



**Coffee Break Women's Bible Study Ministry** meets on Wednesdays from 9:30 – 11:00 am. We invite you to bring a friend, bring your babies and toddlers. All are welcome! Our next meeting is after Christmas on January 16.

**The following gifts were received December 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018:**

Seafarers Ministry	\$ 1,855.00
ACS Tuition Relief	\$ 994.00
Salvation Army	\$ 100.00
Debt Reduction	\$ 5,280.00
Budget	\$ 28,871.24
Abbotsford Food Bank	\$ 165.00
World Renew – Food Grains	\$ 1,000.00
World Renew – World Hunger	\$ 15.00

Please note: All cheques that are to be captured in the 2018 year must be dated for 2018. All 2018 cheques must be received no later than January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

## **CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES**

**Kidz Church** for Children age 3 - Grade 3! After you check in your kids on December 23, please bring them to the Parent Room (Room 107) prior to the service. It would be great if the kids arrived a few minutes early to get ready for their Christmas presentation!

**Kids Grade 4 and up:** Pick up an activity sheet from the Welcome Center!

### **Mexico Missions**

Please keep all your refundable this Christmas Season and New Years – the youth will be hosting a Bottle Drive Fundraiser on Thursday, January 3 from 9:30-12:00. It would be great if you can drop off your bottles between those hours, but if not, email Pastor Marcel to arrange a bottle pick-up time. All funds raised will support the Youth Mexico Orphanage Outreach in March 2019.

## **MEETINGS**

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

**Council met on Wednesday evening, December 19.** Here are a few highlights

- Matt Tinsley, Chair of Council opened the meeting with prayer
- Minutes from October 17, 2018 were received and approved as presented
- New Year's Eve service is scheduled for Monday, December 31 at 6:00 pm. Lord willing, we will celebrate Communion as a church family.
- In light of the budget shortfall this year the following motion was presented and approved: "That the shortfall will be in the Denominational Ministry shares, ensuring that we pay back the private lenders as budgeted."
- A discussion was had in regards to lengths of term for Council members. The following option is being explored: To allow current Council members to serve another term by letting their name stand for affirmation and then selection. A Council member may only serve for a maximum of 2 terms.
- Matt Wikkerink, Chair of the Deacons, closed the meeting in Prayer.

## GATEWAY COMMUNITY GROUPS

### Gateway Book Club

Our current book is "Philomena" by Martin Sixsmith. A few copies are still available and can be picked up from the Welcome Center on Sunday. Please note our next meeting will be Thursday, January 3rd. For more information contact Jolene Versteeg, [jversteeg57@hotmail.com](mailto:jversteeg57@hotmail.com).

### Women's Volleyball

Meets in the gym from 7:15-8:30 Tuesday evenings. In the event that the gym is being used for the extreme weather shelter (check the website) there will be no volleyball. Contact Sarah Pruim for more information 604-897-5727. Next volleyball January 15.

**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. Next Darts is happening on Thursday, January 3.

### Men's Drop In Basketball

meets on Monday evenings in the gym from 7:30—9:00 pm. In the event that the gym is being used for the extreme weather shelter (check the website) there will be no basketball. For more information call Matt at 604-835-3089. Next basketball January 7.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Extreme Weather Shelter** Let us be the hands and feet of Jesus and show his love in our own neighborhood. Gateway is once again hosting an Extreme Weather Shelter for the homeless this winter from November 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>. For more information contact Jenny Vanderheide at 604 854 5215 or [jvanderheide@shaw.ca](mailto:jvanderheide@shaw.ca)

## COMMUNITY EVENTS/NEWS

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 number"

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

**Hearts of Hope** Do you have a child but long for more? Have you lost a baby during pregnancy and are really struggling with the loss? Do you have empty arms and long for a child? Hearts of Hope is a Christian support group and if you answered 'yes' to any of the above questions, you are welcome to join us at our meetings. Please email us at [info@heartsofhopesupportgroup.ca](mailto:info@heartsofhopesupportgroup.ca) if you would like to come to the meeting! Our website has more info - [www.heartsofhopesupportgroup.ca](http://www.heartsofhopesupportgroup.ca).

**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)

### **Living Hope CRC | 50th Anniversary**

With great anticipation, Living Hope CRC in Abbotsford looks forward to celebrating its 50th anniversary! A celebration weekend is planned for March 1-3, 2019, and we would love for you to join us!

March 1 | Celebration Dinner | Tickets are available to purchase from the Living Hope office. Order forms are also online. Deadline is January 13.

March 2 | Community Carnival | A fun celebration with food & games for the whole family.

March 3 | Worship Service | 10am Sunday service giving praise and thanks to God for 50 years of His faithfulness.

Giving thanks for the past. Rejoicing in the present. Preparing for the future. "Jesus Christ is the same *yesterday* and *today* and *forever*." Hebrews 13:8

Full details are provided on the website: [livinghopecrc.ca/50th-anniversary](http://livinghopecrc.ca/50th-anniversary)