



Sunday, December 22, 2019

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Worship Service — 10 am

Worship Leader: Lindsey Ecker

Speaker: Kendall Jongejan Harder

Worship music: Joan Willms

Growing relationships, in Christ.

NLUMC Vision Statement

Today . . .

▶ 9 am — **Christmas choir practice.**

▶ 9:45 am — **Christmas carol singing** in the sanctuary.

Hesitancy — What am I waiting for?

When I call out to God, God hears me and restores my soul.

I am a child of God, called to belong and to be redeemed by grace.

Worth the Wait

Announcements

HWB #201, *Hark! the herald angels sing*

Call to worship

Prayer

HWB #172, *O come, O come, Immanuel*

Theme song STS #9, *As the pauper waits for plenty*

Responsive reading (from Psalm 80)

Lighting the Advent wreath

Confession

Worship music — O come, O come, Immanuel

Children's time

Offering and HWB #211, *Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming*

Scripture reading — Matthew 1:18-25

Sermon — Through the Eyes of Joseph

Worship music — Welcome to our World

Sharing time and prayer

STJ #93, *Wehrlos und verlassen sehnt sich*

Sending

Please join us for coffee and fellowship following the worship service.

Week of Christmas —

Tuesday, Christmas Eve, December 24

- ▶ 6:40 pm — Students, please arrive at church to prepare for the program.
- ▶ 7 pm — **Christmas Eve service.**

Wednesday, Christmas Day, December 25

- ▶ 9 am — **Choir practice.**
- ▶ **10 am — Join us for worship** as Pastor Charleen brings the message.

Next Sunday, December 29

10 am — Join us for worship as Pastor Ken brings the message based on Hebrews 2:10-18.

Church Life . . .

◆ **Children's Sunday School News**

The Sunday School is excited about preparations for the Christmas Eve Service. Singing time is being extended and lesson time ends at 11:15 am. We hope the children will be attending regularly to learn the songs and short drama. Song lyrics have been emailed. On **Sunday, December 22** there will be a full rehearsal in the basement during church. No additional time is needed after church.

▶ **Parents, please note:** on Christmas Eve, please be at church by 6:40 pm and bring children to the basement singing room. The children will proceed upstairs with their teachers at 6:50 to be able to listen to the children's prelude.

◆ **Friday, December 27.** The church is reserved for wedding rehearsal.

◆ **Saturday, December 28.** The church is reserved for a wedding.

◆ **A Note from Worship Team**

You may have noticed that the name tags are in the foyer for you to fill out. The name tags are used to help visitors feel comfortable when talking with you, to help a momentary memory lapse, to help newer (even longstanding) members learn other member's names. So, if you see the table filled with sticky name tags and markers, fill in your name.

◆ **Greetings!**

Thank you to those who have signed up for greeting on a Sunday morning. In the foyer is the next sign up form from December to February. Consider being a welcoming presence to all who come to NLUMC.

◆ A Note from Missions Team

Our **Community Meal table** is set up in the foyer. Donations for the community meal fund can be placed into the offering plate, with the cheque made out to our church as usual. Write “Community Meal” and the amount on the outside of the donation envelope on the “other” line. With every \$250 donated, a place setting will be added to the table. Please consider making a donation, and maybe volunteering.

◆ Baby Dedication

We are currently planning for a baby dedication on **January 19, 2020**. If you know of a baby in our community whose family may be interested in a NLUMC baby dedication, please nudge our pastors to contact them or encourage these families to contact the church office.

◆ Adult Education

Are you in control of your life? If you are not sure, consider these questions:

- Do you have trouble saying, “No,” to people?
- Do people take advantage of you?
- How do you answer someone who wants your time, love, energy, and/or money?
- Can you set limits and still be a loving person?

Starting **Sunday, January 19, 2020**, Ken and Dawne Driedger will lead a 9-week Adult Education session for adults and teens after worship, 11:30 am, designed to help participants learn how to set and cultivate boundaries that can provide a framework for healthier relationships. We will say more about this in the weeks to come, but plan to participate and get better at knowing when to say, “Yes,” and how to say, “No,” to take control of your life.

◆ Faith Exploration / Baptism 2020

If you or a loved one is interested in being baptized in 2020, we would love to talk to you! Faith Exploration classes will begin in January 2020, starting on **Sunday, January 19**. #wethenorthchurch are glad you are part of us, and glad to talk you through this process! We welcome anyone to consider this opportunity to grow in faith and declare their faith in Jesus. Contact Pastors Kendall and Charleen or Pastor Ken by text, phone or email.

◆ New Membership 2020: #wethenorthchurch!

If you are interested in transferring your church membership to North Church at this time, please contact Pastors Kendall and Charleen or Pastor Ken. We would be delighted to talk with you and answer your questions.

During the upcoming Christmas Season,



the church office will be open
December 27 & 31
and **January 2.**

The church office will be closed
December 21 – 26
and **January 1.**

Community/Conference Events . . .

◆ Leamington Mennonite Home News

As we continue to move through this Advent season we invite you to come and visit your loved ones at the Home. We also kindly request for the protection of our residents and staff that if you are feeling ill that you delay your visit until you are feeling better. Thank you for your understanding as we move through this cold and flu season. We wish all of our supporting congregations a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

◆ UMEI Christian High School News

For unto you is born...a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11. Wishing you and your loved ones all the best for the Christmas holidays. Thank you for your continuous and invaluable support during 2019. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the staff and students of UMEI!

◆ Essex Kent Mennonite Historical Association News

► **Travelogue — Friday, January 10: The Holy Land** by Hugo and Linda Tiessen at the Heritage Centre at 7 pm. Admission by donation.

► **Super Soup Night — Saturday, January 18** at UMEI at 6 pm.

Everyone welcome. Admission by donation. EKMHA \$15 membership cards will be available here.

◆ Mennonite Burial Society News

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on **Saturday, January 11, 2020** at 2 pm in the Tabor Manor Chapel at 1 Tabor Drive in St. Catharines. Agenda will be similar to past AGMs, discussing 2019 results and future plans, plus there will be an important members' vote to approve revisions to our constitution, discussed at the Jan 2019 AGM. Board and committee positions are available. Further details available at www.mennoniteburialsociety.com, or Barry Boese at 905-228-1850 or email info@mennoniteburialsociety.com

See bulletin board for the following . . .

- **Mennonite Disaster Service**, December 18 update
- **Mental Health Seminar Series**, Anxiety in Children and Youth, February 26 & March 31
- **Christmas greetings** from MCC

See brochure rack for the following . . .

- **Wood Box**, Silver Lake Mennonite Camp
 - **Grebel Now**, Fall 2019
 - **Mennonite Historian**, December 2019
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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.

Prayer List . . .

Neighbouring Congregation — Today area churches are praying for the **Unitarian Universalist Church of Olinda** and their pastor Rodrigo Emilio Solano-Quesnel.

Merry Christmas from your MCEC staff. We pray hope, peace, love and joy to the MCEC community of congregations this Christmas season. May you discover anew the God of peace during your Christmas worship.

Please pray for *Joel Epp & Cindy Lasi* as they make final preparations for their upcoming marriage on Saturday, December 28, 2019.

*If you are aware of any needs within our congregation,
please contact the church office so the Pastors and Caregiving Committee
can offer our support. We are glad to be able to help!*

*We also 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 Charleen at 519-329-3829,
Pastor Kendall at 519-329-1514 or Pastor Ken at 519-819-3772.*

Pastors

cell 519-329-3829 Charleen Jongejan Harder ... charleen@nlumc.com

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Church phone: 519-326-7928

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