

CHURCH BULLETIN OF THE  
CANADIAN REFORMED CHURCHES AT  
BARRHEAD AND NEERLANDIA

Volume 21 Number 16 December 20<sup>th</sup> 2015 A.D.

***WORSHIP SERVICES***

***BARRHEAD***

***NEERLANDIA***

**December 20**

Rev. C. Vanderlinde  
Rev. C. Vanderlinde  
**M.E.R.F.**

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

**December 25**

Rev. C. Vanderlinde  
**Pembina Pro-life**

Reading

**December 27**

Rev. R. Pontier  
Rev. R. Pontier  
**M.E.R.F.**

Reading  
Reading  
**Asia Mission**

Rev. C. Vanderlinde  
(780) 284-4080

Br. A. Vanleeuwen  
(780) 674-5232

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

Barrhead Editors: Rev. C. Vanderlinde: calvinvanderlinde@gmail.com,

Br. J. Tiggelaar: clerkbarrheadcanrc@gmail.com

Neerlandia Editors: Br. A. Vanleeuwen, Br. R. VanAssen

Deadline: All ads must be emailed to crcbulletin@hotmail.com or for Barrhead to one of the editors no later than 6:00 p.m. on the Wednesday before publication.

## GENERAL NEWS

### ROLLING CALENDAR

#### General

December 21 Children of Asaph Concert

#### Barrhead

January 9 Grand Opening Program

#### Neerlandia

December 20 Kier Care and Hillcrest Services

### CHILDREN OF ASAPH CONCERT

Everyone is cordially invited to join the Children's Choir and the Men's Choir for a concert of Christmas Music and audience singing. Please mark Monday, DECEMBER 21<sup>st</sup> on your calendars and join us in the CANADIAN REFORMED CHURCH at 8 o'clock DV as we remember the gift of God's Son coming to earth to redeem His people. TJ

### COVENANT CANADIAN REFORMED TEACHERS COLLEGE UPDATE & REQUEST FOR SUPPORT

This past fall, the CCRTC opened its doors to 18 enthusiastic students. We give thanks once again that the Lord has blessed our school community! As the 2015 calendar year draws to a close, you are respectfully asked to remember the work of training Reformed teachers in your year-end giving. We are aware of the fact that without the prayerful and financial support of all of you, the College could not continue to provide a supply of Reformed teachers for our schools throughout North America and abroad. The suggested donation for this year is \$480, but any amount is gratefully accepted. Donations are not only needed to help cover this year's budgeted expenses but also to develop the **NEW** "Certificate of Reformed Education Program" for practicing teachers, and our continual move to **Accreditation**. Please send your cheques to Covenant CRTC, 410 Crerar Drive, HAMILTON, ON L9A 5K3, or if you would prefer automatic withdrawal you will find a form on the Donate page of our new

Website: <http://www.covenantteacherscollege.com/donate.html>

We thank you for your generosity, and pray the Lord will bless you in 2016.

### NEWLY PUBLISHED BOOK

The Inter-League Publication Board (ILPB) is pleased to announce another newly published book. "Daniel – Prophecies of the Coming Kingdom" by Rev. Anthon Souman. At the court of the Babylonian king, there is a battle going on between the kingdom of Satan and the kingdom of God. What happened at the court of Babylon is part of the history of salvation. See how that ancient history is the history of salvation, and so also our history. This book contains 12 outlines, each with questions. 89 pages \$7.00. Also available as an eBook (ePub format). Order online at [www.ilpb.ca](http://www.ilpb.ca), contact your local ILPB sales rep for group orders or to join the book club. Check out the website for many other Reformed study books as well.

### CRTS CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 31

The deadline to register for the 6<sup>th</sup> annual CRTS conference is quickly approaching. This year's topic is "Preaching the Whole Gospel to the Whole Person." The conference will take place from Thursday evening through Friday, January 14–15 in the Ebenezer Canadian Reformed Church building, Burlington. The registration fee is \$50, or \$35 for students. **The registration deadline is Thursday, December 31.** No registration is required if you are only attending the two free evening lectures at 8 p.m. each evening. Full details and the registration form can be found on the CRTS website at: [www.canadianreformedseminary.ca](http://www.canadianreformedseminary.ca).

### CALLING ALL ABLE HANDED KNITTERS!

Every year, 100,000 children lose their lives to the injustice of abortion. Yet parliament does its best to ignore these children. Our job is to make this injustice visible, to remind our government that these children are not just a statistic. This is why ARPA needs YOU to knit at least 1,000 baby booties! Our goal is to give every MP and Senator in Ottawa a pair of baby booties, along with a note calling them to think about why these booties aren't being worn. We will then donate all booties to a Crisis Pregnancy Center so that they can be used to keep another set of precious little baby feet warm.

ARPA Neerlandia/Barrhead would like to challenge you to knit as many baby booties as possible. The person who knits the most will win a prize! An end date to the competition has not yet been set but we will keep you updated. If you have any questions or concerns please call Amanda Harthoorn - 780-294-9344.

# **BARRHEAD NEWS**

## **TO AND FROM THE CONGREGATION**

Our thoughts go out to those who are grieving the loss of loved ones in recent times. In particular we remember the **Koopmans family** who could return home from Telkwa, BC this past week after burying a mother & mother-in-law. We extend our condolences to you. We also remember all the **family and relatives of Br. Henry Peters** of Neerlandia who departed from this earthly life a week ago, and whose funeral and burial was held this past Thursday. It is our prayer that the Lord will surround you all with his love and presence, giving you comfort in the glorious hope of the gospel that there is the promise of eternal life held out for those who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.

This week Friday we may celebrate **Christmas Day** commemorating the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ into this world. With many festivities and activities that fill this time of year, may we also take time to pause and give our focused attention and reflection toward the precious heavenly gift of love the Father has given to us in his Son! A special Christmas service will be held 10 AM on Christmas Day to commemorate our Saviour's birth. A special service is also scheduled for New Year's Eve at 7:30 PM.

Our sister **Arlene Zuidema** is home again and recovering from her recent hip-surgery. Although early indications signaled that the surgery was successful, Arlene has since suffered a setback related to her kidneys. This was no doubt discouraging for her, and it is the cause of much uncertainty and concern. The immediate future also presents its particular challenges for our sister, as doctors have given her orders to do no bending for 3 months and no driving for 6 months. May God therefore surround our sister during this difficult time so that she may patiently endure and, if it be his will, also overcome these challenges. Congregation members are encouraged to make visit, being courteous to phone ahead to make arrangements. Also note that our sister's birthday is approaching soon, next week, on December 28. Sending a card with an encouraging note would be most appreciated.

This time of year can be challenging for those who've lost loved ones recently, those who are separated by great distance from family members, and those who are lonely and without companionship. As best as we are able, may our thoughts be attentive to the needs of others, seeking to reach out and envelop each other in love, thereby demonstrating the communion of saints.

We also wish all the students, teachers, and staff among us a good time off as the **schools break for Christmas holidays**. May you all find refreshment during these weeks, so that you can take up your callings with much enthusiasm and energy in the new year! The regular Catechism classes will also adjourn for 2 weeks until they resume again in the first week of the new year.

May the Lord bless our worship today as his Word is proclaimed and may our hearts be ready and eager to receive it and respond to it! CVL

## **BARRHEAD PREACHING SCHEDULE**

December 20 AM – Rev. C. Vanderlinde  
December 20 PM – Rev. C. Vanderlinde  
December 25 – 10 AM – Rev. C. Vanderlinde  
December 27 AM – Rev. R. Pontier  
December 27 PM – Rev. R. Pontier  
December 31 – 7:30 PM – Rev. C. Vanderlinde

## **BARRHEAD SCHEDULED COLLECTIONS**

December: M.E.R.F.  
December 25 & 31: Pembina Pro-Life

## **CATECHISM INSTRUCTION**

Reminder for all: please come prepared with a Bible, Book of Praise, binder and a writing utensil.  
Classes One, Two, & Three: Will meet again on January 5. Have a blessed Christmas and holiday break!  
Pre-confession/Post-confession class: Will meet again on January 6. Have a blessed Christmas and holiday break!

## **HOST FAMILY**

This week's host family is **Ken & Linda Koopmans**  
December 27 – Melvin & Jane Hoeksema  
January 3 Shawn & Meaghan Kobes  
January 10 James & Renee Kobes  
January 17 Herb & Sandy Kobes  
January 24 Marvin & Stephanie Jissink  
January 31 Jelte & Irene Jagersma

## **ADDRESS UPDATE**

Rachelle Rutledge  
4408-51 Ave  
Barrhead AB  
780 294 8304

## **SHORT REPORT OF THE CONSISTORY MEETING HELD SEPT 21, 2015**

The chairman, Rev. Vanderlinde called the meeting to order and opened with the reading of John 15:1-11. He requested the singing of Hymn 61:1 and lead in prayer. The brothers present were welcomed. Br. Meidema was absent with notification.

**Minutes** from June, July and August were signed.

The **agenda** was adopted after some additions.

**Memorabilia:** Sr. Kinie Selles still awaiting knee surgery. Br. John Wemekamp is recovering from another round of chemotherapy. Sr. Arlene Zuidema had successful hip replacement surgery. She was able to attend the worship service on September 20. Sr. Ruth Wirtz still not able to work due to pain. Sr. Val VanderDeen is undergoing treatment in Seattle for depression. The wedding of Travis and Bonnie Peters is remembered. Sr. Tena Dykstra is in and out of hospital.

### **Incoming Mail**

An attestation was received for Michael and Jessica Prins from the Parkland URC.

An attestation was received for Ryan Froma from the Immanuel CanRC.

Agenda and material for Classis Alberta, Oct 2015 were received from Neerlandia CanRC

Letter from the Committee for Ecumenical Relations and Church Unity of the URC was received.

### **Outgoing Mail**

An attestation was given to Sr. Leanne Larson for the church at St. Albert.

An attestation was given for Br. Ryan Gelderman.

A baptismal attestation was sent to the Church at Smithers, BC for br. Ryan Mul.

**Special Visits** were reported on.

The Lord's Supper was administered to Br. And Sr. John and Helen Jissink on September 13. Br. Werkman was in attendance as well.

**Matters of oversight** were dealt with.

**Preaching arrangements** were made.

**Ministry:** Rev Vanderlinde reported on his activities within and outside of the congregation.

**Catechism classes and special classes.**

Brs. Carl Werkman and Bert Wierenga will visit the catechism classes this fall.

Brs. Quinton Harthoorn and Carl Werkman will visit the catechism classes in the spring.

### **Young Peoples**

Br. J. Tiggelaar will visit the Young People's meetings this fall.

### **Membership statistics**

Membership numbers:

Communicant	192
Non Communicant	135
Total	327

- a. Attestation received for Micheal and Jessica Prins from Parkland URC added to ward 3
- b. Attestation sent for R. Gelderman to Coaldale
- c. Attestation sent for L. Larson to St. Albert
- d. Attestation sent for R. Mul to Smithers
- e. Wedding of Travis and Bonnie Peters; They are already in ward 8.
- f. Wedding of Menko and Teresa Helmus; Teresa was moved to ward 2
- g. Ryan Froma was added to ward 6.

### **Monthly contributions**

It was suggested that envelopes be prepared for all members when they graduate from high school. A monthly report to the elders from the bookkeeper will be provided.

### **Miscellaneous matters**

A discussion was held regarding home visitation.

**Federation of Churches:** Classis is scheduled for Oct 6 in the Immanuel Canadian Reformed Church Edmonton, convened by the Church in Neerlandia. The delegates for this Classis are Rev. C. Vanderlinde and br.C. Werkman, and the alternate is br. B. Wierenga

Regional Synod West is scheduled for Nov 2 in the Canadian Reformed Church at Abbotsford. Brothers M. Hoeksema, C. Werkman and B. Wierenga allow their names to be stand as possible delegates.

Brothers M. Hoeksema and B. Wierenga allow their names to be stand as possible delegates for General Synod 2016 in Dunnville, ON.

### **Question period**

The subscription form was signed by Brs. C. Werkman, B. Wierenga and M. Hoeksema

**Article 73: Christian Censure:** was positively exercised.

**Schedule for upcoming meetings:** The next Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup> and the next Consistory meeting is scheduled for October 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Closing prayer**

Br. J. Tiggelaar ended the meeting with prayer and the chairman closed the meeting.

**SHORT REPORT OF THE CONSISTORY MEETING HELD OCTOBER 19, 2015**

The Chairman, Rev. VanderLinde called the meeting to order, read from Psalm 122:1-9, requested the singing of Psalm 122:1 and led in opening prayer. The brothers present were welcomed. Brothers Carl Werkman and Marinus Helmus were absent and brother Jelte Jagersma was late.

**Minutes** were not available.

The **agenda** was adopted after some additions.

**Memorabilia:** Sr. Kinie Selles is still awaiting knee surgery. Br John Wemekmp received the news that since the tumor has shrunk significantly he will no longer need to undergo further treatment at this time. Sr. Arlene Zuidema is awaiting another hip replacement surgery. Br. John Jissink's health is deteriorating rapidly. Br. Bert Bultena has many days in which he is not very responsive. Br. Stoffer VanderVeen is suffering from declining health. Br. Case Hamoen has been blessed with another birthday.

**Incoming Mail**

A letter was received from the Canadian Reformed Church at Neerlandia regarding the postponement of Classis as well as a revised agenda for the newly scheduled date of Classis, October 27, 2015. A letter was received from Grace Canadian Reformed Church at Winnipeg with an agenda and material regarding Regional Synod West.

**Outgoing Mail**

A letter was sent to Winnipeg-Grace Canadian Reformed Church with the names of brothers who are able to attend the upcoming General Synod in May, 2016.

**Home visit** reports were brought for the families Ken Schouten, Ryan VanderMooren, Marcel Peters and Darryl VanDasselaar.

**Special Visits** were reported on.

**Matters of oversight** were dealt with.

**Preaching arrangements** were made.

**Ministry:** Rev Vanderlinde reported on his activities within and outside of the congregation.

**Catechism classes and special classes.**

Brs. Carl Werkman and Bert Wierenga will visit the catechism classes this fall.

Brs. Quinton Harthoorn and Carl Werkman will visit the catechism classes in the spring.

**Young Peoples**

Br. J. Tiggelaar will visit the Young People's meetings this fall.

Concern is expressed regarding the poor attendance and involvement as a whole.

**Membership statistics**

Membership numbers:	Communicant	192
	Non Communicant	135
	Total	327

**Miscellaneous matters**

A devotional will be sought for the young people/couples.

**Federation of Churches:** Classis was rescheduled for Oct 27 convened by Canadian Reformed Church Neerlandia, held in Edmonton Immanuel. The brothers delegates are Rev. C. Vanderlinde, C. Werkman, alternate: B. Wierenga.

Regional Synod West is scheduled to convene November 2 @ 7:30 pm in Abbotsford, BC. An agenda and material were received. General Synod 2016 is scheduled to be convened in May of 2016 in Dunnville, ON.

**Article 73: Christian Censure:** was positively exercised.

**Schedule for upcoming meetings:** The next council meeting is scheduled for November 9<sup>th</sup> and the next consistory meeting is scheduled for November 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Closing prayer**

Br Bert Wierenga ended the meeting with prayer and the chairman closed the meeting.

**YOUTH GROUP**

This is a message to all Youth Group age parents: We would like to get youth group started!! We know that it is late in starting but we would like to get it going. We are asking that all parents meet with the leaders after the second service to discuss topics for the year. If you have any questions or comments please talk to James & BJ vanden Hoven, or Marcel & Jessica Peters.

**BABYSITTING**

Dec 20	AM (INF) <b>Marcella V</b> , Sherry V, Sydney W (TOD) Berdien V, Amy H, Morgan W
	PM Barb V, Heather A, Berenda H
Dec 25	(INF) <b>Leanne V</b> , Hetty S, Nadiya S
	(TOD) Louise S, Teresa V, Bailey T

Dec 27

AM (INF) **Anita V**, Miranda L, MCKenna W (TOD) Darlene S, Claudia W, Dakota T  
PM Regina W, Tania B, Missy P

## **NEERLANDIA NEWS**

### **FOR AND FROM THE FLOCK**

Another week and Christmas is only days away. Let us not get caught up in celebrating this day like most of the people around us. We have so much more when we think that Jesus came to this earth to bring us hope, not just for today and tomorrow, but eternally. Let us remember this as we go into the holiday season and let us be a light to all around us as we are focused on celebrating the real meaning of Christmas.

It was awesome to see and hear our children and grandchildren participate in the school program this past Thursday evening as they sang about the salvation we have in Christ. We can be so thankful for Christian education. We acknowledge that this is a gift of grace and so let us all be thankful in this time of festivities for this gift.

The Janssen family is also celebrating the engagement of their daughter Paulina to Martin Wikkerink of the URC in Telkwa, B.C. We also wish this couple the Lords blessing in their wedding and in the time they have in preparing for the day.

This Sunday we also hope to witness the baptism of another covenant boy child given to Wes and Angela VanLaar. They named him Kale Owen. May the Lord grant them wisdom and strength to bring this child up in the way of truth as we have it in His Word. We are thankful for the good harmony we could see at our last congregational meeting. May the Lord bless this work as we continue working towards resolving the issue of church growth in our church. Council has put the results of the last proposal elsewhere in this bulletin.

We wish to welcome Sarie Pretorius and her son Pieter into our church community. Sarie and her husband Pieter and their son Pieter came from South Africa several months ago. Sarie is currently working in Barrhead and her husband is seeking employment in the USA where one of their older sons lives. Sarie has requested membership for herself and her son into the church at Neerlandia. Consistory has granted this request and so encourages everyone to show them hospitality and Christian love. May they also feel at home here in Neerlandia and may they be a blessing in our midst.

Now as federation we have seen some developments of ministers and candidates.

Just so we can be informed, we have seen last week that candidate Tim Schouten sustained his examination and now London Ont. has extended a call to him.

The church at Coaldale AB. extended a call to Rev. J. Huijgen who is from the church of Attercliffe Ont.

The church at Flamborough Ont. extended a call to Rev. D. Wynia from church of Lincoln. Ont.

Candidate Randal Visscher accepted the call to Grand Valley Ont.

Rev. A Witten from church at Vernon BC has declined the call extended to him from Kelmscott Australia.

Let us be reminded that on Christmas Day our worship service will be at 10:00 am.

We welcome Rev. Kalkman on our pulpit today. May we have a blessed Sunday.

AV

### **PREACHING ARRANGEMENTS**

December 21 AM Rev. Kalkman

PM Rev. Kalkman

December 25 AM Br. John Froma

December 27 AM Reading: Br. A. Hamoen

PM Reading: Br. K Hamoen

December 31 8:00 PM joint worship with URC Rev. Pontier

### **COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENT**

The council wants to inform the congregation on the results of the proposal presented to the congregation on Dec 4 2015.

We want to thank everyone for taking part in this proposal and the overwhelming response we received. We had to contact very few people.

The question from council is regarding the proposal to split the church into two separate congregations.

The boundary between the two churches to be Township Road 615A, ( 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue) going east west through Neerlandia. This is with the understanding that all the members in the Hamlet to be on North side.

The results are: 84% in support of Council's proposal

16% not in support of Council's proposal

Council wants to thank everyone for their input, involvement and support.

Having said this, we want to say that we also received several comments and suggestions regarding the financial aspect and location for services etc.

Council will be discussing these items and will keep the congregation informed on these matters.

Thanks again.

On behalf of council

## **NOTICE FROM COUNCIL**

Several months ago, the Clarion made a request for the churches in our federation to put together a creative description of their respective congregations, and this description will be published in the magazine. The Fellowship Committee was asked to do this task for Neerlandia. As a part of the project, they have requested that we have our picture taken as congregation. After the **December 25<sup>th</sup>** worship service, we are asking that those sitting in the basement come upstairs and stand in the aisles for the singing of 'Ere Zij God'. Following this, a photo will be taken from the front of the auditorium. It will not be necessary for children to come from the nursery for this picture. Thank you.

## **MAILBOX UPDATE**

#128 – Ryan and Rachel VandeBurgt

## **HOME MISSION COMMITTEE**

We have rescheduled our turn to host the services to Sunday, Dec 20, 6:30 at the Kier Care and 7:15 at Hill Crest. Please come out and join our elderly as we listen to short meditation on God's Word and join in singing with them. They really enjoy seeing us there.

Please put these dates on your calendar for 2016, March 20, June 19, Sept 11 and Dec 4

Thanks for the support.

KK

## **YOUNG PEOPLES SOCIETY**

We have begun the study of the book *Respectable Sins* by Jerry Bridges. Read and study Chapters 7 and 10 before the next meeting. Please do the *For Personal Study* questions on pages 34-36. This pre-study is really beneficial when it comes to further discussions at our meetings, so please do so! Our next meeting will be held at Dyllan's place at 8:00 pm on December 20, 2015 D.V. Pieter Steenbergen will be opening this meeting. A reminder: the dues for this year are \$20 and are to be paid to our previous treasurer, Caleb Kos, as soon as possible. The cost for the study book (including the textbook) for this year is \$32. This must be paid when you receive your books. Our two new presidents were decided at the first meeting: Levi Wierenga @ 780-284-3739 and Pieter Steenbergen @ 780-284-4060. Feel free to contact them if you have any questions. SVA

## **SERVICE COMMITTEE**

To all seniors or disabled members of our congregation: We as Young Peoples Society continue to offer our services with chores in and around your home. To make arrangements please call Nelson W. @ 780-305-5099 or Kurt V. @ 780-206-6604. We would love to help you!

## **HOST FAMILY**

**Dec 20** Nathan & Karen Schouten

**Dec 27** Richard & Francine Schouten

**Jan 3** Henry & Marie Stad

## **BABYSITTING**

Toy Cleaning for January 4: Kym P, Vanessa T, Cindy T

Dec 20 AM Up – **Laura VB**, Shelley VB, Meaghan H, Maddisson H Down – Jannie VK, Cindy VR, Maria J, Rolyann B  
PM Up – **Christina VZ**, Marcia VG, Ally VB Down – Dawna VD, Jewel B

Dec 25 Christmas Day Up – **Flaura VZ**, Angie VL, Summer VL Down – Jocelyn VL, Kim VL, Martina VR, Janaye W

Dec 27 AM Up – **Shondelle VL**, Sarah VR, Trinity T Down – Arlene V, Irene V, Danika H, Amarah D

PM Up – **Melissa V**, Rianne V, Carla H Down – Ainsleigh W, Colette D