



Pastor's Corner

Chris
Marchand,
Lead Pastor

The 3rd grade boy with chestnut hair listened to the teacher, but his squirming betrayed his desire to help her tell the story. The little guy was my companion for vacation Bible school. When asked to raise a hand in response to a question, his was the first to go up and if he was ignored, he let the answer fly, much to the chagrin of his group leader. A little surprised by my young friend's biblical knowledge, I asked him, "how do you know all this stuff about Jesus?" to which he replied, in a rather confident, matter-of-fact tone, "I got the book at home." Even at his young age, the Bible's message about Jesus had already begun to shape his thinking and I couldn't help but wonder, how Jesus would work in his life as he grows. As we come to a new season in our church life, the study of the Bible will be front and center. I'm looking forward to teaching on our four priorities: Worship, Love, Grow, and Serve and opening the book of Genesis with you, as we learn about Jacob's life and his God. Whether it's small groups, senior's Bible study, youth ministry, or our Sunday morning worship, God's Word will be central in all we do. Jesus said it best, we can't live by bread alone – so let's eat together, as we open God's Word, listen to God's Spirit, and live our lives for God's glory and the good of God's world.

VBS 2016

Report by
Jenna Sawatzky
& Photos by
Allison Friesen



FUN, CRAZY, EXHAUSTING, SPELUNKING - all words used to describe Niverville VBS 2016.



We had a great week! There were 303 kids registered and we had just under 300 attend daily.

The theme for this year was *Cave Quest: Following Jesus, the Light of the World*. During the week we learned that Jesus gives us Hope, C o u r a g e , Direction, Love, and His Power - follow Him!



A highlight of the week was the missions project where the kids made hygiene kits for MCC. We had Gerald Loepky come in and speak to the kids about MCC, refugee

camp and the living conditions of the people who will be receiving these kits.

On the fourth day of the week, the children were taught about God's love and invited to accept Christ as their personal Saviour. There were numerous commitments and many recommendations. It was incredible to hear accounts of kids making this major decision. We pray now that these decisions will go beyond the child to affect their families and generations to come.

We were so grateful for all of our awesome volunteers. It couldn't have been done without you! And thank you to all of you who participated with us through prayer, encouragement, donations, etc. It definitely takes many hands to make a program like this run smoothly.



All in all, it was a wonderful week and we look forward to VBS 2017!



New Testament for Everyone

18 Volume Set by N.T. Wright

Coming soon to the NCF Library Shelves

NCF Fall Kick-Off

Fall is often a busy time of year. As the leaves begin to change colour and start falling off the trees, we are witness to the transition of seasons as we know them on the prairies. The weather has turned cooler, reminding us that the end of summer holidays has arrived. Kids are back to school, sports and lessons, resulting in a more scheduled routine for many families.

Here at NCF, fall is the start of our new programming year. Throughout this newsletter you will find a number of options to participate in as we strive to do *Life Together* as a church family. Our annual Fall Kick-Off is one way we celebrate the transition from summer to fall.



Visiting during Lunch at the Park



Bouncy Castle for the kids and Annual Ladderball Tournament



Youth Soccer Game



Rose & Helen welcoming people at the coffee bar

This year's Kick-Off celebration took place at Hespeler Park after the morning worship service. We started with a barbecue which was followed by games for all ages, visiting with friends and acquaintances, and introducing ourselves to those who may be new to our community.



The weather was perfect for an afternoon outdoors



Sunday Morning Worship Service



Fun on the playground



Relay games for the kids



More Ladderball and Visiting

Note from Congregational Care



We have discovered that Eastman Recycling Services does not currently accept used coffee cups, even when they have a recycling logo on them. Unfortunately this means that all coffee cups and lids must go into the garbage, not the recycling bin.

As we seek to find more environmentally friendly options, we are encouraging our NCF members to bring your own reusable mug or water bottle with you to church. This will cut down on the number of cups ending up in the landfills.



Thank you for assisting us in this endeavour.



*Congratulations to
Lionel and Steve, winners of
this year's Ladderball Tournament
at the Fall Kick-Off*



Notes from the Elder Board

Being a Faithful Church

Mennonite Church Canada general assembly took place in Saskatoon this past summer. Delegates Gerry Rempel, David Ward and Gerald Loeppky attended the five-day conference, taking in the sessions, workshops and times for discernment and prayer.

For the past five years, MC Canada has been engaged in a study about sexuality referred to as Being a Faithful Church (BFC). The BFC task force proposed a recommendation that NCF was not able to support, however 85% of assembly delegates voted in favor of the recommendation. The Elder Board recognizes that the decision at Assembly has led to disappointment for some of our own members. Some of the questions now being considered by the Elder Board include: How will we respond to the decision made at conference? What does it mean to walk in love, even when we disagree? Do we still fit with

MC Canada, or is it now time to leave the conference? We've already had a preliminary Elder Board discussion and at our October meeting we plan to continue our conversation. At our next meeting we will set a date for a congregational meeting to take place later this fall. At the congregational meeting, there will be opportunity for people to share their opinions and together we will decide how we will proceed.

As we continue to work through these questions as a board and with the congregation, we would like to reinforce that the Elder Board and staff of NCF are of one mind in our full affirmation of Article 19 of the Confession of Faith in the Mennonite Perspective which states in part that "We believe that God intends marriage to be a covenant between one man and one woman for life". Please continue to pray for our church and for MC Canada and feel free to send us your comments, or to ask questions as we discern together.



Community • Coffee • Conversation

OVER 18
A DOCUMENTARY ABOUT PORN
Oct. 23, 7 pm
at NCF

A screening of Canadian documentary, *Over 18*, a film about pornography highlighting increased child and youth addiction to sexually violent material online and what Canada is trying to do to prevent it.

<http://hopeforthesold.com/lets-talk-about-pornography/>

C3 is for people who want to engage in **thoughtful faith**. It will help you **think critically** and develop **deeper friendships**. It will challenge you to reorient your life around **justice, ecological balance, equality, and selfless service**.

eXplore & More Classes **Fall 2016**

Sunday Mornings
9:30-10:30 a.m.

Age Group	Teacher	Location
Ages 2-3	Roxie Hiebert	406 (Basement)
Ages 4-5	Mara Klassen & Alia Kehler	407 (Basement)
Grade 1	Megan Sawatzky	201 (2nd Level)
Grade 2	Sher Sawatzky	202 (2nd Level)
Grade 3	Laureen Nickel	206 (2nd Level)
Grade 4-6 Girls	Danae Hiebert & Tanya Plett	205 (2nd Level)
Grade 4-6 Boys	Jarret Rempel & Braden Friesen	203 (2nd Level)
Junior High Girls	Rachel Turnbull & Melanie Ward	404 (Basement)
Junior High Boys	Art Sawatzky	405 (Basement)
Senior High	Matt Antonio & Mike Bouwman	403 (Youth Room)

Fall Adult Electives

September 18 (Hall)

South Africa Update with Mike & Marie-Eve Fast

September 25-October 30

Jacob's Journey (Hall)
Teacher: Pastor Chris

In this six-week study, we'll get to know Jacob - a conniving, dishonest, manipulative man, yet chosen by God to be the recipient of a promise. The story will rattle your preconceived notions of whom God blesses and awaken your love for this God who meets us in the messes of our lives.

The Power of Story (Rm 127)
Teacher: Kendra Dueck

Taking a look at how sharing our stories can build community and further God's Kingdom.

November 6-20

Sexuality, Gender, and Identity: Understanding and Responding to a Sexually Confused World (Sanctuary)
Led by Reg Froese, Journey Canada

This teaching series will present what our culture believes about sexuality, gender, and identity as well as explore an alternative Christian message. It will provide foundations and frameworks that individual Christians and the church can utilize as we seek to both uphold a Christian sexual ethic and love people well who are struggling in their sexuality and relationships.

November 27

Advent Class
Teacher: Lois Neufeld

Small Groups at NCF

Connecting Authentically around God's word, sharing His love and grace as we do Life Together

If you are interested in either joining a small group, or would consider hosting/leading a small group, please contact Darlene Dueck (Box 13)

For more information email darlene.dueck@nivcf.ca

Attention parents of children born in 2014:

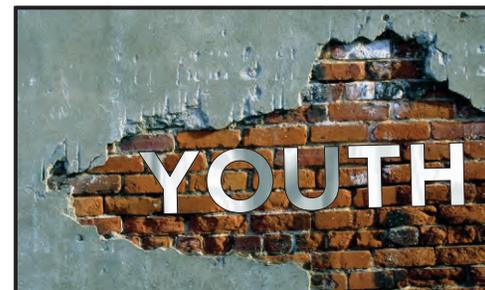
We are excited to welcome your kids to eXplore & More this year! We do ask that children only start attending when they are 2 years old and you feel like they are ready to attend. We look forward to a great year with your little ones!
- The Education Committee

On-Going Adult Electives

The following two classes are offered on an on-going basis throughout the year. Anyone is welcome to join at any time.

Moms & Tots - 402 (Basement)
Teacher: Heather Marchand

Prayer in Practice (Rm 126)
Teacher: Steve Dueck



NCF Youth Ministry seeks to provide an environment for young people to grow in their relationship with God.

Junior Youth Ministry:

Wednesdays, 7:00-9:30 pm
for grades 7-9

Senior Youth Ministry:

Fridays, 7:30-11:00 pm
for grades 10-12

Come and join us as we strive to know God better.

Upcoming events:

Wednesday, Sept. 21, 7 pm
Joint Worship Night
(Jr/Sr High)
with the band CAVES