



***Anyone Requesting Placement Of An Advertisement In Christian Exchange  
Must Write Their Ad(s) And Forward It/Them To The Church Administrator  
Along With Their Toonie.***

**Alterations by Jane DeVos:**

No job too big or too small. Willing to do wedding dress alterations and zippers as well. Call Jane for more information at 604.746.5069.

**House Exchange / Woningruil:**

Do you have a family member(s) or friends that would like to participate in a house exchange next July for some 2 weeks? If so, please send us an e-mail so we can try and set this up. We will be travelling with 3 adults, no children.

Peter and Louise Riezebos: [riezebos@telus.net](mailto:riezebos@telus.net)

"In Common" is published twice each month, but not necessarily every other week.  
Please submit announcements relevant to the Christian Reformed Churches in Abbotsford to:

**Tena Blink**, phone 604.854.3932, e-mail: [blinkmctj@gmail.com](mailto:blinkmctj@gmail.com).

Church administrators will also forward information.

**The deadline for the next issue: 12 noon, Wednesday, January 9.**

**IN COMMON: December 23, 2018**  
*A publication of the Christian Reformed Churches of Abbotsford*



**THE CHURCH FAMILY**



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**BIRTHS**

☆ December 4:	Cora Joukje, daughter of Eric & Michelle Atsma	Living Hope
☆ December 6:	Cassidy Catherine, daughter of Piet & Renae Meyer	Trinity

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**BIRTHDAYS 85+**

☆ December 24:	Jelt Rintjema	86 years	Living Hope
☆ December 26:	Bert Huizing	87 years	Living Hope

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**BAPTISM**

☆ December 16:	Travis Blain	Living Hope
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**EXTREME WEATHER SHELTER**

An exciting volunteer opportunity to join us in this mission outreach project right here in Abbotsford. Gateway Community Church is hosting an Extreme Weather Shelter for the homeless this winter **from now to March 31<sup>st</sup>**. Assistance is needed in the following areas: crock pot meals, prepared buns, volunteering from 7:30 to midnight with two other people, or volunteering from midnight to 8:30 am with one or two other people. 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. For more information contact Jenny Vanderheide at 604 854 5215 or by email [jvanderheide@shaw.ca](mailto:jvanderheide@shaw.ca)

**DEMENTIA CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP** will not be meeting in December but will meet again at 10 AM, Friday, January 11, 2019. Wishing you all a blessed Christmas season.

**CHRISTIAN SUPPORT LINE AVAILABLE**

During the month of December, Wagner Hills and Telecare Crisis & Caring Line are together offering a daily 9am to 9pm Christian Support Line for anyone whose life has been touched by addiction. If people are troubled by issues other than addiction they are still encouraged to call. The month of December can be a lonely, difficult and stressful time for many and compassionate listeners are ready to take calls. 1-888-852-9099 toll free.

## ESL TEACHER NEEDED

The Sumas Mountain Refugee Sponsorship Group is looking for an ESL teacher to co-ordinate teaching newcomers English in their home. We have sponsored several people from Eritrea and they are eager to improve their English skills. We have volunteers who would be able to help with the actual teaching and are looking for someone who can provide materials and a program. Remuneration is available for this position. Please contact Norma Kobald [nkobald@shaw.ca](mailto:nkobald@shaw.ca) if you are interested in this.

## 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Living Hope CRC will be celebrating 50 years of God's faithfulness March 1-3, 2019. For more information, visit [www.livinghopecrc.ca/50th-anniversary/](http://www.livinghopecrc.ca/50th-anniversary/).

## TELECARE TRAINING COMING UP

Telecare Crisis & Caring Line training for new crisis line responders begins on **Thursday, January 24, 7pm** at New Life Christian Reformed Church, 35270 Delair Road, Abbotsford. Comprehensive training will follow on a wide variety of topics to enable potential volunteers to respond to callers. Please call 604-852-4058, [training@telecarebc.com](mailto:training@telecarebc.com), [www.telecarebc.com](http://www.telecarebc.com)



## DENOMINATIONAL MINISTRY NEWS



### From Back to God Ministries International

- ❖ CHRISTMAS REMIXED - Did you know the book of Revelation tells the Christmas story? It's true. Complete with dragons and intense drama. Study Revelation 12 with Groundwork see the cosmic perspective on Christ's birth and purpose revealed through the Apostle John's vision. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.
- ❖ MARY'S MIRACLE - The birth of Christ is the incarnation of God in human history. Kids Corner presents this dramatic presentation of the miracle of Jesus as seen through the eyes of Mary! Subscribe for free at [getkidscorner.com](http://getkidscorner.com). Free Giveaway: Kids Corner's "Know Your Bible Activity Book, Part 4!" Can you figure out all Kids Corner Christmas puzzles? [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net).

### From Calvin College

- ❖ 2019 JANUARY SERIES - the award winning free liberal arts education delivered in 15 weekly, lunchtime lectures. This year the series begins on January 3 and continues weekdays through January 23 from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. EST with topics such as technology and faith, the church and disabilities, restorative justice, cancer research, the #metoo movement, and so much more, by top experts in their fields. Thousands in west Michigan will join us on Calvin College's campus; others will watch the live feed at more than 50 remote webcast sites, while others listen online. For information about speakers, topics, remote sites, and listening options, go to [www.calvin.edu/january](http://www.calvin.edu/january)
- ❖ Calvin Symposium on Worship - Join us January 24-26, 2019, at Calvin College and Calvin Theological Seminary. The three-day conference brings together a wide audience of artists, musicians, pastors, scholars, students, worship leaders and planners, and other interested worshippers. Excellent rates for students and groups from churches. All worship services are free and open to the public. See [worship.calvin.edu/symposium/](http://worship.calvin.edu/symposium/) for information and registration.

### From Faith Formation Ministries

Advent Family Faith Formation Tip - On this fourth Sunday in Advent, retell the events leading up to Jesus' birth using the figures in your nativity creche. Don't have one? Use Lego or Playmobil people and blocks to make your own. Choose a narrator to read Luke 2:1-20 as the rest of you reenact the story. (Faith Formation Ministries; crca.org/FaithFormation)

### From Other

2018 CBC Sing-In - Recorded in mid-December at the Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul, Montréal, the 39th annual CBC Sing-In will be broadcast on Christmas Day, December 25, on CBC Radio One at 12:00 (noon), again at 4 pm on CBC Music, as well as Dec. 25 at 2 pm on ICI Musique classique, Radio-Canada's classical web radio service. It is available anytime on-line: CBCMusic.ca/SingIn Enjoy the program!

### From World Renew

- ❖ Give Thanks for Abundant Life - In John 10:10, Jesus says He came to bring us "fullness of life." Share His abundance through the World Renew Gift Catalogue, and give others an opportunity to experience Uzima. Your gift of a chicken, a water filter, or goat can turn everyday events into miracles among people who face poverty, disaster, and injustice. Give at [worldrenew.net/gifts](http://worldrenew.net/gifts) or call 800-730-3490 to order.
- ❖ World Renew Career Opportunity - Project Manager - Do you have a heart for responding to disasters around the world? Do you have a passion and gift in project management and administration? World Renew is looking to hire a Project Manager to join our International Disaster Response Team. Primary responsibilities include designing and submitting of proposals; managing, tracking and monitoring project implementation (including budgets and personnel) and contributing to efficient processes and systems. More information about this position, and the link to apply online, can be found on our website at [worldrenew.net/careers](http://worldrenew.net/careers).



### A New Year To Put Jesus First

by [Margaret Cagle](#)

We welcome the entrance of another new year.  
A time to take inventory is once again here.

We count our successes. We remember failures too.  
We desire to improve in everything that we do.

Let's strive to be better servants for our Lord God  
And be a blessing to others as on life's road we tread.

A new year to serve Jesus, for that we should rejoice.  
May He top our priority list; may serving Him be first choice.