



Sunday, December 20, 2020
Fourth Sunday of Advent

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

Join our church service by Zoom. Please check the email this week for the Zoom 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.

Church Life . . .

◆ Thank-You from Leamington Mennonite Home

Thank you to the North Leamington Mennonite Church, it's pastors, members and additional volunteers! We very much appreciated the generous gesture of organizing a drive-by parade to cheer up our Residents and Staff during this Christmas season. It was very thoughtful! Sadly, given the circumstances we just did not think it was a good idea to proceed. All Long Term Care Homes are under scrutiny right now and given our current status in a grey zone it just did not seem to be a prudent thing to do. We feel very badly that we had to cancel. We wish you and your family a Merry Christmas. Please stay safe and healthy as you move from 2020 to 2021. Jeff Konrad, Administrator; Cathrin van Sintern-Dick, Chaplain

◆ Junior Youth Christmas Party! on Tuesday December 22, 4:00 p.m. via ZOOM

- Decorating cookies, making an ornament, listening to Carols, having fun with friends,
- remembering what the Christmas season is all about.

Please RSVP to pastor Charleen before Saturday December 19 so we can distribute party packs to the participating youth. Friends welcome. Text/phone: 519-329-3829, email charleen@nlumc.com

◆ Sr. Youth! Virtual coffee time!

Join your North Church friends to touch base about school stuff, and life! **on Tuesday, December 22** at 8:30 pm for about half an hour. "See" you then! The Zoom link will be emailed out on Tuesday.

◆ Missions Team Fundraiser

This is the last Sunday (Dec. 20th) to donate to our NLUMC Missions Team Fundraiser. Our goal is \$1,000.00 to be forwarded to SECC families in need at Christmas. Send your donations via E-Transfer to (Louise) treasurer@nlumc.com

◆ **Prayer Time** – no prayer meetings on Dec. 23 & 30th. We will resume again in the New Year.

◆ **Sunday School Pageant – Dec. 24th** will be a pre-recorded YouTube Link - which will go live at 12:00 noon. The Link will be emailed from the church office and you will be able to watch & enjoy the pageant repeatedly!

◆ Christmas Morning Dec. 25th – JOY TO THE WORLD! The Lord is Come!

Worship at 10:00am via a pre-recorded YouTube Link – followed by Coffee/Visitation time at 11:00am via Zoom . Two separate Links will be emailed from the church office.

Financial Update 2020

Thank-you to all of our NLUMC participants for your financial donations received during the past year Dec 1, 2019 - Nov 30, 2020. We successfully covered our Unified Budget, as well as receiving several other designated giving's and we completed the year with a \$17,000. surplus which will be discussed in the upcoming proposed budget 2021 at the AGM Feb. 7, 2021. We are very grateful to God for His steadfast guidance to NLUMC throughout this past year.

◆ Financial Donations toward 2021

- 1) Automatic transfers – contact church office
- 2) E-transfer – email treasurer@nlumc.com - include donation # in the message
- 3) leave donation in the nightly drop box at Kindred Credit Union – labelled NLUMC - include donation #
- 4) mail donation to church address

Contact office@nlumc.com; or Louise Neufeld treasurer@nlumc.com with any questions.

◆ **Are you considering baptism? Membership at NLUMC?** Now is a great time to talk to our pastors about these processes. Baptism in the Anabaptist tradition is for any mature person who wants to commit to a lifelong relationship with God and God's church. We will start baptism/ faith exploration classes in the New Year, on Zoom. We will also work with any individuals or families wanting to transfer membership from another church.

Got questions? Ask us! More details will come in the new year.

◆ North Leamington United Mennonite Church - AGM

Our Annual General Membership Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 7, 2021 during the Worship Service 10:00 am – via Zoom.

Requesting all Executive & Team Chairs to submit their annual report to office@nlumc.com by January 5, 2021.

◆ **Voices Together Hymnal**

We are blessed to have received the first part of our *Voices Together* order. Song books and worship leader handbooks have arrived and we anticipate that the remainder of our order will arrive in the next few months. We are both excited to begin using new and familiar songs from this book in our worship services and a bit saddened that we will be unable to place them in our church pews for the time being.

If you placed an order for a songbook or worship leader handbook last November, we are working on getting your order to you in the near future.

If you are interested in purchasing a personal copy of the new *Voices Together* song book, please contact Sandra Warkentin to place your order. Song books are available to purchase at a cost of \$37.00 CAD a book (\$32.99 + tax and shipping?). Delivery would be in time for Christmas. Payment can be made in the following ways:

- e-transfer to treasurer@nlumc.com (include “Voices Together order” in the message)
- mail your payment to the church office (cheques payable to “NLUMC”) att: Worship Team-Voices Together

Community/Conference Events . . .

◆ **Christmas Day Dinner** - St. John’s Anglican Church 60 Erie St. N. Leamington presents their 26th annual Christmas Day Dinner for those in need. No Dine-in. Pick-up Only starting at 12:00 pm. Call 519-326-3111 to register before noon on December 24th. Meal Registration is required. (Pre-Registration also required for the Delivery option for shut-ins within Leamington, Wheatley, Kingsville.) No cost or obligation.

◆ **Leamington Mennonite Home News**

This has been quite the extraordinary year for our Home. We remain very grateful for the many gifts given to our Leamington Mennonite Home over the past year. The prayerful support, together with your financial assistance have allowed us to continue to provide exceptional care to all of our Residents. We thank our supporting congregations and wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

◆ **Southwestern Ontario Gleaners**

The Gleaners Christmas Campaign continues. Our goal is to raise \$50,000 in November and December to offset the losses from not having our regular fundraisers throughout the year. To make a donation online visit our website; www.swogleaners.ca, or mail cheques to 40 Industrial Rd. Leamington, ON N8H 4W4.

◆ **EKMHA News!** A lot of us read the Historian. EKMHA (Essex Kent Mennonite Historical Association) will now provide a link so you can read it online. The link is <http://www.ekmha.ca/category/historian-newsletter> If you still wish to receive a printed (hard copy), please call the office, 519-322-0456, between 9 am and 12 noon Monday, Wednesday or Friday or email info@ekmha.ca. Thank you.

◆ **MCC – Peace Conference and Centennial Celebration**

If you missed the virtual Peace Conference and Centennial Celebration (from Nov 20 and 21) – you can watch the recordings at mcco.ca/peace-conference-recordings

◆ **MCC GIFT IDEAS – Christmas Giving**

Go to MCC's website: mcccanada.ca to purchase gifts for your family and friends that help change lives across the globe. Spread Joy this Christmas. Options include: Water for Life, Gifts of Learning, Food & Nutrition, etc. All price denominations available.

◆ **MCC Ottawa Office Student Seminar**

February 16-18, 2021- MCC's Ottawa Office is hosting its legendary Student Seminar again - but this time it's virtual! Perfect learning and networking opportunity for university students interested in international development, policy, and advocacy. Learn how local communities and organizations are key actors for change around the world; engage in MCC and faith-based advocacy with students from across Canada; meet with parliamentarians civil society advocates; and so much more! Register before January 15, 2021.

◆ **MCC Online Workshop**

Practical Peacebuilding – a 5 month program Jan. to May 2021. Learning the skills of “peace” is a lifelong journey. This skill-building program seeks to teach and develop peacemaking skills, and apply these skills within today's context of home, work, and community. Together we will be engaging in skill-building sessions and ongoing reflective practices to connect what we are learning to our faith, to scripture, and to Jesus as our foundation for peace.

◆ **The South Essex Community Council** offers both hot and frozen meal delivery options for anyone interested. All meals are \$8 apiece and include a range of dishes such as shepherd's pie, roast beef, lasagna, honey garlic chicken and chicken and dumplings. Meal delivery is available five days per week, Monday through Friday, during the lunch hour. Online ordering for hot and frozen meals will be available soon at www.secc.on.ca. For now, anyone interested in this service is encouraged to call the office at 519-326-8629 for more information or to register.

This year, The South Essex Community Council is proudly offering completely subsidized hot meals and grocery cards to people in Leamington, Kingsville and Wheatley who are experiencing food insecurity directly as a result of COVID-19. This has been possible through generous community donations. Anyone in need can call 519-326-8629 to speak with a member of the Community Services department.

◆ **MENNONITE BURIAL SOCIETY**

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Saturday, January 9, 2021 at 2 pm.

Due to current constraints for in person meetings, this is via online webinar only, so please register for AGM at top of our web site. Agenda will be similar to past AGMs, discussing 2020 results, 2021 levies and benefit payments, and future plans. 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

Prayer List . . .

Neighbouring Congregation — Today area churches are praying for **Leamington Evangelical Mennonite** and their pastors Jacob Enns & Lowell Froese.

Each week Mennonite Church Eastern Canada (MCEC) prays for one of our congregations. Today, we invite you to pray for Zion Mennonite Fellowship – Elmira, ON. And also, pray for **Warden Underground**, one of the newest congregations who were welcomed into the MCEC family this past year with their Pastor Jordan Thoms.

Thank you all for your amazing support, love and prayers. They sustain us daily. We ask for continued prayers as Harold’s health continues to decline. . . **Harold & Susan Klassen**

Nadine & Jerry, Joline and Curtis Driedger would like to say thank-you for all the prayers, meals, flower arrangements, cards, text messages, & donations to Erie Shores Hospice. This really means a lot to us. It was a long journey and now our mom and grandma is at peace. Have a safe & blessed Christmas!

If you are aware of any needs within our congregation,
please contact the church office so the Pastors and Caregiving Committee
can offer support. We also invite you to let the church office know of any
requests for visitation by phoning or emailing: 519-326-7928 office@nlumc.com
In case of emergency, contact a Pastor - listed below.

Pastors

Alicia Good.....cell 519-819-3772 alicia@nlumc.com
Charleen Jongejan Harder..... cell 519-329-3829 charleen@nlumc.com
Kendall Jongejan Harder.....cell 519-329-1514 kendall@nlumc.com

Church phone: 519-326-7928.....Church Email: office@nlumc.com

Website: www.nlumc.com

Facebook: North Leamington United Mennonite Church

No Regular Office hours at this time due to covid