

Sunday, March 12, 2017

Lent 2

**Restore us, O God:
We Wonder**



VOL. 30 NO. 11

WATERLOO-KITCHENER UNITED MENNONITE CHURCH

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Welcome to our worship service. May you be blessed as you meet God and be empowered for the week ahead.

Sunday, March 12, 2017 9:30 a.m.

Worship Leader: Pastor Ben Cassels
Congregational Prayer: Pastor Ben Cassels
Scripture Readers: Crystal Francis, Whitley Enns

Speaker: Rev. Waldemar Regier
Organ: Karen Enns Choir: Laura Enns
Children's Time: Hilda Krotz

Children are welcome in the worship service or parents may supervise young children in the Nursery along the Administration Hallway.

Worship Focus: *In our humanness, we want to know, to define, and to have concrete answers for everything. However, life is filled with an uncertain future. We trust that God, the great Mystery, is always present with us in our wondering and in our living out the Reign of God, among us and coming!*

Gathering

Gathering Hymn: “For God so loved us”

HWB # 167

Vs. 1-2, English, Vs. 3-4 German

Words of Welcome

Work and Care of the Church

Call to Worship

Leader: Mindful that God, the great Mystery,
has called us,

People: we gather to worship.

Leader: Curious about God's ways in the world,

People: we gather to worship.

Leader: Wondering in the face of uncertainty,

People: we gather to worship.

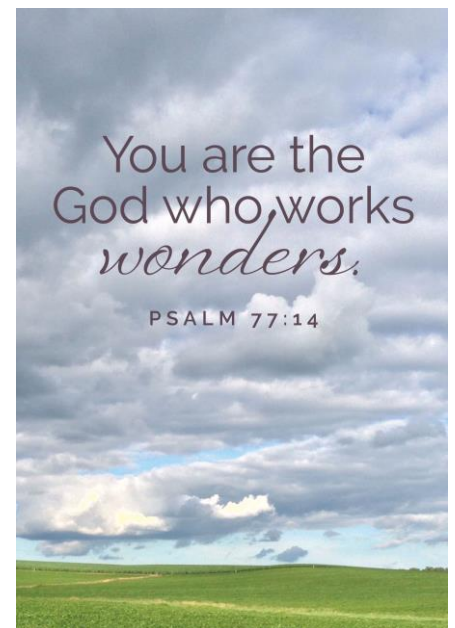
Leader: Receive our worship and our wonderings, O God, as we seek after you.

All: Restore us, O God.

Prayer of Invocation

Hymn: “Immortal, invisible, God only wise”

HWB # 70



Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance

Leader: God of mystery, you call us into the unknown.
But we do not always follow willingly.

Side 1: We confess that we do not want to leave behind what is familiar. We prefer looking like those around us.

Side 2: We do not want to change our well-refined beliefs. We prefer to think and believe in the same ways we always have.

Choir: We do not want to give up the comfort of our own self-sufficiency. We prefer to stay in control.

Leader: Forgive us, O Lord, when in our best effort to work for you, we fail to move *with* your Spirit.

**All: Stir us deep within.
Recover a sense of your holy wonder and make room within us for the mystery of your Spirit.**

(Pause for silent confession)

Leader: God of mystery,

All: Restore us.

Leader: Our help comes from the Lord, Maker of heaven and earth.
The Lord will keep you from all harm.
The Lord will watch over your coming and going
both now and forevermore. Amen.

Hearing God's Word

Scripture I: Genesis 12: 1-7 (Old Testament)

page 7

Hymn: "Lord, you sometimes speak"
(Children come forward on the last verse)

HWB # 594

Time with the Children

Song of Blessing: "The Lord lift you up"

STJ # 73

Congregational Prayer/Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.



Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

Offering

Anthem: *If you but trust in God* G. Neumark

Scripture II: John 3: 1-17 (New Testament) page 71

Sermon: **“We Wonder: Can we be Born Anew?”**

Responding to the Story

Hymn of Response: *“O Power of love”* HWB # 593

Lenten Ritual: Stones

Theme Song: *“You are all we have”* STJ # 29

Benediction

Welcome to our visitors! We hope our time of worship has been an encouragement to you. Please sign our guest book in the front foyer.
God bless you and we hope to see you again!



TODAY AT W-K

- 9:30 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. **No Sunday School for Children and Youth**
- 10:30 a.m. Coffee Break
- 10:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School: Spirituality Wheel. *In this 5-week study led by Pastor Ben, we will explore the very different ways that each person understands faith and relates to God. This series will help us understand how God has made each of us individually, who we are as a congregation, and how we can grow together. Throughout the series we'll be introduced to different spiritual practices, hear stories of faith, and dream about what could be.*

Welcoming our Neighbour signs have arrived at the church. If you would like one, they can be found on the table in the lobby. There is a suggested donation of \$10 each. Please put your donation into an envelope and drop it through the mail slot in the office door.



The Quilting Group will meet in the Basement on Tuesday, March 14th at 1:00 p.m. All women are welcome to join them.

Men's Lenten Bible Study will meet in the lounge on Tuesday mornings from March 7th through to April 11th from **9:30 – 11:00 a.m.** (Please note the time change.) Pastor Ben Cassels will lead the study this coming week.



Women's Lenten Bible Study will meet in the lounge on Wednesday afternoons from March 8th through to April 12th from 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. The study is entitled "*Faith Travels*" by Marlene Kropf. All women of the congregation are invited to participate. Please contact Gloria Dirks for more information.

W-KUM Church will host a Good Friday choral service on



Friday, April 14th at 10:00 a.m. The congregations of Erb Street and Waterloo North will join us. There will be a **combined choir** for this service, under the direction of Marg Hull, with accompaniment by Jan Overduin. Members from all churches are invited to be part of the choir. Rehearsals will be held here at W-K on March 24th, March 31st and April 7th from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.



Women's Fellowship

Women of MCEC invite women of all ages to St. Jacob's Mennonite Church on Saturday, April 22, 2017 for **Spring Enrichment Day**. The theme is Women Talk – Body and Soul with guest speaker, Carol Penner. Cost for the day is \$30 including lunch. A poster and registration forms are posted on Bulletin Board

4. Please see Gloria Dirks for more information.



George Street Fellowship is sponsoring the annual WKUM Baseball Day on Saturday, April 29th. The Jays will take on the Tampa Bay Rays. Over 30 persons have expressed interest in the tickets and now it is time to make the final decision by paying for them. There are still additional seats available so if you haven't contacted John Enns as yet, please do so as soon as possible. John will soon need the numbers for restaurant reservations also. Do you have any other names that should be added to the list of potential fans? Any questions? Contact John Enns



HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Health and Wellness

Our W-K Lenten Pilgrimage:



Our W-K Lenten Pilgrimage – we begin **Week 2** of our pilgrimage this Sunday.

There is a box at the back of the sanctuary for you to deposit your weekly total kilometers, or you can submit your kilometers by email to

parish.nurse@wkumchurch.ca This journey of faith and fitness is designed for all ages – everyone can participate. Throughout the 6 weeks of Lent we will follow in Jesus' footsteps as his journey is described in John's gospel. Each week we will keep track of time spent walking, in other physical activities, and

with our devotions and spiritual practices. These all count as kilometers on our journey as we walk with Jesus.

If you still need a copy of the **"Pilgrim's Guide"** or you need another copy, please ask **Karen Watson, Parish Nurse**. Watch the display in the courtyard entrance as it changes with our progress each week – see pictures of the Holy Land, taken by members of the congregation. Let us do this together!

Weekly opportunities for physical activity:

- **WALC fitness class** – each Thursday in the church gym from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.
- Pole Walking or regular walking in the gym – each Wednesday from 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. You may join this walk with or without poles – just come out and enjoy. All are welcome.

Community Health and Wellness Events:

- Information and Active Living Fair at the Breslau Community Centre, 100 Andover Street in Breslau will be held Tuesday, March 28th from 9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Please register by March 24th at 519-664-1900 for the free lunch. A panel discussion will be held – Aging Well and Age Friendly Community.
- PEP Talk: Take Charge of Your Diabetes – on March 28th and May 23rd. To register or for information please call 1-866-337-3318
- Alzheimer Society has many programs for education and support of families living with dementia. New Spring programs will start soon. If you would like more information, ask Karen Watson or see the Program Guide on the Health and Wellness bulletin board.
- Supporting your Child Living with Anxiety and Depression will be held on Thursday, March 30th from 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. at the Woolwich Health Centre in St. Jacobs. Please call 519-664-3794 to register.
- Parenting with Passion: Children and Stress will be held on Thursday, March 30th from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., at the Grow Community Centre in Cambridge. Please call 519-884-0000 to register.
- Laurier Association for Lifelong Learning presents – An Introduction to Death and Dying with Matthew Bailey-Dyck. The sessions will be held on Wednesdays from April 5th to May 9th from 1:30 – 3:20 p.m. The cost is \$70. To register or for more information, please contact lall@wlu.ca or call 519-884-0710 Ext. 4628.

WIDER CHURCH AND COMMUNITY



Conrad Grebel presents “The Music Man” on March 24th and 25th at The Conrad Centre for the Performing Arts, 36 King Street West in Kitchener. There will be three performances. Tickets are available from Conrad Grebel main office (519-885-0220); at

<http://uwaterloo.ca/grebel/themusicman> or at the door. See the poster on Bulletin Board # 4.

Menno Singers presents Bach’s St. John Passion with Nota Bene Baroque Players, soloists Sheila Dietrich, Laura Pudwell, Steve Surian, Daniel Lichti and Bud Roach under the direction of Peter Nikiforuk. The concert will be Saturday, March 25th at 7:30 p.m. at St. Peter’s Lutheran Church, 49 Queen Street North in Kitchener. See the poster on Bulletin Board # 4.

Singing with our Neighbours – Building Peace through Word and Song is Inshallah’s annual celebration joining with local groups of various cultures and faiths. This year we feature Inshallah Kids, The Good Hearted Women Singers, and Crossing Borders. The concert will take place at Waterloo Collegiate Institute, 300 Hazel Street Waterloo on Sunday, March 25th at 3:00 p.m. A free-will offering will be taken. Poster on Bulletin Board # 4.

The Wayne Gilpin Singers present *Thine is the Glory: Celebrating the power and glory of Easter*” on Saturday, April 1st at 8:00 p.m. at St. John The Evangelist Church, 23 Waterloo Street North in Kitchener. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for students or seniors. Please see the poster on Bulletin Board # 4.

ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION

Did you sing in the Inter-Mennonite Children’s Choir? All alumni are invited to participate in the 50th Anniversary Concert as part of the Alumni Choir. The concert will be held at St. Matthews Lutheran Church, 54 Benton St., Kitchener on Sunday, May 7th at 3 p.m. Join us on Saturday, May 6, 2017 for a rehearsal, dinner, and evening entertainment at Waterloo-Kitchener United Mennonite Church. The rehearsal will run from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. with the dinner and evening entertainment following from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. If you are interested in joining the Alumni choir, please register at <http://bit.ly/2kVbIBz> or email intermennonitechildrenschoir@gmail.com for more information. See the poster on Bulletin Board 4.

Grandparent and Grandchild Days at Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp on March 13th or 14th. This is a great day for grandparents and their grandchildren in grades 1-6 to spend time playing, singing, laughing, learning and worshipping together. This year Bryan Moyer Suderman will be our resource person (www.smalltallministries.com). For more information or to register, visit www.hiddenacres.ca, email info@hiddenacres.ca, or call [\(519\)625-8602](tel:(519)625-8602).

Project Ploughshares invites the public to attend a conversation with Hiroshima survivor and world renowned nuclear disarmament advocate Setsuko Thurlow. The event will take place at Knox Presbyterian Church on Monday, March 13th beginning at 7:00 p.m. As this is part of Project Ploughshare's 40th anniversary celebrations, there will be musical entertainment and refreshments. See the poster on Bulletin Board # 4.



Do you know a student who has applied to the University of Waterloo? Encourage them to visit Grebel for our March Break Open House on Saturday, March 18th from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Take a tour of the building, check out our new and totally customizable residence furniture, feel the community atmosphere, and taste a home-cooked meal!
www.grebel.ca/futurestudents
<http://www.grebel.ca/futurestudents>



Restore us, Oh God Lent-Easter 2017

The following are our activities for Lent and Easter.

Men's Lenten Bible Study Group. All men are invited to attend this group that will be held in the Lounge during the Lenten period each Tuesday morning until Tuesday, April 11th, from 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. The focus will be on “Spiritual Gifts” from a study by the same name. Leadership will be provided by different members of the group. All men are invited to participate. For additional information, please see Ben Stobbe.

Women's Lenten Bible Study, will meet on Wednesday afternoons in Lent through to Wednesday, April 12th from 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. The study material is an MCEC resource booklet entitled, “*Faith Travels*” by Marlene Kropf. All women of the congregation are invited to attend. Please see Gloria Dirks for more details.

Palm Sunday – Sunday, April 9th at 9:30 a.m. – Worship Service
Our speaker will be Erin Wildsmith



Good Friday Choral Service

Friday, April 14th at 10:00 a.m. at W-KUM. This is a combined service with W-KUM, Erb Street and Waterloo North congregations. W-K will host this event. Join the combined choir for this service. Rehearsals are scheduled for March 24th, 31st and April 7th from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. at W-KUM Church.

Easter Sunday – Sunday, April 16th at 9:30 a.m.
Worship with Communion
Speaker – Pastor Ben Cassels
Paska in the gym following the service

