

December 10, 2017

Bethany Christian Reformed Church
1040 Balfour Street
P.O. Box 61
Fenwick, ON L0S 1C0



Bethany Bugle

Special Points of Interest

- Ministry Updates
- Other News
- School News
- CRC News

General Contact Information

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Custodians

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Youth Director

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Worship Coordinators

Karina Wierenga
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Brittany Terpstra
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shalem

Mental Health Network

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: 905-528-0353 or
Toll-free 1-866-347-0041
www.shalemnetwork.org
Confidential congregation-
ally supported counselling.

Elisha House
Pregnancy & Family Support Centre

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: 905-735-9934
Aft Hrs: 289-823-2424
(call or txt)
www.elishahouse.on.ca
info@elishahouse.on.ca

Congregational Gathering Minutes Bethany Christian Reformed Church Wednesday, November 29, 2017

*Bethany striving to be...
"Deep Connecting, Lifelong Equipping,
Compassionate Serving"*

Attendees: 49 members present.

Chairman George DeRoo opened with welcome and greetings and a scripture reading. Time spent in prayer.

Motion to approve minutes of the spring congregational meeting held in January 2017. 2nd and carried.

Matters arising from the minutes. None

Bob Gerrits provided a presentation for the planned Niagara Christian Gleaners. The following are highlights of the presentation.

We live in a society that has a lot of waste.

Globally there is 1.3 million tons of food wasted annually, which relates to 1/3 of the food produced.

21,000 people die every day due to hunger.

The Gleaners manufacture dried vegetables and fruit.

All dried products are available for overseas only

The Cambridge operation produces 7,400 pounds of dried food per day.

The Cambridge operation turns down food offers that could go the Niagara Christian Gleaners operation.

World food relief groups pick up the dried food and ships it were the needs are.

Gleaners do not ship or handle product once it enters their warehouse.

Niagara Christian Gleaners has purchased 3 acres of land in Smithville and plan to be operational in 2018.

The facility is estimated to cost \$2,200,000.00

How can we help.

Prayer

Volunteer hours

Pledge towards the operational cost

Provide available produce

Capital investment.

Finance Team – Ed Slappendel presented the 2018 proposed budget. Motion to accept budget as presented was carried.

Offering Schedule – Leo Devries presented the 2018 offering schedule. Motion to accept offering schedule as presented was carried.

Implementation Team update was presented by Ed Roorda.

There are (9) members on the team.

They are divided into (3) teams of (3).

Deep Connecting, Lifelong Equipping and Compassionate Serving.

Wilma Vahmeyer and Christine VanGeest spoke on "Deep Connecting".

Marian Lensink will speak at Bethany on March 3, 2018.

Looking for a Small Group Coordinator it has not been determined if this would be a volunteer or paid position.

Andrea Veldhuizen spoke on "Lifelong Equipping".

Tim VanHoffen spoke on "Compassionate Serving".

The team has vetted the recent survey and a Data Base has been created that is only controlled by Denise Glasbergen as the Bethany staff administrator. Others can request applicable data to review those that have shown an interest in working in their program needs.

Heidi TeBrake provided an update on the Syrian Refugee family.

The family arrived in Welland in September 2017.

The family consists of parents along with (4) children.

Support is based on (4) local churches.

The family is currently attending English classes.

The family will be supported for a period of (1) year with a viewpoint that they will be self sufficient at that time.

Lorraine presented an update on her work at Bethany.

There are (85) children that are involved in Bethany's children programs.

A junior Gems and Cadets programs that meet on Sunday has been developed.

The focus for the 3 to 5-year-old age Sunday School children over the next (4) Sundays will on Advent training. The older children will be attending the worship service.

Planning on having Autism training in January.

Looking at revamping the (6) year old age Sunday School program to story telling along with appropriate props versus the current reading of a story.

Andrea presented an update on her work at Bethany.

The Merge program has (12) members attending. (Next year there will be an additional (9) members joining in.) Currently there are (5) leaders. Andrea, Tim and Kathy VanHoffen and Darren and Alexandra Wierenga. Merge is planning on a Winter retreat at Pioneer Camp. Merge is planning a Dash and Dine on December 10, 2017.

Girls in the grade 9 to 12 class are attending a bible study that is going very well.

Need to do ditto for the boys. Need leaders to make it happen.

George informed the members that Council is considering changing the Worship start time to 10:00 AM.

Closing prayer by Rob Bouwers

Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 4th, 2017 @ 7:30

Attendees:

Elders: Rob Bouwers, Hilbert Bokma, George DeRoo (chaired), Ed Slappendel, Ed Roorda, Mark Vahrmeyer, Pastor Colin Vander Ploeg, Peter Veldhuizen (Clerk), Gerry Vermeer

Deacons: Leo Devries, JJ Keizer, Bert Nauta, Brian Prins, Jim Slappendel, Frank Vraets

Absent: Peter Glasbergen, Harry Hielema, Kevin Twomey,

Prayer and Opening Devotions – Ephesians 3 was the scripture reading.

Classical visit conducted by Pastor Fred VanderBerg and Ben Winter. They will record the visit and send report to Council for approval prior to submitting to Classis.

Presentation of Council Minutes, November 6th, 2017--reviewed and motion to approve: carried

Matters arising from Minutes:

Classis Niagara... November 30th, 2017.... George DeRoo reflected on the meeting.

Congregational Gathering ... November 29, 2017 minutes approved.

New Business:

Worship Ministry Team presented (3) options, Live Stream, Video Recording, Audio Recording Options. Discussion tabled to the January 8th, 2018.

Council approved the worship service start time to 10:00 AM for a (2) month trial period starting in January 2018.

Executive report -

Peter Veldhuizen

Reported on meeting with staff. Minutes approved.

Deacons Reports –

Leo Devries

Deacons busy planning senior's dinner December 6, 2107

HR Team Report

Mark Vahrmeyer

Team will be having an evaluation with the Pastor. In the future the HR team will be evaluating and being a resource to all the staff.

Vision Implementation Team Report

Ed Roorda

None

Caregiver Team Report – none

George DeRoo

Finance Team Report

Ed Slappendel

The Financial statements need to place the Redemeer line item to Global Partnering Ministry Section

Fellowship Team Report – none

Gerry Vermeer

Buildings & Grounds Reports –

Bert Nauta

Classroom has been renovated

Safe Church Team Report - none

Peter Glasbergen

Discipleship Team Report - none

Harry Hielema

Youth Committee Report – none

Peter Glasbergen

Library Report

George DeRoo

Joanne Dam has been approved to the Library Team.

Correspondence and miscellaneous:

Letter for Calvin Board of Trustee – For info.

Next Meeting – January 8th, 2017

Closing JJ Keizer

Monday January 1, 2018. There will be a Special Combined New Year's Day Worship Service at 10:00 a.m. at Grace CRC in Welland where together with Riverside CRC, Wellandport and Bethany CRC, Fenwick we join in looking ahead to God's leading and blessing in 2018. The focus will be on the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ for our churches and communities in 2018. Pastor Mike Vandyk and the Welland worship team will lead the service.

Attention: If you are over 65 and you have not received your Advent candle display, see table in fellowship hall. Your name is on it.



We're on the web!
www.bethanycrc.ca

Coffee Break: This past Tuesday we had a hardworking crew of ladies wrapping gifts for Rose City Kids. All the gifts were wrapped and everyone who was able to come had a good time working together. A good feeling to know we helped to make some children's day happy during the Christmas season.

This coming Tuesday we will have our last regular Bible Study for this year. Time has certainly flown by. Gail/Irene's group is on Lesson #6 question 10, Barb's group start Lesson #7, Wendy/Mary's group is on Lesson #8 question 6. Joyce/Carla's group starts Lesson 8. On the 19th we will have our Christmas morning and brunch. If you signed to help with Christmas check with Tildy on Tuesday morning. Leading: Pauline, Kitchen Clean-Up: Suzanne V., Fran K., Alice Z., Babysitting: Ginnette B., Sue DeWaard, As the winter season is now becoming more of a reality please note that if the weather looks bad, there is no Coffee Break if school buses are cancelled. No buses no Coffee Break!!!

Harvest Kitchen—On Thursday, Nov. 16th at the Hope Center, we had approx. 45 people for dinner. Thank you to our volunteers from Bethany Youth; Chloe LaPenna, Cassidy Kiers, Jerry Kiers, Tim and Kathy VanHoffen, Darren Wierenga, Andrea Veldhuizen and to my son Ben Oussoren. They helped us serve and provided all the Lasagna's and Desserts for our evening. I would like to thank Ann Kiers and Barb Janssen for their support and dedication to this mission. Thank you to all for giving so generously of your time. It's wonderful to see how God uses each of us to be involved and to bring a smile to the faces of the less fortunate and to each other... Thank you!! Please remember that we can always use your help for this month, especially with Christmas around the corner many are busy...the date will be December 21st. Please give me a call if you can provide food (Shepherd's Pie and/or Dessert) or your service (time) for Harvest Kitchen..... 289-241-4555 or email me at my3sons@cogeco.ca. Angela Oussoren

Concerts

Performing Arts @ Mountainview Church invites you to CHRISTMAS AT THE NOON HOUR: Join us for a quiet moment of reflection, peace and joy on December 13th with organist Ernie Termorshuizen and December 20th with organist Peter Ravensbergen, and soprano soloist Laurice Ravensbergen, as they present the inspiring music of the Christmas season. The busy bustle of life and the commercialism of Christmas often leaves little time for reflection, to consider what the season is really all about. We invite you to do so by taking some time during your noon hour break. Come and hear the inspiring music of the Christmas season. Go back to work relaxed and refreshed, ready to celebrating the true meaning of the season. Free - no admission fee. 290 Main Street East, Grimsby • www.mountainviewcrc.org

The Awake to Praise Choir Concerts - We welcome you to join us for our Christmas concerts, titled, "Eternal Hope" which will be held at the Vineland Free Reformed Church on Friday, December 15 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, December 16 at 5:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. There will be a free will offering with all net proceeds going to the Niagara Christian Gleaners (niagaragleaners.org).

The AMBASSADORS CHRISTIAN MALE CHORUS & FRIENDS are presenting their 2017 Christmas Concert Friday, December 15, 2017 entitled 'WHEN WILL HE COME', a joyous musical performing "The Winter Rose" a SATB Cantata by Joseph M. Martin

Mount Hamilton Christian Reformed Church – 1411 Upper Wellington at Stone Church Road, Hamilton, ON
Concerts start at 7:30 PM. info call: 905-389-2104 or 905-689-5266 email: bdehaan@gmail.com or kleis.hensen@gmail.com

School Better Late than Never!! The NACE Apple Pie committee wants to give a big thank you to all who helped in our apple pie fundraiser this year. What a wonderful day and what a wonderful group of volunteers who came out to help! We raised \$9,500.00 for our schools. God is good! Hope to see you all again next year. We can't do it without you! ~ NACE Apple Pie Committee

REDEEMER UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Poetry Readings

January 18 - Armand Garnet Ruffo, March 8 - Lara Bozabalian

The Canada Council for the Arts, the Hamilton Poetry Centre and Redeemer are pleased to bring a number of poets to our campus. Everyone is welcome to attend these readings. More information at www.redeemer.ca/events.

Not All Those Who Wander Are Lost

Until February 2

See Colin Carney's solo exhibition of digital photography, "Not All Who Wander Are Lost," in the Redeemer Art Gallery until February 2. Learn more at www.redeemer.ca/colin-carney

Come for a visit!

Come to one of our Campus Visit Days on February 16 or March 12, or book a personalized tour to get a taste of what Redeemer is all about. Learn more and register at www.redeemer.ca/visit.

10,000 Strong

Be a part of history during the 2017-2018 season and come out to support the Redeemer Royals as they attempt to set an OCAA fan attendance record! See upcoming games at redeemerroyals.ca

Redeemer University College is hiring!

Redeemer University College has position openings for an Accounts Payable Clerk, a Casual Custodian and a Web Designer. More information at www.redeemer.ca/staff-openings.

President Search

The search for Redeemer's fourth president is underway. The university needs a bold, decisive leader with a well-articulated vision that will ensure a healthy future for the institution. Learn more about this exciting opportunity at www.redeemer.ca/president-search.

A Theology of Star Wars - Are you excited about Star Wars: The Last Jedi?

Some of the sharpest thinkers on theology and pop culture explore key themes in the preceding films in "A Theology of Star Wars," an ebook from Think Christian. Simply sign up to receive Think Christian articles by email and the ebook is yours! Learn more at thinkchristian.net/starwars.

FAMILY FIRE - is an online community exploring Spirit-led family, marriage, parenting, in-laws, blended families, and intimacy. Find encouraging articles and devotions at familyfire.com. Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.

MERRY X-MONSTERS - One of the families in Terrene loses their house and all their belongings in a house fire right before Christmas. Liz decides to give them his coveted, long anticipated, X-Monsters game so they'll have something brand new to play with. Check out KC's new Christmas coupon book for a great gift idea at www.kidscorner.net.

MIGHTY GOD - As we continue to anticipate and think about the birth of Jesus Christ, we encounter Isaiah's second name for our Messiah: Mighty God. Join Groundwork as we study Isaiah 9:6-7 and Colossians 2:15 to discover how a baby who will later appear weak as he dies on a cross really is our Mighty God. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

From Centre for Public Dialogue

Support church-based refugee sponsorship - Many CRC churches have sponsored refugees, and Canada's private sponsorship program is admired around the world. But sponsors know that it can take years for a sponsored refugee to arrive, due to system backlogs and wait times. Advocate with World Renew and the Christian Reformed Centre for Public Dialogue for change by visiting bit.ly/halfwelcomeadvocacy.

From Office of Social Justice

Sanctity of Human Life Sunday Worship Materials - God knows us. God appoints us. God blesses us to be a blessing. These statements, along with the verse from Jeremiah 1:5, are the focus of the CRC Office of Social Justice's worship materials to help your church honor Sanctity of Human Life Sunday on January 21. The world tells us that a person's life is only as valuable as the circumstances into which they are born. However, as the people of God, we are called to seek flourishing for every person created in the image of God. Visit crcna.org/life for worship resources including a bulletin insert, a prayer, and a responsive reading.

From Other

Tour the Biblical Lands of Israel - February 12 – 23, 2018. Experience a renewal of your faith and a deeper understanding of the Bible, as you tour Israel with teaching host Pastor Peter Tuininga, and Sindbad Tours. See many biblical places (Jerusalem, Galilee, Caesarea, Jericho and more), and gain spiritual and historical insights that will make the Bible come alive for you. For information, cost, and registration, go to toursofisrael.wordpress.com, call Peter Tuininga (289 877-8433), or e-mail peter.tuininga@gmail.com.

From Resonate Global Mission

Dominican Republic Church Construction - Join together with the local church in Los Alcarizos, Dominican Republic to construct a new church building. Their current building is too small, in very poor shape, and has little ventilation. Church members have been gathering materials together and are really hoping for a team to come and help them this year. For more information visit resonateglobalmission.org/go or contact Bill Thornburg - bthornburg@crcna.org. Deadline for application is January 5, 2018.

From World Renew

Sign up for Advent Devotions today - It's not too late! Take time to prepare for Immanuel, Incarnate at Christmas time with Monday, Wednesday, and Friday reflections sent to your email inbox from World Renew and the CRC Office of Social Justice through Christmas Day. Join this exploration of the Incarnation of Christ and his daily presence in our lives as we prepare to celebrate his birth. Don't miss out: Sign up today at crcna.org/advent.

World Renew invites you to stand in the gap with people who live with poverty and hunger this Christmas - You can help a family with a filter for clean water to drink, help a child get the food they need to grow well with a nutrition kit, or help a disaster survivor find shelter and restoration. What will you give to help fill the gap? Get your copy of the all-new World Renew gift catalogue online at worldrenewgifts.net or call 800-730-3490 to request your copy!