



This Sunday, Pastor Amanda will continue the Lent sermon series “I Am – Jesus in the Present Tense” with a passage from John 10 where Jesus says **“I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me - just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep”**. We will also be celebrating the sacrament of Lord’s Supper during the service at the church and in our homes. The Council of Community CRC invites believers of all ages to the table, following an age and ability appropriate 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.

We have invited in-person worshipers from Communities # 9,11,13, and 14. We will follow the same procedures that were in place prior to the shutdown and stay-at home order. Our services will continue with the registration process in order to make sure we do not exceed our capacity of 100 people. If your Community is scheduled for worship on a particular Sunday, look for an email with the Eventbrite link to sign up on Monday or Tuesday. If there are extra spaces by Friday, a link will be sent to the entire congregation with the bulletin to fill the extra spaces available for the Sunday service.

Our schedule for sign-up continues as follows:

Mar 21: 5,6,7,8

Mar 28: 1,2,3,4

April 2: Good Friday (live-stream only)

April 4: Easter Sunday (All – max of 100)

All attendees are required to wear a mask and maintain a 2-meter physical distancing both in the building and while outside.

Lent Series | I AM: Jesus in the Present Tense

At the very center of our faith is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That makes Good Friday and Easter two of the most significant days in the Christian calendar. Lent is the 40-day period before Easter. It is a season of preparation and repentance as we look toward the events of Good Friday and Easter. Historically, Lent has been an occasion for Christians to deepen their faith and devotion by exploring and deepening a kind of spirituality that centers on our union with Christ.

Our worship series on the "I AM" statements of Jesus help us to see more clearly the one we are united to. These statements about Jesus’ identity do not allow us to keep him safely in the past, as if they have

turned into "I was" statements. Rather, they help us to see who Jesus is to us in the present tense. Lent is a journey to the cross, and this Lent we will journey with Jesus as our teacher and companion as we explore who Jesus was in his own words and who he still is to us and to the world.

Calling Artists of All Ages and Abilities | Get out the paintbrushes or pencils, we want to see your artwork! Our upcoming Lent series will bring us through the "I am" saying of Jesus. In these sayings, Jesus teaches his disciples about himself using everyday objects like bread, light, gates, and vines. Help us to illustrate these sayings by creating artwork - drawings, paintings, even sculptures - and send a picture of your art to Rachel V so we can share it with the congregation in worship. You can choose to illustrate one "I am" saying or all of them. There is no limit! This activity is for people of all ages and abilities. you can submit your art any time between now and March 31. Send a photo or scan of your art to worship@ccrc.on.ca.

Here are the sayings of Jesus that we would love to see illustrated:

- I am the bread of life (John 6:25-40)
- I am the light of the world (John 9:1-7)
- I am the gate for the sheep (John 10:1-10)
- I am the good shepherd (John 10:11-18)
- I am the resurrection and the life (John 11:1-27)
- I am the way, the truth, and the life (John 14:1-7)
- I am the vine (John 15:1-17)

Sunday, March 14, 2021 - 10:00am Worship Service

Worship Participants this week:

Preacher: Pastor Amanda Bakale

GATHERING AND GREETING

Gathering Song

"All Your People Sing"

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

(Based on "Our World Belongs to God" st. 42-43, John 4:24)

Leader: In a world estranged from God, where happiness and peace are offered in many names, we witness to the only one in whose name salvation is found: Jesus Christ

All: **In Jesus, God reconciles the world to himself.**

Leader: Jesus Christ rules over all.

All: **Let us worship Jesus Christ in the Spirit and in truth.**

God's Greeting

Song of Praise

"All Hail the Power of Jesus Name"

Offering Announcement

Ministries of Community Christian Reformed Church
Calvin Theological Seminary – Dig Program

Prayers of the People

Children's Worship Story

Song:

"Jesus Loves Me"

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Song of Preparation	“Lord, Speak to Me that I May Speak”
Prayer for Illumination	
Scripture Reading	John 10: 11-18
Sermon	“I am the Good Shepherd”
Prayer of Application	

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Song of Response	“Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me”
The Institution	
The Teaching	
The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving	
The Invitation	
The Sharing of the Bread and Cup	
Song of Response	“Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me”
God’s Parting Blessing	
Doxology	“My Friends May You Grow in Grace”

Following the service this morning (11:30 am) there is a Grade 4-6 Discussion Group on Zoom | We will continue with a conversation about saints and Saint Patrick. We will look at Bible passages where "saints" does not refer to holy people who have already died. If you are in this age group, please join us at the link found in the emailed copy of the bulletin.

COMMUNITY CRC CHURCH FAMILY

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

Our condolences are extended to **Wendy and Johan W, Jessica, Shawn and Steven (9)** with the passing away of Wendy’s mom, Mrs. Grace G. Grace passed away on Friday, March 12, 2021 at the age of 86. May the Lord comfort all who mourn.

We continue to hold the H family - **Denise, Mike, Jenny and Nate (11)** - in our prayers as this past week has been very difficult with Denise returning to the hospital. May God grant each of them the strength and peace they need.

Yemane K has received good news from the doctors this week after a CT scan and blood tests. The results from his completed chemo treatments are showing a very positive reaction to fight the cancer. The K family is very happy and they would like to thank the congregation for their prayers and support. Thanks be to God!

Congratulations to **John and Agnes B (1)** as they celebrate their 15th wedding anniversary on March 18th! May the Lord continue to bless and strengthen their marriage for many years to come.

Matters for Prayer |

- As we mark the one-year milestone of the global pandemic we pray and lament the loss of life, the loss of normalcy, and all the losses big and small we have endured this past year. May we find hope in the promises of God and put our faith and trust in Him for in the coming year.
- Continue to pray for those in long-term care homes where there has been so much illness and loss. May the Lord comfort and strengthen **Sandra K (9)** and **Frederika Van D (11)** and their families during this difficult time.
- Pray for our sister-church, The Journey, as they continue to discern a way forward in their own search process.
- Pray for endurance and patience for stay at home parents of young children as the winter months have been long and challenging.
- Pray for those experiencing financial strain, unemployment or underemployment, and the stress this creates.
- Pray for Dive into Doctrine and all the participants as small groups continue to meet. Pray for wisdom, kindness and for technology to work.
- Pray for the ongoing nominations process as people are sought to serve in leadership positions at Community CRC
- 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

Mar 21	10 am	Pastor Betsy DeVries
Mar 28	10 am	Pastor Betsy DeVries Baptism: Scarlett Jade Jacqueline B (11)

Upcoming Baptism Sundays | Are you looking to be baptized or to have your child baptized? The next Baptism Sundays are scheduled for March 28 and April 25. 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 Calvin Theological Seminary's DIG program. DIG is a three-week summer program designed to help students uncover their future as they explore how a calling to ministry can be lived out in any vocation.

Next week our offering is for Laurentian Hills Christian School. Laurentian Hills Christian School (LHCS) is an independent school, providing Christian education to students in grades JK-8 since 1967. It is interdenominational, drawing students from over fifty different churches in the Kitchener-Waterloo area.

Upcoming Offerings:

Mar 28	Shalem Mental Health Network
Apr 2	Good Friday - Ray of Hope
Apr 4	Resonate Global Mission

**Offerings Received as at
March 7, 2021:**

March 7, 2021	\$	7,267
Year to Date	\$	102,479
Budgeted 2021 Total Contributions	\$	923,460
Second Offerings		
World Renew – Canadian Foodgrains Bank	\$	7,015
Missionary Support	\$	909
Laurentian Hills Christian School	\$	310
Pastor Church Resources	\$	110
Woodland Christian High School	\$	110
Race Relations	\$	100
Calvin Theological Seminary – DIG Program	\$	60
Benevolence	\$	60
Monica Place	\$	20
Redeemer University	\$	20

COMMUNITY CRC NEWS

CCRC's Winter Challenge | How did you do with the winter challenge? How did God lead you through your prayers for a neighbour? As we approach the beginning of spring it is time to gather stories of your experience with the winter challenge. The Mission Strategy Team will share the experiences of our congregation in the next mission newsletter scheduled for spring 2021. What has God done through each of us as we prayed for our neighbours? How were you moved to reach out to your neighbour? Please send a brief summary (a short paragraph) of your experience to: your pastoral elder; the church office; or a member of the Mission Strategy team. We are looking forward to hearing how God moves in our church, our Communities and in our local neighbourhoods.

Kids Video for Palm Sunday | Help us make a video for the Palm Sunday service on March 28! Parents, record a quick video in landscape mode (turn your phone sideways) of your child/children saying "Hosanna!" If you'd like a palm branch, you can print and colour the attached Palm Branch picture. Send your videos to Rachel **by March 20**. Note that by sending a video, you are giving CCRC permission to publicly distribute this recording as part of our Palm Sunday service video available online. No names will be listed.

Book Club | Tuesday March 16th from 7.30 - 9pm is the Winter Book Club virtual discussion of Irene Kraegel's "The Mindful Christian." RSVP to Carling L.

Ushers Needed | We need a few Ushers for Sunday morning worship. If you are interested in helping, please contact the church office at office@ccrc.on.ca or 519-743-9482.

Have you been heard? Our congregation has a once-in-five-year opportunity to participate in the 2021 CRC denominational survey. This survey helps denominational leadership understand the concerns and needs of local congregations like ours. It is crucial that as many people from our congregation as possible participate. Please answer the questionnaire reflecting this past year with all the difficulties that includes. Visit the emailed bulletin to answer the survey questions **by March 31**. P.S. The survey and promotional tools are also available in Korean and Spanish. Visit crcna.org/survey to learn more.

Thank you,
Administrative Council

Safe Church Training | If you have been a volunteer at Community CRC over the past number of years you are likely familiar with the Ministry Training Sessions that took place in the early fall and early spring. Due to COVID, these sessions were not held in 2020. Over this past year the Safe Church Team has adapted these sessions so that volunteer training and information is now available online at the following link: <https://training.ccrcc.on.ca/>. As per our insurance company's provisions, all church employees, leaders and volunteers who work with youth and vulnerable people shall complete annual training. The training does not take long and satisfies that provision. As COVID-19 restrictions ease and we get back into the church, it is important that all leaders/volunteers make sure they have their police checks up to date (need to be done every 5 years - email church office if you're not sure) and complete the annual training. If you're not sure if you need to do the training, please do it because it's good to know and then you have it if you do need it.

Ministry leaders: please ensure that the volunteers within your ministry are up to date. If your ministry offers online aspects (i.e. zoom meetings, Facebook/social media communications, etc), then the training needs to be completed as soon as possible as your ministry is already underway. **If anyone has questions or concerns, please contact Paula L.**

Looking to return church library material? Books can be returned on Sundays to the blue bin on the information desk, or throughout the week to the church office. The church library will remain closed on Sundays.

Impact | Join us this Wednesday evening for a fireside chat at the church from **7:00 – 8:15 pm** Prior to attending, please follow the link for the COVID screening form that can be found in the Instagram bio as well as the weekly email sent to the parents.

Faith and Hops | There is no meeting in March but will be meet again in April.

DENOMINATIONAL NEWS

Groundwork: Why Have You Forsaken Me? | "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me!" might be the most famous of Jesus' words from the cross. Join Groundwork as we study Mark 15:33-39 to unearth the meaning of these words, what was happening in this moment of Jesus' agony, and what it means for us yet today. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

What's the Right Thing To Do? | Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. God gave each of us a conscience to help us remember to do what is right. You'll feel better when you finally admit what you've done. Listen now at kidscorner.net and subscribe to KC's weekly emails for all the new content.

Camp Shalom Summer Staff | Are you looking for a meaningful summer job? Camp Shalom is hiring summer staff. If you love Jesus and like working with kids or individuals with special needs, then this might be for you. Work outdoors, with great people, while making a meaningful impact on campers' lives. All positions are paid and you must be 17 before Dec. 31st, 2021. Positions include cabin counselors, maintenance, kitchen, media, and lifeguards. Visit www.countrysidecamp.com to apply.

Global Coffee Break Inspirational Women's Retreat on April 16-17, 2021 | Registration Now Open! | Join the first ever Canada wide Inspirational Women's Retreat on Friday, April 16 & Saturday, April 17, 2021. Two years ago, almost 1200 women gathered for the Inspirational Women's Conference in Oakville. This year we'll gather online with women from

across Canada. All women are welcome ~ invite a friend or neighbour!

Register for a weekend of three keynote sessions and a great variety of breakouts.

<https://raiseupglobal.regfox.com/inspirational-womens-retreat>

RESOURCES

Instructions for giving to Community CRC | 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. No cash, please

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, Treasurer.



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.