



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

October 28, 2018

CHURCH FAMILY

We extend our condolences to Joyce Wiersma, Punk and Larry Kielstra, Kevin & Megan Kielstra, Dennis & Kelsea Kielstra, Nick & Cheri-Ann Kielstra, Jeff & Janelle Kielstra, Jim Kielstra, Ed & Gerry Huizenga, BettyLou & Clarence VanKampen, Carol & Lee Conway and their extended families with the passing of their husband, father and grandfather, great grandfather, brother-in-law and our brother in Christ Case Wiersma on Saturday October 20, at the age of 83. The memorial service is to take place here at Gateway CRC Monday, October 29 at 11:00 am with Pastor Bert Slofstra officiating.

Please continue to pray for Monique Lieuwen who is in the Ukraine as part of Global Aid Network (GAIN)'s Disaster Assistance Response Team until Nov 2.

PRAYER

As a community of believers, we strongly believe in supporting our church family in prayer. Please hold the following up in prayer this week:

Gateway Family

Jessica Thiessen Johanna Sprietsma
Tim & Danielle Funk, Levi, Rayah, Isaac & Abby
Kelwyn & Jill Hoepfner, Kaleb, Adalyn

Council Members

Elder | Jeff Kiers
Deacon | Jason Doppenberg

October Ministries | Search Team, Council, Extreme Weather Shelter
Abbotsford church | Trinity Memorial United Church

Senior's Corner

Please pray for and if possible visit from time to time those who find it difficult if not impossible to get out. They include:

Jenny Faber: Mayfair Home, 33433 Marshall Road
Pieter Fictorie: Menno Hospital
Teresa Prins: 35230 Delair Road
John Sturru: MSA Manor, 2510 Gladwin Road
Ann Teyema: 35230 Delair Road
Corrie Wagenaar: 35230 Delair Road
Catharina Valk: Rosewood Cottage, 22051 Fraser Hwy

From The Interim Pastor's Pen

Synod 2018 of The Christian Reformed Church asked all of our congregations to take the opportunity to acknowledge and focus on the 400th anniversary of the meeting of the Synod of Dort which took place, in Dordrecht the Netherlands, from November 13, 1618 to May 9, 1619. Our Council has agreed to do so and have in turn asked me to focus on that

anniversary which I plan and hope to do today (Sunday). It also seems appropriate to do this at this time so close to the 501st anniversary of Martin Luther publishing, in Wittenberg on Oct 31, 1517, his 95 Theses which really launched the more public phase of The Protestant Reformation.

As has often happened in the past I have discovered, all over again, that it is one thing to agree to do something and quite another thing to actually carry it out especially when one is aware of the fact that there are severe time restrictions.

The Synod of Dort, met for six months and a sermon, today, generally should be done within the framework of 25-30 minutes. Moreover, what the synod produced "The Canons of Dort" are generally not as well-known as a document like the Heidelberg Catechism and especially its famous question: "What is Your Only Comfort in Life and in Death?" In today's sermon, which will be more of a topical one rather than one that focuses on understanding a Biblical passage or text, I will strive to summarize/explain the contents of the Canon which the synod produced.

But all of it has a context and that context is also important. Since that cannot be done within the time frame of the sermon I invite anyone who is interested to grab a coffee and come to room 107, after the service, for some focus on the context and a brief question and answer period.

Be blessed!

Pastor Bill

GATEWAY NEWS



Cookies for Kids - October 28 –hosted by Kidz Church

On Sunday, October 28 the congregation will have the opportunity to donate to the Fishbanks in exchange for a sweet treat provided by our Kidz Church kids! All proceeds go to World Renew's World Hunger Campaign.

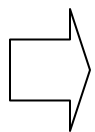
Parents: Please help the children remember to bring their Peter Fishbanks back on

Sunday, November 4. The deacons/counting committee will be showing the kids how the money gets counted and talking about what the money is used for.

Young Adult Bible study

Can you help with an 8-week Bible Study for our **Young Adults** that will, Lord willing, start in January? To make this study a reality 4-6 volunteers are needed. Please email Marcel know if you can help out.

Financial Update



In order for Gateway Community to meet our needs and obligations for 2018 we need approximately (contributions collected up to October 20): \$317,000. Our fiscal year ends on November 30, 2018.

Pastoral Elder Round Table Discussion led by Pastor Bill on the topic:

"How do we best minister to our District Lists and Care Groups".

Meeting in the Chapel from 7:00 – 8:30 pm on Tuesday, October 30.

Gateway's Christmas Craft Fair is happening on November 16 & 17!

Make sure you save the date to come by and shop for all your Christmas gift needs!

Invite your friends!

- Vendor tables still available: If you wish to be a vendor at the fair, please go to www.gatewaycrc.org to download the Vendor Application form, fill it out and drop it off in Christine Gross' mailbox.
- If you know any artisans or someone who might like to have a table please share this information.

Prayer Ministry

The Prayer Cafe meets on Tuesday evenings, from 7:00 – 8:30 pm in the prayer room off of the lobby. Please be encouraged to join us for prayer, coffee and fellowship. GEMS/Cadets parents are welcome to join us while their kids are at boys and girls club. Come join us, we aim to make this a non-threatening place, a comfortable space to come to pray or be prayed for, to contemplate or chat, be creative or simply be. You can sit quietly, listen to music, finish a project (knitting, needle point, etc) or colour any of the prayer cafe colouring pages. A prayer leader will always be available for personal prayer or to take prayer requests.

Coffee Break – Women’s Bible Study Ministry

Coffee Break meets upstairs in the Heritage Building on Wednesday mornings from 9:30 – 11:00 am. We invite you to bring a friend, bring your babies and toddlers. Our loving and caring Volunteers in the Nursery and the Story Hour Ministry will take very good care of your children. We are studying “James Living on the Edge”. Looking forward to seeing you there. Your Coffee Break Leaders Team

Cascade Christian Counseling Association

If you would still like to make a donation to Cascade’s annual membership and donation drive please leave it in Jenny Vanderheide’s mail slot or give it to her directly. Donations can also be made by phoning the Cascae office at 604-585-1411. Thank you.

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES

GEMS & Cadets GIRLS & BOYS CLUBS

Club meetings are Tuesdays from 7 – 8:30 pm.

Sunday morning Kidz Church for Children age 3 - Grade 3!

Check your kids in at the ark, parents can pick up a take home sheet.

This week: God sends manna and quail

Next week: Moses sees God’s holiness

Check in this week:

Check in next week: Rebecca

Youth Group: November 1 at 7:30 pm. Small group Alpha discussion: The Cross: Why did Jesus Have To Die?

Mexico Orphanage Outreach application deadline is November 1. If your son/daughter (grades 8-12) wants to join this amazing youth missions trip to Vincent Guerrero, Mexico, we will need to have all the applications by Nov 1 so that we can confirm our seats on Amtrack. Please bring application to Matt Delville or Pastor Marcel before or at Youth Group on Thursday night.

MEETINGS

If you are planning a meeting, big or small please contact the office, office@gatewaycrc.org, to book your space and time; our building is a busy place!

Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 29 starting at 7:30 pm. Please plan to attend and bring your copy of the agenda, only a limited amount of extras will be available.

The **Pastoral Elders** met this past Wednesday evening. Here is a recap:

- Elder Mark Vaandrager opened the meeting with devotions from Romans 14 and with prayer
- Pastoral Elder Minutes from Sept 19, 2018 were approved as presented
- The Pastoral Elders reported 39 visits made
- Membership Matters:
 - Jeremy and Ashley Driegen requested to have their membership transferred to East Hill Community CRC in Vernon. Approved. We wish them the Lord's blessing
 - 5 memberships were lapsed
- Worship Matters
 - Reports were received and discussed from Pastor Bill and Sandra Barthel and Heather Hoogland
 - Discussion was had regarding our Sunday services
 - Preaching schedule for Nov, Dec and Jan was distributed
- Minutes were received, reviewed and discussed from the Administrative Board, Deacons and the Search Team
- Elders were given the book "Church Elders: How To Shepherd God's People Like Jesus"
- Meeting concluded with communal prayer

GATEWAY COMMUNITY GROUPS

Movie Hub takes place on Sunday, November 4. We will be watching the movie Adrift, a true story, at 7:15 pm in room 205. Rated PG13. For more information contact Jolene Versteeg, jversteeg57@hotmail.com.

Gateway Book Club All are welcome! For those who could not attend last Thursday's meeting and did not receive a book, any extra copies will be available at the Welcome Center on Sunday after the service. Book Club will meet on the fourth Thursday of the month in the Prayer Lounge. All are welcome! For more information contact Jolene Versteeg, jversteeg57@hotmail.com.

Men's Darts club will be meeting on the first, third and fifth Thursdays of the month this season from 7:30 – 9:00 pm in the multipurpose room. For more information call Allan Mulder at 604-302-7382. Darts is happening on November 1.

Women's Volleyball meets in the gym from 7:15—8:30 pm on Tuesday evenings. For more info contact Sarah 604-897-5727.

Men's Drop In Basketball meets on Monday evenings in the gym from 7:30—9:00 pm. For more information call Matt at 604-835-3089. No basketball on October 29 due to congregational meeting. **A new contact person is needed for this group; if you are interested please call Matt.**

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Extreme Weather Shelter

Let us be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ and show his love in our own neighbourhood. Gateway is once again hosting an Extreme Weather Shelter for the homeless this winter from November 1st to March 31st. We are looking for assistance in the following areas: bringing a meal in a crock pot, bringing three dozen buns with something on them, volunteering from 7:30 to midnight with two other people, or volunteering from midnight to 8:30 am with one or two other people. Ideally if we have enough volunteers this would be a commitment of once every week or once every two weeks when the shelter is open.

The shelter is open if there is snow on the ground, and/or the temperature is 0 or below, or if there is a heavy rainfall warning. Last season the shelter was open over 80 nights. We work together with BC Housing, the Salvation Army and Cyrus Center Thank you for your consideration of this ministry, for more information contact Jenny Vanderheide at 604 854 5215 or by email jvanderheide@shaw.ca

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The ACS Auction and Garage Sale is coming soon! Mark November 3 on your calendar and come down to Exhibition Park for a great day of food, fun and fellowship! More details at www.abbotsfordchristian.com or watch for the flyer in your mailbox! Call Denise de Jonge at 778.878.0440 to volunteer or donate!

DEMENTIA CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP will meet at 10 AM on Friday, November 9, in the Fireside Room at Living Hope CRC on Old Clayburn Road. We recognize that many families are affected by dementia so if you are the caregiver (or a supportive person to a caregiver) of a loved one with dementia, you are invited to join us. We are a Christian faith-based support group where you can share feelings or experiences and gain insight and knowledge from others on a similar journey in a confidential and safe environment. For more information please contact Living Hope church office at 604-853-6151 or office@livinghopecrc.ca to connect with a support group facilitator.

Songs Strings and Steps presents **An Irish Christmas** at Gateway Church in Abbotsford, December 14th and 15th. Producer Calvin Dyck is pulling together a delightful show including Irish dancers, "The Alumni Project" (an outstanding chamber choir from Abbotsford), the award winning Abbotsford Youth Orchestra and some surprises for the audience including an "Uilleann Piper" from Ireland. Tickets are available at House of James, King's Music or at <https://sssirishchristmas.eventbrite.ca>

We are preparing for **the Christmas at Sea** season for seafarers again this year, and your donations are much appreciated. You can still send to 401 E. Waterfront Rd, Vancouver, BC V6A 4G9. However, this year we are having problems depositing cheques made out to "Ministry to Seafarers." Therefore, please make cheques payable to "Classis BCNW" and designate them to "Ministry to Seafarers, Christmas at Sea" on the memo line. Thank you.