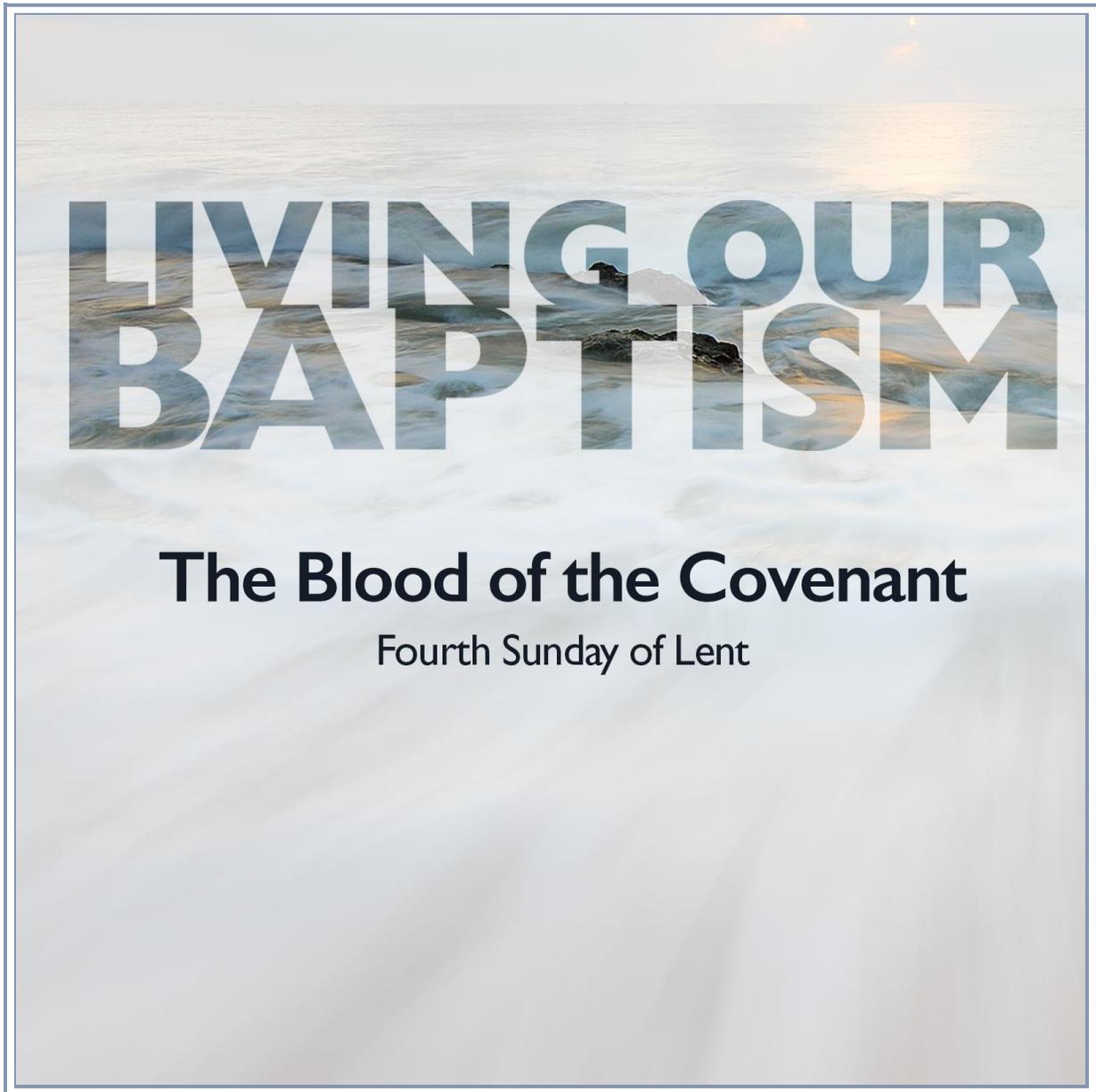


**Community Christian Reformed Church  
Kitchener, Ontario  
March 26, 2017**



**March 26, 2017**  
**4th Sunday of Lent**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**Pastor John Medendorp**

*Elder-in-Charge: Krista H*

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

The Lenten sermon series, “**Living Our Baptism**”, deals with our baptismal identity as Christians. In the early church, Easter was *the day* for new converts to Christianity to be baptized. But these new converts had to be taught about their faith and what baptism means, so the churches started a pre-baptism catechism class preparing people for their baptism on Easter Sunday. Following this ancient tradition, this Lenten season we are walking through the baptismal form, used at CCRC, and the stories that are taught through it. The included stories teach us in very specific ways about what it means to be God’s people—chosen, adopted, marked, and washed clean—members of the covenant. Remember *who* you are. Remember *whose* you are.

### **Gathering and Greeting**

Gathering Song: “*Because of Your Love*”

Welcome and Announcements

\*Call to Worship

\*God’s Greeting and Mutual Greeting

\*Song of Praise: “*I Am Not My Own*”

“*Awesome God*”

### **Confession and Assurance**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Song of Confession: “*O Christ, the Lamb of God*”

Assurance of Pardon

Guide for Grateful Living: Romans 12: 1-2; 9-21

Song of Response: PsH #269 “*Baptized in Water*”

Children’s Blessing

Children ages 3 – Grade 3 are now invited to participate in Sunday School. Children (ages 3-5 only) need to be signed in and out by a parent or guardian.

## **Proclamation of the Word**

Song of Preparation: *"Lamb of God"*

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Matthew 26: 17-30

Sermon: **"The Blood of the Covenant"**

Prayer of Application

Children in Grades 4-6 are invited to participate in their weekly sermon discussion.

## **Response to the Word**

\*Song of Response: PsH #547 *"Fill Thou My Life, My Lord, My God"*

Prayers of the People

Offering: 1) Ministries of Community CRC

2) Samaritan Foundation – John and Jane H

Offertory Song: *"Broken Vessels (Amazing Love)"*

\*God's Parting Blessing

\*Doxology: *"Go, My Children, With My Blessing"*

**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 pm

No Service at Church

Communities/Community Care Groups Meet

Study materials for tonight can be found on the church website ([www.ccrcc.on.ca](http://www.ccrcc.on.ca))

Under the "Communities" tab.

Hard copies are available at the Information Centre

#### OUR CHURCH FAMILY

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

**Iva F (8)** remained at Grand River Hospital this past week. She is very weak and very aware that her life is in the Lord's hands. Because of her condition she will not be returning home, but as soon as a bed comes open she will be going to Freeport Hospital. Pray for God's peace and presence for Iva, her son, **Don** and the rest of the family at this time.

**Martin O (8)** underwent successful knee surgery on Friday, March 17. He is now convalescing at home. Pray for a good recovery.

**Jane W (14)** spent about a week as a patient at Grand River Hospital but she was able to return to her home once again where she is now recovering.

**Aioub G's (6)** father will be traveling to Cairo, Egypt tomorrow for medical help. Some 4 months ago Aioub's father broke his hip, but with what little medical facilities they have in North Sudan the family has opted to bring him to Cairo. Aioub's sister will be with her father and once in Cairo the family will be met by friends and family who will look after them there. Pray for Aioub's

father that travelling goes well and that he will get the medical attention that he needs.

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;
- those dealing with various illness among members of their extended family;
- those dealing with depression and other forms of mental illness (if you are dealing with depression a couple of people, who have been there, have stepped forward to help in whatever way they can. Pastor Carel can give you more details);
- those dealing with cancer, its treatment and effects: **Sarah B (8)**, **Jane D (14)**, **Denise H (11)**, **John N (3)**, **Claire N**, a 6<sup>th</sup> grade student at Laurentian Hills Christian School. Claire's father **Terry N is a nephew to John and Ruth N**;
- those who are unemployed or underemployed;

- **John and Jane H** with Samaritan Foundation in the Dominican Republic; **Anthony and Barbara P** with Daystar Ministries on Manitoulin Island; **David and Jessica O** with World Renew in Senegal; **Kim H** with CRWM in Guatemala, **Hank and Rosario S** volunteering with CRWM in Guatemala; **David and Bethany N (7)** volunteering in Mali.
- persecuted Church in Sudan
- the Ministries and the Leadership of our congregation.

**Sea to Sea 2017:** Sea to Sea is a cross-country bike ride that covers 6,759 km throughout Canada and the U.S. The goal of Sea to Sea is to move people out of the trap of poverty into lives of dignity by educating people, inspiring them to action, and enabling organizations to fight poverty. Sea to Sea will assist the hosts, Partners Worldwide and World Renew, in their efforts to provide education, advocacy, and empowerment to develop self-sufficient communities around the world.



I will be participating in the Sea to Sea ride for one week in August and covering a distance of over 832 km between Espanola and Ottawa. I have set a minimum fundraising goal of \$3000 but ideally would like to raise \$5000 for Sea to Sea. I humbly ask for your support in my effort. To donate, follow the link to my personal fundraising found in the printed version of the bulletin

**Are you missing something?** An envelope containing some money was found after a recent morning service. If yours, Please call or email the church office to claim it.

<b>OFFERING SCHEDULE</b>
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**Budget Contributions  
For March 19, 2017**

	Actual Contributions Received	Targeted Contributions	Contributions (Shortfall)/ Surplus
Mar 19	\$9,064	\$12,743	(\$3,679)
YTD	\$150,867	\$183,856	(\$32,990)
Woodland Christian High School			\$ 1,788.35
Samaritan Foundation			\$ 50.00
World Renew – World Hunger			\$ 100.00

**This week our offering is for the Samaritan Foundation – John and Jane H.** Recently the Hs sent a newsletter with a brief update. Please help yourself to a copy at the Information Centre.

*“Dear Brothers and Sisters at Kitchener Community CRC,*

*While the year may be new, God’s blessings and mercies are as faithful and continuous as He is. This year again, we are amazed at how He has not only provided for our daily ongoing needs but also allows us to be His hands and feet in many, many different aspects of life and community.*

*As we start this new year in God’s providential care, love, and leading, we want to “Thank You” for being a special partner in this ministry and to Jane and I. Attached is a quick update on just a few of wonderful blessings that God continues to provide for His people and so through these*

*too, may God receive all the praise and recognition!*

*In Him and to Him in all things!"*

**Next week our offering for the FACE fund.**

As a congregation we have supported a **FACE Fund (Financial Assistance for Christian Education)** to assist with tuition costs for those wishing to send their children to a Christ-based school. The fund is available for any approved elementary or secondary school. Please contact either the deacons or the church office in order to receive an application.

<b>UPCOMING SERVICES</b>		
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Apr 2	10 a.m.	Pastor Amanda Professions of Faith: Lindsay B Jen S
	6 p.m.	Pastor John
Apr 9	10 a.m.	Pastor Carel
	6 p.m.	Communities/Community Care Groups meet

<b>COMMUNITY CHURCH NEWS</b>		
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**Marriage Preparation Course:** Any engaged couples interested in attending this course being offered on four Sundays in April (but not on Easter Sunday), please contact the church office ([office@ccrc.on.ca](mailto:office@ccrc.on.ca) or 519-743-9482) to register TODAY, March 26<sup>th</sup>, so that we will know how many to expect. This practical course is a combination of DVD clips and private discussion between you and your fiancé(e).

This year, for **Dive into Doctrine**, we will be looking at the oldest of the Reformed statements of faith—the Belgic Confession. Forged in the fires of persecution, the Belgic Confession is a powerful, poetic, and courageous expression of what Christians believe. Its author, Guido de Bres, was executed for writing it. Today we live in peace and freedom, but this historic Christian confession has much to teach us. **Dive into Doctrine** will take place on Wednesdays (April 19–May 31) from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Please sign up at the Information Centre.

**The Youth Ministries Team needs some help!** For many years CCRC's youth program has volunteered to organize and provide the bagged take-away lunches for the All Ontario Youth Convention held on the May long weekend at Wilfrid Laurier University. This has been a wonderful fundraiser for our youth program over the years by allowing our youth to fund and participate in mission trips and also has allowed our youth to bless other churches and organizations with donations. The AOYC will be held from May 19 – 22, 2017 this year and our responsibility would be to provide a bagged lunch for the conventioners to travel home with on Monday May 22. The YMT is looking for some help in coordinating and organizing this initiative. If you feel you would be able to spearhead and / or assist in this event, please contact Harry O. Thanks for your consideration!



**Registration is now open for VBS 2017!** You can go online to [ccrc.on.ca](http://ccrc.on.ca) to find the registration page. Please also consider being a volunteer this year. The work is easy and the atmosphere is fun. For any questions or to sign up to volunteer please speak to Melodie S or Kristin G.

**Support for Training in Ministry:** *Classis Huron* invites students from this Classis who are considering full time ministry within the CRC to apply for a forgivable loan. These students must be planning to attend seminary in the school year 2017-2018. For applications and further information, please contact Rev. Brian B by phone: Current recipients must also make clear their intentions. Applications and further information is available at [www.classishuron.ca](http://www.classishuron.ca) under Forms and Mandates for the Classical Ministerial Leadership Team. The deadline for applications is April 24, 2017. As churches in Classis Huron let us pray for God to raise up workers in His kingdom from our congregations. "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." *Luke 10:2*

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



**Friendship** will meet this Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. at the church. Derrick will be our storyteller using the story "Jesus Makes a Promise" session two.



**Council** will meet this week Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at the church.

**The Knifty Knitters will meet this week**



**Tuesday** March 28, at 9:30 a.m.

The morning will be spent packing up the items and projects that were completed this winter. Please bring along some boxes if you are able.

**Volleyball:** All are welcome to join in this Tuesday, 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".

**Ladies: all ages are welcome to join us for**

**Coffee Break Wednesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. here in the multipurpose room.** Nursery and preschool classes (up to age SK) are provided.

This week we continue with our three studies. The three studies being offered are: 1) Shauna Niequist's book "Present Over Perfect", 2) "Galatians: Heaven's Freedom" by Brian Simmons, and 3) an in-depth study of the book of Proverbs. Come join us for fellowship, coffee, and growing deeper in relationship with God and each other. Any questions? Contact Carling L or Jen F at [coffebreak@ccrc.on.ca](mailto:coffebreak@ccrc.on.ca)



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



### Youth News

Student Impact  
Grades 9-12

On Wednesday, March 29, **Student Impact will be having an event at Skyzone from 7-9 PM.** The cost is \$10. Invite your friends and meet at Skyzone. Please have your parents fill out the waiver on the Skyzone website before you come. Print it off and bring it with you. There will be copies there if you forget, but your parents need to have signed it.

**2017 Youth Service Trip! July 17-21:** This summer, CCRC is partnering with Mennonite Central Committee to lead a team of 20 into the streets of Toronto to learn about urban issues, to serve the marginalized, and to bring what we learn there to our own cities here in Kitchener-Waterloo. This trip is for those in Grade 9-12. To apply, go to [ccrc.on.ca/youthservice2017](http://ccrc.on.ca/youthservice2017). Application deadline: March 30. For more details, see the YMT March/April Newsletter and the information flyer at the Information Desk!

**All Ontario Youth Convention** - Registration for AOYC 2017 is underway! Join 900+ teens and leaders for a high-energy weekend centred on being known and knowing God more fully. Register online at [allontario.com/register](http://allontario.com/register). **Community CRC will pay for \$70 for each of our youth registered BEFORE Monday, May 1.** After

you register online ([www.allontario.com](http://www.allontario.com)) put the printed form and the registration fee minus \$70 (cheques made out to CCRC) in Pastor Amanda's mailbox.

### DENOMINATIONAL NEWS

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

**Grit and Grace Women's Conference:** Saturday, April 1, 2017 at Redeemer University College, in Ancaster. All women are invited for a day of inspiration, worship, and fellowship, with the theme of Life's Great Dare...I will see the goodness of the Lord. Ps. 27:13. Speaker, Christa Hesselink. Come and be refreshed and renewed; bring your friends! For more information, and to register on-line go to:

[www.gritandgraceconference.ca](http://www.gritandgraceconference.ca)

**An Event for Families - "Resilient Families: Walking Together through Every Generation"** is the theme of the April 29, 2017, event in Whitby ON organized by Disability Concerns Canada. Keynote speaker Sara Pot will take listeners on the journey of her family's experience with two children who have severe, multiple disabilities. Take advantage of early bird registration pricing until March 24. See [www.crcna.org/disability](http://www.crcna.org/disability) for registration link.

MISCELLANEOUS
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**Keep the Conversation Going!** - The once-a-year appeal for The Banner, the monthly magazine of the Christian Reformed Church in North America, is in your mailbox this today. The Banner is delivered free of charge to every household in the Christian Reformed Church in print and online. To keep the conversation going look for the annual appeal in your mailbox or give online now at [www.thebanner.org/donate](http://www.thebanner.org/donate).

**Try Out the New Banner App** - Available for iPhone and Android, this new app gives you quick access to all the latest Banner news and features. You can also use the app to locate churches and browse the latest content on The Network, CRC News, Think Christian, Today daily devotions, and more. Search "CRCNA Banner" in your phone's app store.

**Don't delay, register today!** - Don't miss the opportunity to register for Inspire 2017 at a special early bird rate. Come to hear Ann Voskamp & Richard Mouw speak! Join partners in ministry from over 1,000 CRC congregations for an unforgettable three days in Detroit, Michigan, August 3-5. Participate in great worship, be challenged by keynote speakers, leave equipped with resources, and get connected to others – like you - who are inspired to serve God in their local church and community. Register at [crcna.org/Inspire2017](http://crcna.org/Inspire2017). Registration rates increase April 1.

**The City Harmonic:** Trinity Christian Reformed Church in Goderich (245 Mill Road) is hosting "The City Harmonic Benediction Tour" on Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are available for purchase for \$20.00 + processing fee + HST at <http://www.uniteproductions.ca/iwe-event/the-city-harmonic-goderich/>  
The concert is from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm with the doors opening at 6:30 pm.