health - Intergenerational class.** Coffee at 8:45, class at 9 am. Today is the final class in this series.

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*Second Advent Sunday, December 9* —

► 10 am — Join us for worship as Pastor Alicia brings us the message for the second Sunday of Advent: Listening for God.

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## **Church Life . . .**

◆ **Caregiving Committee meeting, Tuesday, December 4** at 9:30 am.

◆ **Church Council meeting, Tuesday, December 4,** 7 pm.

◆ **Blue Christmas.** Perhaps you are feeling blue this Christmas season. It might be because of a loss of a loved one, a broken dream, or a significant disappointment. Maybe you are far away from family and friends or are struggling with your mental or physical health. NLUMC pastors invite you to bring whatever might be heavy on your heart to our Blue Christmas service on **Thursday, December 13** from 7-8 pm. This is an opportunity for simple prayer and reflection in a contemplative style that is set apart from the usual festivities of the Christmas season.

◆ **Bake Sale December 16.** Got a craving for peppermint cookies or other Christmas goodies? There will be a bake sale on **Sunday, December 16** after worship, with funds raised to support the Salvation Army Food Bank. This is planned in connection with the Food Drive; as both cash and dry goods are needed. Please contact Tammy Warkentin if you are able to bake for the sale.

◆ **Christmas choir.** Come join us to celebrate Christmas Day by lifting our voices in song. Rehearsals will be on **December 16, 23 & 25** at 9 am. All are welcome. Helga Enns will direct and Sandra Warkentin will accompany.

◆ **Sunday School Christmas Eve** concert rehearsals are now in full swing and regular attendance of the Sunday School students would be appreciated for our performance to run smoothly. Parents are invited to enjoy a coffee after Sunday morning services in order to give enough time for concert rehearsal and lessons. **We will be having our dress rehearsal on Sunday, December 23 right after the church service.** A pizza lunch will be provided. Thank you for your help! We look forward to Christmas Eve.

◆ **Food Drive – Reverse Advent.** Sometimes in Advent, you get a little something each day of December leading up to Christmas. NLUMC would like

to invite you to GIVE a little something each day - a little food. Bring your canned and dry good offerings to church each week and together we will help stock the shelves of the Salvation Army Food Bank in Leamington. The need is great this year. Also, look for an announcement about an upcoming bake sale, also to support the Food Bank. From now until Christmas Day, bring your food to the Christmas tree in the foyer as you come in to church.

◆ **Advent Colouring Pages:** Colouring isn't just for kids anymore! Worship Team is providing colouring pages for all ages with an Advent theme. Colouring is acknowledged as an excellent way to provide space and time to slow down, meditate, and reduce stress; it's our gift to you this season. Colouring sheets are available at the prayground table and also at the table in the foyer.

◆ **Hospitality Committee** requests that you check the church kitchen for any dishes that you may have left there.

### ◆ Save the Dates ◆

Blue Christmas – December 13

All Youth Christmas Party – December 16

Senior Youth Virtual Reality Escape Room – December 18

Christmas Eve Service – December 24

Christmas Day Service – December 25

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## Community/Conference Events . . .

### ◆ UMEI Christian High School News

▶ **Grade 11 Drama Class presents: *A Christmas Carol* today** at 2 pm. Tickets for the play are available at the door – adults \$10; students \$6; children 5 years and under – free. Before the play, come out and enjoy a chili lunch in the auditorium at the students *Annual Chili Cookoff* from 12-1:30 pm – admission by donation.

▶ **Shop UMEI Vista Christmas Order.** Retail card orders are due in the office by noon **Monday, December 3**. Cards will be ready for pick up Friday, December 7. This will be the last order before Christmas.

▶ **Zwiebach & Raisin Bread** orders are due in the office by noon **Monday, December 10** and will be ready to pick up Wednesday, December 12.

**NOTE:** There will not be any zwiebach or raisin bread orders in January and February.

▶ **Ground beef** orders are due in the office by noon **Wednesday, December 12** and will be ready to pick up Thursday, December 20.

**NOTE:** There will not be a January ground beef order.

► **Save the date – Lightning Live: Friday, December 14.** Calling all Grade 7 and 8 students! You are invited to Lightning Live 2018 for a fun day of shadowing interactive classes. Lunch will be provided. Registration begins at 9:30 am and the day runs from 10 am - 2:30 pm. To pre-register email [abbynd@umei.ca](mailto:abbynd@umei.ca) or call 519-326-7448. **NOTE:** New students who register for the 2019-2020 school year by February 28 will receive a \$200 tuition credit and a free t-shirt.

► **Christmas Concert.** UMEI's annual Christmas Concert will take place **Friday, December 14** at 7 pm in the auditorium. Everyone is welcome.

### ◆ **Leamington Mennonite Home News**

**Annual Leamington Mennonite Home Open House.** Family and friends of the Home are invited to the annual Christmas Open House **today** from 2:30-3:30 pm. The Heritage Choir will sing and Santa promises to visit.

◆ **Heritage Choir Practice, Monday, December 3** at 2 pm at the Heritage Center.

◆ **Hey Jingle,** A kids' Christmas musical will be at the Bank Theatre, 10 Erie St. S., Leamington on **Friday, December 7** and **Saturday, December 8** at 7 pm. Tickets are \$5 per person.

◆ **Southwestern Ontario Gleaners** invites you to join them for their Holiday Open House on **Saturday, December 8**, 10 am – 2 pm. Tour the facility, enjoy a sample of soup made from our dehydrated vegetable mix and try their delicious dehydrated apple snacks. Let us share holiday cheer about this amazing charity! Everyone is welcome at 40 Industrial Road, Leamington.

◆ **Heritage Choir Christmas program, Saturday, December 15**, 7 pm at the Heritage Centre, Pickwick Drive.

◆ **MCEC Event: Caregiving in a #ChurchToo World, January 19, 2019.** **Time-sensitive event information:** If you are interested in more education around #ChurchToo, you are encouraged to consider attending a special seminar on Saturday, January 19 at Steinmann Mennonite Church, Baden, Ontario, on the theme of “Caregiving in a #ChurchToo World” with prominent keynote speaker Marie Fortune. This event is open to interested MCEC congregants. Space is limited so make sure people from your church register ASAP at <https://uwaterloo.ca/anabaptist-learning-workshop/pccl2019>.

◆ **2019 MCC Calendars** are available in the church foyer.

## ◆ Information from the Mennonite Community Festival Committee.

### *An Open Letter to the Mennonite Community*

For the past few years attendance at the Mennonite Community Festival has been dwindling. Our booth leaders are aging and young people, particularly in the 20-40 year old age group, are not interested in or are unable to replace their elders. Many of our booth leaders are well into their 80s. As a result, the income that the sale makes to distribute to charities has decreased considerably. It has been showing a downward trend over the past few years.

The committee has tried unsuccessfully to revitalize different parts of the sale but we have lacked volunteers for many integral parts. We have discussed this with the booth leaders and many feel that those in our community are very busy volunteering with other organizations—many of which were a direct spin off from the original “Mennonite Sale”. At one time the Community Festival was “the” volunteer opportunity and it is not the case anymore. At one of our booth leaders meetings we were told that we no longer raise enough money for our charities to be significant.

It is the opinion of the committee and the current booth leaders that the Community Festival should be discontinued all together or reappear as a different type of charity fundraiser that celebrates Traditional Mennonite Heritage. So, it is prayerfully and with regret that, we inform you that the Community Festival will take a one year or possibly permanent hiatus. We will only look one year into the future as it is possible that some other group may step up and wish to reinvent our community festival. There may be a group that feels called to do such a thing and a year would give them time to organize an alternative event. If that is so, the current committee would be happy to help with guidance but all of us feel we need to step back. In the event that no one comes forward or decides to reinvent this event by December 31, 2019, then the legal entity that is the Community Sale will be wound down and any money left will be dispersed to the charities we have always supported.

This letter has been a long time in coming as those of us intimately involved with LMCF have tried to think of ways in which the Festival might be salvaged but we know that for now this is the right thing to do.

If you have any questions, or comments, please do not hesitate to contact us at the email or phone number below. A financial document of the last sale with all expenses removed with 2017 for comparison is posted on the church bulletin board.

*. . . Sincerely, Janice Huntingford-Wagner, Harold Wagner, LMCF co-chairs*

*See bulletin board for the following . . .*

- **Mennonite Disaster Service**, November 21 update
  - **Lights of Life**, Erie Shores Healthcare, Leamington, December 2
  - **Christmas greetings from MCC Ontario**
  - **Mennonite Central Committee Christmas Giving Guide 2018**
  - **Bluffton**, Fall 2018
  - **Grebel Now**, Fall 2018
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## **Youth . . .**

▶ **Today**, Junior Youth Virtual Reality Escape Room, 3-7 pm. Cost is \$25 per person. **Registration is now closed.**

▶ **Tuesday, December 18**, Senior Youth Virtual Reality Escape Room, 4-9 pm. Cost is \$25 per person. **Contact Pastor Alicia before December 11 to sign up.**

▶ **Adult volunteers are needed** to coordinate catering and help with decorating for the all Youth Christmas Party on **Sunday, December 16. Contact Pastor Alicia.**

▶ **MCC is now accepting applications for SALT 2019-2020 placements!** Serving and Learning Together (SALT) is a year-long service experience for 18-30 year olds with one of MCC's international partners. SALT service opportunities for 2019-2020 include placements such as tech support, public health, project management and childcare in over 50 different countries. Contact Pastor Alicia for more information. Go to [mcccanada.ca/salt](http://mcccanada.ca/salt) to apply.

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**Photography and Media Policy.** North Leamington United Mennonite Church (NLUMC) takes photographs/videos of participants at various church services and events. NLUMC may use any photos/videos taken from any service and events for promoting, publicizing or explaining NLUMC and its activities in the form of print, broadcast, website and social media, or in any manner deemed appropriate without prior notification to the participants. Photos could be used in these public forums without consideration and/or compensation. If church members/or participants consent to the use of their photo/or their child's photo to be included in any church broadcasts, they are asked to contact the church office and sign the appropriate Photography and Media Consent Form. The NLUMC Photography and Media Policy has been implemented to inform church participants that NLUMC is committed to a safe environment for all.

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# Prayer List . . .

**Neighbouring Congregation** — Today area churches are praying for Leamington United Mennonite Church and their pastors; David Dyck, Michael Williamson, Zach Charbonneau and Frieda Lepp.

**Each week MCEC, Mennonite Church Eastern Canada**, prays for one of our congregations. This week we are praying for Église Mennonite Ichtus, Quebec City, Quebec.

Many thanks to the Caregiving Committee for the very lovely Seniors' Christmas Social. We appreciate being honoured in such a loving way. All the music, words and treats were a great blessing. . . *Louise & Bob Cornies*

On behalf of the Koop family, we would like to express our gratitude to family and friends who have shown their loving care in so many ways in the past weeks. Thank you to those of you who provided Dad with rides to and from Windsor so he could spend time with Mom. We have experienced your support through emails, phone calls, flowers, cards, visits, food and donations. We would also like to thank pastors, Alicia, Charleen and Kendall for their visits and most recently their guidance in planning the funeral service as well as to those involved in the service. We are grateful to those who provided baked goods and served in the kitchen. Through your many expressions of love we were reminded that God protects us from nothing, but sustains us in everything.

. . . *The family of the late Astrid Koop*

Our prayers go out to the family of *Leona Willms*, sister of Marie & Victor Dick and Irene Froese, who passed away Thursday, November 29.

Our prayers go out to the family of *Agnes Dick*, sister-in-law of John & Helen Dick, who passed away Thursday, November 29.

*We invite you to let the church office know of any requests for visitation you might have by calling or emailing the church office, 519-326-7928 or office@nlumc.com, Tuesday through Friday, 9 am to 3 pm. In case of emergency, contact Pastor Alicia, 519-819-3772 or Pastor Charleen at 519-329-3829 or Pastor Kendall at 519-329-1514.*

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## Pastors

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