

Welcome to Bethany

Here we are on the first Sunday of 2018! May the God of all creation fill you with His loving kindness to uphold you this year!

At this start to a new year, we go to the start of the Bible. Today, Lord willing, we begin a series of sermons from the book of Genesis. Some say that all they need to know is Jesus. But to know who Jesus is, we have to know who God is, for Jesus is God. And God reveals who He is in His Word, the Bible. And the Bible starts at Genesis 1:1. May the Spirit of our God draw us closer to Him in this time and place for His glory.

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 Bethany Kids/Jr. Cadets/Jr. GEMS program downstairs. Please sign in your child each Sunday if they are going to attend.

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

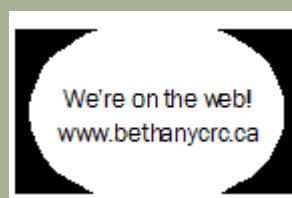
All are welcome to join afterwards for refreshments in the fellowship hall.

Why Are We Here?

Bethany ministry vision:

Everyone Growing in Jesus!

deep connecting—lifelong equipping—compassionate serving



Ministries Bethany supports

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.

Regionally: Brock University Chaplaincy (St. Catharines), Shalom Manor Chaplaincy (Grimsby), The Bridge church plant (Niagara Falls)

Globally Check out CRC ministry around the world at www.crcna.org

Devon & Lerato Van Hoffen in Africa. Email devon@handsatwork.org

Happening Today

Worship Leaders 8:30am – time of praise, prayer, & preparation

Pre-service Prayer 9:45am – Council & worship leaders (in Multi-use room)

Upcoming

Next Sunday's offering: World Renew

Next Sunday's Children's Song: "The Butterfly Song"

Jan 8th: Council meeting 7:30 PM

Jan 9th: Implementation Team meeting 8PM

Jan 10th: Worship Ministry Team meeting 8PM

Jan 14th: Re-affirmation of faith of Brandon B & Marco R

Jan & Feb: please note worship services start at 10AM (2 month trial)

Get Equipped for Faith Life



GEMS: Meets Thursday evenings from 7-8:30pm for girls in grades 4-8. For more information, contact Cynthia: 905-892-2217 or email: bnauta@cogeco.ca

Theme Verse for 2017/2018 – "Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did (1 John 2:6)"



Cadets: Meets Thursday evenings from 7-8:30pm for boys in grades 4-8. For more information, contact Mike, email: mikedreyer@hotmail.com or cell: 289-687-3105

Theme Verse for 2017 / 2018 – "For this is what the Sovereign Lord says: I myself will search for my sheep and look after them." Ezekiel 34:11

MERGE (youth group) – for grades 9-12. Questions? Call Andrea 905-975-8484



Men's Bible Study – Tuesdays 6:00am (coffee provided!)

Women's Coffee Break – Tuesdays at Grace CRC 9:30am

Heart to Heart (women) – Fridays at 9:30am

Women's Bible Study – Meets at Bethany in the Fireside

Room every Tuesday night 7 o'clock. Our next meeting: January 30th, 2018



NIAGARA YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

Meets once a month with the area CRC's taking turns hosting. We are studying the book by Francis Chan

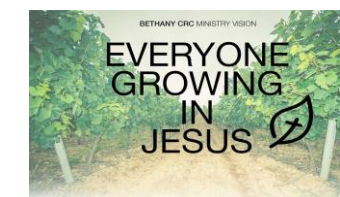
"Crazy Love". Questions? Contact Mary Bokma 905-892-0529.

Welcome to Bethany!



Bethany Christian Reformed Church

**January 7, 2018
10:00 am**



**Deep connecting
Lifelong equipping
Compassionate serving**

How to contact Bethany Church

Administrator 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 Director Lorraine Wierenga	289-897-8963 lorraine@bethanycrc.ca
Worship Directors Karina Wierenga	289-686-9461 [text] karinawierenga@gmail.com
Brittany Terpstra	905-380-0391 [call/text] rbterpstra@gmail.com

Today in Worship



The Lord Gathers Us

Welcome & Announcements

Call to worship: Psalm 24:1-2, 9-10

*Opening Song

“This is Our God”

*God’s Word of greeting

*Songs of Praise

“Jesus Messiah”

“Because He Lives (Amen)”

The Lord Shows Us His Marvelous Grace

Prayer of Confession (from *Prone to Wander*, Duguid & Houk p. 50-51)

God’s Word of Assurance: Psalm 46:4-5 & Revelation 22:1-5, 20

Song of Response

“Amazing Grace” – PH462

God’s Call to Faithful Living: Romans 13:8-14

Children’s Song of Thankfulness

“He’s Got the Whole World”

(Bethany Kids ages 3-6 & Jr. GEMS/Cadets ages 7-8 are dismissed)

Prayer for offering

Offerings: 1. Ministries here at Bethany & the CRCNA

2. Rose City Kids

The Lord Leads Us by His Word & Spirit

Prayer of God’s people & for the proclamation of the Word

Bible reading – Genesis 1:1

Message title “The Radical Claim of God”

The Lord Moves Us to Celebrate & Serve

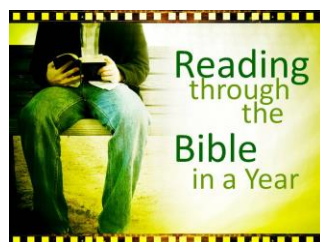
*Song of Response

“In God the Father I Believe” – PH518

*God’s Word of Blessing

*Closing song

“Christ Be All Around Me”



- January 7
- January 8
- January 9
- January 10
- January 11
- January 12
- January 13

Genesis 18-19; Romans 7
 Genesis 20-22; Romans 8:1-21
 Genesis 23-24; Romans 8:22-39
 Genesis 25-26; Romans 9:1-15
 Genesis 27-28; Romans 9:16-33
 Genesis 29-30; Romans 10
 Genesis 31-32; Romans 11:1-18

Sermon Discussion Questions

1. Genesis 1:1 declared God’s sovereign rule over all creation in opposition to ancient myths about other gods and how the world and humanity came to be. What about today? What does this short sentence oppose in our society’s understandings of this universe?
2. What does the fact that the Bible starts at creation have to say about why Jesus came to die? Read John 3:16 ... what did God so love? Now connect this to Revelation 21:1. What does God’s salvation plan include?
3. There are a number of creation-focused Psalms or parts of Psalms. Read for example, Psalm 8 & Psalm, 19:1-6. It is poetic language that speaks of who God is and how He relates to Creation. What are some of the things these psalms are saying here?
4. Read Psalm 139:13-16. What do these verses say about God’s work and our individual existence? How does that give us comfort? How does that perhaps also challenge us in how we live our lives? What does this mean about God’s plan of salvation for us in Christ Jesus?
5. If you have time, read through the whole of Psalm 104. Who is the one doing all the action in this Psalm? What does this say about how closely God was active in creation and is active right now? How might we be more aware of this reality?

Serving Assignments

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

Adventurers Vicky D, Austin O
Travelers Jody V, Nathan D
Discoverers Becky V, Jessica O
Explorers Tim & Kathleen V, helper
Seekers Trevor V, Julia G
Jr. Cadets Richard V, Mike K
Jr. GEMS Sonya V, Teryl D
Autism Support Person Anita W (Karen B)
Nursery Lynn J, Mackenzie K, Tracy V, Lauren V
Toddlers Matt D, Liz J, Kaleigh S
Ushers Brian P, Scott VI
Coffee Servers Karen B, Brian & Debbie P
Greeters Jerry & Jen K, Epp D, Vicky D
Sunday School Sign In: Bill & Tina V

Next Sunday [Please arrive by 9:15am for Nursery & Toddlers]

Adventurers Vicky D, Austin O
Travelers Jody V, Nathan D
Discoverers Becky V, Jody V
Explorers Christine V, Kristina B, helper
Seekers Jerry & Jen K
Jr. Cadets Richard V, Mike B
Jr. GEMS Annie V, Sonya V
Autism Support Person Karen B (Deb P)
Nursery Deb B, Shelby K, Anita V, Emma W
Toddlers Kurtis/Glenda B, John E, Karson V
Ushers Byron G, Louie D
Coffee Servers Nathan & Laura J, Mark & Wendy V
Greeters Anita W, Kurtis B, Andria B, Andy V
Sunday School Sign In: Frank D

Heat to Heart: Nursery: Rita F, Ans R

Toddler 1: Marijke V, Alex W, **Toddler 2:** Diane D, Marlene M

Rover: Dee S, Nellie S

Bethany Congregation Updates & Prayers

Birthdays this week

Matt D (10th), Allie D (11th), Jessica D (12th), Elaine V (12th)

Anniversaries this week

Brandon & Andria B (7th)

New Babies!!

On December 31, **Brandon & Kristy V** were blessed with the birth of their first child, a son whom they named, **Jed James Peter**. He was born weighing 7lbs 9oz (3.430kg) and mom and newborn are doing fine.

On January 3rd, **Bryan & Veronica D** were blessed with the birth of their first child, a son whom they named, **Fredrick James**. He was born weighing 6lbs 13oz (3.090kg) and mom and newborn are doing fine. Praise the Lord!

Prayers requested

- ❖ Pray for a blessing on newly married, **Joshua & Emily V**. May the Spirit guide them in their new life together.
- ❖ *A Blessed Happy New Year wishes to you all. As some of you may already know I (Anita) have finished my 25 radiation treatments. The initial plan was for them to be completed on Dec. 28, but my radiation team was so kind as to arrange for them to be completed before Christmas by doubling up treatments on my last days. What a lovely gift, and such a caring group of medical staff. The next step will be to meet with my oncologist, but a date has not been set for this yet. Once again we thank our family, friends, community and church family for your prayers, visits, cards, meals, rides and support in so many different ways. Above all we thank our heavenly Father for His love shown to us. As we sang in our year end church service "Never once did we ever walk alone. Never once did you leave us on our own. You are faithful. God, You are faithful." -Matt Redman. We ask for your continuing prayers for strength and compete healing. Love from Lloyd & Anita & family*
- ❖ **Nell O** was able to return home from hospital late last week. She is tired and laying low right now resting and still awaits more tests and medical appointments. Pray for continued strengthening for her. Please call before any visiting.
- ❖ Last week we prayed in church for **Sophia & Clark W (infant twins of Brian & Karina)** who spent some time in hospital recently with a virus. They were released home again and are recovering, praise the Lord.
- ❖ Last Sunday morning, **Steve & Elaine VH and family** lost their barn in a fire. The fire was traumatic, yet they are thankful to the Lord that nobody was hurt and that they were able to save most of their animals. They are also grateful to the Lord for all the friends, neighbors, family who showed up in support and especially for all the fire crews who responded. The Sovereign Lord is present in all things and sustains by His merciful grace.
- ❖ **Dylan V**, 6yr old son of **Scott & Sonya**, will be admitted to hospital in SickKids Hospital in Toronto Wednesday for hip repair surgery. Pray for good health for Dylan leading up to Wednesday and successful surgery for him. Recovery and rehabilitation will take about 7 weeks or so also in Toronto. Pray for the Lord’s healing hand to uphold little Dylan. Pray for safe travels for parents and family as they take turns being with him during these weeks and for all that is needed by this family to be supplied in timely fashion.
- **Need of support or want to talk to someone?**
- **Contact Pastor Colin 905-931-5841 or Joyce De Roo at 905-386-6719.**
- **Confidential counselling services Bethany supports:**
- **SHALEM network 866-347-0041 & Elisha House Ministries 905-735-9934.** (mention if you are member/regular attender of Bethany)