

Gathering Sunday

September 10, 2017

Waterloo-Kitchener United Mennonite Church



EXTEND GOD'S LOVE AND PEACE TO ALL

PLEASE JOIN US FOR:

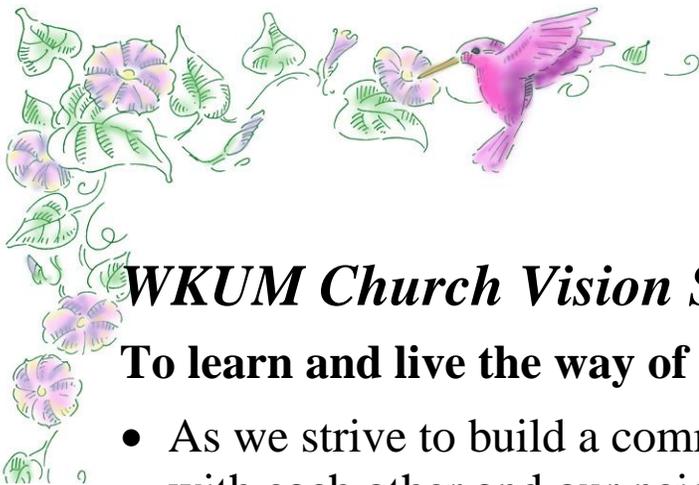
- 9:00 a.m. Choir practice in the church basement.
- 9:30 a.m. Worship Service ~ Pastor Ben Cassels
- 10:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School
- 11:30 a.m. Pot-luck Luncheon

LUNCH:

Potluck Lunch – Everyone is invited to join us for a potluck lunch following the service. Please bring a salad and/or dessert, enough to be generous for all. Beverages will be provided.

WKUM Church Mission Statement

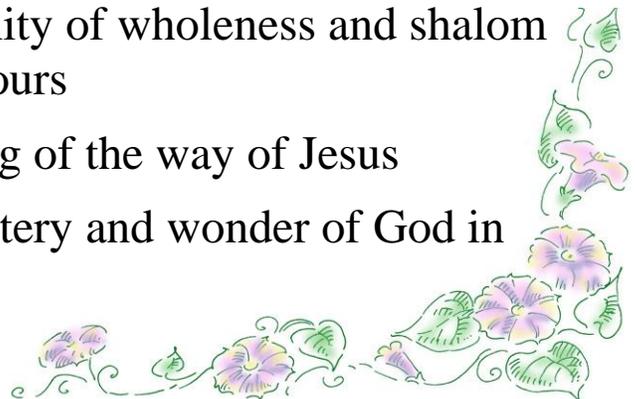
Loved by God,
empowered by the Holy Spirit,
we follow Jesus Christ.
As a welcoming Mennonite community,
we worship God,
nurture each other
and extend God's love and peace to all.



WKUM Church Vision Statement – 2015

To learn and live the way of Jesus

- As we strive to build a community of wholeness and shalom with each other and our neighbours
- As we nurture our understanding of the way of Jesus
- As we explore the spiritual mystery and wonder of God in worship



Greetings from Pastor Ben

“[We] extend God’s love and peace to all.”

This final line of our congregational mission statement is our theme for the year. As we continue our journey of renewal, it shifts our gaze outwards from ourselves towards our neighbours and world. As God’s people we are called to always, regardless of circumstances, find ways to extend God’s love and peace to all. As we do so, this is where we’ll find the Spirit of God leading us into what is next.

Our worship services throughout the year will engage this topic. Through themes and sermons, we’ll explore how we are called to embody God’s love and peace to our neighbours. Through stories we’ll hear how our ministries and congregants are already embodying our theme and we’ll be invited to join in new ways. And through guest speakers, we’ll hear of the ways in which outside ministries that we’ve long supported are also doing the work of offering the hope of Jesus Christ.

We will also joyfully welcome Laura Enns as Coordinator of Worship and Neighbourhood Engagement. Laura will be heavily involved in planning and leading worship this year. We look forward to the ways in which she’ll help set a vision before us of how, through our historical strengths of music and health, we can extend the love and peace of God to the neighbourhood around us.

And of course, ministries and programs from past years that enrich our shared life together, give us opportunity to support each other, and cause to us grow in our faith, will continue. Programs like Parish Nursing, Church suppers, Bible studies, Sunday school for adults and youth and children,



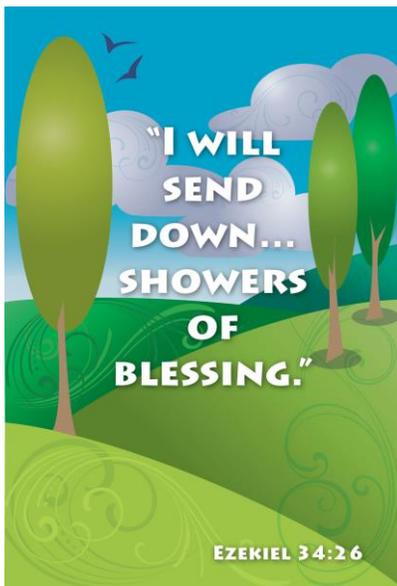
from the
Pastor

quilting groups, Silver Spoons, MCC Relief Sale, Ride for Refuge, Adult-ish, and so many others.

It'll be a good year of life together. May we as a community of faith grow as we worship God, care for one another, and extend God's love and peace to all.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Ben



A Note on behalf of the Vision Team

In the turning of the seasons, Ezekiel's vision of the restored people of God inspires us further along the way in living out our vision and mission:

‘I will make a covenant of peace with them and rid the land of savage beasts so that they may live in the wilderness and sleep in the forests in safety. I will make them and the places surrounding my hill a blessing. I will send down showers in

season; there will be showers of blessing. The trees will yield their fruit and the ground will yield its crops; the people will be secure in their land. They will know that I am the LORD, when I break the bars of their yoke and rescue them from the hands of those who enslaved them. They will no longer be plundered by the nations, nor will wild animals devour them. They will live in safety, and no one will make them afraid. I will provide for them a land renowned for its crops, and they will no longer be victims of famine in the land or bear the scorn of the nations. Then they will know that I, the LORD their God, am with them and that they, the Israelites, are my people, declares the Sovereign LORD. You are my sheep, the sheep of my pasture, and I am your God, declares the Sovereign LORD.’

(Ezekiel 34:25-31)

This summer has included quite a few ‘showers’ and some of them have even been blessings in season. In the middle of this vision is the phrase, “I will make them . . . a blessing.” It could mean both ‘give a blessing to’ and ‘make blessing of.’ As we move through the seasons of our life together, blessings come in many forms. Here are a few blessings to look forward to:

- ✦ Instituting a new position on our staff team – *Coordinator of Worship and Neighbourhood Engagement*. Vision Team will request ratification of Laura Enns as the person who is called to serve in this capacity. We look forward to the ministry of Laura with the choir and music in worship and in our growing relations with the Mary-Allen neighbourhood.
- ✦ Recognizing the past ministry of Rev. Rudy Baergen with the designation “Emeritus” as we welcome Helen and Rudy back into congregational life. Vision Team will request congregational approval of this.
- ✦ A congregational meeting will be scheduled for later in September to respond to the above recommendations.
- ✦ Vision Team is planning to gather in discernment to review our work and make plans for this coming year. This is scheduled for the end of September.

As always, if you have suggestions or are interested in helping out with the work of the church, don’t hesitate to contact any member of the Vision Team. They are: Erika Tubb, John Dyck, Jennifer Krotz, John Enns, Karl Dick, Paul Eitzen, Paul Enns, Pauline Weiland, Ed Janzen, and Ben Cassels.

In Christ’s peace,

Ed Janzen (VT Chair)

Ministries at W-KUM Church

Service Times ~ All are invited to join us for weekly worship beginning at 9:30 a.m. Children are welcome in the worship service. Nursery supervision will be provided for young children following the Children's Time. The nursery is located along the Administration Hallway.

Choir ~ **First choir practice will be held**
Sunday, September 10th at 9:00 a.m.

New members welcome. For more information, contact Laura Enns



FORMATION AND NURTURE MINISTRIES



Our congregational life is enriched by Biblical studies and discussions of current topics. Necessary learning often takes place, experts say, when a person is challenged with a new experience or a dilemma that is not easily resolved. Does Jesus have teachings for us that help us deal with the questions that face us in this hectic age?

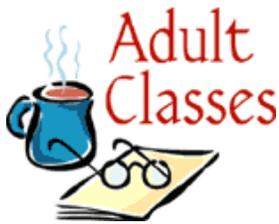
Tuesday evenings, a women's group meets for study, and during Lent, there are also special groups for men and women. How can you participate this year?

Children – Children ages 3 to 11 will leave worship after children's time (10:00 a.m.) and go to Sunday School and singing time until 11:00 a.m. Classes for children begin on **Sunday, September 10th**.

Youth Plus –Youth Sunday School will take place *after* the service this year, from 10:45-11:45am. David Harder, Erika Tubb, and others will give leadership to the class.

The Circle of Grace is a faith-based “safe environment” program for children and youth and we will explore this curriculum during the coming year. The program focuses on supporting young people to understand the sacredness of who they are as children of God. It teaches about safety, healthy boundaries, and how to seek help when needed through their relationships with trusted adults. Please see the paragraph in the Health and Wellness section for more information.

Handwashing and Respiratory Hygiene for Kids: This timely subject will be repeated once again this year – focusing on prevention of colds, flu and respiratory illness. Sunday, November 19th during children’s Sunday School. Adults are welcome too!!



Adult Sunday School ~ Our Adult Sunday School meets after the worship service, from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m., for learning and discussion on a variety of topics.

September classes begin on September 17th with a slide discussion by Karl Dick on the role of Menno Simons

in the beginnings of Anabaptism.

Following that, we will use Lydia Sommers’ book on *fraktur art*, a look at the meditation and devotional aspects of Amish life.

On October 15th we will have a guest speaker from the Alzheimer’s Society of Waterloo Region who will offer a session on being a Dementia Friendly Community.

Remember the “Up the Nith” bus tour scheduled for October 18th. See Gloria Dirks for more information.

Worship speakers will also be invited, occasionally, to invite us to respond to the sermons they present. Come and be part of an inquiring community! Our first session will be **Sunday, September 17th**.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS MINISTRIES



For more information, please contact our Parish Nurse, Karen Watson.

Everyone is warmly invited to attend all Health and Wellness Groups and Programs!



Wellness and Active Living Program (WALC)/ Exercise Class Exercise Class in the W-K gym resumes **Thursday, September 14th from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.** This is a gentle class with a focus on gentle cardio, strength, balance and flexibility.

Why not join this group? It is free! All are welcome.... a nice morning out at the church and an opportunity to keep your bones strong and your joints moving. Continuing a regular fitness and activity routine is one of the key factors for remaining independent, preventing falls, and preventing dementia as we age.



Safe Church and Anaphylaxis Response - Review ~ **Sunday, October 15th at 11:45 a.m.** All Sunday School Teachers, Co-ordinators, Caring Friends, and those involved with care of children and vulnerable persons at W-K are requested to attend – please put this in your schedule! All others interested in a review of these topics are heartily invited as well. Join us in making our church a safe and healthy place for all children and vulnerable persons. Thank you.



Do you know your number???? Hypertension (High Blood Pressure) is often called the Silent Killer, yet it is easily detected and highly treatable. Controlling blood pressure prevents stroke, disability and death.

Upcoming Blood Pressure Screening Clinics:

- **Tuesday, October 17th** following the Silver Spoons Luncheon
- **Thursday, October 19th and October 26th** 11:00 a.m. – Noon in the Parish Nurse's office
- **Sunday, October 29th** in the gym following worship.

Blood Glucose (Blood Sugar) Screening: Diabetes is a chronic health concern with many lasting effects on our health. The incidence of Type 2 Diabetes is steadily on the rise in our society. A quick check with the glucometer will tell you what your blood sugar is at a moment in time. This screening may alert you to problems with your regulation of blood glucose. Take the time to check it out.

- **Tuesday, October 24th** before and after the Silver Spoons Luncheon
- **Thursday, October 19th and October 26th** 11:00 a.m. – Noon in the Parish Nurse's Office
- **Sunday, October 29th** in the gym following worship

Prayer and Anointing: Need a brief time of peace and prayer –



maybe you have concerns for yourself, your family or a loved one? Stay after the worship service for a few moments of quiet in the sanctuary, or visit with the Parish Nurse for a time of private prayer.

Prayer and Anointing is usually offered once per month – watch the bulletin for details.

Dementia Friendly Communities: This fall we continue our partnership with the Alzheimer's Society with another session of training in the Adult Sunday School time (Sunday, October 15th). As a community of faith we want to better understand the challenges of people and their families who are living with dementia. We want to include them and encourage them to continue to be active participants in our worshiping community.



Circle of Grace: The Circle of Grace is a faith-based “safe environment” program for children and youth. The program focuses on supporting young people to understand the sacredness of who they are as children of God. It teaches about safety, healthy boundaries, and how to seek help when needed through their relationships with trusted adults. **Parents – please be aware that we are integrating this content into the children’s Sunday School program (all ages) this fall and winter.** You will receive an information sheet about the program. If you don’t get the sheet, or if you have questions about the program, please contact Karen Watson, Parish Nurse at 519-578-0660, then press 2 or via email at parish.nurse@wkmchurch.ca or contact Pastor Ben Cassels at rev.cassels.ben@gmail.com or 519-578-0660 Ext. 12.

Handwashing and Respiratory Hygiene for Kids:

Teaching kids the basics of hand and respiratory hygiene – focused on prevention of colds, flu, and respiratory illness. Sunday, November 19th during children’s Sunday School Adults are welcome too!



Healthy Youth – Body, Mind and Spirit

Sessions are being planned for October 22nd or November 26th; March 11th or March 18th Watch for more details.

Music and Wellness: Our visitation quartet is available to share the gift of music with those who are ill or unable to get out to worship services as much as they would like. Experience the power of music for our health and well-being. If you would like a visit from the quartet, please contact the Parish Nurse or Paul Enns to arrange a convenient time. Watch the weekly bulletin for other opportunities for explore the topic of Music and Wellness.

Life and Death Matters – a café style discussion group: This café might be for you if you have recently experienced a significant life transition the death of a loved one, a family break-up, health changes or challenges in your family, retirement, a change in carer or life direction.... An informal discussion group, topics will emerge from the group’s needs with minimal formal direction.



CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRIES



Caring Friends ~ Our Deacons arrange for caring visitors from our congregation to provide one-on-one visits with our elderly and shut-ins. Please contact Andy and Laurie Staller, if you would like to participate in this valued ministry.

Prayer Shawls ~ A ministry of compassion and fellowship – regular gatherings to pray and create handmade shawls for those in need of a loving embrace. We are always looking for new people to join us in this ministry. If you are interested, or would like more information, please contact Vicki Dick.



Prayer Support Ministry ~ A group of W-K congregants ready to engage in immediate prayer upon request. Please notify John or Rita Reimer

CONGREGATIONAL OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Annual Fall Food Drive ~ Bring canned and dried goods during September and October to share with the Food Bank. We will gather contributions for the Waterloo Region Food Bank beginning September 17th and continuing to October 8th. Collection boxes will be in the foyer or deposit in the white barrel on the way downstairs.





Ride for Refuge ~ W-K supports the annual Ride for Refuge, and in so doing, supports Bock Ki and Sook Kyoung Park, W-K's mission partners working in South Korea. The ride will take place on Saturday, September 30th. Riders or walkers and sponsors are needed to support W-K's team. Please contact Pauling Weiland for more information.

Mary-Allen Studio Tour ~
Saturday, September 30th and
Sunday, October 1st

This September WKUM Church will be participating in the Mary-Allen Studio by displaying the work of local artists here at the church. For more information, contact Pauline Weiland or Erika Tubb. Information about the studio tour and the artists involved can be found at www.maryallentour.com



FEED THE SOUL

Mission Circle ~ The Mission Circle will meet on Wednesday, September 13th beginning at 9:00 a.m. This group meets weekly to work on quilts, comforters, and various projects in support of MCC and local missions. All are welcome to join into this time of service and fellowship. For more information, contact Erika Tubb.



Lunch Bunch ~ First Wednesday of the Month. Women of all ages are invited to this monthly get together of food and fellowship. Watch the weekly bulletin for details. For more information, contact Vicki Dick.

Knotty Knotters/Quilters Group ~ Plan to begin on Tuesday, September 12th at 1:00 p.m.

Please take note of the following dates, and put them in your calendar.

Knotty Knotters will meet on the following dates:

- September 12th and 26th
- October 10th and 24th
- November 7th and 21st
- December 5th and 19th



Quilters will begin on September 12th and will meet every Tuesday. All are welcome to join us in this effort. (Any questions can be directed to Erna Stobbe or Gloria Dirks)



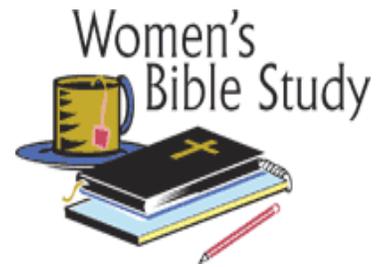
ROMEEO (Retired Older Men Eating Out) ~ Second and Fourth Tuesdays of the Month at 8:00 a.m. at Angel's Diner on Weber St. in Waterloo. Men of WKUM Church are invited to this twice monthly social breakfast. For more information, contact Paul Enns or Henry Epp.

Servettes ~ Third Wednesday of the Month. Women of the church are invited to join monthly spiritual, service, and social activities. Watch the weekly bulletin for details. For more information, contact Vicki Dick.

Silver Spoons ~ Beginning on Tuesday, September 19th at Noon Seniors enjoy a weekly hot lunch and fellowship for \$6. Invite a friend! Call the church to reserve. For more information, contact Irene Dyck.

**Tuesday Night Women's Bible Study~
Beginning on Tuesday, September 5th at**

7:00 p.m. in Room 7. The group meets each Tuesday evening for study, reflection and fellowship. This year the group will use a Beth Moore study entitled *Children of the Day*, based on Thessalonians. Women of all ages are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Betty Neufeld



Church Suppers and Program ~

Thursday, October 5th at 6:00 p.m. Join us on the first Thursday of the month for great food and reflection on a variety of topics. Sign-up is requested. Watch the bulletin for further information about after dinner programs.

George Street Fellowship ~ We are an adult fellowship group that meets monthly.

Activities coming up this fall are:

- Work service at Christian Gleaners
September 20th, 8:30 a.m. – Noon. Contact is Rita Reimer
- Up the Nith – Heritage Tour of Amish Mennonites in Ontario
October 18th, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Contact is Gloria Dirks
- Christmas at RiverSong
November 25th Contact is Hilda Krotz
- Tea Party and Carolling at Waterloo Mennonite Homes
December 18th Contacts are Paul and Hertha Enns
- Planning for 2018
January 20th Contact is Vicki Dick



George Street Fellowship events are announced in the bulletin. For more detailed information about activities, please contact Hilda Krotz.

Important Dates to Remember

All events take place at the church unless otherwise indicated.

September

Wednesday, September 5	9:00 a.m.	Mission Circle begins
Sunday, September 10	9:30 a.m.	Gathering Sunday
	10:00 a.m.	Sunday School begins
	Noon	Congregational Pot-luck
Thursday, September 14	10:00 a.m.	WALC begins
Sunday, September 17	10:45 a.m.	Adult Sunday School begins
Tuesday, September 19	Noon	Silver Spoons begins
Saturday, September 23	All day	Vision Team Retreat - offsite
Wednesday, September 27	7:00 p.m.	Vision Team Meeting

October

Sunday, October 1 st	World Communion Sunday
Thursday, October 5 th	Church Supper at 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 8 th	Thanksgiving Sunday Celebration of Rev. Rudy Baergen as Minister Emeritus
Sunday, October 15 th	Safe Church Review Presentation
Sunday, October 22 nd	Soup Luncheon – provided by the Servettes at Noon