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.

CHURCH LIBRARY UPDATE

HOW CAN I BORROW A BOOK WHEN IT ISN'T SUNDAY? Answer: There is a sheet of paper and a pen or pencil to supply the requested info.

With help from my Library Software I can answer questions about which books we have in the library, esp Sunday mornings. So please come and see me, **Cora Wilms,** after the morning service in the Fellowship Hall.

NEEMA GOSPEL CHOIR: The Choir will be joining us on **Sunday, Aug. 31st**. Please join us and invite others you feel would enjoy this ministry.

UNDERSTANDING AGING AND DEMENTIA: Aging is a process that impacts us on many levels and involves a wide range of reactions. While normal aging comes with some cognitive changes, dementia is a disease that causes significant decline in cognitive functions, distinct from normal aging. In this edition of Shalem's monthly Mental Health Matters article, you'll learn how to identify the symptoms of dementia along with strategies and resources for how to care well for someone who is experiencing it. Follow this link to read the whole article.
https://shalemnetwork.org/understanding-aging-and-dementia/.

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Jennings Creek Church Office Hours : **Wednesday 11-2:30; Thursday 9-3 & Friday 9-12:30**

JULY 2025

Jennings Creek
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

belong. grow. serve.

This Issue

LORD'S SUPPER SERVICE SCHEDULE: 2025
Sunday, September 14, 2025
Please join us. Everyone welcome

GROWING IN FAITH:
Family & Faith Formation Night: Our groups finished up for another year. Thank you to all of our volunteers and participants for making these ministries successful. Truth Seekers, Club Kingdom Builders & Youth will start up again in the fall here at the church every Wednesday evening.

Ladies Bible Study: Coffee Break will resume in the fall every Thursday at 9:30am; Nursery is available. Feel free to bring a friend. (Sept. to May). Thank you to all of our leaders.

Precept Bible Study Has finished for the summer. It will start again on Monday's at 7pm or Tuesday's at 9:30am in the fall. Milly Nokes is the leader.

Odyssey takes place every 4th Sunday of the month. Youth are released after the Sermon. They are done for the summer and will return in the fall.

Something for everyone and everyone is welcome!

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

WELCOME The Bigelow's!

Hello, and Thank You For the Warm Welcome! We've been blown away by the warm welcome we have received since our arrival here in Lindsay. The generosity we've received through cards, gifts, kind words, and acts of service has quickly made us feel at home and excited for this new season of our lives in this church.
You may have already heard that before coming to Lindsay, Megan worked as a nurse at the Ottawa General Hospital, while Patrick had been studying in seminary in pursuing a call to ministry while also teaching and performing as a freelance musician. Here are a few more things about us that you may not have heard yet:
Megan is an avid knitter and crocheter, and often has many projects on the go. She also enjoys gardening and struggling to keep houseplants alive the rest of the year. She likes to play volleyball and go cross-country skiing.

~ continued on page 2

Monthly Finance Updates

OFFERING TOTAL RESULTS: JUNE 2025

Church Ministry Budget	$27,991.50
Special Offerings	
Durham Christian High School	$1,222.50
Kawartha Mission	$65.00
Kawartha Lakes Pregnancy Centre	$1,417.50
Heritage Christian School	$276.00
W/R Mom's of Hope Sunday	$145.00
Women's Resources	$25.00
Deacons	$670.00
ReFrame Ministries	$315.00
Resonate Global Mission	$488.00
W/R Indigenous Ministries Sunday	$545.00
Deacons - Johnathan Camp	$750.00
W/R Refugee Sunday	$585.00
A Place Called Home	$25.00
Facility Rental Income	$2,132.00
TOTAL INCOME FOR JUNE	**$36,652.50**
YEAR-TO-DATE TOTAL	**$210,877.13**

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

Church Family

AUGUST 2025 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)*

HUMBLE BEGINNINGS OF THE LINDSAY CRC:

In the early fifties many Dutch immigrants moved into the Lindsay area, many from different reformed denominations. Being in a new country many were searching for a church and spiritual guidance.

Two of the first pioneers, H. Arends and J. Wilms were instrumental to starting a CRC Church.

On July 13th, 1958 the Lindsay CRC was formally organized with Elder: H. Arends & Deacon: J. Wilms.

On October 12th, 1958 was the Installation of our first pastor Rev. Ringnalda. On January 25th, 1962, official opening of our present church building. This month, July 13th, 2025 we celebrate **73 years** of God's faithfulness for providing and growing church. I pray that His church may continue to grow and be a light to this community.

Bert VandenBerg's 95th Birthday

~ Jake Griffioen

WELCOME The Bigelow's!

~ continued from page 1

Patrick likes to fiddle with computers and all manner of tech and tools. He loves to read and discuss the writings of C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien. He also has a budding interest in spotting birds, identifying trees, and likes to go rock climbing. Together we enjoy canoeing, camping, alpine skiing, travelling on road trips, and playing board games.

Thank you again for welcoming us with open arms. We look forward to getting to know more of you, more about you, and to serving with you in the pursuit of the Kingdom of God!

~ Megan and Patrick Bigelow

BEHIND THE BANNER ARTICLE

~ continued from page 8

While these parts of the The Banner's guiding documents have been important, they have not stood alone. The Banner's mandate is much larger than those bullet points, and we intend to continue to fulfil it with editorial integrity while functioning within these changes.

Lament

When it comes down to it, journalism is about telling the truth. The truth is I lament synod's removal of those parts of our guiding document. I lament, especially, the way synod did it.

When Synod 2014 considered changing The Banner's mandate, it appointed a study committee to look at it for a year and report back. With that year of study and consideration, it came back with a report and decision. I lament that Synod 2025 did not do this. By going about it in this way, I believe synod not only did The Banner a disservice but did its readers—the CRC membership—a disservice by giving the appearance of curtailing its journalistic integrity.

In fact, our editor, Shiao Chong, felt he could not continue under this new mandate, choosing to resign in protest. I respect Chong's decision, and our team greatly appreciates the pastoral way he has led The Banner and the level of depth and thought he has brought to this role.

Journalism is also about understanding nuance and being able to view one event from multiple perspectives. For those of us who choose to continue this work, we hope and believe it is possible to maintain a thriving journalistic publication that does all synod's mandate calls for while also maintaining a level of independence that allows us to speak to the members of the CRC in the same way we always have.

A Closer Look

As we look closer at the ways the mandate has changed, and more importantly, how it has stayed the same, we believe the one addition and the few guideline changes will not much change how we operate. It most certainly will not change how we cover the news of the CRC. As for features, we have always worked within the Christian Reformed belief system. We have often included editor's notes sharing the official stance of the CRC when an author offered a criticism. And any articles with criticisms we have printed have been allowed very carefully, often with much revision and an eye for humility and grace. Now we will be more consistent in this practice, with even more clarity and specificity about the official positions of the denomination.

I want to point out specifically what has remained the same within The Banner's mandate. We staff are still called to report in an honest, unbiased manner information about activities affecting the church. We are still called to present materials to edify readers so as to encourage them to grow in Christian maturity and faith and to live out their faith in daily life. We are still called to provide a vehicle through which church members can express their views and opinions on pertinent issues. All these things we have done. All these things we want to do. All these things we will continue to do to the best of our ability, God willing.

What also has not changed is our editorial freedom to "inform … readers and subscribers about what is occurring in the church (including relevant problems, needs, and concerns) even though some persons, congregations, or agencies may prefer that such information not be disseminated." We have no intention of dropping this mandate. The Banner is a journalistic institution whose journalists love the church and want to love it well by raising "relevant problems, needs, and concerns," as the guidelines require of us.

The final section of the mandate is on editorial integrity. Nothing in it has changed. Synod has always expected editorial integrity of the Banner staff, and as a journalist and an editor, I can tell you plainly that if my fellow editors and I didn't feel we could maintain it, we would not remain. We happily will continue to use editorial integrity in our decisions and in our writing as we keep this magazine running.

Will you come with us?

I invite you to read the mandate of The Banner to see what has changed and what has remained the same. New parts are underlined. The sections with a strikethrough are the ones synod has removed. To read the full mandate go to:
https://www.thebanner.org/columns/2025/06/being-your-denominational-magazine

Christian Reformed Church News

CRC COMMUNICATIONS

WORLD RENEW: CALLED TO SERVE ONE ANOTHER HUMBLY IN LOVE - Galatians 5:13 teaches us we were called to freedom, and our freedom is meant to be used to serve one another humbly in love. Sadly, hundreds of thousands of refugee families around the world live trapped by fear and robbed of the opportunity to freely live up to their full potential. Next week, Refugee Sunday, join World Renew and learn how through our gifts of support to the World Renew Refugee Sponsorship and Resettlement Program, or through sponsorship, we can be part of the story of not only sharing Christ's love with refugee families, but also sharing the gift of freedom. For more information go to: worldrenew.ca/refugeesunday.

DIACONAL MINISTRIES CANADA: "*Moving Forward in Faith*" Conference Returns! - Back by popular demand! Diaconal Ministries Canada and Resonate Global Mission are pleased to partner up for the Moving Forward in Faith Conference, happening again this year on Friday evening, November 14 & Saturday, 15, 2025. This year's theme is The Church Released. Find our more on the event website: resonateglobalmission.org/moving-forward-faith. Save the date and plan to attend with your team!

REFRAME MINISTRIES

KIDS CORNER: TITLE - Trust God in Hard Times - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Trust in God in Hard Times" at www.kidscorner.net. Even when life feels super hard, God is always with you! Just like Elijah, Job, David, and even Jesus faced tough times, God's love and comfort never left them—and He'll never leave you either! Check out all the great content at www.kidscorner.net, like The Kids Corner Activity Book Collection.

GROUNDWORK: Justice and Jesus the Prophet - In Luke, we see Jesus the prophet preaching and teaching about justice, specifically economic justice, in the tradition of the Old Testament prophets. Join Groundwork as we dig into Luke 1:46–55, Luke 6:20–26, Luke 16:19–31, Luke 9:28–31, Luke 4:16–30, and Luke 24:13–49 to discover what he teaches us about how and when we should care for justice as Christians in the world today. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

THRIVE

FAITH FORMATION TIP - Indigenous Ministry Sunday is set aside to celebrate the gifts and richness that Indigenous people bring to life in Canada and the United States. Storytelling is an important part of Indigenous cultures. It is one way they pass on the story of their people and their history. The Bible is the story of God and God's people. Telling Bible stories is a way we pass along God's story from one generation to the next. These stories help us to know who God is and what God has done. What is your favorite Bible story? Why do you like it? What does it tell you about God? How does it affect the way you live today? Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

OTHER

CALVIN UNIVERSITY: Global Leadership Summit Simulcast - August 7–8, 2025 | Calvin University - Join leaders from around the world for a live simulcast of the Global Leadership Summit Simulcast, hosted locally at Calvin University's Covenant Fine Arts Center. Hear from top global speakers on leadership, purpose, and innovation. Open to professionals, students, educators, and community members. Early Bird tickets available through July 16. More info & registration at https://brushfire.com/582107.

For decades, The Banner has been the official magazine of the Christian Reformed Church. Since 2015, this magazine has worked under a mandate and publishing guidelines that called for editorial staff to show "the diverse positions held within the church" and permitted staff to "lead and encourage a responsible discussion of the issues important to the life of the church through editorial comment and publication of articles that represent the various views held within the church" and permit "people of the church to voice their views and reactions even though some of these views may be unacceptable to others in the church."

With these guidelines, while no organization is perfect at living out its goals, we have acted sincerely and with an enormous amount of thought. In doing so, we have upheld an almost 160–year tradition and published an award-winning magazine.

Now Synod 2025 has asked The Banner to stop doing those three things and to change some of our approach in being the denominational magazine. Our biblically prophetic and responsible criticism and evaluation of trends within the church must include "proper acknowledgement and respect for the official positions of the CRCNA and within the confines of our confessional commitments."

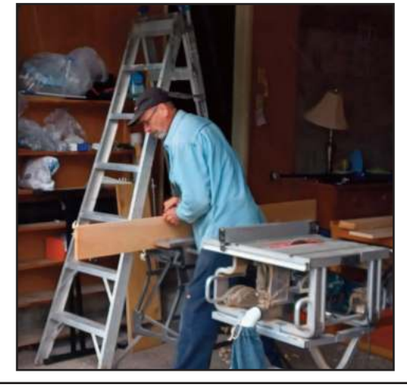
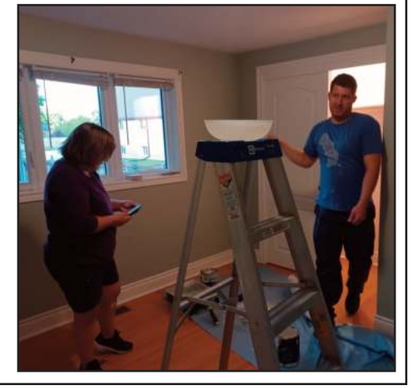
~ continued on page 9

PARSONAGE RENOVATIONS

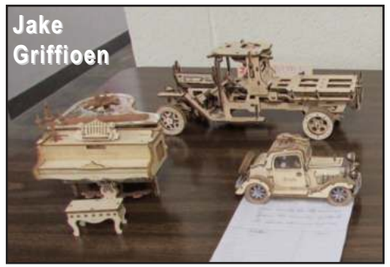
WHAT A BLESSING!

THANK YOU: A huge thank you to all of the volunteers who came out and helped with the parsonage renovations and the clean up in preparation for Patrick & Megan Bigelow's arrival. We couldn't have gotten it done without your time and talents.

~ photos submitted by Marilyn Kuiperij

Jennings Creek CRC Gifting Show 2025



THANK YOU: To all of this years participants in the 2025 JCCRC Gifting Show. Such a wide variety of talent that God has truly blessed you all with. Another successful showing of how God uses us to glorify His Kingdom.

~ photos submitted by Lena Wilms

ANNUAL CHURCH BBQ & THE BIGELOWS

~ photos submitted by Lena Wilms

THE END OF ANOTHER SEASON & WELCOMING THE BIGELOWS: So much fun was had as we played games, ate wonderful food and enjoyed each others company. Have a wonderful and safe summer.

OUR CLASS OF 2025 GRADUATES

AUBREE:
Graduated from Kindergarten to Grade 1.

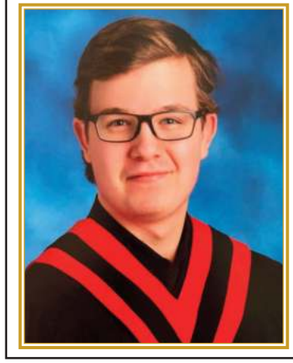
AUDREY PAGE:
Graduated Valedictorian of her Grade 8 class at Fenelon Township Public School. She will be starting St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary School in the fall for grade 9!

MORIAH VANSTRATEN:
Moriah has graduated Grade 8 at Heritage Christian School. She will be starting high school at St Thomas Aquinas.

MOSES BAKKER:
Is graduating from Grade 12 at I.E. Weldon Secondary School, and he will be pursuing work opportunities.

SANNERIKE BONS:
Graduated Grade 12 from St Thomas Aquinas.

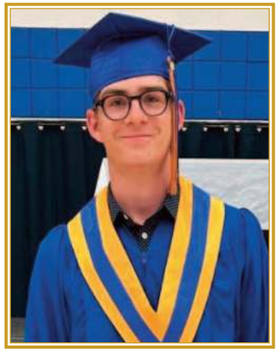
ANGELINA PYPKER:
Graduated Grade 12 from St. Thomas Aquinas.
Taking a gap year.
Hoping for a career in agriculture.



LIAM TERPSTRA:
Is graduating from Fenelon Falls Secondary School and will be attending Fleming College in the spring, taking the Heavy Equipment Operators course.

ELLA VanHALTEREN:
Graduated from Durham Christian High School, (as an Ontario Scholar) She will be attending Niagara University in NY for a Sports Management Degree

OUR CLASS OF 2025 GRADUATES



JOSIAH VANSTRATEN:
has Graduated Grade 12 from St Thomas Aquinas high school. He will be starting the paramedic program at Fleming college in September.

THEA VanHALTEREN:
Graduated from Redeemer University.

Graduation Prayer

May you celebrate the past and look hopefully toward your future.

May you have courage to use your gifts in new ways and places.

May you take a step every day toward your dreams and truth.

May home always bring inspiration and comfort.

ALL ONTARIO YOUTH CONVENTION REFLECTION

MICAH VANSTRATEN: This year's AOYC was a milestone for me — not just as an attendee, but as someone who got to help bring it to life. I had the honour of serving as one of the MCs throughout the weekend. It was incredible to watch the months of preparation come together and to see students across Ontario encounter Jesus in real, powerful ways.

Being part of the event in this way gave me a deeper appreciation for what it means to create space for youth to meet with God. One unexpected blessing came during a session with our main speaker, Aliza Latta. Through her message and her connection to Change Conference, I ended up learning about a summer opportunity to join their team — and now I'm excited to share that I've been hired as a part time Customer Service Representative for Change Conference!

I'll be working to help promote their events, connect with churches and youth leaders across the country, and support the mission of seeing every student in Canada hear and respond to the message of Jesus.

AOYC wasn't just a highlight of my year — it was a launching point into something much bigger. I'm incredibly grateful to have been part of it, and I can't wait to see how God continues to move.