

Sunday, December 31, 2017



Mary: "Let it be . . .
. . . yes, let it be so!"

Chinese Virgin Mary (Artist unknown)

VOL. 30 NO. 50

WATERLOO-KITCHENER UNITED MENNONITE CHURCH

15 George Street, Waterloo, ON N2J 1K6

Telephone: 519-578-0660

E-mail: office@wkumchurch.ca

www.wkumchurch.ca

Staff: Pastor Ben Cassels

E-mail: rev.cassels.ben@gmail.com

Phone: 519-588-0939

Karen Watson - Parish Nurse – parish.nurse@wkumchurch.ca

Phone: 519-578-0660, then press 2 when voice mail picks up

Laura Enns – Worship and Neighbourhood Engagement Coordinator

Phone: 519-578-0660 Ext. 13 laura@wkumchurch.ca

Katharine Borch – Office Administrator – office@wkumchurch.ca

Andrew Tubb – Church Custodian – andrewtubb@gmail.com

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

Sunday, December 31, 2017 9:30 a.m.

Worship Leader: Karl Dick

Speaker: Jake Martin White

Congregational Prayer: Ed Janzen

Accompanist: Karen Enns

Scripture Readers : Karl Dick, Vicki Dick

Nursery Volunteer: Crystal Francis

Children's Story: Karl Dick

Children are welcome in the worship service or younger children may be taken to the Nursery along the Administration Hallway following the Children's Story.

Worship Focus: *We marvel at the vastness of God's plan. We celebrate in exuberant praise what God has done and will continue to do.*

GATHERING

Prelude

Pre-Service Carol Sing – 9:25 a.m.

Welcome / Work and Care of the Church

Call to Worship:

Leader: Yes!

We will give thanks and rejoice!

All: ***We will praise the Lord from the heavens,
From the heights, and with the angels!***

Leader: We praise the Lord with the sun and moon!
We praise the Creator of the shining stars!

All: ***Fire and hail! Snow and frost!
Mountains and hills! Fruit trees and cedars!***

Leader: Young men and women alike!
Children and the aged ones too!
Let us praise the name of the Lord.

All: ***Praise the Lord!***

Leader: Yes! Let all things be new.

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Hymn: *“Break forth, O beauteous heav'nly light”*

Prayer of Invocation



HWB # 203

PRAISING

Scripture Lesson I: Psalm 148 (Old Testament) page 452

Hymn: *"Praise the Lord, sing hallelujah"* vs. 1,2 HWB # 50

Congregational 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 and Prayer

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Hymn: *"Love came down at Christmas"* vs. 1,2 HWB # 208
(*Children come forward on verse 2*)

Children's Time

Song of Blessing: *"Love came down at Christmas"* vs. 3 HWB # 208

Scripture Lesson II: Luke 2: 22-40 (New Testament) page 45

Sermon **"Yes! Let it be new"**

RESPONDING

Hymn of Response: *"He came down"* STJ # 31

Confession/Words of Assurance

**All: O God,
the waiting is over, the time has come;
you dwell among us!**

We marvel at the mystery of your birth.

**We are filled and guided by the Spirit
as you open our eyes, our hearts,
and our arms to receive you.**

***Yes, we say, and yet we confess that
instead of being drawn beyond our knowing,
into the call of your infinite light,
we examine your coming
within the boundaries of our understanding.***

***We confess that
instead of marveling at the vastness of your mercy,
instead of rejoicing with Simeon and Anna,
instead of allowing your Spirit
to move within and among us,
we resist the mystery of your presence.***

***We confess our struggle to step forth
with vulnerability, honesty, courage,
dreams, hope and celebration
emanating from the depth of our hearts.***

Forgive us.

(Pause for silence)

Words of Assurance

SENDING

Benediction

Postlude

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 and join us for coffee and fellowship in the gym hallway. God bless you and we hope to see you again!



TODAY AT W-K

9:30 a.m. Worship

Next Sunday – January 7, 2018

9:30 a.m. *Worship Service* *Rev. Fred Redekop*

Lectionary *Genesis 1: 1-5* *Psalm 29*

Readings: *Acts 19: 1-7* *Mark 1: 4-11*

No Children's Sunday School this week.

10:30 a.m. Coffee Break

10:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School: *Fred Redekop will join us to talk about the work of MCCO.*

Note: Please return your St. John's Coin Cans to church on January 7th.

CONGREGATIONAL NOTES



Office Hours

Church Office Hours

Tuesday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Please note: The Church Office will be closed on January 2nd. Regular hours resume on January 3, 2018. (There will be a clinic on Tuesday).

Parish Nurse Clinic Hours

Waterloo Mennonite Homes – Tuesday, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Waterloo-Kitchener United Mennonite Church – Thursday, 11:00 a.m. - Noon

Financial Report: Thank you for your offering of December 24th and for the preauthorized withdrawal offering of December 27th

The first Lunch Bunch for 2018 will be held on Wednesday, January 3rd at 12:30 p.m. at Homestyle Diner, 504 Albert Street in Waterloo. This is open to all women of the church. If you've never come, maybe now is the time! Come and enjoy a relaxed and fun time over lunch.



Reading the Bible with Jesus: Friday, January 12th to Sunday, January 14th, W-KUM Church, along with Erb Street Mennonite and Waterloo North Mennonite, are hosting Bryan Suderman Moyer for a three-day workshop called *Reading the Bible with Jesus.* Together, through study, story, and song we'll be exploring in-depth the Gospel of Luke through the eyes of Jesus.

It begins Friday evening at Erb St. MC with supper, an all-ages concert, and the first workshop. It will continue Saturday morning at Waterloo North with more sessions and lunch, and will conclude Sunday morning when Bryan leads the service and Adult Sunday School at W-KUM.

There is no cost but advanced registrations are appreciated to help with food with either the WK or Erb St offices (although not strictly required). More information coming soon! You can read more about the workshop here: <https://www.ambs.edu/lifelong-learning/reading-the-bible-with-jesus> See the flyer in your mailboxes this morning.

Adult Sunday School – January 21st and 28th, 2018
MCEC Youth Bible Quizzing – writing team
questions



Crystal Francis (Bible Quizzing task force chair) has asked the Adult Sunday School for help with writing team questions for Bible Quizzing. Bible Quizzing is a fun event that will help youth learn how current events in our world and the Bible are still connected.

Isaiah 40-48 and 58-66 are the chapters being used to generate the questions for the 2018 quiz. Consider reading these chapters ahead of time in preparation for the class. If you have any questions, please contact Crystal Francis.



Annual Reports from all ministry teams are due by December 31st for inclusion in the 2017 Annual Report booklet. These can be submitted to Katharine in the office by email at office@wkumchurch.ca OR in printed form.

Your help in being prompt is greatly appreciated.

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 4, 2018.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS



Healthy Reflections – Body, Mind and Spirit

With gratitude for all the cards, notes and well wishes over this Holiday Season.

Love came down at Christmas. Thanks be to God.

May each one find joyous moments and simple pleasures in living each day with our Lord.

“You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with you in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.”

Psalm 16: 11 (NIV)



Health and Wellness Church Programs:

- **Each Thursday, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.** – Wellness and Active Living Fitness class in the gym – a gentle class focussing on cardio, strength, balance and flexibility. No fee – everyone welcome! Classes resume on Thursday, January 11th.

WIDER CHURCH AND COMMUNITY



Dennis Wikerd Retirement Celebration – will be held on Sunday, January 14, 2018 at

Rockway Mennonite Collegiate. There will be a receiving line from

2:00 – 3:00 p.m. and a program from 3:00 – 5:40 p.m. Please join us – refreshments will be served.

Grade 9 Information Night will be held on Tuesday, January 16, 2018 beginning at 7:00 p.m. Come find out about the Rockway Experience. Families can register at www.rockway.ca See the poster on Bulletin Board # 4.

Fathers and Kids Retreat: *January 12-14, 2018 at Silver Lake Mennonite Camp.* Don't miss out on this great winter experience! Skating on the lake, building snowmen and igloos, snowshoeing through the woods, roasting smore's over the campfire, playing board games and mini-sticks in the dining hall and watching Hockey Night in Canada on the big screen! Dad's enjoy some free-time on Saturday morning on the couches by the fire (newspapers and coffee will be in abundance) while our staff provide some outdoor programming with the kids. Sounds too good to be true we know, but that's the Fathers & Kids Retreat. NOTE: Father can be defined as any male adult role model or mentor. For more information and to register visit www.slmc.ca/retreats or call 519-422-3200

The Annual General Meeting of the Mennonite Burial Society will be held on Saturday, January 13, 2018 at 2 pm in the Auditorium at United Mennonite Home (Orchard View Apartments entrance) at 4020 Twenty Third Street in Vineland. Discussions to include levy rates and sustainability of society, revisions to constitution (for Jan 2019 AGM vote) regarding dissolution processes (if it happens in the future) and expanded eligibility of new members, etc. Board and committee positions are available. For further information, please contact Barry Boese at 905-228-1850 or email info@mennoniteburialsociety.com