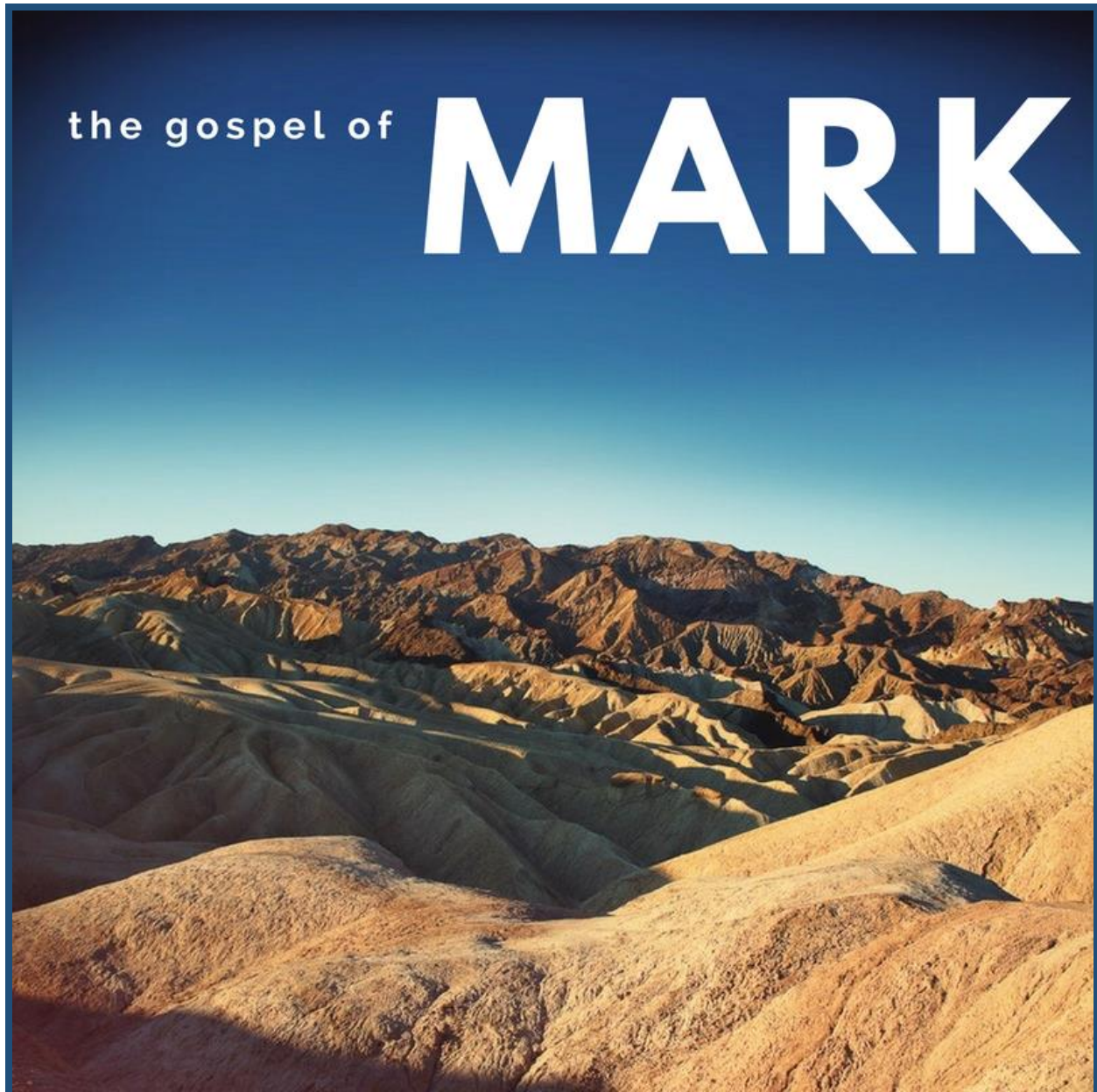


**Community Christian Reformed Church  
Kitchener, Ontario  
January 7, 2018**



**The Baptism of Jesus**

**January 7, 2018**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Pastor Amanda Bakale**

*Elder-in-Charge: Nick B*

[\* *Please rise, in body or spirit*]

Epiphany (the season between Christmas and Lent) is a time for us to focus on how God is revealed in the person of Jesus of Nazareth, our Lord and Saviour. From this Sunday all the way to Easter, we will be walking through the Gospel of Mark exploring what it means that Jesus is the Son of God.

### **Gathering and Greeting**

Gathering Song: *"Come People of the Risen King"*

Welcome and Announcements

\*Call to Worship

\*God's Greeting and Mutual Greeting

\*Songs of Praise: *"King of Heaven"*

*"Praise the Father, Praise the Son"*

### **Confession and Assurance**

Call to Confession

Song of Confession: *"The River"*

Assurance of Pardon

Song of Thanksgiving: *"Forever Reign"*

Children's Blessing

### **Proclamation of the Word**

\*Song of Preparation: PsH #327 *"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"*

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Mark 1: 1-15

Sermon: **"The Wilderness Gospel"**

Prayer of Application

## Response to the Word

\*Song of Response: PsH #269 *"Baptized in Water"*

Prayers of the People

Offering: 1) Ministries of Community Christian Reformed Church  
2) Redeemer University College

Offertory: *"What a Beautiful Name"*

\*God's Parting Blessing

\*Doxology: PsH #630 *"Now Blessed be the Lord Our God"*

**The congregation is asked to remain in their seats after the service to allow the Pastor and people with special duties or disabilities to exit first.  
Please exit when the music begins.**



**Following the service, everyone is invited to come together for fellowship and coffee/tea/juice in the gymnasium. Coffee for seniors is served in the Multi-Purpose room.**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Pastor John Medendorp**

Pianist: Joyce D

## Praise and Prayer

Welcome

Call to Worship

God Greeting

Song of Praise: PsH #244 vs. 1-3 *"God Himself is With Us"*

Scripture Reading: Psalm 110

Song of Response: PsH #460 vs 1-4 *"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"*

Prayer and Share

Offering: Redeemer University College

## Hearing the Word

Song of Preparation: PsH #371 vs. 1-3 *“Christ, the Life of All the Living”*

Belgic Confession: Article 19

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Colossians 1: 15-23

Sermon: **“The Two Natures of Christ”**

Prayer of Application

Song of Response: PsH 341 vs. 1-4 *“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”*

God’s Parting Blessing

Doxology: PsH #638 *“Praise God From Whom all Blessings Flow”*

### OUR CHURCH FAMILY

*The bracketed numbers indicate the Community to which these individuals belong*

*Congratulations* to **Chris and Michelle D** (7) with the birth of a daughter. **Grace May** was born this past Sunday, December 31 and mom and baby are doing well. Praise God for this gift of new life!

**Jane D** (14) remains as a patient at Victoria General Hospital in London as she recovers from recent surgery. It is not known when she can return home, but it is expected that she will be in the hospital for some time. The family covets your prayers but asks for no visitors at this time.

**Olga S** (11) continued her stay at St. Mary’s hospital. It has been half a year now since Olga first left home because of health issues and the latest setback has been a great disappointment for her and for Arend, her husband. Pray for encouragement and an ability to cope with the ongoing health struggle.

**Harriet R** (3) spent this past week in Woodstock Hospital as the result of a fall a week ago. Pray that she may recover and be able to return home soon.

**Jane W** (14) will be moving to the Village of Riverside Glen in Guelph in the very near future. Jane’s son, Jeff will remain in Kitchener and will be living with his brother, Ron. Please keep Jane and Jeff in your prayers as they make this transition in life.

**Alyanne C** (2) sent the following note regarding her sister **Johanna W** who is also the daughter of **Henk and Gine K** (1): *After a sixteen-year-long battle with cancer, including several surgeries which have caused her significant challenges in living everyday life, Johanna has been told that she has cancer in the base of her skull. This time it’s not operable. She is at peace with this diagnosis but grieves for her husband*

*and three daughters, and her extended family. We ask for prayers for guidance and grace as we attempt to walk beside her and each other on the difficult road ahead. We are very thankful for the sure knowledge we have that Jesus will carry her all the way.*

Please continue to pray for:

- those who are shut-in and/or unable to worship with us on a regular basis because of various health issues;
- **Hans O**, son-in-law, of **Dan and Hetty F** (7), husband to **Rachel** and father to **Jacob and Hannah**
- those dealing with depression and other forms of mental illness;
- those dealing with cancer, its treatment and effects: **Shannon B** (7); **Kerri O** (4)
- those dealing with broken relationships;
- those who are unemployed or underemployed;
- **John and Jane H** with Samaritan Foundation in the Dominican Republic; **Anthony and Barbara Ps** with Daystar Ministries on Manitoulin Island; **Kim H** with Resonate Global Mission in Guatemala; **Hank and Rosario S** volunteering with Resonate Global Mission in Guatemala
- the persecuted Church in Sudan and elsewhere in the world;
- the Ministries and the Leadership of our congregation

*Congratulations* to the following members in our congregation celebrating a birthday in the coming week:



**Jan 8 – Tanny R (14)**

**Jan 9 – Grace H (14)**

**Jan 11 – Henry B (4)**

**Jan 12 – John W (8)**

**Jan 14 – Ina D (14)**

May they experience God’s richest blessings in the coming year and as they celebrate their birthdays!

<b>UPCOMING SERVICES</b>
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Jan 14	10 a.m.	Pastor Carel Lord’s Supper
	6 p.m.	Communities Meet
Jan 21	10 a.m.	Pastor John
	6 p.m.	Pastor Amanda

**Next week, we will be celebrating the sacrament of Communion in the morning service.** The Council of Community CRC invites believers of all ages to the table, following a public profession of faith. If you desire to come to the table but have not made profession of faith, please let a pastor or elder know so we can begin the conversation.

**OFFERING SCHEDULE**

**Budget Contributions  
For December 31, 2017**

	Actual Contributions Received	Targeted Contributions	Contributions (Shortfall)/ Surplus
Dec 31	\$31,503	\$12,743	\$18,760
YTD	\$856,030	\$861,017	(\$4,987)
CCRC Missions Fund			\$ 1,950
Benevolence Fund			\$ 600
Ray of Hope			\$ 100
World Renew			\$ 100
Resonate Global Mission			\$ 100
Daystar Ministries			\$ 50
Woodland Christian High School			\$ 20

**This week our offering is for Redeemer University College.** Redeemer University College is a liberal arts and science university offering Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, and Bachelor of Education degrees from a distinctly Christian perspective. See [www.redeemer.ca](http://www.redeemer.ca) for more information.

**Next week our offering is for Faith's Orphans Fund (FOF).** Faith's Orphan Fund ministers to over 3900 HIV/AIDS orphans and vulnerable children in rural Zambia through 24 centres set up across the country. CCRC's own Knifty Knitters regularly send knitted blankets, clothes and other items to this organization. For more information, please go to [FOFcanada.com](http://FOFcanada.com)

**Budget envelopes for 2018 are now available and have been placed in members mailboxes.** If you did not receive envelopes and would like some, please contact Karen V. **Do not** use envelopes from your 2017 box as your contribution number may have changed. Please **take your budget envelopes home with you**, do not leave them in your mail slot.

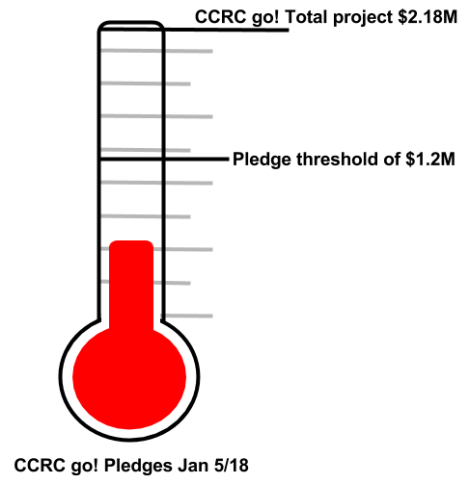
**COMMUNITY CHURCH NEWS**

**Parents' Information Session: Children at the Lord's Supper, Next Sunday - January 14:** Come join Pastor Amanda for a brief conversation following the morning service next Sunday on CCRC's process for welcoming children to the Lord's Supper. Whether your child has expressed a desire to come to the Table or you are just curious about how this works at CCRC, grab your coffee and come back into the sanctuary (by the organ) for a 15 minute conversation that will cover CCRC's position on children at the Table, the CCRC process for welcoming children to the Table, and how you as a parent can walk alongside your baptized child as you discern their readiness to participate in this sacrament.

**Classis Huron Church Visitors.** The Church Order of the CRCNA (Article 42) calls on representatives from the Classis to visit its churches in order to discuss church leadership, structure, spiritual life and the overall congregational health. Churches are free to call on the church visitors whenever serious challenges arise that would benefit from their advice. CCRC is not facing any sort of serious challenges at this moment, but we have not been visited in some time.

At the encouragement of Classis, church visitors, Pastor Martin Dam from Stratford CRC and Pastor Andrew DeGelder from Palmerston CRC, are coming to meeting with Council on Tuesday January 23, 2018 at 7:30 pm. Members of the congregation may also meet with the visitors if they have any concerns about what is happening at CCRC. If there is anyone who wishes to meet with the visitors, please let Harry O, Clerk of Council, know as soon as possible, so that proper arrangements can be made. Church visitors will provide a written report of their work to classis. (PS – Council meetings are open meetings so anyone in the congregation is most welcome to be present for the upcoming visit and or the remainder of the meeting, or any meeting, for that matter.)

**Council News:** At its December 17 meeting, the Council of CCRC approved an overture to be sent to Classis Huron regarding solutions proposed by the denominational office of Faith Formation Ministries detailed in an April 2017 article in *The Banner*. The overture asks classis to overture synod to fund these solutions through denominational ministry shares, as well as have a larger conversation about the place of curriculum development within the CRCNA denominational structure. Copies of the overture can be found at the Welcome Centre in the foyer.



**Update from the CCRC go! Steering Committee:** With just two Sundays left, the deadline for completed pledge forms is January 15, 2018. At that time it will be determined if there has been enough pledged to move forward. We ask that you prayerfully consider your involvement and please take the time to complete the form - any amount is welcome.

Thank you to the 52 member households who have provided pledges to the project so far. To date, we have received pledges that total 25% of the budget for this project. Completed forms can be placed in the Bookkeeper mail slot and if you require a pledge form, please contact the office or the information desk.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the CCRC go! project.

**Congregational Assistance Plan:** As you can see from the posters hanging all over the church building, we are officially enrolled in the Congregational Assistance Plan (CAP) offered by the Shalem Mental Health Network. CAP is a means by which Christian counseling services are made available to members and regular attendees. If you need someone to talk to; if your relationships are not what they should be; if

you are distressed in any way; if you are suffering from depression or some other mental illness please feel free to call toll-free: 866-347-0041. **All services are strictly confidential.** Those who have joined CCRC over the past year will find the necessary information in your mailboxes. Questions? Look for the brochures in the rack near the Information Centre or talk to Pastor Carel

**Craft the Winter Blah's away!** Community 2, 6, and 7 invite you to an Inter-Community Craft Fellowship Day. **Saturday January 27th from 8 - 5 pm.** NO COST! and it includes a light breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack. What craft do you do? Knitting, painting, crocheting, embroidery, quilting, card making, scrapbooking???? All are invited. Come for the full day or half of the day. We hope to have some people who are willing to help if you "just don't know how to do that stitch" or "what is a Cricut machine?" There are flyers in everyone's mailbox or at the information centre or email Darlene B. For more information feel free to talk with Laura D, Agnes B or Darlene B.

**Hey VINE members:** Today we are meeting for the first time this year! Hope you all enjoyed your holidays! The topic: Women in Office. As usual, bring your large appetites and questions, we plan on having lots of food and discussion. Please note: next week we WILL NOT be meeting. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact either Matthias M or Trevor B. See you there!

**Cadets** (boys 7-13) will meet tomorrow evening at 7:00 p.m. at the church.




**L.A.F.F. (Life After Fifty-Five)** will meet this Tuesday at the church. Coffee and refreshments are at 10:15 a.m. with the meeting to start at 10:45 a.m. Pastor Bernie will be leading the group in Lesson #6 of the Elijah study. Lunch will be provided.

**Friendship** meets again this Tuesday, January 9, at 7:00 p.m. at the church. Sandra will be the storyteller using lesson three: Paul Escapes.

**The Consistory and Diaconate** will meet at the church this Tuesday, January 9 at 7:30 p.m.

**Volleyball:** All are welcome to join on the **1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday** of every month at **8:30 p.m.** for fun and non-competitive volleyball. If you have questions or would like to know more, please contact Adom P or check out our Facebook Page "Volleyball at CCRC".

**Coffee Break** will resume on Wednesday, January 17 at 9:30 a.m. Childcare will be provided. We will be studying the following studies:

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- 1) "Uninvited" by Lysa Teurkeurst,
  - 2) "Psalms: My Sentiments Exactly" an Infuse Bible study from Faith Alive, and continuing
  - 3) Beth Moore's "David: A Heart Like His." Looking forward to seeing you on the 17th!



## Are you free on Wednesday mornings?

Coffee Break seeking a few more volunteers to serve in our Child Care Programs - we would appreciate any additional volunteer support - highlighting that we have specific need for volunteers for the following:

- Infant Nursery on Jan.31, Feb 14, Feb 21, Feb 28
- Anchor Academy (our Home School Class) most Weeks from Jan 17 - March 7

The volunteer schedule is flexible and we can arrange a commitment - weekly, bi-weekly or monthly that meets your needs. For more information contact: Melodie B.

**GEMS (Girls Everywhere Meeting the Saviour – Girls 7-13)** will meet this Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at the church.



**Friday Night Bible Study** will meet this Friday, January 12 at 7:30 p.m. at the John and Agnes'. We will be studying Chapter 1 of our Colossians study booklet. Please let John and Agnes know whether or not you will be attending by either calling them or sending them an email.

**The following ministries are looking for volunteers:**

- The Worship Committee
  - Musicians
- The Worship Committee
  - Congregational Representative
- The Kitchen Auxiliary
- Fire Safety Committee
- The Safe Church Team
- The Missions Strategy Team

Please check out the "Connect, Participate, Serve" bulletin board for more details.

**For all of the announcements, employment and volunteer opportunities available through the Denomination and others, please see the listing and posters on the Deacons bulletin board across from the washrooms for information.**

**Young Adults!** - Join other wonderful folks aged 18-30ish from across Ontario for the 2018 installment of the Young Adult Winter Retreat on January 26-28th, at Maranatha CRC in Woodstock! This year, we will focus on the theme "Culture" and how we're to represent Christ to our neighbours around us, with Pastor Mike Collins from Providence CRC as our speaker. It will be a weekend full of spiritual encouragement, faith-based discussions, service, workshops, worship, fellowship, and funtivities! Be sure to register by January 11th to receive the Early Bird rate of just \$60 for the entire weekend (after that it goes up to \$70). For more info and to register, visit our Facebook page "Young Adult Winter Retreat" or email [ya.retreat.team@gmail.com](mailto:ya.retreat.team@gmail.com). We hope to see you there!

**Palmerston Christian Reformed Church will be hosting a marriage video conference entitled the "Love & Respect video conference"** on January 26 and 27 (Friday night 6:45-10:15 and Saturday 8:45-2pm) at the church (400 Whites Rd.).

Whether your relationship is amazing or "on the rocks" you'll find this video conference valuable. The cost is \$US16/person and includes notebook materials and lunch on Saturday.

Registration can be done online. For more information please go to [www.loveandrespect.com](http://www.loveandrespect.com) and click the 'events' tab... then click the "video conferences" tab... then scroll down to the Palmerston event and click the "view details and register". See the printed bulletin for contact information.