



BETHANY BUGLE



MAY 25, 2014 VOLUME 7, ISSUE 21

Maranatha CRC

Come join with us as we celebrate the retirement of the ministry of Maranatha CRC faithfully serving God and the Community for 65 years. A special service is to be held Friday, May 30th 2014 at Maranatha CRC, 301 Scott St., St. Catharines, beginning at 7:30 PM. Reception following. All are welcome.

From the Deacons:

Bethany Christian Education Assistance Fund

The Bethany Christian Education Assistance Fund is designed to assist families and individuals who are having difficulty meeting the expectations of Christian Education tuition. The intent is to help families who choose Non Government funded Christian Education for their children. In your mail slots you will find an application form to fill out. If any questions please contact a deacon.

Thank you , The Deacons.

Champs Classic Golf Tournament:

It's that time of year again! Time to sign up yourself or your team in our annual fundraising best ball tournament. It will be held on June 7, 2014 at Sparrow Lakes Golf Course in Welland. \$100 pp includes 18 holes, powercart, dinner and great prizes! Contact Scott Van Driel for more info and to sign up at Toby_1980@yahoo.com, registration deadline is May 28, thank-you.



Looking for Leaders

The GEMS program is looking for a couple of **ladies** to be counsellors for the upcoming 2014-2015 season.

This year the theme is *Bring the Message* taken from Isaiah 6:8: *"Then I heard the voice of the LORD saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"*
And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"

If you are interested in being a part of this ministry please talk to Lindsay Janssen. lindsay@bethanycrc.ca

Thanks for your consideration!



For those who missed seeing the Mother's day Video, or would like to watch it again, it is on my website at www.vanhoffenstudio.ca

School News

FROM COVENANT CHRISTIAN: With thankfulness to God we invite families and friends to join us for a Retirement Open House to celebrate the 35 years of faithful service in Christian Education of our principal, Mr. Sid Bakker. This casual evening takes place on Thursday, June 5th in the Covenant Christian School gym, from 7:00 - 8:30pm.

N.A.C.E. Spring Membership meets on Monday, May 26, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the John Knox Christian School's gym. If your membership has been paid (\$300), you should find a Membership Meeting Agenda in your church mailslot today. If you do not receive a package and your membership has been paid please contact Charlene VanderMolen, NACE Finance Office (finances@nace.ca or 905-957-5594) and a package will be sent to you.

REDEEMER UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Enhance your Shakespearean experience with Redeemer University College. Join us for a lecture followed by a trip to Stratford for the matinee production of King Lear. The lecture is at Redeemer on June 23, from 7:00-9:00 pm and the trip to Stratford -- including transportation, pre-show talk, matinee performance & lunch -- is on June 25, 2014. For more details and to register, visit www.redeemer.ca/CLEAR.

Consider a week long ministry training course this summer. Redeemer University College is pleased to offer Spiritual Formation for Ministry with Dr. Syd Hielema July 7-11, 2014, and Counseling Skills & Practice with Adolescents with Professor Brenda Stephenson July 14-18. Go to www.redeemer.ca/youthministrycertificate for more information.

Report of meeting of Classis Niagara, May 21, 2014

Classis Niagara is the name of the group of 13 Christian Reformed Churches (CRC) generally in the Niagara Region. Pastor and elder delegates from these churches gather as Classis three times per year to deliberate church, ministry, and administrative matters with which these churches individually or as a group may be involved.

The latest session of Classis Niagara was held at Rehoboth CRC, chaired by Rev. Chris deWinter, pastor of the Trinity CRC. We are thankful to God for blessing our **various ministries:**

Christian Reformed World Missions (CRWM) is an important world-wide ministry of our denomination. Rev. Mwaya Kitavi, a missionary for CRWM in East and South Africa, and Rev. Gedion Mbithi, a pastor in a partner church in Africa, gave an account of the work there. Much of the work involves training leaders in Christian churches there under the Timothy Leadership Training program (www.timothyleadershiptraining.org). Among many indicators of blessings, one was that there were more than 16,000 church leaders trained in the past five years. God is blessing the work he enables us to do (*and that is God's work, your church's work, your work, my work, in the world!*)

Classis Niagara's **Youth Leadership Coordinator**, Ms. AnnElise Hoogendam, informed delegates of Camp Crossroads in Muskoka (www.campcrossroads.com) that provides many youth leadership programs. She also informed the classis that at a recent meeting of the Youth Leader Support Team it had been considered whether the Classis Niagara youth ministry should (a) remain an event focused (league retreats, youth talks) or (b) be transformed for equipping and supporting youth leaders. The latter emerged as the priority. Classis enthusiastically supported the planning of an evening event for youth leaders to acknowledge their commitment to youth, and also to serve as an equipping/retreat opportunity for the leaders.

The council of the Covenant CRC had requested that Classis consider conferring the title of **Commissioned Pastor** (the new designation for Ministry Associate) for its Music Coordinator, Ms. Elly Boersma. This involves an examination, similar in parts to the examination for a candidate for ministry. The examination was conducted during this meeting of Classis, and Classis gratefully approved Ms. Boersma to be recognized as a commissioned pastor. Her ordination to that designation is planned for June 15, at the 10:00 am service at the Covenant CRC.

Our **Church Plant Team** informed that the newly-approved plan to develop a church plant in Niagara Falls is moving forward! Classis heard that this new ministry, supported by Christian Reformed Home Missions, the Village Church in Thorold, the Providence CRC, and Classis Niagara has reached the point where a church planter can be selected, called and installed for that position. We expect to know shortly whom God has led to be the church planter for this initiative.

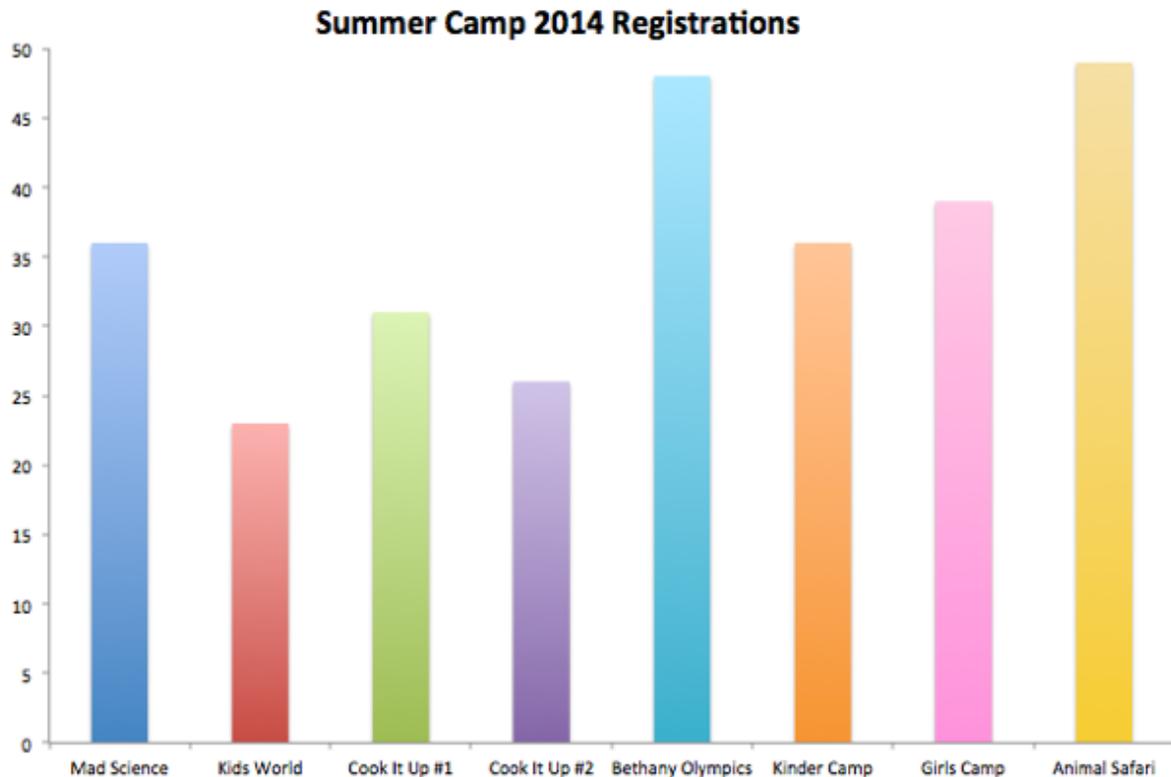
Classis approved the **financial report for 2013**, prepared by the accounting firm Partridge Iggulden, Chartered Accountants. Briefly, ministry shares collected amounted to \$261,247. Expenses were administration \$18,924 (7.2%); ministries \$233,542 (89.4%) leaving a surplus of \$8,781 (3.4%). Classis acknowledged with thanks that each of our churches contributed 100% of the classical ministry shares for 2013.

Reports from Christian Reformed Home Missions, Classis Niagara ministries such as Shalom Manor Chaplaincy and the Brock University Chaplaincy Ministry, indicated that there are many opportunities to share the gospel in word, action, and personal approaches.

There were many other items considered by the delegates. A complete record of this meeting (the minutes) will be posted to our website www.classisniagara.ca during the first week of June.

Our next regular meeting is planned for October 15, 2014 at the Fruitland CRC with Rev. Ryan Braam of the Grace CRC as chair.

For further information about any of the above, please contact your pastor and/or elder delegate to this meeting of Classis Niagara, or e-mail to statedclerk@classisniagara.ca



Thank you to everyone for your prayers and support so far. As of this week, our camps all have great numbers, and both Animal Safari, and Bethany Olympics are full! We are so excited to start camp this year with only a few short weeks to go. We are also beginning to look for drink and snack donations. If you would like to support us in this way, please drop these items off on the kitchen. Some ideas for snacks are cookies, freezies, small chip bags, granola bars, or juice boxes. Please ensure that all snacks are peanut free. Thank you again for all your support!



CRC Denomination

GROUNDWORK - Believing The Resurrection: Paul never let an opportunity to present the Gospel go to waste. In Athens one day, he used the Athenians' love of conversation as one such opportunity. Join the Groundwork conversation as we dig into Acts 17 to ponder this story. Find a local station or **l i s t e n o n l i n e** at www.GroundworkOnline.com.

KIDS CORNER - Follow My Gecko: The Social Media buzz is hitting Terrene! And everyone is on board... except Lucille. She doesn't see the point until she meets the creator...**f i n d o u t w h a t h a p p e n s** at www.kidscorner.net. Then contact Kids Corner at P.O. Box 5070, Burlington **O N L 7 R 3 Y 8** or email kids@kidscorner.net for great resources for kids and parents.

BRIAN DOERKSON CONCERT! - Friendship Ministries, together with Christian Horizons is hosting Brian Doerksen in concert on June 14 and June 15, 2014. Join us in Oakville at The Meeting House (June 14) or in Kitchener at Community CRC (June 15) for Brian's 'Level Ground' concert. Bring your family, your Friendship club Members, your friends! Go to

www.friendship.org to order your tickets today! Let's celebrate inclusion together!

PARDON OUR FRENCH - but parlez vous francais? - Are you also interested in gender issues, biblical justice, food security, HIV and AIDS care and prevention, trauma healing, or environmental issues? Come alongside World Renew staff for 18 months in Niger, Mali or Senegal and see your BA degree come alive with hands-on experience as you bless others. Details on each volunteer position can be found at www.worldrenew.net or contact volunteer@crcna.org.

DO YOU EVER WONDER - what life is like for children with disabilities in other countries, and want to make things better for them? Volunteer with Tesoros de Dios as an outreach coordinator in Nicaragua in order to help communities view these precious treasures of God in a new light - as someone with potential and who needs to be included in all aspects of society. More information available at www.crwmm.org or volunteer@crcna.org.

Save the date – Saturday, May 31st! Proceeds of the sale will support recreational programs and services. We are also in need of English books to add to our book sale section. If you have any you'd like to donate, please feel free to drop them off before the Sale! (Additional parking available at Mountainview CRC with a shuttle bus service)

Annual Sale at Evergreen Terrace The Residents of Evergreen Terrace, 275 Main St., Grimsby are holding their annual spring sale on the grounds and in the garage. This year it will benefit McNally House the area hospice. The date is June 7, 2014 from 8:00 to noon. You will find used articles, arts and crafts, baked goods, greeting cards, books and puzzles, planters hanging baskets and flowers. Also the opportunity to socialize with friends in the coffee shop. Please come out, have some fun and make our sale a huge success.

To the King Male Chorus, directed by Mendelt Hoekstra and accompanied by pianist Julie Hoff present their Spring concert on Friday, May 30, 2014 at Central Community Church in St. Catharines. This evening will feature special guest mezzo-soprano Kristin Hoff and award-winning pianist Antoine Joubert. The concert begins at 7:30pm. Children 12 & under are free. \$15/person (13 years and older). Visit www.totheking.ca for more details or email info@totheking.ca to reserve your seats today!

Church Plant Niagara Falls Much work and prayer has been invested in this new church plant. Before we have a planter in place we need to call on God to move in Niagara Falls preparing the way for the good news to be received. Sunday June 8 at 2 pm we will meet at Rehoboth CRC, Niagara Falls to prayer walk the streets of the city. Leadership will be provided. Plan to spend 90 minutes in the city. Any questions contact ingrid.kielstra@gmail.com or jeanette@myvillagechurch.ca

Other News

Shalom Manor & Gardens May Sale – Saturday, May 31st

It's that time of year again – Annual May Sale time at Shalom Manor & Gardens! You are invited to our Annual May Sale on Saturday, May the 31st from 8:00am-12:00. In great tradition, we will be having a full pancake breakfast; HUGE outdoor plant sale; cut flower sales; food market complete with raisin buns, eggs and croquettes; and marketplace full of interesting vendors! There is sure to be something for everyone!

Bethany Christian Reformed Church

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