

Welcome to Bethany

This morning we celebrate the Lord's Supper, a sign and seal of God's promised grace in Christ Jesus that is applied to our hearts and lives by the ministry of the Holy Spirit. In this oneness context this morning, we also spend time in prayer and unity with the persecuted Church around the world. We are reminded that our freedom to worship is a gift of God and we are to be advocates and intercessors for those whose countries are against their faith in Christ. Come Lord Jesus, come quickly and bring your Kingdom in all its fullness.

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.

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

Connecting

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 Director Karina Wierenga	289-686-9461 [text] karinawierenga@gmail.com

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

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

Reflections Bible Study – 7:30pm at Bill & Anne VG's home.

Upcoming

Next Sunday's offering: Deacons

Next Sunday's Children's Song: "Fishers of Men"

Oct 23rd – Elders meeting 7:30pm

Oct. 25th – Classis Niagara meets at Trinity CRC, St. Catharines 8:30am

Oct. 26th – Bethany Safe Church Team meeting, 7:30pm

Nov 5th – Remembrance Day service at 10:30am

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: mikecdreyer@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 at 905-975-8484



Authentic Manhood "A Man & His Fatherhood" – Wednesday Evenings till November 8th at Bethany 7:30pm refreshments, 8pm video & discussion.

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

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

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

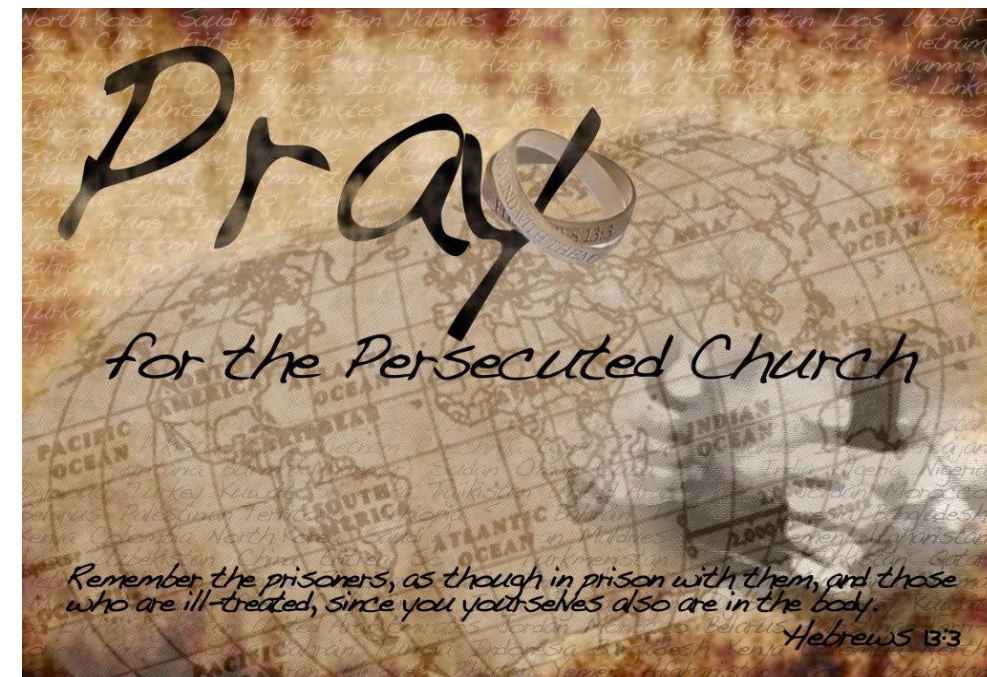
Women's Bible Study – November 2, at 7pm at Joyce D's house. We are going to study 1&2 Peter and Jude (Life Guide Bible Studies). If you have been thinking about enriching your life through bible study come and join us on Thursday nights and as an added bonus make some new friendships or refresh some old relationships! All ladies are welcome!



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.

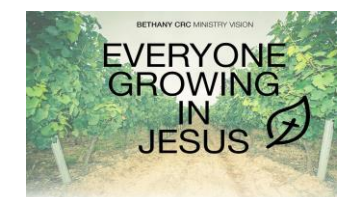
Welcome to Bethany!



Bethany Christian Reformed Church

October 22, 2017

9:30am



Deep connecting
Lifelong equipping
Compassionate serving

Today in Worship

The Lord Gathers Us

Call to worship: John 14:15-21

*Opening song

“God Himself is With Us” – PH244

*God’s Word of greeting

*Song of praise

“God is Our Refuge”

“Never Once”

The Lord Shows Us His Marvelous Grace

Prayer for the persecuted Church

God’s Word of Assurance: Romans 8:31-39

*Children’s Song of Thankfulness

“The Lion & the Lamb”

Lord’s Supper

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

Prayer & Offerings

1. Ministries here at Bethany & the CRCNA

2. NACE (Covenant Christian School)

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

The Lord Leads Us by His Word & Spirit

Bible reading – Psalm 43 (p.492)

Message title “Prayer for the Persecuted Church: What to Pray For”

Prayer of blessing on the message

The Lord Sends Us to Celebrate & Serve

*Song of Response

“How Firm a Foundation” – PH500

*God’s Word of Blessing

*Closing song

“Christ Be All Around Me”



<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> October 22	1 Samuel 25-26; 1 Timothy 2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> October 23	1 Samuel 27-29; 1 Timothy 3
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> October 24	1 Samuel 30-31; 1 Timothy 4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> October 25	2 Samuel 1-2; 1 Timothy 5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> October 26	2 Samuel 3-5; 1 Timothy 6
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> October 27	2 Samuel 6-8; 1 John 1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> October 28	2 Samuel 9-11; 1 John 2

Sermon follow-up questions

1. Psalm 43 vs 1 is, in characteristic ancient Hebrew style, a demand that the Lord “vindicate” the psalmist. What do you understand that word to mean, and could you yourself make such a demand of the Lord? Why or why not?
2. Have you ever thought what persecution would be like for a local church like Bethany? What would you think would happen if it became illegal or dangerous to meet in worship? Try to be concrete in your answer here.

3. With some daring level of honesty with one another, how do you think you yourself would behave under such persecution? Are Christians who are in countries where they are aggressively persecuted for their faith, are they somehow different then we are as believers?
4. Does this psalm, in the context of the persecution of Christians, say that believers should be OK with persecution or not OK with it?
5. What is the effect of being persecuted on a person? What lines in this psalm mention that effect? Is it wrong before the Lord to feel those ways?
6. Verse 3 speaks of “your light and your truth, let them guide me.” What is this truth? What is this light? How does this guide us in times of resistance to the Christian faith?
7. Verse 5 has the psalmist speaking to himself some words of encouragement. Is he encouraged by the present situation or by the future? What is the future that we look forward to today in Christ? In other words, what is our ultimate hope in the troubles of this world? How does this encourage?
8. Take some time to pray for brothers and sisters who are under attack because of their faith in Christ Jesus as Lord. This week, check out websites such as www.persecution.com (Voice of the Martyrs), www.opendoorsca.org (Open Doors Canada), or www.barnabasaid.org (Barnabas Aid).

Serving Assignments

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

Adventurers	Tanya L, Austin O
Travelers	Ann K, Avery W
Discoverers	Brenda B, Jessica O
Explorers	Ray & Nicole V, Ethan W
Seekers	Cynthia N, Andria B
Dylan	Room#6 – Nicole V
Jr. Cadets	Cadet Building – Mike D, James V
Jr. GEMS	Council Room – Annie V, Erika G
Autism Support Person – Council Room	– Cassidy K (Wendy K)
Nursery	Jessica D, Betty G, Nell O, Emma W
Toddlers	Dave D, Laura K, Braydon M
Ushers	Chris S, Mary B
Coffee Servers	John & Karen L, Kyle & Stephanie W
Greeters	Hans & Hilda D, Ans R, Joanne D, Cor V
Sunday School Sign In:	Rudy & Debbie B

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

Adventurers	Tanya L, Austin O
Travelers	Ann K, Avery W
Discoverers	Brenda B, Haley G
Explorers	Andy V, Deb P, Ethan W
Seekers	Ray & Anne-Marie W
Dylan	Room#6 – Andy V
Jr. Cadets	Cadet Building – Kevin D, James V
Jr. GEMS	Council Room – Veronica D, Erika G
Autism Support Person – Council Room	–Wendy K (Karen B)
Nursery	Deb G, Angela A, Caroline J, Madison L
Toddlers	Rob B, Marijke V, Connor D
Ushers	Dustin V, Scott V
Coffee Servers	John & Heidi T, Kevin & Betty T
Greeters	Pete & Karen V, Deb & Rudy B, James V, Emily V
Sunday School Sign In:	Clarence & Tracy V
Heart to Heart: Friday – Nursery:	Colleen S, Coby B
Toddler 1:	Marijke V, Kathleen K
Toddler 2:	Diane D, Nellie S

Bethany Church Updates & Prayers

Birthdays this week

Teryl D (22nd), Tyler G (22nd), Diana D (24th), Cody G (27th), Zachery B (28th)

Anniversaries this week

Anno & Grace V (22nd)

Prayers requested

- ❖ Pray for provision for the needs of the second Syrian family we are sponsoring and that they may be able to travel here soon.
- ❖ Pray for the ministry of the **CRC Foundation** whose role is to support innovative and collaborative ministry initiatives by providing seed money, mentorship and other resources for a short time to kick start new ministries. Pray for discernment through grant applications as well as resources to support this ministry.
- ❖ Pray for this week’s regional church meeting of **Classis Niagara**. Bethany delegates are Pastor Colin, Elder Harry Hielema, Deacon Jim Slappendel. May the Lord guide the delegates by His Spirit.
- ❖ Pray for the Lord’s grace and blessing to rest on those in Bethany who are unable to attend worship: **Hermien K, Nancy M, Luke S, Brian B, Melanie T** among others. Whether because of age or conditions of body and mind that restrict ability, the Lord’s grace knows no barriers and we remain one in Christ in His Body.
- ❖ **Bill VG** was taken to hospital last week with chest pains. He was able to undergo treatment immediately and (at the time of this writing) was expecting to be released to return home. We give thanks for the medical help available and pray for a full recovery for Bill.
- ❖ Continue to pray for those who are dealing with cancer:
 - **Ann VL** is scheduled for surgery in early November.
 - **Anita W** who continues her chemo therapy.
 - **Harry H’s son Gregg** continues his treatments.Pray for healing, strength, peace and a measure of healing for each of these as they walk these difficult pathways.
- ❖ Pray for **Frank (Diane), Hans (Hilda) & Louie (Joanne)** whose brother **Jack D** passed away recently at the age of 71 after a short battle with cancer. The funeral took place on Wednesday morning. May the Lord comfort these families in their time of grieving.
- ❖ Remember also the **Acaster and Vos** families in their recent loss of father and grandfather **George Vos Sr**. The Lord comfort by His gracious presence.

- **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)