

Community Christian Reformed Church
Kitchener, Ontario



December 25, 2016

December 25, 2016
10:00 a.m.
Pastor Amanda Bakale
Elder-in-Charge: E

[* Please rise, in body or spirit]

Proclamation and Celebration

Video *"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"*

*Opening Song: PsH #340 *"O Come, All Ye Faithful"*

*Proclamation and Call to Worship

*God's Greeting and Mutual Greeting

*Song of Praise: PsH #337 *"Joy to the World! The Lord is Come"*

Prayer of Invocation

Choir: *"Calypso Carol"*

Proclamation of the Word

The Christmas Story: Luke 2 and the Lighting of the Christ candle

A drop-in room is open in Classroom 1 for any children who are unable to sit through church today. Children 5 and under must be signed in.

*PsH 345 *"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"*

*PsH 347 *"Angels We Have Heard on High"*

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 62: 6-12

Message: **"See, Your Saviour Comes!"**

Prayer of Application

Response to the Word

*Song of Response: PsH #355 *"Good Christians Friends, Rejoice"*

Choir: *"Mary's Little Boy Child"*

Prayers of the People

Offering: 1) Ministries of Community CRC

2) World Renew

Offertory Song: *"O Little Town of Bethlehem"*

*God's Parting Blessing

*Doxology: PsH #214 "Glory to God"

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.

There is no evening service today.



Have a Blessed Christmas Day!

The good news of Jesus' birth and the message that he is coming again to make all things new, stand in stark contrast to a world filled with darkness and a seemingly hopeless future. As you celebrate Christmas, may you do so with wonder and in anticipation of his return. A blessed Christmas to all!

from the CCRC Staff,
Pastor Amanda, Pastor Carel G, Pastor John,
Kyle, Diana, Kor and Grace H, and Donna



OUR CHURCH FAMILY

The bracketed numbers indicate the Community to which these individuals belong

Theo F (3) is recuperating at home following successful back surgery. Pray for continued healing and patience.

Our condolences are extended to **Marjo and Ben M (14)** with the passing away of Marjo's mom **Mrs. Marion S.** Mrs. S passed away on Friday, December 16, 2016 at Holland Christian Homes at the age of 92. Mrs. S was a grandmother to **Marty and Tammy M and their children, Kevin and Kayla (13)**, a sister-in-law to **Frederika V (13)** and was a former member of Community Christian Reformed Church for many years. The Funeral was held this past Wednesday at Erb and Good Family Funeral Home.

Our condolences are extended to **John and Sharon M and their children, Dylan, Daniel and Paige (7)** with the passing away of John's grandmother, **Catherine M**, on December 13, 2016. The funeral was held this past Thursday, December 22 in Kirkland Lake.

Our condolences are extended to **Catharina K (13)** with the sudden passing away of her son-in-law **Siegfried L** this past Thursday December 22nd. Visitation will be held at the Henry Walser Funeral Home (507 Frederick Street, Kitchener) on Wednesday, December 28 from 6 – 9 p.m. with the funeral to be held on Thursday, December 29 at 10:30 a.m. also at the home.

From David and Bethany N (7): We have the exciting opportunity to work with World Renew in Mali from mid-January to late August. David will be working with the food security program and Bethany will be working with women's health programming. Please pray for us as we prepare to leave and as we strive be Christ's hands and feet as we learn from the Malian people.

Please continue to pray for:

- those dealing with various illness among members of their extended family;
- those dealing with depression and other forms of mental illness;
- those dealing with cancer, its treatment and effects: **Sarah B (8)**, **John N (3)**, **Claire N**, a 6th grade student at Laurentian Hills Christian School. Claire's father **Terry N is a nephew to John and Ruth N;**
- those who are unable to worship with us on a regular basis because of various health issues;
- those for whom this time of the year is very difficult because of loneliness, economic hardship, poverty and many other reasons;
- 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;

- **persecuted Christians**
- the Ministries and the Leadership of our congregation.

CHURCH OFFICE NOTE

The office will be closed on Monday, December 26 and Tuesday, December 27. It will be open on Wednesday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. this week.

Pastor Carel will not be in the office for the rest of the year! He will be back in the office on January 3, 2017.

Congratulations to the following members of our congregation celebrating a birthday in the coming week:



Dec 27 – Linda D (13)
Dec 29 – John D (2) in Florida
Dec 29 – Mary (6)

May God's richest blessings be theirs on their birthday and in the coming year!

UPCOMING SERVICES

Dec 31	7 p.m.	New Year's Eve service Pastor John
Jan 1	10 a.m.	New Year's Day service Pastor John
	6 p.m.	No evening service
Jan 8	10 a.m.	Pastor Amanda
	6 p.m.	Community Care Groups

OFFERING SCHEDULE

Budget Contributions For Dec 18, 2016

	Actual Contributions Received	Targeted Contributions	Accumulated (Shortfall)/ Surplus
Dec 18	\$25,823	\$12,845	\$12,978
YTD	\$740,678	\$801,451	(\$60,774)
Benevolence Fund			\$ 4,592.57
House of Friendship			\$ 275.00
World Renew – Hurricane Matthew			\$ 100.00
Sunday School – World Renew			\$ 560.00

Sunday School (ages 3 – Grade 6) is excited to report that they have collected enough money over the past few months to buy 10 goats from World Renew!



This amounts to \$560.00. A goat provides a family with nutritious milk and meat, manure for fertilizer, and a better income. Goats, and other animals are purchased through World Renew's '*Best Gifts Ever*' catalogue!

Today our offering is for World Renew.

"World Renew, compelled by God's passion for justice & mercy, joins communities around the world to renew hope, reconcile lives, and restore creation. World Renew is the development, disaster response, and justice arm of the Christian Reformed Church. World Renew does not receive denominational ministry shares and depends on the regular financial support of God's people."

On New Year's Eve the offering is for The Working Centre:

"The Working Centre was established in the spring of 1982 as a response to unemployment and poverty in downtown Kitchener. The Working Centre's main projects give people access to tools to create their own work combined with continuous ways of learning and co-operating. The Working Centre organizes its projects into six areas; the Job Search Resource Centre, St. John's Kitchen, Community Tools, Access to Technology, Affordable Supportive Housing and the Waterloo School for Community Development."

Our New Year's Day offering is for the Ontario Christian Gleaners:

"The 'Gleaners' is a volunteer driven organization, with over 1100 donated hours each week. Each day, the volunteers are currently trimming 5000+ pounds of vegetables, providing the ingredients for 30,000 servings of soup. The trimmed vegetables are diced and then dried in a dehydration oven – later to be combined with other ingredients to constitute the soup mix. The soup is donated to partner organizations who have the necessary infrastructure for effective

distribution, who are committed to sustainability and development, and who combine the gospel message with humanitarian aid."

Budget envelopes for 2017 are now available and have been placed in members mailboxes.

If you did not receive envelopes and would like some, please contact Karen V. Please take your budget envelopes home with you, do not leave them in your mail slot.

Vouchers: Current vouchers will expire on Dec 31, 2016. If you still have 2016 vouchers, they can be exchanged for 2017 vouchers. If you have any questions, please contact Karen V.

MISSIONARY CORNER

Last week the bulletin included newsletter updates from Waterloo Campus Ministry, Guelph Campus Ministry, and The Samaritan Foundation. This week we received newsletters from Hank and Rosario S Guatemala, David and Jessica Oldenburger in Senegal, and from our church plant, The Journey. Copies of all newsletters can be picked up at the table under the Missionary Board in the front foyer. Please, help yourself!

COMMUNITY CHURCH NEWS

Sunday School Note: There is no Sunday for any age today and New Year's Day. However, a drop-in room is open on both Sundays in Classroom 1 for any children who are unable to sit through church. Children 5 and under must be signed in.

Christmas Day Open House. If you expect to have "a too quiet" of a Christmas Day and would like to join us, Bernie and Linda D, for a Christmas Open House....then please come! The Open House will be from 2:30 pm till 8ish....please bring some finger foods to share. Please call ahead to let them know you are coming.

TODAY Booklets: The January/February 2017 edition of the Today Devotional Booklet (English and Korean) is available at the Information Centre, on the shelves by the front doors, or on the table under the Missionary bulletin board. Large print copies are in the mailboxes of those who have requested them. Please, help yourself.

Take home a FREE copy of the Christian Courier's Christmas issue from church today! The Christian Courier is an award-winning, independent, Canadian newspaper that seeks to inspire all to participate in God's renewing work within his fallen creation. To learn more or begin a free trial subscription, please visit www.christiancourier.ca. CC thanks its advertisers and donors for making it possible to distribute complimentary issues.

Volunteers Needed: The Board of Stewards is currently looking for 3-4 willing volunteers to head up the Church Fire Safety Plan. The committee's mandate will be to implement and maintain the Church Fire Safety Plan. Interested persons can contact Chris d.

Student Impact is looking for youth who might be interested in being part of a youth praise team at CCRC. If you have musical abilities and are at all interested in being part of a praise team, please talk to John L.

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.

Gospel Beginnings: John - When a story has already been told many times, you wonder if there could ever be a new way to tell it. John decided there was—he'd give the story a cosmic backdrop! Join the conversation on John 1 as we let John reveal to us the deepest layers of the story of Jesus' advent into our world. Never miss an episode; subscribe for free weekly email notifications and listen now at GroundworkOnline.com.

Spiritual Disciplines Audio Bible Study - Make a New Year's resolution that sticks. Rediscover prayer, fasting, study, solitude, and giving...spiritual disciplines through which God transforms our lives, that we might be more like his Son, Jesus. Groundwork offers an in-depth, audio Bible teaching series examining these essential discipleship practices. It's great for personal, family, or group study. Get it free with study guides when you subscribe at GroundworkOnline.com/resolution.

Young Adults! - Join others aged 18-30ish from across Ontario for a weekend retreat on January 20-22, 2017 at Maranatha CRC in Woodstock. The theme this year is "Broken Re-awoken" with Dr. Syd Hielema guiding our group sessions and Nate Smit leading in worship. It will be a weekend full of spiritual encouragement, faith-based discussions, service, fellowship, and funtivities! For more information and to register, visit our Facebook page "Young Adult Winter Retreat" or email ya.retreat.team@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you there!

MISCELLANEOUS

2016 CBC Christmas Sing-In - Recorded in mid-December at Montréal's Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul, the 37th annual Sing-In will be broadcast today, December 25. Tune in to CBC Radio 2 at 1:00 p.m. and again to CBC Radio One at 9:00 p.m. Hosted by Ben Heppner, performers include Organist Dr. Jonathan Oldengarm; soloist tenor John Tessier, Conductor Dr. Jean-Sébastien Vallée, the Choir of the Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul, and a brass & percussion ensemble. The concert may also be heard online at www.cbcmusic.ca/Singin

