



Welcome to another edition of CCRC's bulletin! It has now been 9-and-a-half weeks since the World Health Organization declared a COVID-19 pandemic. Even though some things in our province and region are starting to open with the greatest of caution, we are still in a state of emergency and the government has not as yet lifted the physical distancing ban, meaning that most of us are basically still confined to our homes and neighbourhoods and not to be involved in non-essential travel. This is the unprecedented 10th Sunday in a row that we have not had the privilege to gathering at the church for communal worship. It is important and respectful that we follow government guidelines and that we do not hasten any sort of quick return. Discussions are ongoing about what returning to the church might look like including a possible live stream, so stay tuned. Meanwhile, you are encouraged to continue in new routines of worship and devotion and live in anticipation of the day when we can worship together once again much like we live in anticipation of the day Jesus will return. Come, Lord Jesus!

The ongoing pandemic continues to keep the church building closed and all scheduled events, including public worship services, have been suspended until further notice. All staff is working from home.

The elders and deacons along with the pastors have been seeking to keep in touch with the entire congregation. If there are any concerns please don't hesitate to call one of the pastors, your Community elder or deacon or Shalem Mental Health Network using the Congregational Assistance Plan.

These continue to be challenging times for our region, province, country and the entire globe. May the living Lord grant us his peace as we move forward.



During COVID19 restrictions the CAP counselling ministry through Shalem Mental Health Network continues to make anonymous professional counselling support available to congregants of our church at no charge. All services are provided through a secured video or telephone connection. To book a CAP appt, call Shalem directly at **1-866-347-0041**. And for more resource information check their website at <https://shalemnetwork.org/>

COMMUNITY CRC CHURCH FAMILY

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

Our condolences are extended to **Pastor Carel and Irene G (9)** with the passing away of Irene's father, **Rev. Dirk L.** Rev. L passed away peacefully Wednesday, May 13, 2020 in his 97th year. A private family funeral service was held yesterday at Bethel Christian Reformed Church in Listowel. May the Lord comfort all who mourn.

Wedding Banns: Aaron Peter Bokma (6) and **Melissa Irene Kuipers** have indicated their desire to be united in marriage. If there are no valid objections, they will exchange their vows on Saturday, May 30, 2020. Pastor Amanda Bakale will be officiating. May the Lord grant you a beautiful and memorable day as you exchange vows and rings and begin your married life together!

As the news reports, almost daily, the Long-Term Care facilities of this province continue to face some severe challenges with COVID-19. Forest Heights Revera, where **Sandra K (9)** lives, has been especially challenged. At the time of writing there have been 47 deaths attributed to the virus in that home alone. Meanwhile, amidst it all Sandra remains healthy.

Consistory met this past Tuesday via Zoom and heard visitation reports and unanimously approved the following youth for Profession of Faith: **Aidan B (8)**, **Naomi F (8)**, **Aria G (4)**, and **Justin H (11)**. Because of the pandemic and state of emergency, it is uncertain when this day will be but we look forward to celebrating this milestone with each of them!

This weekend would have been the All Ontario Youth Convention at Wilfrid Laurier It was cancelled due to COVID-19. If you are reading this bulletin prior to Sunday, May 17 note that you are invited to join a free one-night digital event - featuring worship with a past AOYC worship team, a message from scripture (from a familiar AOYC guest!), performances, games, laughs, encouragement, and more on **Saturday, May 16 at 7 pm.** Whether you're a conventioneer, a youth leader, a parent, or just a friend of the AOYC - you won't want to miss this! For more information or to submit a prayer request, please go to <http://www.allontario.com/live>.

Matters for Prayer:

- Pray for CCRC and the season of transition it is in with the departure of both Pastor Carel and Pastor John in the weeks to come.
- Pray for the members of Council as they sort through the applications received for the position of the one-year interim pastor.
- Pray for guidance and wisdom for the Search Team as they begin their work searching for a Pastor – Preaching and Pastoral Care. Members of the team are Agnes B, Laura D, Jim R, Scott K, Mia , Greg S and Kim T.
- We lament the loss of life and grief that COVID-19 has brought to so many around the world.
- We lament the numerous losses, of all sorts, that physical distancing has brought to us.
- We lament the anxiety and the fear that the virus is creating.

- We lament the loss of graduations for those finishing grade school, high school or a post-secondary institution.
- We lament the loss of weddings and the change in plans that many couples have had to make.
- Pray for those “on the front lines” who are called upon to serve during this pandemic. Pray for courage, health, strength and safety.
- Pray for those in leadership positions in government as they seek to guide us throughout the pandemic, and as they seek to work on easing restrictions. Pray for courage, health, strength and wisdom.
- Pray for students struggling to keep up with school via on-line learning and the challenges that brings.
- Pray for the homeless who seem to have few places to go because of all the closures and restrictions put on by the on-going state of emergency.
- Pray for those dealing with mental illness and addiction which is exacerbated by the pandemic.
- Pray for those dealing with other illnesses that seem to have taken a back seat to COVID-19.
- Pray for those who find themselves stuck in abusive relationships or homes.
- Pray for those who have taken a huge financial hit because of the shutdown of the economy.
- Pray for those in prisons or other institutions now locked down to anyone from the outside to come and visit. Pray for the staff in those institutions who are working very hard to keep the virus out.
- 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.

- Pray for the church locally and internationally as it addresses COVID-19. Pray for an ability to share the good news of Jesus even now.

STAFF INFORMATION

Worship Coordinator Hire | We are pleased to announce that **Rachel V** has accepted the offer to serve as our permanent Worship Coordinator! Rachel and her family have been worshipping at Community since 2018, and she has been serving as our interim Worship Coordinator for the past year through the staffing review process. We are very happy to welcome her as a permanent addition to the staff team and look forward to the continued use of her gifts to equip and support our worship ministry. Congratulations, Rachel!

The church staff is off tomorrow for the Victoria Day holiday. Replies to emails and other notifications will resume on Tuesday. Have a great holiday!

UPCOMING SERVICES

May 24 | Pastor John Medendorp | Ascension Sunday

May 31 | Pastor Carel Geleynse | Pentecost Sunday | Pastor Carel's Farewell/Retirement

Jun 7 | Pastor John Medendorp

Check "Church at Home" on the website for details on this service as it is made available. Please note that the services are pre-recorded and therefore can be watched at any time during the week.

OFFERINGS

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. If you would like more information on how to give to CCRC at this time, please see the last page of the bulletin.

This week our second offering is for Missionary Support. Our 2020 Missionary Support offering has a target of \$15,000 (\$11,000 – Timmerman and \$4,000 – Pennings). Both the Timmermans and the Pennings are connected to Resonate Global Missions. This is the second of four offerings to achieve our target in 2020: Feb. 23, May 17, Aug. 9, Nov. 22. As you can imagine, our targeted amount, and for that matter all the financial targets of non-profit organizations are facing challenges because of the close-down of our world. So please take that into consideration as you give. When giving, please mark “Missionary Support” on your weekly offering envelopes, or in whatever other manner you may be giving your offering during this pandemic. Included in the “Church at Home” link this Sunday is a video from Resonate Global Missions. **As you watch the video note the colours and the diversity of the Church throughout the world. Praise the Lord for the body of Christ from every tribe, nation and tongue!** Thank you for partnering financially with missions.

Next week our offering is for Back to God Ministries International (BTGMI). *“We beseech Thee, O Spirit divine . . .”* In 1939, these six words were broadcast across the airwaves with the launch of the Christian Reformed Church’s first weekly radio program. These Gospel messages weren’t just for church members though—they

were for everyone. Over the last 80 years, media technology has expanded from radio to television to smartphones. Each step brought new opportunities to share God’s Word with people everywhere! Today your church, along with congregations across North America, partners with BTGMI to share the Gospel in 10 of our world’s major languages. Although the biblical messages we share using today’s media don’t usually use “thee’s” and “thou’s,” like the first radio message, their purpose remains the same:

- Proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ,
- Disciple believers,
- Strengthen the local church.

Thank you for your prayers, offerings, and support that helps people in nearly every country reframe life with God’s story.

Offerings Received as at May 10, 2020

May 10	\$	8,155
Year to Date	\$	218,473
Budgeted 2020 Total Contributions	\$	885,705
Second Offerings		
Friendship Canada	\$	200
Benevolence	\$	170
World Renew	\$	100
GEMS	\$	50
Laurentian Hills Christian School	\$	50
Woodland Christian High School	\$	20
Back to God Ministries Intl	\$	20
FACE Fund	\$	20
Missionary Support	\$	20
Resonate Global Mission	\$	20
World Renew – Maternal/Child	\$	20
World Renew – Disaster Response		20
Centre for Public Dialogue		20
Indigenous Ministry		20
Worship Ministries		20

COMMUNITY CRC EVENTS THIS WEEK

Zoom Meetings | If you need to book a Zoom meeting, please note that process is now being looked after by the church office at (office@ccrc.on.ca).

Faith and Hops | Zoom Edition | Thursday, May 21 @ 6:30-8pm

Let's give this a try! If you're a 20ish to 30-something looking for a space to connect and deepen your faith, join this month's Faith + Hops via Zoom. Interested in joining? Message Pastor Amanda for the Zoom info. And check out CCRC's Facebook page or Instagram closer to the date for the discussion topic!

Preparatory Class for Children at the Lord's Table | Pastor John Medendorp and Pastoral Elder Darlene B will be leading a class for children who have expressed interest in participating in the Lord's Supper. This two-session class will provide opportunity for children together with their parents to learn about the sacrament, hear Bible stories, and share stories of God's faithfulness. The first session will take place on Sunday, May 31, and the second on Sunday, June 7, at a time that works best for registrants and their families. Both sessions will be held over Zoom. To register, please contact Pastor John with the names and ages of your children who will be attending.