CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH COMMUNICATIONS

ReFRAME MINISTRIES

Groundwork: Only Glorify Jesus – The Apostle Paul offers a valuable perspective on power, authority, and leadership in the church, and a vital reminder that Christ is the foundation upon which we should build all things. Join Groundwork as we study 1 Corinthians 3 to gain a better understanding of what it means to dwell in Christ and live and work as believers today. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Kids Corner: Don't Be Afraid – Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. We all feel afraid at times. Maybe like the disciples in Matthew 8, you have been scared during a storm. Just like Jesus was with his disciples during the storm, it's important for us to remember that God promises to never leave us in our times of need. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net like the Bible story podcast "Jesus Calms the Storm."

OTHER

ICS Fall Courses – Check out the new courses offered at the Institute for Christian Studies this fall. Explore Jim Olthius' 'theopoetic philosophy' in "A Cosmic Theopoetics of/for Love", "Biblical Foundations: Narrative, Wisdom, and the Art of Interpretation" with Nik Ansell, or "Critical Theory and Religion: The Frankfurt School and Beyond" with Ron Kuipers. All of ICS' fall courses are offered online, so you can take them no matter where you are. Tuition is $1,500 to take a course for credit, $600 to audit, or $400 for first-time auditors and alumni. To learn more or register, email academic-registrar@icscanada.edu or visit icscanada.edu/fall-courses to see more offerings.

DIACONAL MINISTRIES CANADA

Writers/News Correspondents Needed – Diaconal Ministries Canada is looking to expand its network of story writers and news correspondents in Canada! We need freelance writers and news correspondents (paid per story) to share what deacons and churches are doing across Canada to show and share the love of Christ in their communities. We are specifically looking for writers from Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, and the Maritimes. Experience is preferred but not necessarily crucial. If you love stories, are curious to ask church leaders about how and why they do things, and are willing to learn, our communications coordinator would love to hear from you: Erin Knight - eknight@crcna.org. (And if you are an experienced writer, all the better! Just mention that in your email.)

RESONATE GLOBAL MISSION

Serve in the Middle East – Five times a day people are called to prayer in the Middle East. Do you feel the call to live and serve where the majority population is strongly influenced by the Islamic religion and culture? Resonate is recruiting young adults to serve with Cohort Middle East. Live in community, serve in a grassroots ministry, and grow in your faith. Learn more at www.resonateglobalmission.org/cohort

BALSAM LAKE PROV. PARK DAY VISITOR UPDATE: This information is for anyone that comes up to the park for day visits eg. Saturday afternoon Wine & Cheese Social OR Sunday morning worship service. If you are planning on spending a sunny day at Balsam Lakes Provincial Park this summer you will need to book in advance. Although officials say walk-up permits will continue to be sold, they are subject to availability.The Ontario government announced it is expanding the advance day-use reservation service, available at select provincial parks including Balsam Lake. The province says this expansion will help reduce overcrowding and provide visitors with greater certainty when planning park visits on busy days like weekends and holidays. To help meet growing customer demand, this easy-to-use online service gives visitors peace of mind by allowing them to reserve their spot in advance to ensure they can access the park they want to visit. Ontario Parks encourages visitors to secure an advanced daily vehicle permit to help guarantee access to participating provincial parks. Go to reservations.ontarioparks.com to make your reservation.

A SUMMARY OF CLASSIS QUINTE MEETING - MAY 30/23

Thank you to Rehoboth CRC in Bowmanville for hosting, to Pastor Ryan Braam who was the Chair, and to Pastor Brad Close who was Vice-Chair. Fifty-two delegates attended, 12 were first time attendees. Delegates, visitors, and church administrators were welcomed by Pastor Ryan. Pastor Brad then led in a devotion based on a reading from Ephesian and 1 Peter, where we are reminded that we are chosen by God and that through Grace we can live in His holiness.

Reports from various ministries were received in the agenda or addendum:

• **Momentum Campus Ministries –** Steve Kooy thanks Classis Quinte for its support. Video was shown, with five students expressing their thankfulness for this ministry.

• **Living Hope Community Church –** Martin Spoelstra is representative of Resonate for Classis Quinte. Mark Jallim is the church planter at Living Hope in Whitby. A joint team (Hebron, Living Hope, Resonate) is working together on a new initiative in Guyana – also called Living Hope.

• **Ministry To Seafarers, Montreal -** Seafarers, the most important part of the supply chain around the world, are away from family for 6 to 9 months a year. M2S has chaplains visiting ships, advocating for seafarers, and showing hospitality of Christ. Classis Quinte seeks a representative for the board, which meets 2x/year and sets directions and oversees staff. Sonya Verbeek has just become Chair of the Board.

• **Indigenous Ministries –** The recent National Gathering was a very positive experience.

• Diaspora Leader's Retreat –The conference will be held on September 7–9, in Pickering.

• **Classis Quinte Ministerial Leadership Team** celebrates the graduation of 3 students this year - John VanderWindt, William Jones, and Dylan Harper. Three students in various stages of their seminary education are also being supported through encouragement, prayer, and finances. People who are passionate about supporting students are sought to join this team.

• **Redeemer University –** Dr. David Zeitsma, the president of Redeemer, reported: Highlights for Redeemer include an enrollment of 1100 students, 40th anniversary, new programs, and hosting the Kuyper Conference. Challenges include a large turnover of staff – new faces are welcome, but difficult to say goodbye to others. Dr. Zeitsma also spoke about the death of Beckett Noble by suicide. Many conversations have been had regarding sexuality and gender identity, and his death was a shock and a time of grief. Redeemer is committed to remain faithful to the CRC while remaining caring and supportive to the students on campus.

• **Calvin University -** Roseanne Lopers reported to Classis on behalf of the Board of Trustees. Calvin University has several new initiatives such as The Kyuper Conference, a hockey program, program expansion, Calvin Prison Initiative, Ready for Life Academy, and the 49507 Initiative.

• **World Renew -** Chris Orme reported on behalf of World Renew. Working in 31 countries in 5 regions, serving over 1,000,000 people. Classis quinte raised $206,000 in 2022 for World Renew.

• **Christian Stewardship –** Marinus Koole encouraged the churches to share the no-cost resources of Christian stewardship with their members. This includes estate planning, will preparation, powers of attorney (health, finances), trusts, succession planning, insurance and planned giving. Effective giving tools help us to give in smarter ways. Workshops are available to the churches.

• **Council of Delegates –** The COD report was included in the addendum, and expanded on by Frederick Wind. This was Frederick's last report as a delegate, and he was thanked for his service to Classis Quinte.

• **Church Counselor Reports:** Rev. Martin Spoelstra reported that Crossroads CRC in Ajax had their last service in May and are in the process of closing.

Decisions were made

• **The treasurer's report** was received for information. Wilkinson LLP is appointed to prepare the 2023 financial statements.

• **There are caps on the Missional Development Fund and the Ministerial Leadership Fund**. When these caps are realized, the excess funds will be distributed.

• **The term for License to Exhort** was changed from one year to three years.

People who serve:

• **Joan Crawford** was thanked for serving Classis Quinte as Stated Clerk for the last 4 years. Pastor Rita Klein-Geltink and Pastor Ben VanStraten presented a skit, flowers, and a gift card.

• **Joanne Adema's** appointment as Classis Quinte's Stated Clerk was ratified.

• **Carolyn Hoekstras** appointment as Classis Quinte's Safe Church coordinator was ratisfied.

• **The Council of Delegates** refused the nomination for Bruce Adema due to conflict of interest. Classis Quinte disagrees with this ruling, and will be communicating with the COD.

• **Sonya Verbeek** was approved for a second term on the Board of Ministry to Seafares (M2S)

• **Leo Jonker** was approved for a second term on the Classis Quinte Ministerial Leadership Team.

• **Ryan Nirula** was approved to be a Commissioned Pastor at Rehoboth CRC in Bowmanville, and granted the License to Exhort in Classis Quinte.

• **Darren Hoogendoorn's** ministerial credentials were extended for one year.