

CHURCH BULLETIN OF THE
CANADIAN REFORMED CHURCHES AT
BARRHEAD AND NEERLANDIA

Volume 21 Number 23 February 7th 2016 A.D.

WORSHIP SERVICES

BARRHEAD

NEERLANDIA

February 7

Rev. C. Vanderlinde
Rev. C. Vanderline
Asian Mission

Rev. W.B. Slomp
Rev. W.B. Slomp

February 14

Rev. C. Vanderlinde
Rev. C. Vanderline
Asian Mission

Rev. C. Vanderlinde
(780) 284-4080

Br. A. Vanleeuwen
(780) 674-5232

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

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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

February 8 Foodgrains Bank project 2016 Information Evening

February 27 ARPA School Committee Garage Sale

Barrhead

February 13 Baby Shower

Neerlandia

February 15 Family Day Breakfast

BOOTIES FOR BABIES CHALLENGE

Are there knitters and crocheters out there that can help us with this challenge? We have been challenged by ARPA Bulkley Valley (Smithers and area) to a booties for babies competition. Who will win? ARPA Canada is hoping to send 1000 booties to Ottawa and we need everyone's help. There will be a box at the back of the church to drop off your slippers. Those of you in Barrhead may hand them over to Alja Helmus. Mrs. Jacqueline Hamoen will take them all to Ottawa in May. If you have any questions please contact Jacquie at 780-674-6630.

"REJOICING VOICES" CHOIR

Another Season of choir has begun and we are excited about the beautiful pieces we are singing! We would so like to encourage more people to come out and sing with us if you could. We hope to sing together with Edmonton in a Mass Choir for some of the songs. Help us to celebrate with psalm and song as we look forward to remembering the death and resurrection of our Saviour Jesus Christ at this time of year.

(We also ask that any former female members look to see if you might still have a scarf from the choir uniform in your possession. A bunch are still missing and we hope to collect them before the coming concert Thank you)

NEERLANDIA FOODGRAINS BANK

Neerlandia Foodgrains Bank project 2016: Join us Monday February 8, 7:30 pm at the Neerlandia Canadian Reformed Church to learn more. Terence Berg- AB North Project Director will be coming out to answer questions and offer direction on setting up the new grow project. Call or text Troy Nanninga 780-307-4465 or Seth Olthuis 780-674-6748 for more information or if you would like to be involved. Thanks!!

CRTS EMAIL UPDATES AND STUDENT PROFILES

Last year CRTS launched its new website and numerous Facebook updates have been made. Beginning soon, CRTS be will be posting student profiles on the website to help churches get to know the graduating students. The website has grown and now contains links to over a hundred articles and videos, the library database, the Reformed Periodical Index, and more! New meditations written by faculty and students are posted every other week along with other news items. If you want to be sure not to miss anything, sign up for the CRTS email list. You will receive an email in your inbox each time we add something new to the website. To sign up, go to the CRTS website at www.canadianreformedseminary.ca and look under "News > Stay in Touch with CRTS."

BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

Your change can impact lives through the *LOVE GOD * LOVE FAMILIES * SERVE OTHERS* Campaign for the Pregnancy Care Centre! The campaign helps women facing unplanned pregnancies find the hope and support they need. It's easy to participate! Just pick up a bottle today at the back of church and fill it with coins, cash or a cheque over the coming weeks. Tax deductible receipts will automatically be issued at year end for CHEQUES or ONLINE donations of \$20.00 or more.

THE VIRTUAL BABY BOTTLE - Just go online to www.pregnancycarecentre.ca to the events tab, click on the donation button to help fill our virtual Baby Bottle with milk. Our goal is \$30,000 for the 2016 BBC.

For questions or information please contact your local representative

Bonnie Peters 780 305 9250

Rachel Breukelman 780 674 6558

ARPA SCHOOL COMMITTEE

We are holding an ARPA SCHOOL COMMITTEE GARAGE SALE on Feb 27, in our School Gym. If you have any thing to donate to the garage sale please call Rae-Lynn Hamoen (Neerlandia) or Berenda Helmus (Barrhead). No large appliances or clothes

please. The Garage sale is from 9:00 - 4:00. All the PROCEEDS will go to the NEW PREGNANCY CARE CENTRE in Grande Prairie. If you have any questions please contact Rae-Lynn Hamoen @ 780-674-6630.

VOICE OF THE CHURCH

Voice of the Church is a media outreach program of the Canadian Reformed Churches.

MP3 audio files of Voice of the Church meditations are available for listening (streaming) and/or downloading at www.voiceofthechurch.org as well as www.sermonaudio.com/votc.

The speaker for February is Rev. William den Hollander.

The topic of his four successive meditations is

“Wisdom: Making a Straight Path for Your Feet.”

BARRHEAD NEWS

TO AND FROM THE CONGREGATION

This past Monday brother Wayne DeBoer became engaged to Rachele Tiemstra, a member of the United Reformed Church in Neerlandia. We give thanks to God for this new development in your relationship! And it is our prayer that the Lord will bless the preparations you make together for your upcoming wedding and married life that follows as you seek to build it on the solid foundation of God’s Word.

This week Thursday brother Bert Wierenga may celebrate another birthday, the Lord willing. We rejoice with you that the Lord has blessed you with good health to continue to work fruitfully in your “retirement” and also carry out your role as an office-bearer in the congregation. May the Lord continue to bless you in the coming year!

Other than that there appears to be no news in the congregation, which is also a blessing in itself. Nevertheless let us remember to take to heart the call of Galatians 6:9 to “*not become weary of doing good,*” mindful of God’s promise that “*at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.*” Do good to whom? If we look around us we see that each of us has our particular struggles and burdens. We see our home-bound members, those recovering from surgery, those who are still hurting from grief and sorrow, those afflicted with tremendous pain, those experiencing difficult family dynamics, those raising young children, and those who are lonely. The list could go on. So how may we do good to others? First by thinking of them and by praying for them. Start there, by bringing them and their situations before the Lord. Then, if we are able, we may seek to arrange a visit, or give a phone-call, or send a card, or give a compliment, encouragement, or word of affirmation. It is such things as these that strengthen the communion of saints and enhance the well-being of the fellowship in which the Lord is gathering us as hands and feet to each other as we are built up as one Body through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. May the Lord bless those efforts!

A final note to mention: this week Tuesday will mark the second anniversary of your pastor’s work of ministry in your midst. It has already been that long, incredibly! Overall I must say that it has been a labour of love and joy, for which I owe a great measure of thanks to the congregation who have taken to heart the Lord’s call in Hebrews 13:17b. Though there have also been disappointments, shortcomings, letdowns, missteps, and mistakes I have made, nevertheless, thankfully, the Lord sanctifies our weak and feeble efforts and He blesses the work of his clay pots and earthen vessels when they carry out their work in integrity and faithfulness in his service. Seeing the evidence of the Lord working powerfully through his Word and Spirit among you is the greatest joy a pastor can witness, not to the glory of any man but to the glory of God! While I am still on this topic, let me say that although Jolene and I certainly feel very-much settled and well-acquainted with most of the congregation, yet we are still hopeful to work through the entire congregation in terms of making “formal” acquaintance visits. If we still haven’t made our way over to you or vice-versa, thank you for your patience in this regard and we hope we haven’t caused any hurt or offence. The delay has not been due to a lack of desire, but mainly as a result of life’s busy circumstances in our home with our family of young children. What we’d like to ask you therefore is if you could be understanding and help us to try to schedule something with you in the near future. We look forward to becoming even better acquainted!

That brings this week’s pastoral column to an end. May the Lord bless us all on this day of rest as we feed on his Word and as we bring our worship to him, so that we may be made into living sacrifices to his honour and glory in the week and weeks to come!
CVL

BARRHEAD PREACHING SCHEDULE

February 7 AM – Rev. C. Vanderlinde

February 7 PM – Rev. C. Vanderlinde

February 14 AM – Rev. C. Vanderlinde

February 14 PM – Rev. C. Vanderlinde

BARRHEAD SCHEDULED COLLECTIONS

February: Asian Mission

March: Mission Aviation Fellowship

CATECHISM INSTRUCTION

Reminder for all: please come prepared with a Bible, Book of Praise, binder and a writing utensil.

Class One:

Class Two:

Class Three: Students who missed the recent TEST must have their tests submitted to my church mailbox TODAY.

After the student's tests have been handed back to the student they will need to be signed by a parent and returned again to me. Parents, please look over your child's test and discuss the results with them and, if need be, also discuss their level of effort. CVL
Pre-confession/Post-confession class: Meets weekly at the manse on Wednesday at 8pm – taught by Rev. Vanderlinde. Hope to see many of you come out again this week as we continue our study through the Belgic Confession and Church Order. If you are unable to make it to class, please be courteous and inform me. Thank you. CVL

HOST FAMILY

This week's host family is Rick & Mel Jagersma

February 14 Rev. Calvin & Jolene Vanderlinde

February 21 Menko & Teresa Helmus

February 28 Marinus & Alja Helmus

PRE-MARITAL COURSE

We will meet again this week Thursday (February 11), to tackle the second of 4 sessions of pre-marital counselling. We will meet in the manse at 8PM. If you have any questions, please call 780-284-4080. Thank you! CVL

BABY SHOWER

Help us celebrate the arrival of Addison and Reagan Tiggelaar at a breakfast baby shower on Saturday, February 13 at 10am at the church. Girls and women 16 and up are welcome!

SHEPHERD'S CARE SERVICE

Our church is hosting tonight's worship service at the Shepherd's Care Centre at 7 pm. People of all ages are welcome (as long as you are healthy!) Please join us for some singing, a devotional message and some fellowship to brighten a senior's day. We will be leading the worship services at Shepherd's Care on the following dates this year: Sunday, July 17th and Sunday, November 27th. Please mark these dates on your calendars.

GEMS

Hello Gems Girls and Parents,

Our next meeting is on **Wednesday, February 10** from **6:30-8:30 PM**. Please bring your book, scarf, a Bible, and a pen or pencil. We will be doing the sign language badge. Jenna and Chloe will bring snacks and drinks.

Hope to see you all there!

If you have any questions, please contact Miranda or Stephanie Larson.

YOUTH GROUP

Our next meeting will be February 21 from, after second service till 5:30pm, at the church. See you then.

YOUNG PEOPLES BIBLE STUDY

We hope to meet again this Sunday (February 7), after the second service to continue our study through the Beatitudes. This week we will be looking at Matthew 5:8 "Blessed are the Pure in Heart" from Rev. R.J. Sikkema's book *Living the Faith*. Photocopies of the chapter and its questions are available at the back of the church.

LIVING WATERS

We will meet on Sunday Feb. 7 at 7:30 in the church building. We will be studying Session 8 from Respectable Sins. Garrick will lead and Jordan P. will take care of coffee.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

This week we are discussing chapter four in our book "Haggai : A Prophet for God's House" by Rev. Bredenhof. Anita is leading and Sherri is babysitting and bringing a snack. Coffee is on at 9:45 and the meeting begins at 10:00. See you Tuesday morning! New members always welcome.

COMBINED BIBLE STUDY

On Wednesday, Feb. 17, at 8:00 we will meet in the church building to discuss Amos, chapter 9 of You Only by Rev. Feenstra. Feel free to come and join us as we study what God tells us in His Word.

BABYSITTING

February 7 AM (INF) **Steph D (A)**, Renee K, Dakota T (TOD) Jessica Prins, Claire L, Maddisyn B
PM (INF) Berdien V (TOD) Leanne V, Jenna S
February 14 AM (INF) **Jessica P**, Fran M, Brittany P (TOD) Val V, Steph D @, Declan V
PM (INF) Hermina V (TOD) Jolene V, Keri B

NEERLANDIA NEWS

FOR AND FROM THE FLOCK

"He made the moon to mark the seasons, and the sun knows when to go down." – Ps. 104:19 As we head into the spring season, we can rejoice in the Lord's faithfulness. The longer days and warmer temperatures are a rich gift. Even though we know that March and its sudden winter blasts have not passed, we can see the change in seasons begin and rejoice in the new gifts it brings.

On Tuesday, Walter and Betty VanderZyl will celebrate another anniversary. We wish you the Lord's blessing as you celebrate this day with family and friends. May you be blessed with all that you need for each day, resting in the promises of a faithful covenant Father.

There will be celebrating in the Viersen home this week as well! Our sister Fettje, will be marking another blessed milestone. It is our prayer that you will be blessed with good health and happiness again in this coming year.

Recently, Melissa Miedema's grandfather passed away. We pray that the Lord will surround you all during this time of loss. We are so rich, having a loving Father who knows and understands the sorrows of our hearts and gives comfort and strength to those who call upon Him.

The bowling evening with council and young peoples was enjoyed by all. Thank you to the young peoples for setting up this evening of fun and socializing. It may be safe to say that none were over experienced, but advanced age did seem to be a benefit?!

In church news, Rev. Huijgen accepted the call to Coaldale and Rev. Tim Schouten accepted the call to Prince George. May we have a blessed day of worship!

PREACHING ARRANGEMENTS

February 7 AM Rev. Slomp
PM Rev. Slomp

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING CHURCH SPLIT

As council, we want to keep the congregation informed on all the things we are working on in regards to the church split. Time has a way of catching up to you, and writing in the last church news that we are only 9 weeks away from splitting became a kind of reality check. Having received a few letters and also the steering committees report for the south at the last council meeting, it is apparent that we need to take more time in getting some of the matters that need to be addressed taken care of. We want to have the congregations input in some matters, for example: place of worship, process of paperwork and setup of all matters needed before institution.

With this in mind, council at its last meeting has changed the date for institution to be set, tentatively, for May 15th, 2016 with the hope that this will give sufficient time to proceed.

We also have set a date for a congregational meeting for the 26th of February, so please try and keep this evening open. This will be our regular annual meeting with budgets and reports. In the second half of the meeting we hope to have some proposals to present to the congregation from the south steering committee, and a presentation on proposed budgets for the north and south. We have presented Classis, for the delegate's perusal, all the relevant documents and the timeline of all material which had been given to the congregation. We will be seeking their advice on the proposal to split as presented. This will take place on March 8, 2016, the Lord willing. Not every aspect of a church split is comfortable and pleasant at the time. It will take some getting used to and some inconveniences will have to be accepted.

Also, on behalf of council, we want to say we appreciate the input from the congregation members. We thank the whole congregation for their patience as we find our way to completion. We realize that it is the work of the Lord and we are His people. May we work together in good harmony today, tomorrow and forever as we travel to that final day when all things will be perfect. On behalf of council

PRESS RELEASE COUNCIL MEETING –FEBRUARY 1, 2016

Opening-Chairman Br A VanLeeuwen calls meeting to order and requests the singing of Hymn 52:1 and 2, he then reads from Ephesians 5:11-32 and leads in opening prayer.

Welcome-Chairman welcomes Elders and Deacons. Absent with notification, Brs F Breukelman.

Incoming Mail- Returned travel attestations from Sr T Bijsterveld and Br and Sr A and M Viersen.

Letters from: Brs and Srs A and R Bijsterveld, J and A Werkman, B and A Bikker, W and G Werkman, Br C Hooimeyer and Br H Stel.

Outgoing Mail- Letter sent to Taber CanRC with the congratulations with regards to their 25th anniversary.

Reports- Office bearers report of various contacts they had and visits made, since the last meeting.

C of A Report – Chairman of the CofA Br D Terpsma presents the proposed budget for 2016. This budget is approved with small changes made.

Congregational Matters- The calling committee reports. The calling process is discussed and council decides to put this on hold for now. - Letter received from Br H Stel is read and discussed. Response will be drafted and sent. – Congregational meeting is scheduled for Friday February 26.

Church Growth- The letters received from congregation members regarding the proposed church split are read and discussed. - Council decides to change the institution date from April 3rd to May 15 tentatively.

Service Arrangements- February 7 Rev W Slomp am & pm. February 14 Rev T Wierenga am & pm.

Matters of Church Federation- The documents regarding the proposed church split have been prepared and will be submitted to Classis Alberta to convene March 8.

Mutual Instruction – Noted with thankfulness that this is not needed.

Date for next meeting- February 22, 2016 DV.

Closing prayer- Br M Peters leads in thanksgiving prayer and the Chairman closes the meeting.

FAMILY DAY BREAKFAST

The CCRS Ladies Aid would like to invite all families to come and enjoy the Annual Family Day Breakfast to be held on Monday, Feb 15, 2016 DV from 9am-11am at the school gym. We will be serving eggs, bacon, sausage, hash browns, fruit and donuts and drinks. Adults (14+) are \$9 and Children (4-13years) \$5 and 3 and under is free. So please come on out and enjoy some good food and fellowship.

The new cookbooks have also arrived. Thank you for to all those who submitted recipes!! They will be available at the breakfast for \$20.

COVENANT OF LOVE YOUTH GROUP

Our next meeting is on Sunday Feb. 14/16 at 7:30pm DV. We will be studying Outline 3 (Philippians 2:19 -30) from the book *Enduring Joy* by Dr. K. Deddens.

If you have a child who is 12-15 they are welcome to join us!

Information can also be viewed on the church website under the Societies, Youth Group tab. www.neerlandiacanrc.ca.

Juice: Andrea V. Snacks: Maddison H. Prayer: Ben V.

YOUNG PEOPLES SOCIETY

Read and study Chapters 15 and 16 before the next meeting. We have decided to split up the chapters into fewer per week in order to lengthen our study. There is plenty of material to cover! Please do the *For Personal Study* questions on pages 58-61 dealing with managing anger and also the *Bonus Study* on pages 64-65. Our next meeting will be held at Jamie and Wade's place at 8:00 pm on February 14, 2016 D.V. Levi Wierenga will be opening this meeting. Also, if you are interested in coming on the ski trip please contact Jamie Barendregt @ 780-674-0098. Contact Levi Wierenga @ 780-284-3739 or Pieter Steenbergen @ 780-284-4060 if you have any questions. SVA

WEDNESDAY EVENING MEN'S SOCIETY

Mens society will meet Feb 10 in the church. We are studying Acts 9 this week. Last meeting had 5 members attend. Please make an effort to come study a portion of God's word. We realize that everybody has busy lives but more of an effort should be made by the men of the church to attend these meetings.

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

Feb 7 Leroy & Kathleen Tuininga

Feb 14 Grant & Vonessa VanAssen

Feb 21 Jerold & Sharon VanAssen

BABYSITTING

Toy Cleaning for February 15: Joanne VA, Cynthia V, Dawna VD

Feb 7 AM Up – **Rhea K**, Gwen M, Alyssa D, Tessa VR Down – Melissa M, Roseanne O, Andrea VA, Autumn VA
PM Up – **Jen O**, Christina P, Leanne J Down – Saakje O, Daphne VZ

Feb 14 AM Up – **Bec P**, Michelle P, Christiena H Down – Debra P, Frieda R, Maddisson H, Saralyn VA
PM Up – **Kym P**, Francine S, Leanne W Down – Betty-Anne S, Marie Stad, Maria J

