

**Community Christian Reformed Church
Kitchener, Ontario
June 17, 2018**



June 17, 2018

10:00 a.m.

Pastor Betsy DeVries

Elder-in-Charge: Eugene B

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

Gathering and Greeting

Gathering Song: *"Forever Reign"*

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Our God calls us to worship with these words from the book of Isaiah:

Congregation:

**The poor and needy search for water,
but there is none;
their tongues are parched with thirst!**

Leader:

But I, the Lord, will answer them; I, the God of Israel, will not forsake them!

I will make rivers flow on barren heights, and springs within the valleys.

I will turn the desert into pools of water, and the parched ground into springs.

I will put in the desert the cedar and the acacia, the myrtle and the olive.

I will set junipers in the wasteland, the fir and the cypress together.

Congregation:

**Then all people will see and know,
will consider and understand,
that the hand of the Lord has done this,
that the Holy One of Israel has created it!**

*God's Greeting and Mutual Greeting

*Songs of Praise: PsH #431 vs. 1, 3, 5, 6 *"All Creatures of Our God and King"*

"As the Deer"

Confession and Assurance

Call to Confession

Song of Confession: *"All Who are Thirsty"*

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

*Confession of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

*Song of Response: *"Jesus, All for Jesus"*

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: *"Ancient Words"*

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Psalm 1

Sermon: **"Like a Tree"**

Prayer of Application

Response to the Word

*Song of Response: PsH #543 *"Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer"*

Prayers of the People

Offering: 1) Ministries of Community Christian Reformed Church
2) Aboriginal Ministries

Song of Dedication: PsH #291 vs. 1, 2, 4 *"May the Mind of Christ, My Saviour"*

*God's Parting Blessing

*Doxology: PsH #291 vs. 5 *"May the Mind of Christ, My Saviour"*

**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
Pastor Carel Geleyse
Pianist: Irene G

[* Please rise, in body or spirit]

Praise and Prayer

Welcome

Call to Worship

*God's Greeting

*Song of Praise: PsH #516 *"God is Here"*

Psalm of Praise: Psalm 133

Song of Response: PsH #574 *"O God, My Faithful God"*

Prayer and Share

Offering: Aboriginal Ministries

Hearing the Word

Song of Preparation: *"We Are Member of Christ's Body"*

Confession of Faith: Belgic Confession, Article 29

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Amos 5: 21-24; Galatians 5:16 – 6:5; Matthew 28: 16-20

Sermon: **"Church Shopping? What do you See?"**

Prayer of Application

*Song of Response: PsH #513 *"Christian Hearts in Love United"*

*God's Parting Blessing

*Doxology: PsH #634 *"Father, We Love You"*



OUR CHURCH FAMILY

The bracketed numbers indicate the Community to which these individuals belong

Congratulations to **Jonathan and Stephanie S** (1) with the birth of a daughter. **Corinne Helena** was born on Sunday, June 10, and all is well. Praise God for this gift of new life!

Margaret M (13) remained as a patient at Grand River Hospital this past week. The recent biopsy results were such that, humanly speaking, nothing can be done about the tumor in her brain. So Margaret is in palliative care and aware, that unless the Lord intervenes in some way, her life is coming to an end. As you can imagine this is difficult news for her, her husband John, and the rest of the family to absorb. Please pray for God's peace and for strength for each new day.

After a year away from her home, the last 6 month of which were being at St. Mary's Hospital waiting for a place to live where her needs can be met, **Olga S** (11) has finally moved from St. Mary's to the Golden Years Nursing Home in Cambridge. Pray for a good transition and that Olga may feel "at home" soon in her new residence.

Our condolences are extended to **Danae P** (4) with the passing away of her brother, **David P**, on Friday, June 8 at the age of 28. A Celebration of Life service was held yesterday in Burlington. May the Lord comfort all who mourn.

We also extend our condolences to **John and Anne D** (13) with the passing away of John's sister **Janke B** of Kollum, the Netherlands. Janke passed away on June 11 after having

contracted meningitis and never fully recovering from this. John and Anne are currently in Holland to be with family. Janke was also an aunt to **Maria and Albert F (Jessica, Samantha, Alexa, and Mikayla)** (11) and **Tina and John O (Megan, Jocelyn, Kelton)** (13) Pray for safety as they travel and for God's comfort as they mourn this sudden loss.

Update on K Family: The K family were blessed with the birth of a son, **Kibreab Yemane Tekleab** on May 30, 2018. Reports were also received that their interview with Canadian Immigration Officials in Uganda went well. Praise God for answered prayer! It is our prayer that the family may arrive in Canada sooner rather than later.

Your prayers are coveted for the **country of Nicaragua**. Please see the note at the end of the bulletin from Rev. Zachary King, Director of Resonate Global Mission for more details.

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 depression and other forms of mental illness;
- those dealing with cancer, its treatment and effects
- those dealing with broken relationships;
- those who are unemployed or underemployed;
- **Anthony and Barbara P** with Daystar Ministries on Manitoulin Island; **Hank and Rosario S** volunteering with

Resonate Global Mission in Guatemala

- the persecuted Church;
- the Ministries and the Leadership of our congregation

Congratulations to the following couples



celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries in the coming week:

Rob and Carolyn D (4) will celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary on June 18.

Kevin and Annita B (5) will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary on June 19.

Don and Emily B (14) will celebrate their 15th wedding anniversary on June 21.

May God continue to bless and strengthen each marriage for many years to come!

Congratulations to the following



members celebrating a birthday in the coming week:

- June 18 - Ken B (5)
- Ben K (6)
- June 19 - John B (7)
- Edith G (7)
- June 20 - John M (13)
- June 21 - Henk K (1)
- Ed G (7)
- John B (8)

May they experience God's richest blessings in the coming year and as they celebrate their birthday!

Jun 24	10 a.m.	Pastor Betsy Baptism: Oliver B (11) Ordination of Steve F (Admin Elder)
	6 p.m.	Pastor John
Jul 1	10 a.m.	Pastor John Ordination of John D (13)
	6 p.m.	No evening service due to the long weekend

OFFERING SCHEDULE

**Budget Contributions
For June 10, 2018**

	Actual Contributions Received	Targeted Contributions	Contributions (Shortfall)/ Surplus
June 10	\$10,366	\$12,758	(\$2,392)
YTD	\$330,029	\$382,569	(\$52,540)
Resonate Global Mission			\$ 3,491
Operation Manna			\$ 50

Our offering today is for Aboriginal Ministries. The Canadian Aboriginal Ministry Committee (CAMC) works with CRC members and congregations to respond to God's call to live in reconciled relationships as covenant (treaty) people before our Creator. It provides leadership and support for learning about Aboriginal justice and reconciliation and in putting good words and theology of healing, reconciliation and justice into action.

Next week our offering is for Laurentian Hills Christian School. LHCS provides dynamic, excellent Christ-centered

UPCOMING SERVICES

education, KG - 8, through unconstrained facilities, exceptional programs, and extensive resources that cultivate responsive disciples of Christ. This year there are 35 students graduating from LHCS.

COMMUNITY CHURCH NEWS

This past Tuesday the Pastoral and Youth elders met. It was a “switch over” meeting which included the incoming elders, currently serving, and retiring elders. Consistory welcomed **Betsy D** (2) from Park CRC Church, Holland, Michigan, to our fellowship.

Last Sunday, **John D**, was selected as pastoral elder for Community 13. All the new elders and deacons have now been selected but not all have been ordained for their time in office. Because of scheduling issues **John D** (13) will be ordained to office on July 1 and **Steve F** (Administrative Elder) will be ordained to office next Sunday June 24.

Update from the CCRC go! Committee:

Dear Congregation,

As promised, we'd like to update you on the latest news regarding the CCRC go! project. At the last congregational meeting we had shared that we were in the middle of the application and approval process with the City of Kitchener and that assuming that process went well, we could start work on the church building sometime early-mid June. Unfortunately there have been some delays in the application process which have in turn delayed our planned timeline. The overall plan has not changed, however, at this time we estimate that we will be able to

begin work [on August 1st](#). As we get closer to this date, we will be able to share further information on renovation and construction phasing. Thank you for your patience!

Sunday School is ending regular classes today. Thank you to all the teachers, helpers, and Children's Worship volunteers who made this possible!

For the summer, parent volunteers will be running a drop-in room with children born in 2014 and older in Room 1. There is a sign-up sheet at Room 1. Children born 2015 will remain in nursery until Sunday School starts again in September.

There is an Orientation meeting for the newly ordained Elders and Deacons in the multipurpose room at the church this Tuesday, June 19, at 7:30 p.m.

Faith and Hops - Thursday, June 21 @ 6-8pm: If you're a 20ish to 30-something looking for a place to connect and deepen your faith, come on out to Faith + Hops at Williamsburg Arms. The third Thursday of every month we get together for engaging discussion, fried food, and a beverage of your choice. Check out CCRC's Facebook page closer to the date for the discussion topic!

Pre-Profession of Faith Workshop: Missed out on Pastors' Class but still want to make profession of faith soon? Here's your chance! We're offering one more opportunity for a pre-profession of faith workshop where we will unpack what profession of faith means and what to expect as you publicly profess your faith at CCRC. Sign up to attend on **Wednesday, July**

4 from 7-9 p.m. Please email the church office at office@ccrc.on.ca.

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 Deacons bulletin board across from the washrooms for information.

MISCELLANEOUS

Laurentian Hills Christian School Graduation: Everyone is invited to attend the LHCS Graduation Ceremony for the Class of 2018 here at Community Christian Reformed Church on Thursday June 21 at 8:00 p.m. Please join the school in praising God for His blessings in the lives of their students.

You're Invited! The Class of 2018 at Woodland Christian High School invites you to its Graduation Ceremony: **Thursday June 28 at 7:30 pm** at Woodland (1058 Spitzig Road). Join us as we praise God with the Class of 2018 and celebrate the achievements of our graduates.

Woodland Christian High School wishes to thank everyone who supported the ***Nurture the Vision*** Spring Fund Drive this year. As a school we raised **\$86,685** toward the tuition assistance bursary fund. Your chapter raised **\$16,665** to support Christian education and encourage the families within your local area. It is a blessing as a school to have such faithful and generous support.

Urgent Call to Prayer for Nicaragua

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

*May the Lord answer you when you are in distress;
may the name of the God of Jacob protect you.
Some trust in chariots and some in horses,
but we trust in the name of the Lord our God. (Ps. 20: 1, 7)*

This Sunday we are asking that you pray the words of this Psalm along with our brothers and sisters in Nicaragua and CRCNA staff and partner missionaries who have been serving in that country.

Since the middle of April, there have been nationwide demonstrations against the government of Nicaragua. As the demonstrations have broadened violence has escalated through gangs and criminals that have taken advantage of the situation. Roadblocks have also be established throughout the country.

As a result of this situation, many of our CRCNA staff and partner missionaries in Nicaragua have decided to temporarily leave the country. Many of those had already planned to return for the summer and simply pushed up the date of their departure due to the rising tension.

At the onset of this violence, Dr. Steve Timmermans established a Crisis Monitoring Team for Nicaragua and that team has been meeting at least weekly. Their role is to support the staff in the country and make recommendations concerning security.

At this point, no CRCNA staff members have directly experienced any violence, though all have been embroiled in the difficulties that come with the country being in turmoil. The Crisis Monitoring Team will continue to assess the situation as difficult decisions will need to be made by staff about returning to the country later this summer when those that are teachers or students need to resume classes.

The CRCNA has a long history of involvement with Nicaragua beginning with a response to the earthquake that destroyed the capital city Managua in 1972. Congregations of the CRCNA have established partner church relationships with churches in Nicaragua. Many CRCNA members have gone to Nicaragua as volunteers. Deep relationships have been formed with our Nicaraguan brothers and sisters.

- All of the Resonate and World Renew staff and partners in Nicaragua ask for your prayers. Anxious for their friends and colleagues in Nicaragua, they are keenly aware that their Nicaraguan brothers and sisters have no “alternate reality to which they may escape.”
- Please pray for your missionaries as they process unplanned travel, uncertain circumstances, and an unknown future for their ministry. Please pray for ministry in Nicaragua as many organizations must cancel functions, reduce hours, or even close down indefinitely.
- Please pray for the people in Nicaragua who struggle each day with providing for basic needs like food and water and face danger from increasing violence and lawlessness. Pray for peace, resolution, and lasting change.
- Please pray for the church of Nicaragua who are facing this evil which has so quickly taken hold of their country. Evil is spreading not only through the streets but also creeping into relationships and undermining trust. Pray that they will shine the light of Jesus Christ during these dark times.
- Please pray that God will spare Nicaragua from a lasting war.

This is a time to cry out together to the Lord with our brothers and sisters in Nicaragua. Evil will not have the last word! Our Lord is still on the throne!

Rev. Zachary King

Director of Resonate Global Mission

