



***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.***

**The In Common Editor will no longer be accepting advertisements  
for the Christian Exchange.**

**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)

**House Exchange:**

We offer our large country house in the Netherlands (Dalfsen) with our car in exchange for a motorhome or camperized van (about 20 foot). We hope to make a trip along the West Coast of the USA from July 15 – August 6, 2016. Our house is available from July 5 till August 9, 2019.

Contact: John & Jenny Pruijm-Leyenhorst, email: [pruim@shaw.ca](mailto:pruim@shaw.ca), phone: 6048265184.

Dieuwke & Bertus Leijenhorst, email: [bertusleijenhorst@hetnet.nl](mailto:bertusleijenhorst@hetnet.nl), phone: 0031529434720

**For Sale:**

Evolution Trillium Walker with adjustable slow-down brakes on back wheels. Height from floor to top of seat is 22 inches. Handle height is adjustable. 350-pound weight capacity. Soft folding basket attached. Folds easily. Light weight and easy to place into back of vehicle. Used for 4 months. If you are in need of a good quality walker in excellent condition please contact Ann Oenema at 604-853-3688. Purchased new for \$535, will sell for \$350 OBO.

**Book just out:**

'From Rotterdam to Vught to Vancouver' written by prisoner 7058 and Johanna Campbell. This book is about the author's parents' work in the Dutch resistance movement during WWII. It includes a smaller book written in Dutch and translated by the author about her relatives' experiences in the concentration camp 'Vught'. The second part of the book recounts the author's immigrant experiences as she arrived in Vancouver in May of 1951. The book also includes some of the author's reminiscences of her teaching experiences at Abbotsford Christian School in the 1970s. It will make an excellent Christmas gift (Cost: \$25) and can be obtained at Karl's Meat Market, The Windmill Deli or by going to author's website: [www.jesstreepublications.com](http://www.jesstreepublications.com).

"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, December 19.**

**IN COMMON: December 9, 2018**

*A publication of the Christian Reformed Churches of Abbotsford*



**THE CHURCH FAMILY**



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**ANNIVERSARY**

☆ December 1:	Bob & Wilma Timmermans	40 years	Trinity
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**BIRTHDAYS 85+**

☆ December 9:	Johanna Ouwerkerk	91 years	Living Hope
☆ December 10:	Henk deGoede	91 years	Trinity
☆ December 19:	Ann Pastoor	86 years	Living Hope
☆ December 19:	Sid Jaarsma	85 years	Gateway
☆ December 20:	Corrie Wagenaar	88 years	Gateway

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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)

**IN COMMON CHRISTMAS CARD**

Once again you have the opportunity to "greet" each other via the annual In Common Christmas Card while supporting a worthwhile cause. This year all proceeds will go to the Telecare Crisis Line. Cost is \$3/person, \$5/couple and \$7 per family, to be paid to your church administrator. All names must be submitted by **December 18**.

**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.

## SPECIAL BOOKLET FOR LIVING HOPE'S ANNIVERSARY:

In celebrating 50 years of God's faithfulness, Living Hope CRC is putting together a special booklet to commemorate this occasion. The Living Hope 50th Anniversary Committee invites you to send in your anecdotes & pictures to be shared in the 50th anniversary booklet! Send anecdotes (maximum 500 words) to Al Wisselink: [alwisselink@gmail.com](mailto:alwisselink@gmail.com)

Send pictures to [office@livinghopecrc.ca](mailto:office@livinghopecrc.ca) *If you don't have access to a scanner, please bring them to the church office.* All submissions are due no later than **December 15th**.

## COMMUNITY COLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY:

Are you a single woman, mature in your faith? Retired? Have a heart for ministry but do not want to travel? Consider LIFE Recovery. We are a women-only ministry & we are in need of women willing to spend time in our second stage home, connect with our clients & mentor them as they reestablish their lives. Our 2nd stage home is in the heart of Abbotsford, near all transportation. Training & support provided. For more information, call Jeanne@778-808-5965

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:

Addictions Support Worker: Want to do local ministry? Share the hope of Jesus? Have you considered working with women recovering from drug & alcohol addiction? Temporary full time & casual positions available. Support for training available. See LIFE Recovery's website for information about LIFE Recovery & our Job Descriptions: <https://www.liferecoveryassociation.com/job>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### CONCERT WITH CALVIN DYCK

**Songs Strings and Steps** presents *An Irish Christmas* at Gateway Church in Abbotsford, **December 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>**. 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>

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

Living Hope CRC will be celebrating 50 years of God's faithfulness March 1-3, 2019. To purchase tickets for the celebration dinner on March 1<sup>st</sup> and for more information, visit [www.livinghopecrc.ca/50th-anniversary/](http://www.livinghopecrc.ca/50th-anniversary/). The deadline to purchase tickets is **December 15<sup>th</sup>**.

### CHRISTMAS HYMN SING-A-LONG

Come enjoy an evening of music & singing! Trinity CRC's 2nd Annual **Traditional Christmas Hymn Sing-A-Long** will be held on **Monday, Dec 17<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm**, 3215 Tretheway Street, Abbotsford. Freewill offering for L.I.F.E. Recovery Association-helping women in need.



## **A NEIGHBOURHOOD CHRISTMAS**

**Saturday | December 15 | 2:00pm – 5:30pm**

Living Hope hosts a neighbourhood Christmas! Free admission. Invite your friends and neighbours – this is a community event! Refreshments, photo booth, live animals and more! Check out [www.livinghopeccr.ca/event/](http://www.livinghopeccr.ca/event/) for more information!

## **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 Other**

Tour the Biblical Lands of Israel - March 11-22, 2019. Experience a renewal of your faith and a deeper understanding of the Bible as you tour biblical lands with Pastor Peter Tuininga and Sindbad Tours of Israel. See Jerusalem, Galilee, Jericho, and other biblical places that will help the Bible come alive for you. For information go to [toursofisrael.wordpress.com](http://toursofisrael.wordpress.com) or contact Peter Tuininga at 1-289-877-8433 or [peter.tuininga@gmail.com](mailto:peter.tuininga@gmail.com). Register by December 15, 2018.

### **From Faith Formation Ministries**

Advent Family Faith Formation Tip - On this second Sunday in Advent, add things to your home that remind you that we are expecting Jesus to return. Set an extra place at the table when you eat, or create and decorate a mural together that says "Come, Lord Jesus." (Faith Formation Ministries; [crcna.org/FaithFormation](http://crcna.org/FaithFormation))

### **From Back to God Ministries International**

- ❖ JOY TO THE WORLD - Hints of Christmas litter the Psalm book as the psalmists sing of the coming of a Savior, the Savior we now know as Jesus Christ. Join Groundwork as we examine Psalm 98, Psalm 96, and Psalm 72 to learn what we can expect his coming to bring and what it means for us and for the world. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.
- ❖ THE CHRISTMAS LIST MYSTERY - Cole's got a big bag of presents that he says are all for him! But why is he hiding his list, and why is he sneaking around town all night? It's up to the Lizarado Detective Agency to solve this Christmas Mystery! 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).
- ❖ The Jesse Tree: A Family Devotional and Craft for Advent - Enjoy a fun and informative Advent activity to go along with December's Today devotional. You can download the devotional and Christmas ornaments at [backtogod.net/downloads](http://backtogod.net/downloads)

### **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 - You are invited to register and attend the annual Calvin Symposium on Worship, 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. There are 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 complete information and the registration link.

### **From Calvin Theological Seminary**

Biblical Study Tour to Italy - (March 28 - April 9, 2019) Visit the Vatican with its Sistine Chapel and St. Peter's Cathedral; the impressive monuments of ancient Rome; Hadrian's Villa; Pompeii and Mt. Vesuvius; Paestum; Assisi; Florence; Ravenna; and St. Mark's Basilica in Venice. Join Jeff Weima, professor at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading biblical scholar, for this inspirational tour. Contact Dr. Weima at [weimje@calvinseminary.edu](mailto:weimje@calvinseminary.edu) or 616-328-3110.

Calvin Seminary's Dig Program - Dig is a summer program hosted at Calvin Seminary that helps youth uncover their future by exploring their callings while enriching and deepening their faith. By the end of the program, each student will leave with a clearer sense of their gifts and skills and an understanding of how God can use them to meet the needs of the world. This summer's program takes place July 8-27, 2019. To nominate a student or to apply yourself, visit [dig.calvinseminary.edu](http://dig.calvinseminary.edu).

### **From Office of Social Justice**

Sanctity of Human Life Sunday Worship Materials - "We believe...that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world." These words from the Belhar Confession, along with Isaiah 65:23, are the focus of the CRC Office of Social Justice's worship materials to help your church honor Sanctity of Human Life Sunday on January 20. Visit [crcna.org/life](http://crcna.org/life) for worship resources including a bulletin insert, a prayer, and a responsive reading. The deadline for ordering bulletin inserts is December 19. NOTE: If your church has already ordered our bulletin inserts through the church ordering link you received from the CRCNA, you do not need to order them again.

### **From Resonate Global Mission**

- ❖ Join the Global Prayer Safari! - In Swahili the word "safari" means "journey." Join a team of North Americans who appreciate the power of prayer as you journey hand-in-hand with teams from Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda. You'll learn about prayer from other Christian traditions as you visit schools, hospitals, jails, government buildings, markets, and more. Dates: January 31 - February 11, 2019. For more information, visit [www.resonateglobalmission.org/safari](http://www.resonateglobalmission.org/safari).
- ❖ Journey Through Egypt - Join Resonate Global Mission on an Egypt Vision Tour. History comes alive as you learn how scripture is connected to ancient Egyptian monuments. Dates: April 2-10, 2019. For more information visit [www.resonateglobalmission.org/Egypt](http://www.resonateglobalmission.org/Egypt).

### **From World Renew**

- ❖ Advent Means Fullness of Life - The miracle of Advent brings us Uzima or "fullness of life" (Jn. 10:10). Through World Renew's 2018-2019 Gift Catalogue, you can help a family with a filter for clean water to drink, give a child the food they need to grow with a nutrition kit, or provide shelter to a disaster survivor. Give someone the opportunity to experience fullness of life today. Give at [worldrenew.net/gifts](http://worldrenew.net/gifts) or call 800-730-3490 to order.
- ❖ RFP - World Renew - Freelance Graphic Designer - World Renew, an agency of the Christian Reformed Church, seeks to engage an experienced graphic designer (individual or a firm) to create a series of products that illustrate the varied international development and disaster response work that we do. Important components of these designs include data visualization, conveying complex projects in an easily understood and visually compelling format, and customizable templates that highlight the variety of work that World Renew does. Please see our website for details on how to submit a proposal: <https://worldrenew.net/RFP>
- ❖ Sign Up for Advent Devotions Today! - It's not too late! Take time to reflect on Christ's birth during this season of Advent with Monday, Wednesday, and Friday devotions sent to your email inbox from World Renew and the CRC Office of Social Justice through Christmas Day. This year's devotional series titled Holy Impatience will explore doing justice in a world that belongs to God, a world where so many people are marginalized and oppressed, with a holy impatience both celebrating glimpses of the kingdom and eagerly yearning for what is to come. Don't miss out: Sign up today at [crcna.org/advent](http://crcna.org/advent).