Community Christian Reformed Church

April 3, 2022
Kitchener, Ontario

Welcome | We're glad you could join us as we grow in relationship to God, each other, and our community. May the Lord bless your time of worship with us today! We would like to get to know you, so please fill out the Visitor Form on the back of the bulletin and put it in the offering plates or bring it to the Information Centre.

Childcare & Sunday School | There is nursery for infants, toddlers, and 2-year-olds in the back hall of the church. Children ages 4 to Grade 3 are invited to participate in Children's Worship in our gym and 3-year-olds are invited to Sunday School in the nursery. All children under 5 must be signed in and out by a parent or guardian. Since these programs are dependent on volunteers, children will need to be registered during the week to ensure that adequate supervision is in place for Sunday morning. The church office will send an email by Tuesday with a deadline of Thursday at 10 p.m. for sign-up**.**

Accessibility | A hearing loop system is installed in the sanctuary. To use, switch your hearing aid or cochlear implant to the "T" (Telecoil or Telephone) position. Portable listening devices are available at the sound booth. The Information Centre has LARGE PRINT Bibles available.

Note | The online screening form is no longer required for worship. However, please **continue to self screen before coming to church.** Do not attend if you have any symptoms similar to COVID or if you feel unwell. **Masks are no longer required** but if you feel more comfortable wearing one, please continue to do so.

Our Lenten sermon series is titled "Layers of Lent" and each week we'll walk through stories in the Gospel of Luke, looking at the different layers or textures of the story - the location, the spiritual practice being encouraged, the way in which Jesus models the kingdom for us. As we journey through this season, we'll add layers to our understanding of Jesus' ministry and the road towards the cross, until all the layers are stripped away on Good Friday, leaving us face-to-face with the cross. Here we'll contemplate the transformative power of Jesus' death and sacrifice for us, and anticipate celebrating that transformation on Easter.

10:00 AM Worship Service

Preacher: Pastor Tom Bomhof

	GATHERING AND GREETING
Gathering Song	"Because He Lives (Amen)"
Welcome and Announcements	
Call to Worship	
God's Greeting	
Mutual Greeting	
Song of Praise	"The Wonderful Cross" "Man of Sorrows"
	CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE
Call to Confession	
Prayer of Confession	
Assurance of Pardon	
Song of Response	"My Jesus, I Love Thee" LUYH#366
Children's Blessing	Children ages 3 – Grade 3 are now invited to Sunday School
	PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD
Song of Preparation	"Show Us Christ"
Prayer for Illumination	
Scripture Reading	John 12: 1-8
Sermon	**"Fragrant Sacrifice"**
Prayer of Application	
Song of Response	"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven" LUYH #571
	RESPONSE TO THE WORD
Offering Announcement	1) Ministries of Community CRC 2) World Renew – Refugee Sunday
Prayers of the People	
God's Parting Blessing	
Doxology	"Jesus Shall Reign" LUYH #219
Postlude	

(LUYH numbers) refer to the Lift Up Your Hearts hymnals available at the back of the sanctuary.

CHURDLE: Have you been loving WORDLE and want to add another challenge to your rotation? Or have you heard about this game and are curious as to what it's all about? Try our CHURDLE! Each week we'll pick a five-letter word that relates to the upcoming sermon in our Lent Season - simply guess the word in six tries to win, and then listen to see how that word shows up or connects to the sermon on Sunday. Click the link to play. https://mywordle.strivemath.com/?word=xffnp

COMMUNITY CRC NEWS

Administrative Council Meeting Highlights March 22nd, 2022

- Received and reviewed various staff and ministry reports and meeting minutes.
- The next Congregational meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 10th
- Council approved budget surplus recommendation be presented to the congregation at the congregation meeting
- Council is anticipating hosting the next Classis Huron meeting which is scheduled for Wednesday May 18th
- Council heard an update on the speaker series plan. Council is anticipating this event to be well attended. Other churches in the Classis are invited. The attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions to the speakers
- Serving coffee weekly was discussed and hope start that again soon
- Council approved vacation dates for Pastor Laura: April 18-21 & April 25-26.
- Council discussed a kid's summer camp option offered by Camp Shalom. (see below)
- The overture that was recently discussed at Classis was submitted to Synod.

The Spring Congregational meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 10, 2022 following the morning service. The agenda for the meeting was emailed from the office this past week. Extra hard copies are available at the Information Centre. Please note the meeting will **not** be live-streamed.

Vouchers | We are happy to announce that offering vouchers will be available for purchase starting immediately! Please note that vouchers are only to be used for second offerings. They are available in $1, $2 and $5 denominations and should be used for second offerings in the year they are purchased. Please indicate on your offering envelope the amount and denominations you would like and they will be delivered to your Church Mail slot. If you have any questions, please contact our bookkeeper Diana W.

Children's Summer Day Camp 2022 | Community CRC is partnering with Camp Shalom to put on a children's day camp at Community CRC from **August 22-26**. This week-long, full-day, action-packed camp will be for children entering grade 1 in September to grade eight. Camp Shalom staff will lead the program and our church will supply volunteers to help. (High school students: this will qualify as service hours). Cost per camper will be $100 for the week (assistance available if needed). Look for registrations in early June. If you have questions or can volunteer, please contact the office. We look forward to telling children from our community and congregation the story of Jesus and his love for them in a fun, age-appropriate way.

Sunday School and Children's Worship | For the remainder of this ministry year Children's Worship and Sunday School will continue to meet in the gym. It is our hope to be meeting in the classrooms for the 2022/23 ministry year. Sunday School and Children's worship is a lot of fun but it needs many volunteers to run smoothly. Please consider volunteering in September for this rewarding program. **Dates of Note** | Sunday School and Children's Worship will not be offered on: April 17th (Easter) and May 22nd (Victoria Day). Sunday School runs until June 5.

Ladies Slo-pitch | Did you know that CCRC has a ladies slo-pitch team? Our team has been playing baseball against many local churches for over 20 years! This year we are in need of a few more full-time players. We play every Thursday night at 7 p.m. at various diamonds around Kitchener. Our tournament is August 19-20. If

you are interested in playing, please contact Jen K.

Our Property Committee is looking to add several new members. This committee takes care of maintaining our property and building. We do this by arranging to have the work done and sometimes tackling the projects ourselves. If you are interested in being part of the upkeep of our building or would like more information please contact Arno W.

Serve and Learn Trip to Abbotsford | There is a meeting in the Community Room **following the service today** for those interested in learning more about a Serve and Learn Trip to Abbotsford in May (May 22-28) to assist with the recovery efforts from the floods last year.

Speaker Series | We are eagerly anticipating our speaker series in April and May. This series stemmed from a desire to learn more and engage in continued conversation around the Human Sexuality Report. The feedback from last year's listening circles made it clear that there are many opinions on this topic within our congregation, and diverse desires for how the church moves forward. There are many conversations yet to be had, and as we thought through the shape of this speaker series, we wanted to invite people who could model how to have these conversations well. Thus, the series will focus less on the "what" of our beliefs and more on the "how" of living in covenant relationship while holding diverse beliefs, which will be represented by the different speakers.

April 25 – Speaker - Ryan Struyk - Sr. Producer, CNN, Washington, DC
"Growing Up Gay and CRC"

May 2 – Speaker - Gary Burge – New Testament Theology, Calvin Seminary
"Biblical Theology and Sexuality"

May 9 – Speaker - Joel DeMoor - Pastor, Neland Ave CRC, Grand Rapids
"One Church's Story"

May 16 – Speaker - Henry DeMoor – Church Polity, Calvin Seminary
"Confessional Status of the HSR"

All talks will take place at Community CRC at 7 p.m. and will not be livestreamed or recorded. There will be an opportunity for questions from the audience. There is no need to register in advance.
To supplement this series, we encourage you to engage with educational materials compiled by two differing groups within the CRC, www.abideproject.org and www.hesedprojectcrc.org.

THIS WEEK AT COMMUNITY

Church Library | The library is open on Sunday mornings for a half hour before and after the service.

Coffee Break | All Monday evening groups will be meeting tomorrow night at 7:30 p.m. Please come prepared to discuss lesson three in your Philippians study guide with your small group. The Wednesday morning group will be meeting this Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. Please come prepared to discuss lesson three in your Acts study guide with your small group as well.
Any questions? Contact us at: coffeebreak@ccrc.on.ca

Knifty Knitters | We are happy to announce that we will have an extra meeting on Tuesday April 5 at 9:30 a.m. at the church. Please bring your own beverage. All are welcome!

Friendship meets at the church from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday evenings. This week will be the last week for this ministry year and it will be a fun night.

The Mission Strategy Team will meet this Tuesday, at 8:00 p.m. in the Community room at the church.

The Deacons will be meeting this Tuesday, April 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the multipurpose room at the church.

Impact (Youth in Grade 9-12) meets at the church on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. This week is Big Group Night/Fireside Chat at the church.

GEMS and Cadets | This week we will continue making cub cars! Meet at the church from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Book Club Discussion | Book club will be meeting to discuss Lauren Winner's "Wearing God" on Thursday April 14th from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. in the Community Room.
Read the book and join us! Questions? Contact Carling L.

Teen Club Event! | We are going bowling next Friday April 8, 2022 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at **AMF Frederick Street Bowl** (385 Frederick Street, Kitchener). Drop off and pick up at the bowling alley. The cost is $10.00 to be paid to Tristan V. when you arrive. Please sign up by Thursday at noon if you would like to attend. See the emailed bulletin for the link.

UPCOMING SERVICES

April 10	10 am	Palm Sunday Pastor Laura de Jong
April 15	10 am	Good Friday Pastor Laura de Jong
April 17	10 am	Easter Sunday Pastor Tom Bomhof

Upcoming Baptism Sundays | Are you looking to be baptized or to have your child baptized? The next Baptism Sundays are scheduled for **April 24 and May 29**. If you are interested either of these dates please contact the church office.

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 go online to www.ccrc.on.ca/giving.

This week our offering is for World Renew – Refugee Sunday | Every day conflict, persecution, and natural disasters force families to flee their homelands in search of safety. Many will face the darkness of rejection and disappointment in their search. Through your gift to the World Renew Refugee Sponsorship and Resettlement Program, you help extend God's love and hope to refugee families as they journey to rebuild their lives here in Canada.
For more information go to worldrenew.ca/refugeesunday.

Next week our offering is for Missionary Support | Following Acts 1:8 Community CRC seeks to do mission locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. Community CRC financially supports two missionaries, the **Ps** on Manitoulin Island (nationally), and the **Ts** serving the Eastern European diaspora in Toronto (internationally).

Upcoming Offerings:

Apr 15 |Good Friday | Ray of Hope
Apr 17 | Resonate Global Mission
Apr 24 | GEMS
Girls Everywhere Meeting the Saviour

Offerings received as at March 27, 2022:

March 27, 2022	$	2,900
Year to Date	$	155,941
Budgeted 2022 Total Contributions	$	954,134
Second Offerings		
World Renew – Ukraine	$	1,295
Laurentian Hills Christian School	$	570
World Renew – Cdn Foodgrains Bank	$	35
Woodland Christian High School	$	25
KW Pregnancy Resource Centre	$	25
Missionary Support	$	25
Calvinist Cadet Corps	$	20
Race Relations	$	10
The Benevolence Fund	$	10
Redeemer University	$	10
Therefore Go!	$	10
FACE Fund	$	10
Ray of Hope	$	5
GEMS	$	5
Resonate Global Mission	$	5
World Renew – Refugee Sunda	$	5
Calvin Theological Sunday	$	5

Refugee updates and Offering Information | Included with the Bulletin last week was an update from the Refugee Committee - please note that offerings from our Church to support this sponsorship will be special "third type" offerings. Effective Sunday April 10th a third bucket will be available in the foyer and if you use the Bridge App the offering is called “Community CRC Refugee Support", and will be available by April 8th. Both of those offering opportunities will remain in place as we start that Refugee Sponsorship application.

Sunday, April 3rd, is World Renew Refugee Sunday and the second offering is for Refugee support through World Renew and although we work closely with World Renew the offerings are completely separate .....so on that Sunday the 2nd offering is for World Renew only.

Thank you for your continued support for refugees both globally and locally...Deacons and Refugee Committee

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Bob M, husband of **LaVonne** (6) had a fall last week due to a seizure. He is now home recuperating. Please keep Bob and LaVonne in prayer as Bob recuperates.

Please keep **Bill & Geralee H** (14) in prayer as Bill remains at Freeport Hospital while he waits for a room at a LTC home. Pray for patience and strength.

Pastor Laura is preaching at Exeter CRC this morning for a classical appointment.

MATTERS FOR PRAYER

- Please pray for the people of Ukraine whose peaceful country was invaded by Russia. Pray for world leaders that there would be a peaceful resolution.
- Pray for the youth in our church that are taking a Profession of Faith class over the next 2 months.
- Pray for Pastor Amanda on sabbatical that God will provide rest and renewal for her body and mind.
- Pray for caregivers during this stressful time.
- Pray for the ongoing **nominations process** as people are discerning how God is calling them to serve in leadership positions at Community CRC.

- Pray for the Search Committee as they discern God's leading in the search for a Pastor – Preaching and Pastoral Care.
- Pray for **Gary and Galina T** with Resonate Global Missions, **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.

DENOMINATIONAL NEWS

Children's Devotions | **Jesus' Palm Sunday** | Jesus' humble entry into Jerusalem shows that though you are small, you are important to God. In God's kingdom, it doesn't matter how much money you have, or how smart you are, or how important you look to others. Listen now at kidscorner.net and check out all the new content.

Groundwork | **The Complete Sufficiency of the Cross** | Christ's sacrifice is completely sufficient to satisfy God's wrath, and yet, sometimes we forget. Join Groundwork as we study Isaiah 53:6; Galatians 2:20-21, 3:1-3, 3:24-27, & 6:14-15; and Romans 5:9-11 & 6:1-4 to discuss the source of this truth, how we can keep our fears at bay, and how we can keep a right perspective about our salvation and our deeds. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Hope for Ukraine | **Benefit Concert by Libertas Male Choir** | Join us at Redeemer University on **THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2022**, at 7:30 p.m. Let us raise our voices together in HOPE as we reach our hands and hearts across the ocean. A portion of ticket sales and a freewill offering at the concert will benefit the charitable organization Friends of the Mennonite Centre in Ukraine (www.mennonitecentre.ca). We welcome back our director, Martin Mans, and guest musician, Hugo van der Meij, both from The Netherlands. Online tickets will soon be available at www.tickets.redeemer.ca. Also available at the door (cash only). **New Singers are invited to join the choir for this special occasion** For further information, email: office@libertas.ca or call Tammy @ 905.745.5609

Faith Practices | **the Practice of Celebrating** | Read Psalm 103:1-5 and ponder or discuss the following questions. When you look at your "inmost being," how often do you find yourself in "celebration mode"? What might you do to celebrate every day? Can you picture yourself "crowned with love and compassion"? Try that during your next prayer time. (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject)

MISCELLANEOUS

Laurentian Hills Christian School (LHCS) Online Spring Auction | The LHCS Online Spring Auction catalogue is ready to view! You can check it out HERE. Please remember to register as a bidder and share the link with your friends and family. If you were a bidder last year, your login and password will remain the same.
The Online Auction **opens Wednesday, April 6** at 8:00 am and **closes Saturday, April 9** at 8:00 pm. Check out the items and get ready to bid!!! Item pick up is here at the school on Tuesday, April 12th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

On the Jesus Train: Bruce Cockburn and a Biblical Imagination is a four-week Eastertide Zoom Course by Brian Walsh, beginning Sunday evening, April 24. Join us as we reflect on the meaning of Easter hope found in Scripture and the music of Bruce Cockburn. For our last class on May 15, Bruce Cockburn will join us as our special guest! Go to www.bibleremixed.ca for more information.