CHURCH FAMILY CAMPING 2024

PRE-BOOK DAY PASSES

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AUGUST 23RD - 25TH AT BALSAM LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK

FRIDAY
ARRIVAL & BONFIRES
SITE(S) TBD.
come for a day or the weekend...

SATURDAY
WINE & CHEESE
AFTERNOON TBD.
Site will be announced closer to date

SUNDAY
10AM WORSHIP
IN THE PARK
at the TBD

CONGREGATIONAL ASSISTANCE PLAN (CAP): Shalem Mental Health Network provides professional faith-based counselling services to our church through the CAP ministry. CAP usage is confidential and available to all congregants, at no cost for the first 6 sessions. To book an appt, or for more info, please call Shalem directly at: 905-528-0353, 1-866-347-0041, or text 289-335-3543, or email office@shalemnetwork.org.

COME AND SEE WHAT GOD IS DOING: The Christian Reformed Church is inviting you to Gather! In 2024 and 2025, we're bringing together Christian Reformed people from across North America in the spirit of fellowship, encouragement and renewal. Fifteen people from Classis Quinte are invited to attend Gather Niagara on **November 18-20, 2024** where they will join groups from four other regional classes. Through facilitated storytelling in small groups, participants will discuss ways God is bringing life to our congregations; how we can encourage greater participation; and where God is leading us in the coming months and years. All expenses will be covered through a generous grant. If you are interested in attending, please contact **Joanne Adema** at statedclerkquinte@gmail.com. To learn more, visit: crcna.org/Gather. Go to their video link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7WEBiRDimHU
***Need more information? Contact:* Joanne Adema**
Stated Clerk, Classis Quinte
Email: statedclerkquinte@gmail.com
Phone: 613-813-9875

CHURCH OFFICE: Sarah Cooke will be away on holidays from **August 21st - Sept. 3rd.** Please contact Pastor Ben during this time or send an email to jenningscreekcrc@gmail.com and Sarah will get back to you when she returns.

ONGOING SHELTER NEEDS INCLUDE:
Deodorant (men and women); shampoo; shaving cream; paper towels; toilet paper; all purpose cleaner; clear garbage bags ; canned food/non perishable food items; granola bars; & chocolate/candy. Donations can be brought to the church or dropped off at the shelter.

Pastor
Ben vanStraten
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Treasurer
Chris Terpstra
Tel: 705-878-6025
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Office Admin
Sarah Cooke
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Jennings Creek Church Office Hours : **Wednesday 11-2:30; Thursday 9-3 & Friday 9-12:30**

Jennings Creek
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

belong. grow. serve.

This Issue

LORD'S SUPPER SERVICE SCHEDULE: 2024
Sunday, Sept. 15th
Please join us. Everyone welcome

GROWING IN FAITH:
Family & Faith Formation Night: Our groups are gearing up for the upcoming year. Thank you to all of our volunteers and participants for making these ministries successful. See you all back in the fall. Have a wonderful summer.

NEW THIS FALL **CLUB KINGDOM BUILDERS:** For boys & girls grades 4-8 (ages 9-13). Learn fun skills while making friends and growing a deeper relationship with Jesus.

Ladies Bible Study: Coffee Break every Thursday at 9:30am; Nursery is available. Feel free to bring a friend. (Sept. to May).

Precept Bible Study returns in the fall on Monday's at 7pm or Tuesday's at 9:30am. Meet in the Fellowship Hall. Milly Nokes leads. ***"To be announced".***

Odyssey takes place every 4th Sunday of the month. Youth are released after the Sermon. We will resume classes in Sept.

Something for everyone and everyone is welcome!

NEXT MONTH'S COUNCIL MEETING:
Next council meeting will be held on Thursday, Sept. 5th, at 7:30pm. Council packets will be distributed on the Friday prior to the Council Meeting.

Jennings Creek
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 7/24

ANNUAL FALL KICK OFF BBQ:
Please join us! Everyone is invited. Hamburgers, hotdogs, corn and beverages will be provided. We ask that those attending bring a salad and dessert contribution. Also please remember to bring your lawnchairs. Looking forward to seeing everyone there!
TIME: 5:00pm
PLACE:
Ron & Kim
Fintelman's
3709 Hwy 35 Cameron

Monthly Finance Updates

OFFERING TOTAL RESULTS: JUNE 2024

Church Ministry Budget	$32,064.45
Special Offerings	
A Place Called Home	$1,194.00
Building & Grounds	$500.00
Celebration of Life Donation	$1,000.00
Property Purchase	$320.00
Facility Rental Income	$150.00
Rental Income Storage	$100.00
ReFrame Ministries	$394.00
Kawartha Lakes Pregnancy Centre	$1,187.00
Centre Community Church	$860.00
Thrive - Trinity Sunday	$75.00
Durham Christian High School	$110.00
Deacons	$350.00
W/R Canada Refugee Sunday	$140.00
Indigenous Ministries	$95.00
Micah House Ministries	$50.00
Teen Challenge	$50.00
TOTAL INCOME FOR JUNE	**$38,636.45**
YEAR-TO-DATE TOTAL	**$266,159.02**

This is the month in summary and includes Sunday morning Offerings, and June's PAR & GIVE App totals.

Church Family

SEPTEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER:
If you have something that you would like to share with the congregation, please submit to the church office. Deadline for contributions is the Wednesday (9:00am) prior to the end of the month. The Newsletter will be posted online on the 1st Sunday of the month to update everyone on what is going on in our church, community and beyond. There will be a limited amount of copies available on the Welcome Centre for those individuals that do not have internet and for guests. *(For those that have internet please look there. We are trying this to help save some office expenses. ~ Council)*

A NOTE FROM JAKE: Our CRC Synod had to deal with controversial issues to make a biblical decision and now the latest on human sexuality many parents struggle with the acceptance of a family member who is LGBTQ. We also are parents of a daughter who is LGBTQ and is legally married. We are not to decide whom God loves He did not come to condemn or the exclude. With prayer and trusting in God's promises we have learned from the conversation Jesus had with the Samaritan woman at the well and how to deal with sin (John 4). We all sin and need forgiveness. Many do not share our unconditional love with our daughter. Some parents are weary and hostile. Jesus said, *"Come to me all you who are weary, and I will give you rest."*

~ Jake Griffioen

HERITAGE UPDATE:
Gift card profits for the months of **July** was **$1,387.94**
If you would like to purchase gift cards or would like more information, please contact **Hank Bossema at 705-328-2061**.

Christian Reformed Church News

NEGLECTED CRISIS: Help Change the Forgotten Stories Your church has probably been moved to give when the media has focused on the impacts of disaster or conflict. But what happens after the cameras leave? World Renew and our Christian partners continue to help communities in countries like South Sudan, Ethiopia, and Madagascar, where extreme weather challenges or ongoing conflict can keep families in a state of hopelessness. As a member of the Integral Alliance, World Renew is working to draw attention to neglected crises. Your gift can help World Renew continue to work to share Christ's hope with communities forgotten by the media. To learn more, visit: worldrenew.ca/globalfoodcrisis

FROM WESTSIDE CRC: After nearly 18 months without a pastor, Westside is excited to announce the appointment of **Reverend Jana VanderLaan** as our new pastor. Rev. VanderLaan graduated from Calvin Theological Seminary, worked for some years as a co-pastor with her husband at Sahali Fellowship in Kamloops, B.C. We are deeply grateful to God, who after our long search has provided us with a pastor with gifts that we believe will bring significant blessings to our church community. We are thankful and we look forward with great anticipation to her ministry in this church. Rev. VanderLaan, her husband Mike, also an ordained pastor and their two teenage children have arrived in Kingston. Rev. VanderLaan will begin her work on August 1st and will be installed on Thursday, August 8th at 7:00pm. She will lead her first Sunday service at Westside on August 11th at 10:00 am.

Joanne Adema, Stated Clerk, Classis Quinte

MID-AMERICA REFORMED SEMINARY'S 2024 CENTER FOR MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM CONFERENCE! Mark your calendars for October 11–12 and join us at Bethel Church in Lansing, IL, to be inspired by plenary speakers sharing insights on reaching our local communities and the nations with the gospel message. Discover more details at midamerica.edu/cme/conference.

Kid Connections Armour of God

~ Photos submitted by Sarah Bakker

ARMOUR OF GOD SERIES: Our Kid Connection group presented the congregation with their armour that they made in their classes at the same time as we studied the Armour of God Series. They sang two songs that they learnt along with their lessons. Thank you to our Kid Connection Team for all your work and dedication in teaching our little ones. What a blessing!

YOU ARE INVITED to the Installation Service of **Pastor Darren Hoogendoorn** on August 29 at 7:00 PM. This special service marks the beginning of Pastor Darren's ministry here at Maranatha and we would be delighted to have you join in the celebration. Following the service, we will host a Dessert Social. Please bring your favorite dessert or baked good to share as we enjoy fellowship together. We look forward to celebrating this joyous occasion with you!

Precept Bible Study Schedule

LUKE PART 1: "Who Is This Man Who Frogives Sins?"
MONDAY EVENING 7:00 - 8:30 PM or
TUESDAY MORNING 9:30 - 11:00 AM
September 9/10 to March 3/4
(11 lessons – 22 weeks)
2 ½ hours of home study each week
Cost is $30
Ladies and Gentleman welcome
For more information contact Milly Nokes at 705-328-2629

CHURCHES GATHER FOR STRAWBERRY COMMUNION: In-season strawberries were used to make strawberry juice for a special communion celebration between churches and Indigenous leaders. In-season strawberries were used to make strawberry juice for a special communion celebration between churches and Indigenous leaders.
On Saturday, July 6, several church members who live and worship on the Six Nations Haldimand Tract treaty territory in southern Ontario gathered for a Strawberry Thanksgiving and Communion event. For a couple of hours they shared fellowship, listened to speakers, and commemorated the Lords' Supper using bannock bread and strawberry juice as a means of marking the establishment of a sacred covenant between a local Mennonite church and the Six Nations people of the Grand River.

Participants of Hearts Exchanged who live in the area were specifically invited by Adrian Jacobs, senior leader for Indigenous justice and reconciliation, to attend and observe the event. Seven CRC churches were represented. These participants were also encouraged to consider how their local congregations might establish a similar sacred covenant relationship with local Indigenous communities.

WHEN A MISSIONAL COMMUNITY MEETS A PUBLIC SCHOOL Pastor Terence Schilstra (center) helped to host a cookout for children at a local elementary school.
A Resonate Global Mission partner missional community has invested deeply in the life of a local elementary school in downtown Thorold, Ont. God is using that relationship to bring kingdom transformation throughout the neighborhood.
It started slowly. About eight years ago a group of people from The Village Church, a Christian Reformed church plant in Thorold, gathered to study the Bible and ask God to lead them in ways to serve their community. They soon met with the principal of a local elementary school, and among the questions they posed about opportunities to serve with the school, they asked, "What would you say is your school's greatest need?"
"A sense of community," he said.
The school had a reputation for being a little rough. Fights regularly broke out among parents as they dropped off or picked up their children. So the parents weren't allowed on the school grounds anymore—they had to wait for their kids at the chain-link fence surrounding the playground.
"This is in downtown Thorold," said Terence Schilstra, a Resonate church-plant partner who was part of the group from The Village Church. "It's a great place, but there are a lot of challenges here too. One in four kids lives in poverty . . . without suitable housing, food, and clothing. Along with that comes addiction and mental illness and other various challenges."
After brainstorming together, the church group began hosting monthly community dinners in the school's gymnasium. Though it started small, the event grew to host 80–100 people every month, filling the gymnasium with conversation and laughter.
Schilstra, his wife, and other members of The Village Church began to meet with neighbors at the community dinner. More people started coming to their group. Then the group started gathering weekly in someone's living room or garage.
Over time, said Schilstra, this group looked less like a small group and more like a church. And with support from donors toward innovative ministries in the CRCNA, they formed The Table, a missional community that meets regularly now in the Schilstras' carport across the street from the elementary school to share a meal, study Scripture, and build relationships with one another.
"We're a community of hope who live, work, and play in an intentional neighborhood," said Schilstra. "What we are attempting to do—and I think every Christian community is attempting to do this in some way—is to live in our community in a way that our Christian life touches all parts of our neighborhood."
The Table still hosts community dinners in the gymnasium about five times a year, and participants' lives have become intricately woven into daily life at the school.
They partnered with Youth for Christ to start an afterschool program on Tuesdays. Schilstra also volunteers every Friday afternoon during the students' lunchtime, talking with students and then playing basketball and soccer with them outside. Schilstra's wife, Karen, also volunteers as a lunchtime supervisor working on providing a meal program for students whose families can't afford school lunches. Another participant, Aaron, who is studying education at Brock University, is planning to start a tutoring program this summer.
Through this involvement and more, The Table has developed relationships with school staff, students, and families. And as a result the school knows they can trust and depend on The Table.
One day some teachers at the school learned that a single mother and her three children were homeless and sleeping in their car. The teachers informed the principal, and he called Schilstra to see if The Table could help.

Christian Reformed Church News

Pastor Terence Schilstra (center) helped to host a cookout for children at a local elementary school.

"We were able to get the mom and her three kids housed by the end of the day," said Schilstra.
On another occasion a grandmother of a student at the school asked Schilstra if he would connect with Blaine, one of her friend's grandsons, who was struggling with an addiction to fentanyl. The Table welcomed Blaine into their community, and they connected him to a recovery home where he was able to find healing. Blaine has been clean for more than a year and a half now, has become a follower of Jesus, and now organizes a lunch once a month in the recovery home where he healed.

"God is doing so much in Blaine's life. I feel proud of him. I feel so thankful that God loves and transforms us. I'm just so incredibly thankful for the way God rescues and restores," said Schilstra.

Change can take a long time, but Schilstra said The Table is committed to following God's lead in the school—their work in the school is having resonating effects throughout downtown Thorold.

"Anytime we experience the love of Jesus, there are multivariate ways in which the gospel touches our life," said Schilstra. "At The Table, we see the good news of Jesus transforming people's lives spiritually. We see people coming to know him and being baptized. We've also witnessed social and physical transformation in the school and in people's lives."

A new principal started working at the elementary school about a year ago. One day, as The Table was hosting a cookout for the students and Schilstra and the principal were flipping burgers together, the principal turned to Schilstra and said: "I've been an educator for over 25 years, and in all my years of being a teacher, I've never seen a deeper sense of community in a school."

ReFrame Ministries
God's Story. Today's Media.

REFRAME MINISTRIES:
KIDS CORNER: Words of Love - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Words can change the way we think about ourselves. When you choose your words wisely, it helps your friends remember that God loves them and that you also love them. And that helps your friends feel good about themselves. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Faith Practices for Families Ebook Collection.

GROUNDWORK: HUMANITY FALLS - Just after the story of creation, the Bible tells us the story of humanity's fall. Join Groundwork as we study Genesis 2–3, Romans 5:12, Romans 8:20–22, and Romans 3:9–23 to examine the second major theme of the Bible, the Christian doctrine of the fall. This theme emphasizes the catastrophic impact of sin on humanity and creation, and clearly articulates our universal need for a Savior in Jesus Christ. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive

THRIVE FAITH FORMATION TIP - Look for service opportunities that allow you to serve "with" people in need, rather than doing things "to" or "for" them. And always remember to look for things you can learn from people you serve. Learn more at crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject.