

**CHURCH BULLETIN OF THE
CANADIAN REFORMED CHURCHES AT
BARRHEAD AND NEERLANDIA**

Volume 24 Number 15 December 16 2018 A.D.

WORSHIP SERVICES

BARRHEAD

NEERLANDIA

December 16

Rev. C. Vanderlinde
Rev. C. Vanderlinde
Ministry of Mercy

South

Rev. H. Kalkman
Rev. H. Kalkman
Asia Mission

North

Rev. G. Veurink
Rev. G. Veurink

December 23

Rev. H. Jagersma
Rev. H. Jagersma
Ministry of Mercy

Asia Mission

Rev. G. Veurink
Rev. T. Wierenga

Rev. C. Vanderlinde
(780) 284-4080

Br. G. Van Assen
(780) 349-3454

Rev. G. Veurink
(780) 674-7615

The bulletin is published under the responsibility of the respective consistory.

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Neerlandia South Editors: Br. G. Van Assen, Br. A. Viersen, neersouth@gmail.com

Deadline: All items must be submitted to your respective editors no later than 6 pm on the Wednesday before publication.

GENERAL NEWS

ROLLING CALENDAR

Dec 20 Christmas in Song

April 12-13 Women's Retreat

Barrhead

Dec 16 Christmas Program

Dec 31 New Year's Eve Potluck

Neerlandia

Dec 18 Seniors Christmas Luncheon

Neerlandia South

Dec 16 Shepherd's Care Service

Dec 20 Bake Sale

Dec 23 Keir Care & Hillcrest Services

Neerlandia North

Dec 12 Pre-School Children's Craft

VOC

Are you struggling with the purpose and meaning of life? Are you afraid of what awaits beyond the doors of this life? This week we look at Psalm 73 and the blessings that are found in Christ.

Voice of the church is pleased to present this week's meditations prepared by Rev. Peter Feenstra. The meditation is based on Psalm 73 and is titled "What Awaits Us?". It will play on your local radio station at its normal time. You can find the podcast version on our website home page (<http://voiceofthechurch.org/>)

This PodCast is an excellent reminder of who is in control and the comfort found in His power. Share it with your Brothers and Sisters, or even your neighbours!

If you have any questions, comments, or have inquires about how to listen to this, please contact us via our website page under the "contact" tab

SEASONAL THANK YOU: FROM OUR HOME TO YOUR HOME!

Bright insight in a thankful heart! Praise the Lord for your beautiful love! Peace on earth for the families that receive the Savior's birth!

We would like to thank you for your prayers and generosity when you share your recipes and flavours in the meals you graciously prepare for our family during this year. It was very special and our hearts were filled with joy! It was a blessing to see you all at the baptism of Jantiena Joy and Felicia Faith. Thank you for your support always. May the Love and blessings of our Lord overflow in your home.

We also would love to give back the pan and dishes that belong to the families that help us with the meals. There are two options: pick up your dishes from the box in the church's kitchen (for the next two weeks) or delivery service at your place. If you chose the last option please call us. May the true Bread of Life continue to provide to your home the riches of His Grace.

Ryan, Rachel, Jantiena and Felicia.

CHRISTMAS IN SONG

The Neerlandia Canadian Reformed Church-South is inviting everyone to join us on Thursday, December 20th, 2018 at 7:30 in the evening to celebrate Christmas in song, followed by a coffee social. Especially since there is no school Christmas concert for the children this year, we encourage you to bring your children along to sing some Christmas favourites.

COVENANT CANADIAN REFORMED TEACHERS COLLEGE UPDATE AND REQUEST FOR SUPPORT

This past fall CCRTC once again opened its doors to 25 students: 17 returning students and eight first year students. Fall practicums wrapped up in mid-November and teachers and students are again busy working in the classrooms.

We continue to navigate our way through the accreditation process, and additional work is being performed to deal with the changes in the provincial government resulting from the past election. We ask that you continue to remember this process in your prayers.

We give thanks that the Lord continues to bless the CCRTC community! Without God's blessing, and financial support from you, CCRTC could not continue to train the next generation of teachers in Reformed Christian education for the benefit of the Christian schools. However, CCRTC continues to struggle to meet its day-to-day operating budget.

As the end of 2018 draws near, we ask that you prayerfully consider supporting the work of CCRTC as part of your year-end giving. Any donation, no matter how big or small, will allow CCRTC to continue to train its students, which is foundational to providing a Christian education to the next generation.

Please send your cheques to Covenant Canadian Reformed Teachers College, 410 Crerar Drive, Hamilton, ON L9A 5K3, or, for information on additional ways you can support CCRTC, please visit the Donate page of our website: <http://www.covenantteacherscollege.com/donate.html>.

We would like to thank you for your generosity and we pray that the Lord will bless you in 2019.

BARRHEAD NEWS

barrheadcanrc.ca

TO AND FROM THE CONGREGATION

Early last week we could witness the mighty power of God in the icy-rainfall He sent upon our area. It was as though the pace of the world slowed to a crawl as drivers and pedestrians all had to take extra time and precautions in the treacherous conditions. We give thanks that no harm or accidents were suffered, to my knowledge. That too reminds us that our safety and protection is always a gift from the Lord's hand.

Our annual **Christmas program** is scheduled to take place this evening at 7 pm. We thank all the organizers and contributors in advance for their hard work of preparation and practice. May it be for all a beautiful evening full of joyful adoration to God for the gift of his Son Jesus Christ!

Oeble Buruma, a regular visitor among us, was to undergo a serious surgery this past Wednesday to repair his jaw. The recovery is expected to take a number of months and will certainly affect his ability to eat and speak. We pray the Lord will give him much patience and strength and if it be God's will also grant a good and full recovery.

We welcome back into our area br. and sr. **Herman and Martha Kobes** from Chilliwack for the next month as they spend the Christmas season with their family in the area. Meanwhile **br. Kurtis Wattel** will be travelling abroad for the next number of weeks, crossing over many borders and visiting some impoverished countries along the way in order to provide help and aid where needed. May the Lord bless this endeavour.

Tomorrow, the Lord-willing, sr. **Tena Wierenga** may celebrate her birthday. We thank the Lord for his grace and faithful care in your life and for his many blessings in the year gone by. Our prayer is that the Lord would continue to provide you with joy and thanksgiving every day at all his mercies.

After this week, the schools will enjoy a two-week winter break. We pray this will be a refreshing time for students and teachers alike. The Catechism classes will also break for this period of time, resuming again on January 8.

May the Lord be praised and glorified as we remember the reason for the season and celebrate the coming of our Saviour into this world. May the Lord grant us all a blessed day of rest and worship as we give our attention to this glorious gospel!

CVL

BARRHEAD PREACHING SCHEDULE

December 16 AM – Rev. C. Vanderlinde

December 16 PM – Rev. C. Vanderlinde

December 23 AM – Rev. H. Jagersma

December 23 PM – Rev. H. Jagersma

December 25 10:00am – Rev. C. Vanderlinde

HOST FAMILY

December 16 Jordan & Melissa Peters

December 23 Kurtis & Helena Olthuis

December 30 Ed & Cisca Jansen

BARRHEAD SCHEDULED COLLECTIONS

December: Ministry of Mercy

CATECHISM INSTRUCTION

All students are reminded to bring a Bible, Book of Praise, and writing utensil.

Class One: Grades 7 & 8 - taught by Mr. H. Stel (7:30-8:30pm)

Class Two: Grades 9 & 10 - taught by Mr. H. DeBoer (7:30-8:30pm)

Class Three: Grades 11 & 12 – taught by Rev. Vanderlinde (7:30-8:30pm). Students are expected to read and complete the questions found in Lesson 13 of the "Doctrines of Grace" workbook.

Pre-confession class: open to anyone who wishes to join – taught by Rev. Vanderlinde (8:30-9:30pm). Please read Lesson 11 of the "Facing Faith's Challenges" workbook and answer the questions.

SHORT REPORT - COUNCIL MEETING DEC 3, 2018

The Chairman, Rev. Vanderlinde opened the meeting by reading II Corinthians 4. He then requested the singing of Hymn 74:1, 4 and opened with prayer.

Roll Call: J. VanLeeuwen was absent with notification.

j. Performance
k. Office
– Called to
12: “Office
Church
“were

Month	Voluntary Contributions	Monthly	YTD
Jan. 18	40,235	+15,005.31	+15,005.31
Feb. 18	38,455	+13,225.31	+28,230.62
Mar. 18	24,590	-639.69	+27590.63
Apr. 18	28,615	+3385.31	+30975.94
May 18	24,615	-614.69	+ 30361.25
June 18	26,340	+ 110.31	+31471.56
July 18	18,465	- 6764.69	+24706.87
Aug. 18	20,188	- 5041.69	+ 19,665.18
Sept. 18	21,919	- 3310.69	+ 16,354.49
Oct. 18	34,319	+9089.31	+25,443.80
Nov. 18			
Dec. 18			

of Offices
bearer training
serve; Essay
Bearers and
Government
discussed.

I. Outstanding/Miscellaneous Matters

- Women’s voting: Committee work continues.
- A CRTS conference will be held in Langley Jan. 24 – 26. Council decided to approve to send Rev. Vanderlinde to this conference.

Matters of the Churches in Common:

- A reminder was given to review the overtures from Regional Synod West (to be discussed on the next consistory meeting with the deacons)
- Splitting up review of Reports to General Synod amongst the brothers was done. We hope to have this complete by the Feb. Council meeting.

General Question Period was not made use of.

Christian Censure: Article 73 C.O. was thankfully not required.

Schedule For Upcoming Meetings:

- This month Consistory Meeting: Dec 17
- *This month Deacon Meeting:* Jan 2
- Next month Council Meeting: Jan 7
- Next month Consistory meeting: Jan 21

The meeting was closed in prayer by Br. D. Barendregt.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light." 1Pet 2:9

Our next study morning is Tuesday, December 18, 2018 beginning at 10 am.

Studying Book 2: Chapter 2- Christ, Christians and the Threefold Office Reading: Matt 3:13-17; 1Peter 2:9-12

Leader: Mel

Baking and Snack: Deanna

Babysitting and story hour will be available

COMBINED BIBLE STUDY

We plan to meet on Dec.19 at 8:00 in the church building. We will discuss more about the Holy Spirit, in chapter 7. Rick will lead the meeting and Gerrit will bring baking. We hope to see many of you there.

SATURDAY MORNING MEN’S BIBLE STUDY

With the new year coming soon, now’s a good time to (re-)commit to making Bible study a priority! One way to do this is by joining our men’s fellowship as we, young and old, mine the riches of God’s Word together. It’s a great way to start every second Saturday! Our next meeting is set for the first Saturday of the new year: January 5, d.v., at 7:30-9:00am in our church building. We’ll be continuing our study of Romans 12. Copies of the study questions can be provided for anyone new joining us.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

December 16, 2018 at 7:00 PM.

We have several groups signed up to provide us with entertainment but would still love to hear from more people. Please contact Brianna Raap to add your name and songs to the program. We are also looking for people to play their instruments prior to the program starting.

On the evening we would appreciate donations of goodies (baking or fruit etc.) for everyone to enjoy after the program. Church Life committee.

NEW YEARS EVE POTLUCK SUPPER

Come one come all to our annual potluck supper. We invite everyone to join us at 6:00 PM on December 31 in the church. If your last name starts with an A to S please provide a hot dish large enough to serve your own family to share. If your last name starts with a T to Z please provide a salad. We will provide beverages, dinner buns and desserts will also be provided for you to enjoy. Church Life committee.

BABYSITTING

Dec 16	AM	INF	Jesolina T, Melanie J, Bethany V
		TOD	Marian S, Karina T, Landon V
	PM	INF	Mennie H TOD Brittany L, Declan V
Dec 23	AM	INF	Bonnie P, Regina W, Bailey T
		TOD	Amanda N, Melissa P, Laura O
	PM	INF	Tania B
		TOD	Christine V, Jessalyn H

NEERLANDIA NEWS

SENIORS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

The Christmas Lunch will be held D.V. on Tuesday December 18, 2018. Coffee will be on at 9:45 and the program starts at 10. All seniors 65+ are invited as well as ladies from other study societies. South ladies please bring baking.

CAROLING

Please come join us to carol through the Hamlet of Neerlandia. Come out as teens, parents, families, grandparents. On Dec 23 @7pm please join us at the Neerlandia church. Dress for the weather and take a flashlight. Song sheets will be provided. Once we are done caroling join us downstairs for snacks and for hot chocolate.

NEERLANDIA SOUTH

FOR AND FROM THE FLOCK

As we come closer to the celebration of the birth of our Savior, the world around us lives in great expectation of what's under the tree! Galatians 4 tells us that: "when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law. The old covenant saints lived in the great expectation of who He would be. Isaiah promised He would be from the root of Jesse, that the Gentiles would seek Him, and His resting place would be glorious (Is.11:10) Today we know how He fulfilled these promises. We believe that the living God dwells among us, Gentiles by birth, who by faith are being built like living stones into a spiritual house, a holy priesthood! And this day of rest is already a beginning of our eternal rest. And so we continue to live in great expectations as we also face the end of another year.

This year the council of Neerlandia North extended an invitation to us for a combined worship service on the last evening of 2018, which we joyfully accepted (further announcement to follow).

We should remember the expectant mothers among us, especially those with large families to nurture. Mothers in general get an overload at this time of the year. Small words of encouragement and appreciation make all the difference.

It would also be good to keep the Canadian Reformed Seminary in mind, as they request our prayers. It is important that it remains faithful and alert. They also invite western Canadians to an event in Langley BC on January 24 -26, on the topic: "Do not hinder them – children and the church". These are nice opportunities to connect, or re-connect, with brothers and sisters around this very important topic. The event is free, and no registration is required. It is very important that those in the halls of learning stay connected with the struggles of the common man, our seminary is well aware of that, and so it would be good for some of us to show up there. May we all have a blessed Lord's Day.

AV

FROM THE C OF A

If you would like your contributions to fall into 2018 year, please have them in by Sunday December 23, any money received after this date will fall under 2019 contributions.

Thanks C of A

BAKE SALE

Our new Barrhead Coop has graciously allowed for us to host a bake sale again! It was a huge, huge success this spring, and we would love to duplicate that success again!

Many of the older people were even asking if we had some fresh buns and bread for sale, so if that is something you are good at please help supply us with it! We are booked to have the sale on Thursday December 20 from 10am-4pm....it will end sooner if we

are sold out. Please have your baking nicely packaged, and delivered to the church on Wednesday December 19. Or you can bring it to any of our ladies aid members as well. Thanks so much! We look forward to another fabulous day selling our goodies! Jane, Lucille, Lorraine, Jen, Laura

SENIOR HOME SERVICES

Especially at this time of year let us share the good news of the comfort and joy we have with the seniors, lonely, and shut-ins.

- * December 16 at Shepard's Care (7pm) Leader: Curtis Hooimeyer Accompanist: Arlene Verhelst
- * December 23 at Keir Care (6:30pm) Leader: Gerry Breukelman Accompanist: Tara Tiggelaar
- * December 23 at Hillcrest (7:30pm) Leader: Grant VanAssen Accompanist: Tara Tiggelaar

CHURCH SOCIAL WEBSITE

The Home Mission committee would like to encourage all members to use the Church Social Website. All members can add items to the calendar using their log in information. If you have not set up an account, please contact the website administrator – Byron Tuininga.

NEERLANDIA SOUTH YOUNG PEOPLES

The last meeting of the year will be held today December 16th at Hoeve's. Jantiena will be leading the discussion which will be on James 5, please study this chapter beforehand for more discussion. Reminder that the dues are \$20. We encourage all young peoples 16 and up to join, anyone is welcome. If you would like to host young peoples you can contact Eric Houweling at 780-284-4892. Hope to see you all there and have a great Sunday.

MEN'S SOCIETY

There will be men's society DV on December 19 at 8:00pm at Ron Hamoen's shop. We will be studying Vol.3 Chapter.3 of Growing in the Gospel, "The Marks of the Church". Mike Krabbendam will be the leader.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, January 10, 2019. We will be studying chapter 5 of "Meeting Jesus at the Feast". Suggested readings: Leviticus 23:15-22, Acts 2. Leader: Mrs. Viersen Babysitter: Karen Br. Baking and prayer: Gwen Hope to see old and new faces in the new year. Also a reminder to bring baking for the Seniors Christmas Lunch on Tuesday.

NEERLANDIA SOUTH YOUNG PEOPLES HELPING HAND

We as Young peoples would love to extend a helping hand to anyone in our congregation in need of assistance. Feel free to contact either Korey Froma (780-674-0972) or Kelvin Viersen (780-920-2765), and let them know what you would like help with.

HOST FAMILY

December 16 Trevor & Gwen Mast
December 23 Aaldert & Saakje Otten
December 30 Jan & Jennifer Otten

BABYSITTING

Dec. 16 am Sarah VR, Saralyn VA, Raina S
pm Arlen V, Tessa VR
Dec. 23 am Melissa V, Julia VR, Tianna S
pm Brittany W, Daphne VDZ
Dec. 25 am Ashlee V, Candace VR, Sierra W
Dec. 30 am Alanna W, Hiley W, Kaelyhnn T
pm Gloria W, Teegan W

NEERLANDIA NORTH

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

Recently, our Br. Jeff Van Leeuwen received the results back from some scans that were done. With great thankfulness to God, these scans came back completely clean. What a rich blessing this is! Together with our brother and his family we give thanks to God that he has blessed the work of the doctors and has granted restoration. Once again we are reminded that in every way, we are in the hand of our loving Father both in health and in sickness (Lords Day 10).

Living under God's providential care can also be seen in the life of our Br. John Van Assen who hopes to celebrate his 85th birthday this coming Wednesday, December 19, DV. Again, we give all thanks to God who has been with you for all these years

and who has continued to bless you in many different ways. We pray that our Heavenly Father will continue to be with you in the year to come and that he will also grant you a joyful day of celebration!
With the end of December coming closer, there are two special services concerning which we would like to remind the congregation. On December 25th, we will have a worship service at 11:00 AM to commemorate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Then on December 31st, we will be having a New Year's Eve service at 8:00 PM.
Today we are once again privileged to gather together for worship so that we might together express our thankfulness to God for the gift of his salvation in Jesus Christ. We also may hear the proclamation of the gospel of God's grace. Such a gathering takes place twice each week and it can easily become a custom or routine, but we should never underestimate what a rich blessing this is. Through Christ, we have the incredible privilege of coming together in the presence of the Almighty, Holy God. It is simply amazing to think about. Let us then worship him with reverence and awe!
Wishing you all a blessed day of rest and service!
GeV

PREACHING SCHEDULE

December 16 AM: Rev. G. Veurink
PM: Rev. G. Veurink
December 23 AM: Rev. G. Veurink
PM: Rev. T. Wierenga

CRAFT MORNING

The craft morning has been rescheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 19 at 10:00, D.V. The Ladies Aid is hosting a craft morning for kids ages 0-5. Come enjoy some refreshments and have fun making a couple crafts! There will also be a photo booth to get your picture taken for \$10 where 50% will go to the Ladies Aid.

FOOD BANK

The Ladies Aid is collecting non perishable food items for the food bank for the month of December. Please leave items in the box provided in the church basement.

WEDNESDAY EVENING WOMEN'S SOCIETY

We plan to hold our next meeting on December 19th in the church. We will be studying Vol. 2 Chapter 5 (Christ's Work of Atonement) in the book Growing in the Gospel.
Closing prayer: Netty Van Assen. We look forward to seeing you there!

NEERLANDIA NORTH YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETY

Our next meeting will be at the home of Angela and Reuben Kos. This Sunday, December 16th, 2018 DV. We will begin at 7:30pm. We will be looking at Proverbs 20 starting at part 163 in our book. Tyrone will be opening the meeting with us. Reminder to everyone that their visits have to be completed before tonight's meeting!
To contact our presidents call or text Tyson Bergsma @ 780-305-8297 or Peter Viersen @ 780-284-0637 Have a blessed Sunday!

NEERLANDIA NORTH YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICE COMMITTEE

We as Young Peoples would love to help any seniors or anyone in the Church Community who is in need of an extra helping hand. To make arrangements please call Nelson Wierenga @ 780-305-5099 or Zachary Hooimeyer @ 780-284-0041

HOST FAMILY

Dec 16 Peter & Margaret VanAssen
Dec 23 Brad & Cynthia VanDasselaar
Dec 30 Pieter & Grace VanDasselaar

BABYSITTING

Dec 16 AM Rhea K, Angela K, Leanne W
PM Mel K, Diane K, Tasha S
Dec 23 AM Michelle P, Freida R, Alexa S
PM Francine, Marie S, Amy B
Dec 25 Christmas Day Christina P, Nicole VA, Elana B, Alyshia K
Nursery Cleaning: Dec 17: Marja, Benita