

March 27, 2016

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



Bethany Bugle

Special points of interest:

- School News
- Other News
- CRC News

General Contact Information

Pastor

Colin Vander Ploeg
Call or txt-905-931-5841
colin@bethanycrc.ca

Office Phone/Administrator

Denise Glasbergen
905-892-8980
info@bethanycrc.ca

Clerk

Pete Veldhuizen
clerk@bethanycrc.ca

Children's Ministry

Lorraine Wierenga
lorraine@bethanycrc.ca

Custodians

Clarence & Tracy VanSoelen
cvansoelen@cogeco.ca

Youth Director

Andrea Veldhuizen
Call or txt-905-975-8484
andrea@bethanycrc.ca

"The event Generous Spaciousness Conversation, listed below, was approved by Council as a way for us at Bethany to further learn how to be open with one another in a loving way as we seek to encourage each other to live in God's love in Christ and be strengthened and transformed in His likeness for His glory. That is the goal in all we do. The CRC has a major report going to Synod (our denominational gathering) concerning same sex marriage and the church's ministry. However the realities of same sex attraction (let alone marriage) have not been openly discussed in Bethany in any guided way. And often, when we Christians disagree sharply over an issue, our openness with each other often degenerates into a harsh defensiveness that does not honor the Lord in any way. The Generous Spaciousness Conversation (see below) is intended as an opportunity for us to grow and learn in speaking and ministering to one another here and elsewhere in the context of same sex attraction realities people live with. By hosting this event, the Council is not saying they endorse New Directions Ministries Canada (the presenters). Council simply feels this workshop is of benefit to us in our journey together as a congregation. The Council remains committed to the CRC's biblical position on sexuality and marriage. This is not an endeavor to change those positions but an effort to deepen our compassion and ability to listen and to walk alongside each other in any struggle (not just same sex attraction realities) in humility as our Lord calls us to, with hospitality as He demonstrated, with the justice He desires. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact any member of Council. May the Lord guide us as His broken Body in this broken world."

New Direction Ministries

warmly invites you to the...



generous spaciousness

C O N V E R S A T I O N

Need a safe space to ask questions like these?



"Why is there so much division over homosexuality in the church?"



"How do I navigate relationships with people that I deeply disagree with?"

Welcome to generous spaciousness...

Generous spaciousness cultivates a posture of dialogue centered around the core values of humility, hospitality, mutuality and justice. Generous spaciousness is a way of being together that helps followers of Christ navigate contentious issues on which we have diverse perspectives.



Questions around the appropriate path of discipleship for sexual minority persons is one such matter that Christians are divided on - and one that invites us to work together to experience a sense of unity in our diversity.

The introduction of generous spaciousness into these conversations helps us to prioritize our love for one another, our commitment to honour one another's consciences, and our concern for a life-giving witness in our contexts.



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

This will take place Monday April 4, at 7:30 pm at the church here. It is hosted by the Discipleship Team on behalf of Council. Any and all are welcome to attend from Bethany and beyond.

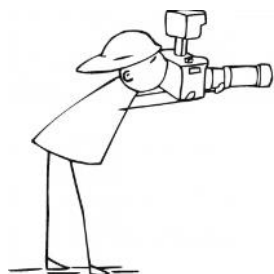
Kingdom 'Building' – Ministry Funding / Budget Update

Doing ministry together: February 2016

	PLAN	ACTUAL
Bethany Income	\$ 75,412.64	\$ 63,787.48
Bethany Expenses	\$ 75,412.64	\$ 79,070.29
Collected for Classis	\$ 2,554.92	\$ 2,554.92
Collected for CRC	\$ 11,225.88	\$ 11,225.88
2 nd Offering last two weeks (March 6th & 13th)		
Hannah House.....		\$595.00
Can. Foodgrains.....		\$350.00
Pelham Syrian Refugee.....		\$5,578.00

Address Change

George Kowalski
Room 427, The Meadows of Dorchester
6623 Kalar Rd.
Niagara Falls, ON L2H 2T3
(Meadows Office: 905-357-1911)



Picture Directory 2016

Once again Bethany will be creating a Picture Directory profiling all of our ministries and members. We ask for your cooperation and assistance as we once again prepare a directory. The plan is to take family and member pictures outside on the church property beginning the first week in April. Please take the time to work with us so that this process goes as well as possible. Our goal is to have all pictures completed by the end of May. There will be a signup sheet on the table in the fellowship hall for pre-service and post-service picture times.

Additionally, we are creating an opportunity for members and businesses to connect through an advertising spot in the back of the directory. Through this, we can be more aware of all the different businesses that are within our church.

Business card size advertisements will be available for \$50.00 each. If you have any questions about the pictures please connect with Lorraine Wierenga. If you have any questions about the advertising possibilities please connect with Karina Wierenga.

Harvest Kitchen 2015-2016

I would like to take a moment to include all of you in the experience that Alfred and Ann Kiers and myself have had over the past 5 months. Last November until this month, we have had the pleasure of organizing and participating in the Harvest Kitchen Mission which provides a warm delicious meal to those in our community that are in need. We have been working with this mission for years and during this time we have developed relationships with many of our guests. We have sat and engaged in conversation and just took the time to listen. Taking this time is very special and sometimes means so much more to a person than anything else. In many of our lives we are very blessed and at times can take advantage of how much we have, especially our families. Our friends at Harvest Kitchen, many of them are alone and they certainly do not live like we do. I have grown to care very deeply for them and I just want to thank all you that have participated in our mission. The list is long, but shouldn't go unmentioned.

First off, thank you to Bethany for purchasing the groceries every month and remaining the faithful reason we can continue this mission.

Thank you to the many people who came to serve: Andrea Veldhuizen, Sierra Kiers, Cassidy Kiers, Mackenzie Kremer, Mary Bokma, George and Betty Gritter, Al and Lynn Janssen, Mike and Vicky DenBak, Bailey DenBak, Connor DenBak, Nathan DenBak, Anita Wierenga, Jerry and Jen Kiers, Hank and Coby Bosgraaf, Diana DeVries, Katelin Oussoren and Jorja Ugulini. Each and every one of you made a difference by helping!

Thank you to the many people who made meals: Bethany Youth, Leah Vahrmeyer, Betty Gritter, Henny Vellenga, Lynn Janssen, Barb Janssen, Rita Forestell, Teryl Dam, Vicky DenBak, Anita Wierenga, Hilda Dam, Tina Vahrmeyer, Wendy Vahrmeyer, Cynthia Nauta, Jen Kiers, Colleen Keizer, Jody Vanderstrat, Deb Geerlinks, Rachel Rypstra, Edward Pulice, Coby Bosgraaf, Diana DeVries, Joanne Kiers, Joanne Dam and Lorraine Wierenga. You all made a difference by making these meals and desserts to feed our friends at Harvest and each and every one of them were so appreciative and enjoyed very much!

Each month we approximately served 45 people. During Christmas we were able to give out each person a stocking filled with goodies and essentials. I would like to thank DeVries Farm for donating apples again this year, Peace Park Dental for donating toothpaste, Maletta Dental for donating toothbrushes, Ann Kiers for donating mittens and combs and I donated many goodies and water bottles. The looks on their faces were priceless. Also a thank you to Alfred and Ann Kiers for handing out flowers last month which put a smile on everyone's faces and brightened their day!!

Together we all contributed in making this another successful Harvest Kitchen and I just want to say THANK YOU and God Bless.....please send me an email if you would like to be part of this awesome mission!! my3sons@cogeco.ca

Angela Oussoren

School News

NACE Spring Fundraising Dinner Event: The Niagara Association for Christian Education Board invites you to come out for some **GREAT FOOD, FUN, & FELLOWSHIP** with a little **LAUGHTER** on top! Comedian Timmy Boyle will entertain us with his Up Standing Comedy! **Saturday, April 9, 2016** in John Knox Christian School on 795 Highway #8 in Stoney Creek. Doors open @ 6:00 with Dinner @ 6:30. Reserved Seating required, call 905-643-2460 or email jkcs@nace.ca.

Ready, Set, Read Program: Both John Knox Christian School, Stoney Creek and Covenant Christian School, Smithville are now accepting applications for their Ready Set Read program for ages 4 and 5. This program runs the first 4 Tuesdays in April from 8:45 – 11:15 am. If you need another registration form please let either office know (JKCS – jkcs@nace.ca or CCS – ccs@nace.ca).

REDEEMER UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Looking to complete an AQ course? Redeemer is offering Special Education Part I and Special Education Part II this spring in a blended on-line and in-class format. For more information or to register, visit www.redeemer.ca/continuing-teacher-education.

This summer, Redeemer is offering two one-week intensive programs for church leaders, teachers and others in interested in ministry: "Teaching Scripture and the Christian Faith" (July 4-8, taught by Dr. Syd Hielema), and "Leadership in Ministry," (July 11-15, instructor to be announced). For more information, visit <https://www.redeemer.ca/programs/spring-and-summer-courses/>.

Redeemer is pleased to host its first Music Department Festival Concert on April 1 at 7:30 pm. The concert features the Concert Band, Jazz Ensemble, Concert Choir, Cantori Vocal Ensemble and individual performances by faculty and senior music students. For tickets, please call the Redeemer Box Office at 905.648.2131 x4211.

Redeemer is accepting applications for a full-time position as Director of Co-operative Education. Visit the Work at Redeemer page at redeemer.ca for more information.

Other News

Coffee Break: This past Tuesday we had a beautiful morning celebration the Easter message. "Halelujah Christ arose." Marten, Alice Zwier and Coreen Steen gave a video presentation of the Trip 13 members of Grace CRC. We had an Easter liturgy and then enjoyed food and games. Thanks to Lorraine, Carla and Marg for putting the morning together, and Carla for the decorations and games.

This coming Tuesday we have our 3rd annual pancake breakfast at Open Arms. We need many hands to make this successful. Since parking is limited, if you wish to carpool be at Grace CRC. If you are cooking please be there for 7:45. If you are helping serve please be at the church by 8:15. See you all there. They really do appreciate the hot breakfast.

ROSE CITY KIDS INVITES YOU!

Rose City Kids Fundraising Banquet: 8 years of changed lives!!!

ROSE CITY KIDS FUNDRAISING BANQUET

When: Saturday April 02, 2016

Where: Riverstone Event Centre (414 River Rd Welland)

When it comes to entertaining and inspiring hundreds of kids on a bi weekly basis, what goes on behind the scenes is almost as exciting as what's on stage! But despite the amazing Saturday Production, Youth, Junior Leadership Training, House visits and the Tutoring Programs – carried out by our 100 volunteers – there are hundreds of children still waiting to be a part of the Rose City Kids experience.

Our annual dinner helps keep those dreams alive!

So mark your calendars! Saturday, **April 02, 2016**. This year, the spotlight shines on our kids and volunteers! Our junior leaders will once again be arriving via limousine! Be sure to meet and greet them!!

Time: Doors open at 5:30 pm

Entertainment: Copper & Iron

Cost: \$50 in advance to reserve your seat

(donations accepted the evening of) **Great Food, Testimonies, Silent Auction, Candy Bar!**

To reserve your seats please contact Barb @ (905 788 9800) or office@rosecitykids.com.

Cash, cheque or credit card accepted. Let's celebrate together and continue to transform Welland, one child at a time!

RADIANT 2016

RADIANT is a conference designed to cultivate, encourage, and boldly call women to live brilliantly for the soul-satisfying sufficiency of Jesus Christ in all areas of their lives. It's easy as Christian women to feel like our shortcomings or failures disqualify us from playing a role in God's redemptive plan. But the Bible tells a different story. Join us June 10–11 at Harvest Bible Chapel in Oakville for a look at the lives of three Old Testament women whose stories point us to the hope of the gospel. Jen Wilkin, author of *Women in the Word*, joins us this year for a crash course in each woman's story, touching on themes of self-reliance, self-loathing, shame, and more, and how God redeems even our greatest failures and hurts. For more information and to register, visit <http://radiantconference.ca/>

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.

REJOICING IN NEW LIFE - When we celebrate Easter, we celebrate the resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ and the promise of new life his resurrection brings. Join Groundwork in studying Isaiah 54-55 to remind ourselves of this promise and see just how far our celebration extends. Never miss an episode; subscribe for free weekly email notifications and listen now at GroundworkOnline.com.

SEEING GOD IN SCIENCE - How do we discuss God's Creation as it is revealed by science? A special series from Think Christian sets a framework for engaging with science from a Biblical standpoint. Subscribe to TC at ThinkChristian.net/Science, and get this new e-book free.

THE MIRACLE OF EASTER - Have you ever wondered what it would be like to meet Jesus? Or to be in Jerusalem the very week Jesus was crucified and raised from the dead? You're invited to explore the miracle of Easter on this week's Kids Corner. Subscribe for free at getkidscorner.com. Find more great resources for kids and parents at kidscorner.net. This month's offer includes an Easter story puppet show craft.

Home Missions - Today we celebrate the work that Christian Reformed Home Missions is doing to renew North American communities through the power of the gospel. To find out more, please visit www.crhm.org, or share how God has been working on social media with [#EasterChangesEverything](https://twitter.com/EasterChangesEverything).

Make Cross-Cultural Connections in Mexico! - CRWM missionaries in Mexico City are hosting a trip for young Adults from July 9-18. You'll meet college students who the missionaries work with and learn about life and culture in Mexico from their perspective. Visit crwm.org/Mexi-Connection for more information or to apply.

Community! - "Community is where you are known, noticed, and missed," according to Regional Disability Advocate and Calgary resident Cara Milne. Christ arose to create a new people. We can help you build community and belonging with people who have disabilities, that God has brought into your church and neighborhood. Find out more by talking with your own congregation's disability advocate, or contact us at disabilityconcerns@crcna.org or 888-463-0272.

LIBERTAS MALE CHOIR - under the direction of Martin Mans and accompanied by Andre Knevel, will present a Spring concert on April 9, 7:30 p.m. at Rehoboth Canadian Reformed Church, 1225 Dundas Street, Burlington, Ont. L7R 3X4. Tickets online at libertasvoices.com, or at the door. Adult \$20, Youth (14 and under) \$10. Children under 10, free. For more information, email info@libertasvoices.com or call 905-522-0001.

El Salvador Youth Ministry Volunteer - Minister to at-risk children and youth in the heart of the city of San Salvador with World Missions partner 'Seeds of a New Creation'. For more information on this and other WM volunteer cohort opportunities in El Salvador, visit www.crwmm.org or contact volunteer@crcna.org.

FIRST NATIONS RECONCILIATION TRIP - The Christian Reformed Church is passionate about working towards reconciliation with our First Nations neighbours and, this summer, is providing an opportunity for CRC young people (18 - 25) to respond to the call of justice while spending the week of July 14 - 21 on the Kithenuhmaykoosib Inninuwig (KI) reserve in Northern Ontario. You will be joined by 20 other young people from across Canada who've been invited by the youth of the KI community to live in their homes, experience life as they do and share the hope they have for their future. This amazing experience is part of a new Youth Ambassadors of Reconciliation mentorship and training program launching this Spring! Sound exciting? Want more information? Contact Carol Sybenga csybenga@crcna.org or 800-730-3490

HEALTHY LIVING TOUR - Join World Renew this summer and experience hope! Learn from community members about the importance of health, literacy, food production and security on a tour that visits communities in Tanzania and Kenya. More information available at www.worldrenew.net/gvp or volunteer@crcna.org.

Join Online Study with World Renew this Spring - Are you looking for an in-depth study about following Jesus more closely in your everyday life? Live Justly is a 6-week web-based curriculum that includes honest discussions about justice in our lives and our world. Study begins April 13 and concludes the week of May 18, 2016. The course is FREE, and study guides are available for purchase at worldrenew.net/order. To find out more and to register, contact ckritikos@intern.crcna.org.

Southern Africa Ministry Team Leader - World Renew, an agency of the CRCNA, is seeking a Team Leader for Southern Africa based in Lilongwe, Malawi. The Team Leader will provide leadership in a region seeking to improve food security, build sustainable livelihoods and increase the use of household resources to improve maternal and child health. The position will be responsible for building collaborative regional and country teams under a unified vision of community transformation in Southern Africa, with a particular focus on programming in Malawi, Zambia and Mozambique. Please visit our website at www.worldrenew.net/careers for more information.

JOB OPPORTUNIES ARE POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD BY THE BACK STAIRS

