



Sunday, April 5, 2020
Palm Sunday



The situation is changing rapidly and leadership at NLUMC wants to be clear about how we will communicate. Please look to the Website, the Facebook group and your email inbox for any updates as well as the weekly online bulletin.

If you know of someone from our congregation who does not have access to the internet and is socially isolated, please let the pastors know so that contact can be established.

Growing relationships, in Christ.

NLUMC Vision Statement

Because of tightening social distancing standards, we are going to shift our worship mode to zoom. Zoom is an audio/video tool that is easy to use and will bring us together in new ways. We will all worship together from our own homes on Sunday at 10 am. Please check the email on Fridays for the link.

You will click on the relevant link at that time, and zoom will automatically open on your computer or phone. You can also access the gathering by phone by calling the relevant number.

Our hope is that this will enable good interaction during worship as we see each other's faces and hear each other's voices. We can record the service and are working towards having that available at Pickwick on Tuesday night, as well as having the link to the recording sent to you by email.

Order of Worship

For Palm Sunday, please come to worship prepared with something to wave!

You could be creative and make a palm branch from paper in your house, or you can wave a tea towel or handkerchief.

We will be celebrating Jesus' triumphal entrance.

Prelude — Natalia Good

Words of welcome

Singing — As I went down to the river to pray

Announcements

Call to worship

Opening prayer

Children's feature — Matthew 21 (The Message), The Royal Welcome

Singing — Sanna Sannina (wave palm branches, etc.)

Sharing time & prayer

Scripture passages — Matthew 21:1-11, read earlier during children's story time

Psalm 118:1-2; 19-29

Message — Jesus is Coming!

Singing — Jesus is Coming, Pave the way with Branches

Sending prayer

Singing — Hosanna

Holy Week Services

Good Friday, April 10

► **10 am — Good Friday and Communion.** On Good Friday, we will gather for worship on Zoom. As a part of worship that morning we hope to celebrate communion. This will be another unusual thing, so if anyone feels reluctant to participate in communion on Zoom, feel free to abstain. Since we will all be at home, every household will need to prepare its own communion elements. So we are encouraged to pick up what we need with our next grocery list. If anyone has no grape juice or wine or bread that morning, it is quite alright to participate with a portion of whatever food and drink we do have. Each household, please have a portion prepared for everyone who will participate before worship begins. **Check the email for the worship service Zoom details.**

As we receive Communion on Good Friday, we also want to continue to remember the most vulnerable in our community by continuing our grocery gift card donations. These can be donated to SECC online at <http://www.secc.on.ca/donate/> and in the comments section name grocery gift cards. You can also call their main line at 519-326-8629 to donate.

Easter Sunday, April 12

► **Sunrise service.** Pastors will be streaming a brief sunrise service on Facebook live to our private Facebook group starting at 6:50 am.

► **Easter worship.** We will be celebrating Easter on Zoom starting at 10 am. We are accustomed to Easter being a joy filled gathering with celebratory music. But the first Easter broke into a world filled with darkness and met Jesus followers isolating themselves from the world around them in their fear and grief. This year we look for resurrection hope in the middle of a covid 19 crisis where we also isolate ourselves in anxiety, fear and grief. The resurrected Jesus appears to Mary and calls her by name, meets the disciples behind locked doors, and comes to us where we are as well.

Church Life . . .

The church building is now closed. The church secretary, Susan Klassen, is now working from home. If you have any questions, please call the church office, 519-326-7928 and leave a message. The phone messages will be checked daily. Canada Post mail will be picked up regularly. Emails will also be checked daily. The bulletin should be available online on Friday afternoon.

The pastors are also working from home. In the event of a personal emergency, please contact Pastor Charleen at 519-329-3829, charleen@nlumc.com; or Pastor Kendall at 519-329-1514, kendall@nlumc.com; or Pastor Ken at 519-819-3772, ken@nlumc.com.

♦ **Tuesday, April 7, Church Council meeting** via Zoom, 7 pm.

♦ **Donations to NLUMC**

Even though we may not be attending church in the sanctuary for the next number of Sundays, it is still good stewardship that we are receiving donations to cover weekly/monthly expenditures. Here are two options to consider.

- 1) Setting up an automatic transfer - a convenient way to make regular donations to the church. Please contact the church office to complete the necessary paperwork and provide a VOID cheque. These donations will be processed on the 15th of each month.
- 2) Also, in this time of self-distancing, we are suggesting that people could send an E-transfer. On your personal on-line banking page you would email the transfer to: Louise Neufeld, treasurer@nlumc.com. Be sure to include your donation # in the message of the E-transfer, in order for us to credit your Donor # for your weekly donation. Please contact Susan Klassen, office@nlumc.com; or Louise Neufeld, treasurer@nlumc.com with any questions. Give prayerfully! Give joyfully! Give generously as God as given to you!

♦ **Budget Update, December 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020** (33% of year) \$83,099 (25.6%) of our \$325,155.53 unified church budget has been donated. Give prayerfully, joyfully and generously as God has given to you.

♦ **Greetings all Sunday School Children!** A few weeks ago we started a new collection project called WATER FOR LIFE: WELLS. Since we are not able to meet regularly for children's feature at church, I'm wondering if you would like to join me in a little project until we can be together again. Decorate a container to look like a WELL and place it somewhere in your bedroom. Add your collection contributions to the WELL just like you would add them to the collection plate. Once we get together again we can POUR all of our coins together and send them off to MCC so more WELLS can be drilled in Nigeria.

Please keep in mind that all items in the bulletin are subject to change.

Community/Conference Events . . .

♦ **Leamington Mennonite Home News**

Over the past week the Home has continued to elevate the measures taken to keep Covid-19 out of the Home. At the time of writing we remain virus free. We're also keenly aware that this could change at any moment. The staff and residents are doing okay. I think it is somewhat daunting for everyone to know that the current measures in place will probably be kept in place for many weeks to come. Regardless, we're happy to have continued health and would continue to ask for your thoughts and prayers. By the way, the staff and residents love the sidewalk chalk messages as well as messages left on the outside windows. Please keep them coming!!!

♦ **Mennonite Church Eastern Canada** is pleased to announce the appointment of *Leah Reesor-Keller as the next MCEC Executive Minister*. Arli Klassen, MCEC Moderator, is confident in the decision, "Leah has great passion and vision for guiding the church to be the best it can be, as Anabaptist followers of Jesus. Leah has the organizational leadership, management skills and spiritual maturity to lead MCEC, along with strong intercultural and multilingual skills."

♦ **Employment Opportunity**

UMEI Christian High School is currently accepting applications for an Administrative Assistant position. The successful applicant should have office administrative experience and/or relevant experience as well as computer and organizational skills. This is a full time position beginning May 19, 2020. For further information, please contact Sonya Bedal, Principal at the email below. Please send cover letter and resume to the attention of: Principal, UMEI Christian High School, 614 Mersea Road 6, Leamington, ON N8H 3V8 or email: principal@umei.ca

Junior & Senior Youth . . .

All events are cancelled at this time.

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 **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 **St. Agatha Mennonite Church** in Baden, Ontario.

Please pray for *Henry Janzen* and his family as they continue to walk the journey with pancreatic cancer.

Thank you for your prayers and support in so many ways. Many of you have found new ways to reach out to us, respecting social distancing, and we feel your prayers daily. We ask for your continued prayers as we walk with cancer.
 . . . *Harold & Susan Klassen*

Please pray for *Dan Epp* with health concerns.

Congratulations to *John & Helen Dick* on the occasion of their 75th Wedding Anniversary. They were married April 7, 1945.

*If you are aware of any needs within our congregation, or 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

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Office hours: closed until further notice