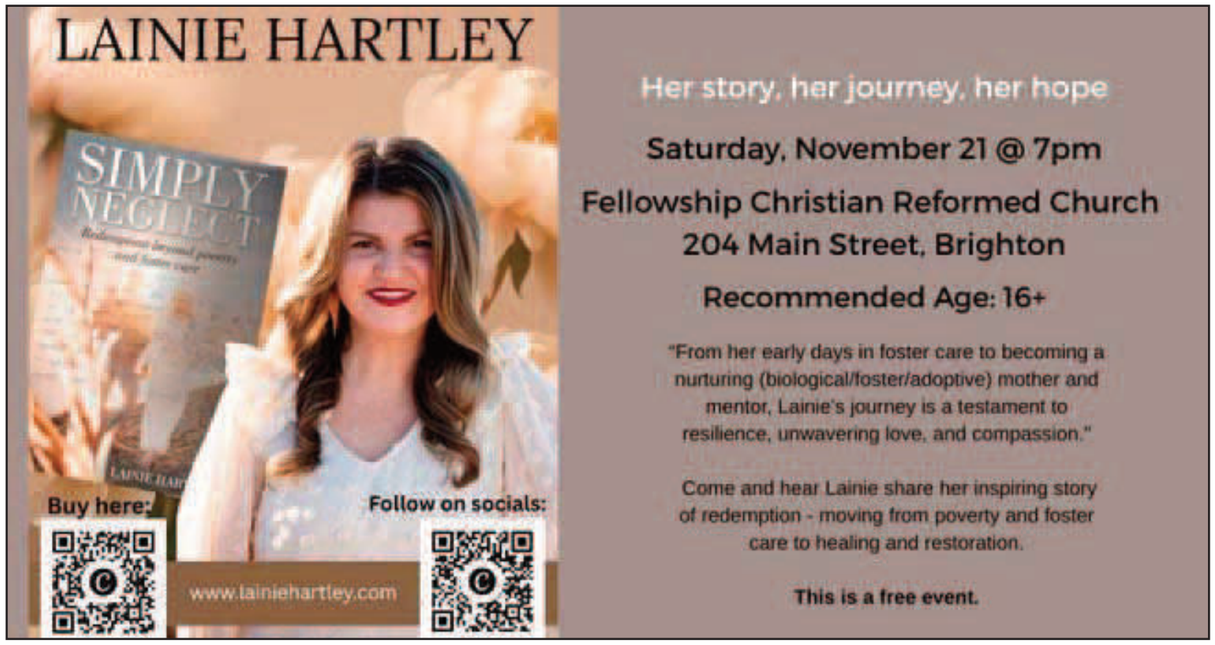
CONGREGATIONAL ASSISTANCE PLAN (CAP): Shalem Mental Health Network provides professional faith-based counselling services to our church through the CAP ministry. CAP usage is confidential and available to all congregants, at no cost for the first 6 sessions. To book an appt, or for more info, please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

THE KAWARTHA LAKES SINGERS are presenting ***"Echoes of the Past"*** at St. PAUL"S ANGLICAN CHURCH, LINDSAY on **Sunday Nov. 15th, 2026 at 2:30 pm**.Songs of Remembrance and Songs We Remember. **Tickets are $25, & $10** for children and students. You can purchase tickets at klsingers.ca or **(Marilyn Kuiperij at our church)**. More information is available at kawlakesingers@gmail.com.
Proceeds will go in part to the Food Pantry that St. Paul's Anglican Church.



Pastor
Ben vanStraten
Tel: 705-341-4114
pastorbenvs@gmail.com

Director of Faith Formation
Patrick Bigelow
Tel: 514-914-7282
jenningscreekfaithformation@ proton.me

Office Admin
Sarah Cooke
Tel: 705-328-0177
jenningscreekcrc@gmail.com

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

NOVEMBER 2026

Jennings Creek
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

belong. grow. serve.

This Issue

LORD'S SUPPER SERVICE SCHEDULE:
Sunday, November 22, 2026
Sunday, December 25, 2026
Sunday, February 7, 2027
Sunday, April 28, June 13 & Sept 19, 2027
Please join us. Everyone welcome

GROWING IN FAITH:

Family & Faith Formation Night: Welcome back! Thank you to all of our volunteers and participants for making these ministries successful. Truth Seekers, Club Kingdom Builders & Youth are on **Wednesdays** at **6:30pm**.

Ladies Bible Study: Coffee Break is on **Thursdays** at **9:30am**; Nursery is available. (Sept. to May). Thank you to all of our leaders.

YOUNG ADULTS: is scheduled to take place on the 1st & 3rd **Monday** at **6:30pm** at the Pypker's.

is scheduled to continue on Mondays & Tuesdays. **Milly Nokes** is the leader.

Precept Bible Study

Odyssey Dates: Nov. 22nd; Dec. 13th; Jan. 24th; Feb. 28th; Mar. 28th; Apr. 25th & May 23rd. Youth are released after the Sermon.

CUB CAR RALLY: Wed. Nov. 25th at 6:30pm. Everyone is invited.

Something for everyone and everyone is welcome!

NEXT MONTH'S COUNCIL MEETING:
Next council meeting will be held on Thursday, Dec. 3rd, at 7:30pm. Council packets will be distributed on the Friday prior to the Council Meeting.

Council continues to work diligently while Pastor Ben is away. We have learned how much we look to him for wisdom and guidance. We pray for the Holy Spirit to lead us in Ben's absence, and to bless him and Jen while they take time to renew their commitment to each other.
Remember them in your prayers and reach out to your elder if you are in need of prayer.
Thank you. Council chair.

Heavenly Father,
We lift up our pastor, his family, and our entire church body to You today.
Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon our pastor. *Grant him divine wisdom, renewed strength, and unwavering passion to preach Your Word with clarity and boldness. Protect his heart from*

~ continued on Advent insert page

Monthly Finance Updates

OFFERING TOTAL RESULTS: OCTOBER 2026

Church Ministry Budget	$14,197.12
Special Offerings	
Redeemer University	$115.00
Heritage Christian School	$176.00
Community Soup Kitchen	$215.00
Deacons	$350.00
Kawartha Lakes Pregnancy Centre	$125.00
Resonate Global Mission	$190.00
CRCNA Ministry Shares	$165.00
New Ground Prison Ministres	$232.50
Kawartha Food Source	$1,835.00
Thrive: Disability Awareness	$486.00
Ministry To Seafarers	$545.00
Sound & Visual Equipment Upgrade	$180.00
Facility Rental Income	$500.00
TOTAL INCOME FOR OCTOBER	**$19,311.62**

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

Church Family

DECEMBER 2026 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.

LORD'S SUPPER SERVICES 2026/27
Sunday, Nov. 22, 2026
Sunday, Dec. 25
Sunday, Feb. 7, 2027
Sunday, Apr. 28
Sunday, Jun. 13
Sunday, Sept. 19
Please join us. Everyone welcome

HERITAGE UPDATE:
Gift card profits for the months of **October** was **$2401.65** . If you would like to purchase gift cards or would like more information, please contact **Heritage Christian School at 705-324-8363**.

CUB CAR DERBY: Bring a main dish or a dessert to share as we will be having a **"Finger Food Potluck"** in the sanctuary. Evening begins at **6:30pm** and everyone is welcome!

Christian Reformed Church News

NOVEMBER 1, 2026 (WORLD HUNGER SUNDAY) - WORLD RENEW: Today, hunger is a harsh reality for many families worldwide. World Renew equips families with tools and training to end hunger in their homes and communities, and your church can make a difference with us. Your gifts to World Renew help ensure there is enough for every table—enough food, enough hope, and enough of God's goodness shared with everyone. Visit worldrenew.org/worldhunger to learn more, and access downloadable resources at worldrenew.org/churches.

NOVEMBER 8, 2026 (INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH): When one part of the body of Christ suffers, we all suffer; when they rejoice, we all rejoice. This International Day of Prayer, we stand with our persecuted brothers and sisters. They aren't "other people"—they are our own family.

NOVEMBER 15, 2026 (CHAPLAINCY SUNDAY) - THRIVE: Today we recognize the valuable gospel-spreading work of chaplains. The goal of a chaplain is to proclaim the love of God to people by being a good neighbor and demonstrating God's love to them in a tangible way. Chaplains are exceptional, well-trained ministers of the Word or commissioned pastors who serve in specialized ministries beyond the walls of the church. Thrive provides the necessary professional training and resources for all CRC chaplains and we have the opportunity to join in this support by giving to Thrive's ministry work.

RESONATE GLOBAL MISSION

JOIN US NOVEMBER 13-14 FOR MOVING FORWARD IN FAITH 2026 - Moving Forward in Faith Conference registration closes this Friday, November 6! Come for all or part of it! With over 30 dynamic workshops to pick from, motivating plenary sessions by Victor Ko, and times of worship and networking, this conference will equip you with practical skills and spiritual insights to better serve your local community. Check out the workshops and registration link at: resonateglobalmission.org/moving-forward-2026. We can't wait to see you there!

THRIVE

THRIVE FAITH FORMATION TIP - The Examen is a helpful daily prayer tool that Christians have used for hundreds of years to review their day in a godly way. This is a great bedtime practice for people of all ages. Try this simplified Examen this week: First, pray that God will give you insight. Then ask yourself two questions: "What was I most grateful for today?" and "What was I least grateful for today?" Close in prayer, thanking God for the blessings of the day, and asking God's help with your shortcomings. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

ReFRAME MINISTRIES

KIDS CORNER DEVOTIONS: JESUS' BACKWARDS KINGDOM - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Jesus' Backwards Kingdom" at www.kidscorner.net. How do we become great in God's kingdom? Jesus taught his disciples that following him means loving and serving others with a humble heart. Being humble means using our words, talents, and possessions to lift others up. Check out the new Kids Corner Devotions app at https://kidscorner.net/app

GROUNDWORK: PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING - The apostle Paul instructs us to rejoice and pray with thanksgiving, but in the realities of daily life, it doesn't always feel that easy. Join Groundwork as we study Philippians 4:4–7, 1 Chronicles 29:10–20, Exodus 15:1–2, 20–21, and Luke 1:46–55 to see why including gratitude in our prayers matters and how it benefits our relationship with God and enriches our prayer life. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

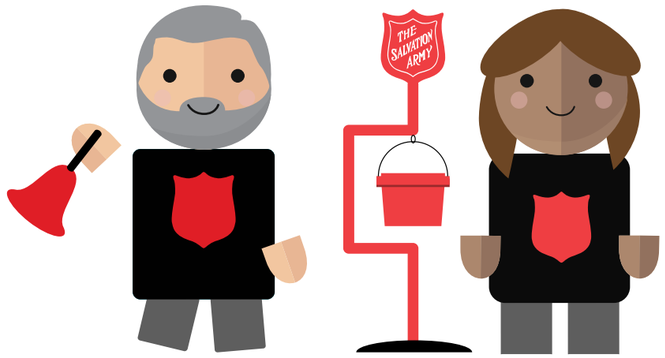
BEHIND THE SHIELD

Become a Kettle Bell Volunteer

THE SALVATION ARMY — Giving Hope Today

VOLUNTEER ROLE POSTING:

KETTLE BELL WORKER



Location:
7 Locations in Lindsay

Time Commitment:
Each shift is just 2 hours long

Working Conditions:
All kettles are indoor out of the elements

Role Purpose Summary:

Do you like sharing a smile and helping raise money for those who need it most in your community? In this volunteer position you will be part of one of The Salvation Army's oldest Christmas traditions by standing next to the kettle bell and greeting people as they pass by.

For individuals who offer a donation, you will be asked to acknowledge their contribution, say thank you and Merry Christmas.

Join the wonderful team of Kettle Bell Workers and spread the spirit of the season!

Where Does The Money Go?:

All donations made in Lindsay stay in Lindsay providing direct support to The Salvation Army Community and Family Services and together we will continue to fight food insecurity, meet needs, and bring hope to our community!

Key Accountabilities:

- Be warm, courteous and approachable – SMILE
- Make eye contact and be attentive
- Have a joyful attitude and say "Merry Christmas"
- After receiving a donation, be grateful and remember to say "Thank you"
- Dress for the weather and dress appropriately
- Be punctual to relieve the earlier volunteer
- Do not change the area in which the kettle is placed
- Do not obstruct the flow of mall or store traffic
- Do not wear headphones or smoke
- Do not sit or leave the kettle unattended
- Never speak to the media, instead please contact the Kettle Coordinator

CALL TODAY TO GET THE LIST OF LOCATIONS!

For more information please contact: **Doug Dunstan - 2026 Kettle Coordinator - 705-934-5523**
doug.dunstan@salvationarmy.ca

WE NEED YOUR HELP FOR ADVENT 2026

~ for more intofmation please speak with Jess Terpstra

~ cont'd from Council Highlights pg. 1

exhaustion and shield him from spiritual attacks.
Bless and safeguard his family. *Enfold his wife and children in Your loving presence. Keep their home a safe haven of peace, joy, and unified faith. Meet all of their physical, emotional, and financial needs according to Your riches.*
Unite and strengthen our church family. *Knit our hearts together in genuine love, humility, and grace. Help us to be a source of consistent encouragement and active support to our pastoral leaders. May our congregation shine brightly as a beacon of truth, hope, and salvation in our community.*
We ask that Your favor rest upon us all as we serve You together.
In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

MINISTRY 2 SEAFARERS: Strategic Planning Update from the Board

In the past few months, the Board has been focused on visiting churches to express our thanks and appreciation for 60 years of partnership and to give an update on our work.

Through visits and tours, the staff have introduced more than 80 people to the work in the Port this year.

Together, we continue to work towards sustainability of this ministry and your support is invaluable.

We are seeking one board member from Classis Quinte of the Christian Reformed Church.

To express your interest, contact **Shawn Brix (Board Chair) or Michelle DePooter.**

GIVING AND GROWING AT M2S

~ by Megha Poudel, Summer Intern

Five people posing in front of a wall of money:
Chaplain Michelle, Cindy, Carolyn, Chaplain David and Megha

This summer, I had the privilege of serving as a summer intern. My primary responsibility during the internship was to accompany one of the chaplains on ship visits and engage in conversations with seafarers. I spent time talking with them, listening to their stories, and learning about their lives. In addition, I studied ministry materials and learned more about the mission of the M2S.

One of the highlights of my internship was meeting people from many different countries. Most of the crew members I encountered were from the Philippines and India. Since I already knew Hindi, I had the opportunity to use it in conversations with Indian seafarers, which helped me improve my fluency and confidence.

Beyond communication, this internship taught me one of the most valuable skills I have ever learned — how to listen. Before this experience, I often found it difficult to listen without trying to respond immediately. Spending time with seafarers reminded me that sometimes people simply need someone who is willing to hear their story.

I was also blessed to work alongside wonderful chaplains who patiently guided me. They helped me understand the Bible more deeply, explained different interpretations of Scripture, and encouraged me to grow in my faith. Their mentorship strengthened both my biblical understanding and my desire to serve others.

Two women and a man posing:
Megha with Captain Radev and Chaplain Michelle

One conversation that deeply impacted me was with a ship captain. He asked about my faith journey, and I shared how I came to believe in Jesus Christ. Although he had been raised in a Catholic family, he explained that he no longer believed in God. Instead, he believed there was a greater force because everything in his life had gone well. He also argued that there is no objective good or evil, but that society simply creates its own standards of right and wrong. He further shared that seeing people kill one another in the name of God convinced him that the God people preach must be "dead."

His perspective challenged me to think carefully about my own faith. I responded by explaining that Jesus never harmed anyone in the name of religion and that He is the perfect example of goodness. I told him that the goodness and greater force he was describing ultimately point to Jesus Christ, while acknowledging that each person must decide what they believe.

Before leaving, he asked about my future plans, and I shared that, God willing, I hope to become a minister. His response surprised and encouraged me when he said, "I can see that in you." That encounter challenged me to think more deeply about faith, doubt, and the importance of living out the gospel authentically.

Another unforgettable memory took place during a visit to a ship where we were delivering SIM cards. The Third Officer approached me and showed me an ultrasound picture of his unborn child. He shared that he and his wife were expecting a baby girl in September and that the main reason he wanted the SIM card was so he could stay connected with his family until he completed his contract and returned home. He excitedly explained that, for generations, no one in his family, including his brothers, had ever had a daughter, and this would be the first girl in the family. His joy was contagious, and seeing his excitement reminded me of the deep sacrifices seafarers make by spending months away from their loved ones. That simple conversation remains one of my favorite memories.

Overall, my internship with the Ministry to Seafarers was one of the most meaningful learning experiences I have had. I witnessed first-hand how much seafarers appreciate the ministry's presence. Many of them expressed gratitude for having a place where they could rest, connect with family, receive practical assistance, and purchase necessities at affordable prices. Seafarers play a vital role in the global economy, yet their sacrifices often go unnoticed. Serving alongside the Ministry to Seafarers gave me a deeper appreciation for their work and for the importance of ministries that care for them. I leave this internship with valuable ministry experience, stronger communication and listening skills, a deeper understanding of Christian service, and many memories that I will cherish for years to come.

Operation Christmas Child & Ministry 2 Seafarers 2026

~ photo submitted by Lena Wilms

Our churches **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** due date is **Nov 15/26**.
Thank you everyone for your participation. Our CoOrdinator is **Joanna Charlton.**

Our churches **MINISTRY TO SEAFARERS** bags due date is **Nov 18 & 19/26**.
Thank you everyone for your participation. Our CoOrdinator is **Arnold Depooter.**

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR INMATES 2026

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR INMATES: This Christmas, we once again have a wonderful opportunity to share hope and encouragement with inmates at the Central East Correctional Centre (Lindsay Prison). Would you consider writing a short note or Christmas message to someone who could use a reminder of God's love this season?

Beautiful cards are available in the foyer at the Welcome Centre (see image above). Take as many as you'd like—we've committed to sending **500** cards so that every inmate receives one this Christmas!

You might include an encouraging word, a meaningful Scripture verse, or a simple Christmas blessing. Please remember not to include your name or contact information.

When you're finished, simply place your completed cards in the mailbox on Pastor Ben's office door or Sarah Cooke's office door by **November 15th**.

Let's join together in spreading the light of Christ this Christmas!