



*For as the earth bursts with spring wildflowers,
and as a garden cascades with blossoms,
So the Master, God,
brings righteousness into full bloom
and puts praise on display before the nations.*

Isaiah 61:11 the Message



Dear congregation,

Due to increasing government restrictions and in the interest of protecting everyone in our church and communities, the church will be closed to all visitors until further notice. This means that no one will be allowed to drop off or pick up anything in the building.

Pastor Gregg, Pastor Joe, the elders and deacons will remain available by phone and email. We will update you when we have more information.

Please stay home, stay safe, and keep our loved ones safe. We are in this together.

God bless, Pastor Gregg

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You are welcome to join our live-stream on facebook Sundays at 9:30am. Just click the "streaming live" link on the homepage of our website and request to join the group.

www.williamsburgcrc.org

We have had to make some changes to our phone in access for Sunday mornings.

Unfortunately we no longer have a toll free number so long distance charges will apply.

Try to call in a few minutes before the service start time, but if you're running late, please still join us - you won't disturb the call.

The new number to dial is:

1-647-558-0588 (some of you used this new number on Easter Sunday)

The automated greeting will ask you for your **meeting ID (this has also CHANGED)**

Enter 613-705-3094 on your phone keypad, followed by the # key (which is referred to as the pound key)

It will ask you for your participant number. Enter # (pound) again.

Tanya Geertsema will be there to greet you, and you can listen to the whole service on your phone.

When the service starts, she will mute your line so you don't have to worry about any background noise disrupting the call.

Looking forward to worshipping with you!

Pastor Gregg

Open
Call to worship
Greeting
Confession and assurance
Announcements
Congregational Prayer
Children's Message
Sermon
 The Gospel Then and Now
 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Affirmation of faith
Blessing

Prayer items -

We lift up Shirley Helder as she begins 5 weeks of radiation treatments on the Stage 1 cancer in her uterus.

We pray for the Schell family with the loss of their cousin/nephew, Adam, who had a heart attack due to complications from his "22q" condition.

Dear Congregation:

Thank you for your generous gift to spread the good news of Jesus! The Bible reminds us of the importance of prayer. Ephesians 6:18 gives us this command: "And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people." Your prayers make a difference! Thank you for lifting up your missionaries, church planters, and campus ministers in prayer! With your prayers and faithful giving, you are making ministry possible. Your ministry leaders rely on your support as they carry out the work God is calling them to do. When you give, you are helping to sustain them and give them the resources they need. When you pray, you join with them in the power of the Spirit. Thank you for your support! I am confident that God will bless the gifts and prayers you bring to his mission. Thank you for partnering with us in the work of bringing the gospel to every nation, and for remembering your ministry leaders in prayer.

In Christ, Kevin DeRaaf Acting Canada Director Resonate Global Mission

1 Thessalonians Preaching Series

Pastor Gregg and Pastor Joe are set to begin on April 26th, a new preaching series on the letter of 1 Thessalonians. The apostle Paul wrote this letter, one of his first, to his beloved friends in Thessalonica to encourage them in the faith and to strengthen their hope in view of Christ's imminent return. And while the letter was written some time ago, and Christ has still not returned, our benefits from this letter are unchanged and still applicable as God empowers productive, Godly lives as believers wait for the Lord's return.

Book of Acts Reading Plan - NEW -

Everyone, young and old, is invited to read through the Book of Acts during these next 4 weeks. This book tells the story of the early church, how it grew immensely despite struggles and persecution. The reading plan will be emailed or delivered to you to help you dive deeper into the passages. If you have any questions, please talk to Pastors Gregg or Joe.

Youth Group - Wednesday, 7:30pm on Zoom

Elders Meeting - Tuesday night at 7:30

... for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit.

1 Thessalonians 1:6



COUNCIL REPORT APRIL 2020: During the past two weeks the executive of council and the full council have met, both via ZOOM, to discuss the most urgent business of our church. At the March meeting council prepared a list of nominees for the position of elder and deacon. These men have all been contacted and received a copy of the document “Called to be an Elder or Deacon”. However, because of the pandemic, the whole process of choosing new office-bearers has been delayed. As you may recall from last year, the process included making a list of nominees, having an affirmation vote by the congregation and then casting the lot to choose the new elders and deacons. The affirmation vote will probably be held on the third Sunday that we are allowed to meet together again as a congregation and the casting of the lot on a Sunday after that. Council is thankful that the elders and deacons who are completing their terms of office are willing to continue to serve until new office-bearers are chosen. The spring congregational meeting has also been delayed and more information about it will be decided when we are allowed to meet together again.

Council is very thankful for the congregation’s continued financial support of the church’s ministry. The deacons are grateful for the support of the benevolent fund and have donated \$1000 to the local food bank since many people in the community have lost their jobs and need extra assistance to feed themselves and their families. Council is also thankful that nearly all members of the congregation still have jobs and income and are able to support themselves.

The live stream worship services are well received by members of the congregation and the community. The pastors were thanked for bringing God’s word via technology and they in turn thanked those who have helped to make this possible. The congregation is encouraged to listen to the songs in the playlist as a part of their worship. Everyone looks forward to the day when we can meet together again to listen to God’s word and sing praises to Him. In the meantime, if anyone has any needs, spiritually, emotionally or financially, they are encouraged to contact one of the pastors or one of the elders.



P.A.R for April 2020
 for budget \$7,915

Budget: \$830
 Benevolent fund: \$20

TITHES AND OFFERINGS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC: Our church continues to function even though we cannot gather together on Sunday mornings for worship. As a result, there are still bills to pay and commitments to meet. Some of the congregation may be having a difficult time financially while others still have their regular income. If you are still able to give to God’s ongoing work in and through our church, five different options are available: PAR, cheques, e-transfers, giving via the denomination and cash donations. Please see the bulletins of April 12 and 19 for more information or contact the clerk. We thank all those whose giving to God’s kingdom work has continued despite Covid-19.