

# Welcome!

We are now in "Christmas-tide". Traditionally this is the part of the church calendar that runs from Christmas Day for 12 days. That's where "the 12 Days of Christmas song comes from." So this morning we continue our focus on the coming of Christ Jesus by reflecting on the continued rule of the Lord in all the universe as we await His second and final coming. We also celebrate the Lord's Supper today (see below). May the Lord of lords, and King of kings be the source of your joy and strength.

## Visitors/Guests Notes

Welcome! This morning's service will include the sacrament of the Lord's Supper (also called Communion or Eucharist). The Lord's Supper is a sacrament that points us to the fact that we are part of Christ's Body (the Church) by the once and for all sacrifice He made for us in dying on the cross for our sins. The congregation is invited on the basis of this grace in Christ to celebrate in faith God's gift of salvation.

If you are new here or visiting with us today and you are a baptized member of Christ's Church, believing in Jesus as your Saviour and Lord, you are invited to join us in this sign and seal of God's promise of forgiveness in Christ. If you are here and you have never been welcomed into the Church through baptism, we encourage you to contact the pastor to talk about God's call in your life and explore the joyful meaning of being baptized.

### CONTACT CARD

We want to get to know you! Feel free to fill out the Contact/Prayer Card in the bench and drop it in the offering bag or slide it under the pastor's office door.

### CHILD CARE

Child-care is available for both infants and toddlers located in the lower level of the church.

### BETHANY KIDS

Children ages 3-8 leave during the service to attend Children's Church downstairs.

**LARGE PRINT BULLETINS & HEARING ASSIST DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE USHERS.**

**All are welcome to join afterwards for refreshments in the fellowship hall.**

## Why Are We Here?

### VISION STATEMENT

We are a God Honouring Community  
Witnessing for Christ!

We're on the web!  
[www.bethanycrc.ca](http://www.bethanycrc.ca)



## Connecting

**Church Office** Denise Glasbergen 905-892-8980  
info@bethanycrc.ca

**Pastor** Colin Vander Ploeg 905-931-5841 [call/text]  
colin@bethanycrc.ca

**Youth Director** Andrea Veldhuizen 905-975-8484 [call/text]  
andrea@bethanycrc.ca

**Children's Ministry** Lorraine Wierenga 905-892-6961  
lorraine@bethanycrc.ca

**Worship/LIFE Groups** (position vacant—contact Pastor Colin)

## We Partner With

### Locally

Bible League, Elisha House, Family Outreach, Friendship Club, Hannah House, Harvest Kitchen, Open Arms Mission, Pelham Cares, Pro-Life, Rose City Kids, Shalom Manor, Covenant Christian School, Smithville Christian High School.

**Globally** Check out [www.crcna.org](http://www.crcna.org)

Devon Van Hoffen serving in Africa. Email Devon at [devon@handsatwork.org](mailto:devon@handsatwork.org)

Follow Devon on his blog at [www.devonvanhoffen.wordpress.com](http://www.devonvanhoffen.wordpress.com)

## Happening Today

**Worship Leaders** 8:00am – time of praise, prayer, & preparation

**Pre-service Prayer** 9:15am – Council & worship leaders (in Council room)

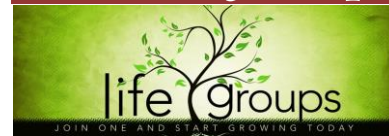
## Upcoming

**Next Week's offering:** Rose City Kids

**December 31<sup>st</sup>** - New Year's Eve Service at 7:00pm

**January 1<sup>st</sup>** – New Year's Day Service at Riverside CRC in Wellandport at 10:00am  
74094 Wellandport Road

## Get Equipped for Faith Life



**GEMS: 2015-2016 Theme:**

**Psalm 119:105 "Choose Truth"**

Meets every Thursday evening  
from 7-9pm for **girls in grades**

**4-8** from Sept.-Apr. For more

information contact Diana at

Cell: 289-696-5567 or email:

[dj.diana.slappendel@gmail.com](mailto:dj.diana.slappendel@gmail.com)

**CADETS: 2015-2016 Theme:**

**Matthew 4:19**

**"Hooked on Christ"**

Meets every Thursday

evening from 7-9pm for

**boys in grades 4-8** from

Sept.-Apr. For more information

contact: Mike Klapwyk 905-892-3036



**Faith Instruction** (Catechism) every

Tuesday at 7:00pm @ the church for

grades 9-12. **Resumes in January.**

**MERGE (youth group)** from 7-9

is for grades 9-12.

# Welcome to Bethany!

Let us rejoice in the Lord together!



## 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

**Bethany Christian Reformed Church**

December 27, 2015

9:30am

## Today in Worship



### The Lord Gathers Us

- \*Opening Song  
"Once in Royal David's City"
- \*God's Word of greeting
- \*Songs of Praise  
"Come Lord Jesus Come"

### The Lord Shows Us His Grace

- Lighting of Advent Candle
- Bethany Kids-Memory Work
- Children's Song of Thankfulness  
"Jesus Loves the Little Children"

(Children ages 3-8 invited downstairs for Sunday School)

### The Lord Speaks to Us through His Word

- Scripture: Luke 21:5-36
- Message: "Christ's Continued Reign"
- Prayer of blessing & Prayers of God's People

### The Lord Sends Us Out to Celebrate & Serve

- \*Song of Response  
"Come and Stand Amazed You People"
- Lord's Supper
- Prayer & Offerings
  1. Ministries here at Bethany & the CRCNA
  2. Deacons
- \*God's Word of blessing
- \*Closing Song  
"Revelation Song"



<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> December 27	Zechariah 1-4; Luke 22:47-71
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> December 28	Zechariah 5-8; Luke 23:1-25
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> December 29	Zechariah 9-12; Luke 23:26-56
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> December 30	Zechariah 13-14; Luke 24:1-35
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> December 31	Malachi 1-4; Luke 24:36-53
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> January 1	Genesis 1-3; Romans 1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> January 2	Genesis 4-6; Romans 2

## Sermon follow-up ...

1. Read Peter 3:8-14. What stands out to you in this passage and why? What questions does it leave you with?
2. How does your life reflect your belief that Jesus will return? Is it something you think about and long for? If not, why do you think that is?
3. What do you think of when you hear or read the words "be diligent"? What does it look like for you to be diligent in pursuing holiness and godliness? In what areas do you need to fight and flee from sin? In what areas do you need to cultivate love for God and love for others?
4. Look up Romans 8:22-25. Compare it to Revelation 21:1-7. What future birth do we await? How does looking expectantly to the promised return of Jesus affect the way you see your present circumstances?

*In prayer, thank God for the reality that Jesus will return and make all things new. Confess any areas of your life—finances, time, relationships, stewardship of your body—where you haven't been diligent in pursuing holiness. Ask the Lord to show you specific ways you can actively await His promised return in the coming year.*

## Serving Assignments

**Today [Please arrive by 9:15am for Nursery & Toddlers ]**

**Sunday School during Advent Season**

**Worship Leader:** Sierra Kiers

**Teachers/helpers:** Lisa Ormel, Joanne Benson, Sharon Hielema, Ray Wubs, Kelly Dam, Stephanie Beldman, Madison Lapenna

**Courtney** Mackenzie Kremer

**Dylan** Kelly Slappendel

**Nursery** Hilda Dam, Betty Gritter, Ans Roorda, Tawnya VanHoorn

**Toddlers** Nellie Scholman, Matt Dam, Gabi VanSoelen

**Ushers** Chris Smit, Mary Bokma

**Coffee Servers** Bill & Ann Van Lochem, Kyle & Steph Wegelin

**Greeters** Cor & Ina VanSoelen, Hans & Hilda Dam, Ans Roorda, Mark Vahrmeyer, Colin deRoos, Joanne Dam

**Next Sunday**

**3 Year olds-A** Tanya Lane, Cadence Kiers

**3 Year olds-B** Vicky DenBak, Tawnya VanHoorn

**4 Year olds** Andrea DeVries, Cassidy Kiers

**5 Year olds** Becky VanLochem, Emma Wubs

**6 Year olds** Diana Slappendel, Morgan Glasbergen

**7 & Year olds** Jen Kiers, Andria Slappendel

**Courtney** Rita Forestell

**Dylan** Sonya VanDriel

**Nursery** Brenda Boverhof, Liz Johnston, Natalie Langendoen, Evan VanHuizen

**Toddlers** Zach Beldman, Veronica Slappendel, Jesse VanHoorn

**Ushers** Brian Prins, Scott VanDriel

**Coffee Servers** Gerry & Cynthia Vermeer, John & Joanne Zwier

**Greeters** John Langendoen, Epp DeVries, Vicky DenBak, Nellie Scholman, Gerry Evers

**If you are interested in serving please contact the office**

## Bethany Family Updates & Prayers

### Birthdays this week

Bill Vahrmeyer, Frank Vraets, Epp DeVries, Frank Bouwers, Kyler Garner, Devon VanHoffen, Ella Nauta, Noah Prins, Sierra Kiers, Juliette Koudys, Mike Robson, Kaleigh Scholman, Christine VanGeest

### Anniversaries this week

Rob & Glenda Bouwers

### Prayers requested

- ❖ *If for any reason you are in need of support or want to talk to someone, contact Pastor Colin 905-931-5841 or Caregiver Joyce De Roo at 905-386-6719 or SHALEM network 866-347-0041 (confidential, financially supported counselling for Bethany members)*
- ❖ **Hermien Korten** suffered a fall at home recently and is presently in Port Colbourne hospital undergoing physiotherapy. Give thanks that she was not seriously hurt in the fall. Pray for patience for Hermien and a measure of recovery for her.
- ❖ **Pastor Colin's mother Helen** (Ray) remains in Woodstock hospital undergoing physio therapy for her mobility issues. She has also tested positive for an anti-biotic resistant "superbug" though she is does not seem too ill from the disease at this time. Pray for patience for the pastor's parents and for healing for his mom.
- ❖ Continue to pray for the residents and staff of **Shalom Manor & Gardens** as they deal with an illness outbreak. May the Lord protect and heal according to His gracious will.
- ❖ **Jennifer Wierenga** underwent unplanned surgery recently. Give thanks to the Lord that her surgery went well and she is on the road to recovery. Pray for patience during healing for her as she has to be off work for a number of weeks.
- ❖ Medical specialists have confirmed that **Arnold Dykstra** has inoperable cancer throughout his liver. There are limited treatment options for this and he has other attendant health complications as well. As a family they are praying for healing, for with the Lord all things are possible. But they also know that God is sovereign overall and will never leave them or forsake them on any pathway. Pray for Arnold, Ellen, Brittany & Arnell and the rest of their family as they adapt to this news. Pray for peace, for the strength found in the Spirit's gifted faith they have, and for a deep sense of God's love surrounding them all. *Since Arnold tires easily and has difficulty sleeping so please no drop-in visits or phone calls at this time.* Those who regularly have been supporting them are doing so. If you wish to connect with them please first contact either Pastor Colin or Elder Rudy Boverhof.
- ❖ Pray for **Dalton Jacques** (Shelby Kremer's brother). He continues to deal with his progressing cancer. Doctors have stopped treatments as they were aggravating the cancer. He is on pain management only and is being cared for at home. Pray for God's gracious presence to surround this family in this very difficult journey and that Dalton may receive all the peace and assurance of God's love that he needs in this time.
- ❖ Pray for strength and comfort each day for **Wilma VanHuizen** (Ray's mother) and her family.
- ❖ Pray for **Harm Lottering** (Bill Thies' bro-in-law) who is dying of cancer. Harm is ready to enter the glorious presence of his heavenly Father. Pray for wife Jane and their son and family as they walk this difficult journey. Harm is 81 years old and lives in The Netherlands.