



Sunday, December 8, 2019

Second Sunday of Advent

Worship Service — 10 am

Worship Leader: Lindsey Ecker

Speaker: Charleen Jongejan Harder

Worship music: Madison Hamm

Growing relationships, in Christ.

NLUMC Vision Statement

Impatience — We ask, What are you waiting for, O God?

**God hears our cries and calls to us in return
with words of hope. Can we hear God's invitation?**

**God calls us to repent, pay attention,
and embrace the Lord's vision for a new creation.**

Getting Ready While We Wait

Announcements

HWB #28, *Breathe on us, Holy Spirit*

Call to worship – on screen

Prayer

Worship music — O Holy Night

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

Responsive reading – on screen

Lighting the Advent wreath

Children's time

Offering with HWB #176, *Comfort, comfort, O my people*

Membership transfer — Ken & Dawne Driedger

Scripture reading — Matthew 3:1-12

Message — What is God Waiting For?

Worship music — I Believe

Sharing time and prayer

HWB #420, *Heart with loving heart united*

Sending

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

Third Sunday of Advent, December 15

► 9 am — Christmas choir practice.

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

▶ 10 am — What are we waiting for this Advent? In Matthew 11:6, Jesus said to the messengers of someone who wondered whether Jesus was really the one the nation was waiting for, “... *blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.*” Join us as Ken leads us in considering why Jesus might have said this. Who could possibly take offense at Jesus, either then or now? And what difference might that make in our own waiting?

Church Life . . .

◆ **Christmas Choir.** Come and join us to sing on Christmas morning. Rehearsals are **Sunday, December 15** and **Sunday, December 22** at 9 am.

◆ **Want to enjoy singing more Christmas carols?** Come at 9:45 am for **carol singing** on December 15 and December 22 in the sanctuary.

◆ **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.

◆ **Notes 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.

◆ **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.

▶ Attention all Sunday School musicians! If you play an instrument and would like to play a Christmas song as part of the prelude for our Christmas Eve service, please speak with Helga Enns before or after singing time on a Sunday morning.

◆ **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.

◆ **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.

— **Upcoming Events** —

Christmas Eve Service – December 24, 7 pm
Christmas Day Service – December 25, 10 am

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 . . .

◆ **UMEI Christian High School News**

▶ **Ground Beef** orders are due in the office by noon **Wednesday, December 11** and will be ready to pick up Thursday, December 19.

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

▶ **Christmas Concert.** UMEI's annual Christmas Concert will take place **Thursday, December 12** at 7 pm in the auditorium. Everyone is welcome.

▶ **UMEI Autumn Campaign.** Over the next weeks, you may receive UMEI Autumn Campaign materials in your church mailboxes or by mail. We thank you, the members of our supporting churches, for the many ways that you help contribute to our school. Your generous contributions help to make it possible for families of our community to access a quality Christian Education. Thank you in advance for considering participation in this year's campaign.

◆ **Heritage Choir Christmas Program, *Songs of Christmas*,** **Saturday, December 21,** 7 pm at the Heritage Center. There will be a free will offering for the Leamington Mennonite Home Music Therapy and Dementia Support.

◆ **Silver Lake Mennonite Camp News**

2020 Winter Retreats. Visit www.slmc.ca for more detailed information and to register for the following retreats:

- **Fathers & Kids Retreat** (January 17-19) A weekend for dads and kids to enjoy traditional winter activities while at camp!
- **Women's Retreat** (February 7-9) Theme: *Let Your Love Sing! Lessons of the Singing Bowl.* Led by pastor and spiritual director Tanya Dyck Steinmann. Enjoy good food, conversations, and fun winter activities!
- **Couples Retreat** (February 21-23) A weekend away to reconnect, relax and enjoy time outdoors. Led by Hendrike & Matthew Isert Bender.

See bulletin board for the following . . .

- **Mennonite Disaster Service**, December 4 update

See brochure rack for the following . . .

- **Bluffton**, Fall 2019
- **Wood Box**, Silver Lake Mennonite Camp

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Prayer List . . .

Neighbouring Congregation — Today area churches are praying for the **Templo Cristiano la Buena Semilla** and their pastor Saul Hernandez.

Each week MCEC, Mennonite Church Eastern Canada, prays for one of our congregations. This week we are praying for **Open Table Faith Community** (Church Plant) Hamilton, Ontario.

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