

THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST

Ephesians 3:1-13

Join us this Sunday as we celebrate the sacrament of Lord's Supper. We give thanks that we can continue to worship God online and in our homes! God calls us to love our neighbours and reach out to others but what does that look like during a global pandemic especially during this winter season? How can we spread Christ's love to our neighbours while maintaining social-distancing measures?

Last Sunday the Mission Strategy Team along with Consistory presented a challenge to the congregation and Communities for the month of January:

1. Each family pick one neighbour;
2. Commit to pray for that neighbour for the month of January;
3. Reach out to that neighbour via outdoor conversation or a simple note/card in their mailbox and see how you can be hospitable to them or simply letting them know you care;
4. Share your stories/ideas with your Communities.

Let's try to share the light of Christ through simple, everyday acts of being a good neighbour.



CAP, or Congregational Assistance Plan, is a way for our CCRC to make counselling services available for everyone in the church. From time to time all of us are faced with difficulties. Usually, we are able to resolve them. But there come times when our usual ways of coping no longer seem to work. This is especially true in this stressful time of lockdown and pandemic that we find ourselves in. If this is happening to you, CAP offers professional Christian counselling support to you as an individual, as couples, and as families.

Through the Shalem Mental Health Network, CCRC is able to offer a solution-focused counselling model of up to 6 free sessions in a year. A professional Christian counsellor will help you to develop a strategy to cope with and resolve a variety of issues, including marriage difficulties, adolescent and children's issues, bereavement, stress, trauma, depression, anxiety, addiction, abuse and others.

What's the First Step?

To use CAP, you do not need to be referred by your doctor, pastor or elder. Simply call Shalem's CAP number (1-866-347-0041) and mention that you are a member of CCRC. An intake staff will ask you a few questions to

determine the issue about which you are seeking counselling and to note any specific requests, such as wanting a male or female counsellor, evening appointment times, etc. You will then be contacted by the appropriate CAP counsellor, who will set up your first appointment with you.

More Questions? Go to ccrc.on.ca and follow the links to CAP or talk to Pastor Amanda.

Sunday, January 10, 2021 - 10:00am Worship Service

Worship Participants this week:

Preacher: Pastor Amanda Bakale

GATHERING AND GREETING	
Gathering Song	“King of Heaven”
Welcome and Announcements	
Call to Worship	
God’s Greeting	
Song of Praise	“This is Amazing Grace”
Prayers of the People	
Offering Announcement	1) Ministries of Community Christian Reformed Church 2) Therefore Go Ministries (formerly Youth Unlimited)
Children’s Worship Story	
Children’s Song	“He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands”
PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD	
Prayer for Illumination	
Scripture Reading	Ephesians 3: 1-13
Sermon	“The Mystery of Christ”
Prayer of Application	
CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER	
Song of Preparation	“Jesus Messiah”
The Institution	
The Teaching	
The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving	
The Invitation	
The Distribution of the Elements	
Song of Response	“Amazing Grace”
God’s Parting Blessing	
Doxology	“Amazing Grace”

COMMUNITY CRC CHURCH FAMILY

(The bracketed numbers indicate the Community to which these individuals belong)

Our condolences are extended **Ken and Marjorie B** (5) with the passing away of Ken's sister-in-law, **Joanne B**. Joanne passed away from COVID earlier this week. Both Joanne and her husband Jack live in a Long Term Care (LTC) facility in St Catharines where there was an outbreak – and both tested positive. Earlier this week it was highly anticipated that Jack would pass away as well but at this point he is day to day. Joanne and Jack B are an aunt and uncle to **Angela B-A and Wayne A** and their family (5) as well as **Dave and Marianne H** (6). Please keep Jack in your prayers as he struggles with the effects of COVID and mourns the loss of his wife. May the Lord comfort and strengthen the entire B family during this difficult time.

The Westmount Chartwell Long Term Care home, where **Frederika V** (11) lives, and Forest Heights Long Term Care where **Sandra K** (9) lives, are both experiencing COVID outbreaks at this time. Pray that God would prevent the spread of the virus to them and other staff and residents and that He would give wisdom to management and staff at the home to do their jobs well.

We give thanks for upcoming plans to vaccinate all residents of Holland Christian Homes within the next two weeks.

We give thanks with the **H** family that **Denise** (11) was able to return home from the hospital following emergency surgery last week. Continued prayers for healing.

Matters for Prayer:

- Pray for strength and relief to all those struggling with mental health issues during this isolating and difficult time, especially for those who suffer from depression and anxiety. If you know someone who is struggling with their mental health, reach out with a phone call or a note. And if you are struggling yourself, the pastors are here for you and free Christian counselling is available to all members of CCRC.
- Pray for patience and persistence for students, teachers, and parents as all students in the province continue with online learning through the end of this month.
- Pray for peace and good order in the United States over the next two weeks until the inauguration and the peaceful transfer of power.
- Pray for our neighbourhoods and our neighbours as we continue to persist in this time of lockdown. May we each be the light of Christ where we live.
- As cases continue to rise in our region, please keep our health care and frontline workers in your prayers.
- Pray for those experiencing financial strain, unemployment or underemployment, and the stress this creates.
- Pray for guidance and wisdom for the Administrative Council as they consider the Search Committee's recommendations for the vacant pastoral positions.
- Pray for our sister-church, The Journey, as they seek to call a pastor in the near future. May the Spirit lead them well and clearly in their discernment.
- Pray for **Anthony and Barbara P** with Daystar Ministries on Manitoulin Island, **Hank and Rosario S** volunteering in

Guatemala, **Pastor Brian B** serving with Waterloo Campus Ministry and **Shannon C** serving as Chaplain at Forest Heights Long term care home.

UPCOMING SERVICES

Jan 17	10 am	Pastor Betsy DeVries
Jan 24	10 am	Pastor Amanda Bakale

Upcoming Baptism Sundays: Are you looking to be baptized or to have your child baptized? Baptism Sundays are scheduled for January 24, 2021 and February 28, 2021. If you are interested in one of these dates, please contact Pastor Amanda or Pastor Betsy.

OFFERING SCHEDULE

There are two offerings taken on a weekly basis at Community CRC. The first offering is for the Ministries of Community CRC and the second offering is for various causes that our church supports. For more details on how to donate to the church, please see the Resources section on the last page of the bulletin.

This week our offering is for ThereforeGo Ministries. ThereforeGo Ministries (formerly Youth Unlimited) is a non-profit, nondenominational Christian organization that focuses on assisting local congregations in their ministry to youth and emerging adults. This ministry is passionate about assisting congregations across Canada and the U.S. in their youth ministry through short-term missions and church training.

Next week our offering is for Monica Place. *“Located in Waterloo Region, Monica Place is an accredited, registered non-profit child and youth mental health agency focused on the needs of pregnant and parenting youth and their children.”*

Upcoming Offerings:

Jan 24 am | Calvinist Cadet Corps
Jan 31 am | Redeemer University

Offerings Received from December 28 – Dec 31, 2020:

December 28-31	\$	54,128
End of Year Total Donations	\$	828,151
Budgeted 2020 Total Contributions	\$	885,705
Second Offerings		
Benevolence	\$	5,000
House of Friendship	\$	2,200
World Renew	\$	2,000
Foodbank of Waterloo Region	\$	337
FACE Fund	\$	100
Ray of Hope	\$	100
Habitat for Humanity	\$	100
Missionary Support	\$	90
Faith’s Orphans Fund	\$	56
Monica Place	\$	50
Indigenous Ministry	\$	50
Centre for Public Dialogue	\$	50
Waterloo Campus Ministry	\$	50
Office for Social Justice	\$	50
Ontario Christian Gleaners	\$	50

Offerings received Jan 3, 2021

Budget	\$	870
Beginnings	\$	30
Faith Orphan’s Fund	\$	20
Calvinist Cadet Corps	\$	10
ThereforeGo Ministries	\$	10
Monica Place	\$	10

COMMUNITY CRC NEWS

Sermon Discussion TODAY |All students in Grades 4-6 are invited to join a virtual sermon discussion on Zoom today, January 10, 2020 at 11:30 am. Our theme for today is "Who is my neighbour?"

The **Consistory and Diaconate** meet this Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 7:30 via Zoom.

Human Resources Representative | Community CRC is currently looking for a volunteer who has Human Resource experience to be an HR advisor. This position is a resource to Administrative Council for HR matters (hiring, disciplinary action, review of job descriptions) and is responsible for facilitating staff reviews and presenting the results of the review to Admin Council.

The person serving in this position is not eligible to serve as an Elder or Deacon. This position starts in the spring and would serve a 3-year term. Please email Alesha H if you feel you could serve in this capacity.

Volunteers Needed | The Admin Council is looking for interested people to maintain CCRC's policy handbook. The staff at CCRC have worked hard to update and compile our policies. In order to keep these policies relevant, we are looking for a few members (who have a knack for filing and sorting) who would meet 1-3 time/year to review the policies and keep this handbook up to date.

DENOMINATIONAL NEWS

Join the Calvin University January Series this week with the following topics:

On January 11, join to hear Tara Westover, author of the New York Times bestselling memoir, *Educated*. In *Educated*, Westover recounts overcoming the expectations of her survivalist family in order to go to college and emphasizes the importance of education to enlarging her world.

On January 12, Flynn Coleman, a writer, international human rights attorney,

public speaker, professor, and social innovator, will speak on the **Future of Artificial Intelligence (AI)**. Coleman is the author of the book, *A Human Algorithm*, a groundbreaking narrative on the urgency of ethically designed AI and a guidebook to re-imagining life in the era of intelligent technology.

On Friday, January 15, join Andy Crouch's discussion on the limits of technology and the hope he has for a more personal world. Andy Crouch is a partner for theology and culture at Praxis, an organization that works as a creative engine for redemptive entrepreneurship.

The series is free of charge, but you need to register to watch it. More information on the content, speakers list, and registration details can be found at www.calvin.edu/january

Groundwork: Sabbath Rest - Does Sabbath rest just mean taking a day off? Or is it more than that? Join Groundwork as we study Genesis 2:1-3, Exodus 20:8-11, Deuteronomy 5:12-15, and Hebrews 4:6-11 to better understand what God designed and intended the Sabbath for and how this spiritual discipline can draw us closer to God. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

How Do I Pray? - Prayer doesn't have to be complicated. And there is no single right way to do it. "How Do I Pray?", a free eBook from the ReFrame Ministries Prayer Team shows you six ways to reinvigorate your prayer life. It's yours free at reframeministries.org/ways-to-pray

RESOURCES

Instructions for giving to Community CRC | As we are currently in lockdown, the following donation methods are in place:

1. PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance) – monthly pre-authorized payment. Fill out form, along with a blank void cheque by email to treasurer@ccrc.on.ca
2. You can mail your donations to the Church. Please do NOT mail cash. The mailbox is checked regularly.
3. You can drop off your donation in our drop-off mailslot located on the outside of the kitchen door at the church. This is a secured locked box that safely receives your envelope within the building.
4. you can now donate using the Bridge App (or this link):

<https://crc.etadvance.com/churches/community-crc-kitchener/donate>

You can self-direct your donations using your credit card (note there is a 3% admin fee taken by the processing company) or direct to your bank account (no admin fee). At this time, we offer opportunity to donate to the Church Budget, our Capital Fund, or the work of the Deacons locally (benevolence).

Note: if you use the link, the only payment option is credit card. The Bank account option is only available through the Bridge App. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy W.

