



**LEAMINGTON UNITED MENNONITE  
CHURCH**  
***SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2012 10:15am***

Prelude

Call to Worship

Prayer

**I Owe the Lord a Morning Song #651**

Scripture Reading I Samuel 16: 1-13

**O How Shall I Receive Thee # 182**

Offering: **As with Gladness, Men of Old #218**

Prayers for the Day

Children's Story

Sermon "*Choosing the Ordinary*"

**Come and See # 20**

Benediction

Speaker: Mike Williamson  
Worship Leader: Victor Winter  
Scripture Reader: Ed Brown

Organist: Helen Brown  
Song Leader: Helen Brown  
Children's Feature: Ken Tiessen

## ***Coming in January 2012!***

These are our Education Hour Electives for the Winter Term beginning January 8.

### ***'Everybody's Normal Till You Get to Know Them'***

Teachers: Peter Neufeld, David Dyck, Alison Dyck

Normal – who's normal? None of us is normal according to God's definition, and the closer we get to each other, the plainer it is. Yet for all our quirks, sins, and jagged edges, we need each other. Community is more than just a word – it is one of our most fundamental needs as humans. So how do flawed, abnormal people such as ourselves master the forces that drive us apart and how do we enter more fully into the life-giving relationships God has designed for us? In this class we'll zoom in on the things that make community tick; and we'll explore the many ways that community pays rich dividends in happiness, health, support and growth.

### ***'Money Sanity'***

Teachers: Vic Winter, Ken Hildebrandt

If you are an average connected person, there will be 5000 attempts today to have you spend money on something! Money makes the world go round, we are told. The Bible has lots of advice about money too. How do we talk together about such a personal topic as money? This course, aimed at younger adults, will focus on "sharing, saving and spending" our money. Be prepared for lots of lively discussion.

### ***'Our Story, Our Stories'***

Teachers: Michael Groh, David Groh, Marvin Dueck

The Mennonite Church in Canada comes together from a wide variety of places and with a wide variety of experiences. This class will trace the origins of these groups from their beginnings in Europe to the waves of migrations to North America. We will look at both the Swiss/German Mennonite story and the Dutch/German Mennonite story through the use of video and personal accounts from people in our community.

## Coming Events.....at LUMC and in our Community

Jan1,2012 Sun **10:15** Worship Service (note time change)

Jan 13-15 **Prayer Weekend:** Gord Alton, our MCEC Regional Minister, will be leading us in three sessions on prayer. His title is "Contemplative Prayer: Doorway to Christian Transformation"  
 Friday night at NLUMC  
 Saturday night at LUMC  
 Sunday afternoon at Harrow  
 More details in next week's bulletin.

Feb 11 Sat 1 pm LUMC Annual Meeting - Annual Reports Due by Jan 20. Please submit electronically if at all possible.

### LUMC Holiday Office Hours

Tuesday, Jan. 3 - CLOSED

Please note: Contact numbers are printed on the back of the bulletin in case of emergencies

### MENNONITE BURIAL SOCIETY

The Annual General Meeting of the Mennonite Burial Society will be held on Saturday, January 14, 2012 at 2 pm at the Tabor Manor Chapel in St. Catharines. Board and auditor positions available, so please contact us for further details. For further information, please contact Barry Boese at 905-228-1850 or email [info@mennoniteburialsociety.com](mailto:info@mennoniteburialsociety.com)

January 15 - UMEI Board Fundraising Lunch Join us for a delicious meal of ribs and meatballs, mashed potatoes, salad and dessert. Lunch is served from 11:30am until 1:00pm.

Admission by donation.

January 18 - Zwieback

It's time for zwieback. Call the school at 519-326-7448 to place your order. \$5.00 per dozen.

February 10 - Lightning Live

Grade 7 & 8 students are invited to spend a day shadowing at UMEI.

# ***Contemplative Prayer***

## *Doorway to Christian Transformation*



When we hear the word “prayer”, our minds immediately imagine how prayer formally happens on Sunday morning in worship. Contemplative prayer is different than that. Contemplative prayer happens when we prayerfully reflect upon our life experience and notice three things:

1. The movements of God’s spirit in our experience
2. The blockages to God’s spirit moving in our life
3. How transformation happens as we die to aspects of our ego.

During the weekend of January 13-15, Gord Alton will lead three sessions where we will learn and practice forms of contemplative prayer.

**Friday January 13, 2012**

**Location: North Leamington United Mennonite Church**

**Time: 7:30 to 9 pm**

**Theme: Noticing God’s Spirit**

During this worship session, we will explore the places in our life where we do experience God’s Spirit. What are these experiences like? How do they affect the mind, heart, and gut areas of our body?

**Saturday January 14, 2012**

**Location: Leamington United Mennonite Church**

**Time: 6:30 to 9 pm**

**Theme: Contemplative Prayer and the Human Ego**

During this prayer workshop, we will investigate the different ways our ego interferes with God's Spirit flowing within our life experience. We will explore how the human ego forms and how it blocks God's spirit from moving freely within our mind, heart, and body. This will bring fresh meaning to biblical and theological terms such as "flesh", "law," and "fallen or sinful nature." We will practice prayer forms that help us become aware of our ego such as centring prayer and the conscious examen. People will have an opportunity to journal privately or work in pairs with someone they trust.

**Sunday January 15, 2012**

**Location: Harrow Mennonite Church**

**Time: 4:00 to 5:30**

**Theme: Transforming the Ego**

During this worship session, we will learn how contemplative prayer leads to personal transformation as we practice surrendering to God by dying to the ego. There will be a time of anointing prayer where people can stand in their current spot in the sanctuary indicating their desire to prune a certain aspect of their human ego. God will come to those who are standing, say a prayer to God for personal transformation, and anoint the person with oil.

Following the service, there will be refreshments.

Gord Alton is our Mennonite Church Eastern Canada Regional Minister. He is also a practicing spiritual director and coordinator for the Mennonite Spiritual Directors of Eastern Canada.



**Mennonite  
Church  
Eastern  
Canada**

**Église  
Mennonite  
de l'Est  
du Canada**

### **Philippines Update**

The death toll from Typhoon Sendong on Dec. 18 could surpass 1,000, say reports coming from the affected Philippine island of Mindanao. As of Dec. 20, 927 are already reported dead, with over 800 still missing.

Dann and Joji Pantoja, Mennonite Church Canada workers and their colleagues at Peacebuilders Community on Mindanao island, are safe, but they sent an appeal for help. "Our current situation here in Mindanao is gloomy," wrote Joji in an email on Dec. 19. "Peacebuilders Community is currently organizing and mobilizing our brothers and sisters to help," she wrote. "It is a heartbreaking reality."

Drinking water, food, medicine, bedding, footwear, and clothing are among the items urgently needed. "We are rallying local businesses and individuals to donate," wrote Joji. The Pantojas have set up a Facebook page to keep up with evolving situation, which can be reached via [www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/1690](http://www.mennonitechurch.ca/tiny/1690). They are seeking emergency funds from international and local Philippines partners to respond to the need.

Please keep Dan, Joji, and the peace builders community in your prayers as they seek to bring aid and healing in the midst of this disaster.

### **2012 Daily Bible Reading Guide**

Your PMT encourages you in the practise of daily Bible reading and prayer. We provide this Bible Reading Guide as one way that you can read the Bible as a family or on your own. If this Guide is used every day in 2012, 53 books of the Bible will be utilized and 15 books will be read in their entirety. These readings are based on the Revised Common Lectionary and are the texts that we often follow in our Sunday worship. God bless you as you immerse yourself in his life-giving Word.

January 2 - Colossians 1:1-14  
 January 3 - Colossians 1:15-29  
 January 4 - Colossians 2:1-23  
 January 5 - Isaiah 60:1-22  
 January 6 - Matthew 2:1-12  
 January 7 - Mark 1:1-11  
 January 8 - Acts 19:1-20



**ONE WAY High School Ministry**

**Winter Retreat - What's The Big Deal?**  
January 6 - 8 at Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp  
with Rielly McLaren

***Catechism 2012***

Are you interested in knowing what baptism is all about; what it means to be a follower of Jesus and why all this is a life-changing decision? In January we are beginning another catechism class where we explain the heart of the Christian faith and how you can personally respond to Jesus' invitation. Our classes will meet at 8:00 am Sunday morning, from January through June. Let us know if you are interested in being part of this exciting opportunity.

From your PMT: Vic Winter, David Dyck, Mike Williamson

**EKMHA New**

**Baltic Cruise Slide Show** by Ken & Rita Enns

7:00pm Fri Jan 13 at the

Mennonite Heritage Centre

Everyone welcome! Admission by donation

**Super Soup Night**

5:30pm at the UMEI

Sat Jan 21 Everyone welcome!

Admission: \$5 minimum donation

<u>Offering</u>	<u>December 25, 2011</u>
General	\$ 26,470.00
Designated	\$ 20.00
Building Fund	\$ 4,100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 30,590.00</b>
Sunday School	\$ 30.55

**Salvation Army Food Bank**

Please bring in items for our local food bank.

Items needed:

**Peanut butter**

**Jam**

**Cereal**

**Canned Fruit**



## JOYS & CONCERNS

### Notice of Death

Irene Woelk, wife of Walt, mother of Rick and Tracey, sister to Ann Fischer, sister-in-law to the large Woelk family, died suddenly on Dec. 22. The funeral service was held at LUMC on Dec. 28. We wish God's comfort to the family.

### Wedding

Kristopher Klassen and Jennifer Ellwood were married on December 30. We wish this couple God's blessing in their marriage!

Jennifer's father, Darrell Ellwood (50) died on December 25. A funeral service is planned for January 14 in Windsor.

### "Close to Home"

Several new topics have been added to this series of pamphlets (available in the LUMC washrooms).

PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder), Elder Abuse, Bipolar Disorder, Dementia, Electronic Addiction....

### Thank you

Thank you to everyone for your prayers, cards and gifts.  
Hedy Tiessen

### Remembering our Neighbours

It is good to remember that we are all part of the large Christian fellowship. This week, please pray for the Knox Presbyterian Church.



In an effort to foster community among the members of LUMC, the bulletin features a section for members to share their joys and concerns. We will remember to pray for these people in the coming week. Note: Names submitted must have the individual's

**"Thank you for making LUMC scent free!"**

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