

Advent

The Candle of Love

What wondrous love is this,

O my soul! O my soul!

What wondrous love is this!

O my soul!

What wondrous love is this!

That caused the Lord of bliss!

To send this precious peace,

To my soul, to my soul!

To send this precious peace

To my soul!



**Sunday Morning
Worship Service
9:30 a.m.**

**Child care provided
for infants and toddlers**
during the morning worship service.

Junior Sunday School
for children born in 2013, 2014, 2015
Dismissed during the worship service.

Sunday School & Catechism
for grades 1 to 12
after the worship service.

**Sunday Evening
Bible Study
4:30 - 5:30 pm**

Interim Pastor
Rev. Bernie Bakker
bernie.bakker@gmail.com
or call/text 905-626-1829

Youth & Young Adults Pastor
Rev. Joe Groeneveld
Home 613-535-2875, cell 613-295-0888
josephgroeneveld@gmail.com

www.williamsburgcrc.org
12436 Cty. Rd. 18, Williamsburg, ON
613-535-2227

Unless otherwise noted, our songs are projected from Lift Up Your Hearts. If you can't see the projected songs, this hymn book is available at the back of the church.

Welcome

A warm welcome is extended to our visitors and church family. We are thankful that you have joined us for worship today. May God richly bless you, as we worship together. Please join us for refreshments in the fellowship hall after the service.

WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

Dec 16 9:30 a.m. - Love

**Dec 23 9:30 a.m. - Peace
Sunday School
Christmas Presentation**

**Dec 23 6 p.m.
Annual Candlelight Service
- Light of the World**
Everyone is invited to this special service where we'll celebrate that Jesus has come as the light of the world. The youth group will lead us.

**Dec 25 10 a.m.
Christmas Day Service**

**Dec 30 9:30 a.m.
Traditional New Years Eve Service
(No afternoon Bible Study)**

January 1 10 a.m.

Prayer Ministry: Prayer requests for the congregational prayer can be passed on to the pastor through phone call, email or text, as well as coming to the Council room just before the service. A prayer team continues to meet in the prayer room before the service.

Gathering Songs

God Calls us to Worship Him

- *Call to Worship
- *Silent Prayer followed by
M116 "Open Our Eyes"
- *God's Greeting
- *Songs of Praise:
95 "What Child is this?"
72 "Imagine"

We Celebrate the Advent Season

- Advent reading & Candle Lighting
- Advent song
61:1,4,5 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
- Children's Message
(children from 3-5 depart for Sunday School)

We Response with Thanksgiving and Prayer

- Offerings:
 - a. Local & Denominational Ministries
 - b. Our Kenyan Kids
- Special music
- Offertory Prayer
- Congregational Prayer
- *Song of Preparation:
76:1-3 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

God Speaks to Us through His Word

- Scripture: 2 Samuel 7:11b-17; Luke 1:26-33
- Sermon: Living with Love – God in us!
- Prayer of Application

God Sends Us into the World with His Blessing

- *Song of Response: *695 "And Can It Be"*
- *Affirmation of Faith:
2008 Contemporary Testimony Art. 5 & 6
- *God's Parting Blessing
- *Doxology:
256 "They'll Know We Are Christians"

(*indicates please stand if able)

Prayer items: Our church family

- This past week John VanBruinessen finished his radiation treatments. We thank the Lord he is feeling somewhat better. Pray for the treatments to kill all the cancer cells. His next scheduled hospital visits are in January. Marguerite still is undergoing tests to determine treatments for cancer. They are up for visits; please call first.
- John Doesburg's cancer diagnosis is quite serious. We pray for the Lord's healing. We thank that He is always with us – Emmanuel.
- Frances Mulder is scheduled for knee surgery on December 27. We pray for the peace of the Lord to be with her in this time of waiting.
- Grietje Joldersma is in some discomfort at this time.
- May the Lord be near all for whom the winter season is a difficult time of the year as we also remember students finishing this semester and family travelling home for the holidays.

In our Classis we pray for:

Fellowship Barrhaven, Pastor Rick Nanninga

In South Dundas we pray for: All Saints Anglican Parish (Cardinal - Prescott - Maitland)

Rev. Tracey Lloyd Smith & Rev. David Smith

Offerings received last Sunday

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Budget | \$ 4,362.41 |
| EduDeo Ministries | \$ 1,011.00 |
| Chr. Ref. World Missions | \$ 270.00 |
| Community Foodshare | \$ 25.00 |
| Karen Lubbers | \$ 25.00 |

Offering Schedule

December 16 - Our Kenyan Kids

"Our Kenyan Kids is a charitable organization based in Brockville, Ontario. Their mission is to support children and youth affected by poverty, HIV and AIDS in Kenya by providing education, training, humanitarian aid and nurturing relationships, one child at a time. Any support you can offer will be very much appreciated. For more information on our projects check out our website, www.ourkenyankids.com"

(offering schedule cont. on page 3)

(Offering Schedule cont.)

December 23 a.m.

Habitat for Humanity - Building on their Christian foundation, Habitat for Humanity's vision is a world where everyone has a safe and decent place to live. Their mission is to mobilize volunteers and community partners in building affordable housing and promoting homeownership as a means to breaking the cycle of poverty.

**December 23 p.m. Candle Light Service
Youth Group SERVE Trip**

From July 13-20, 2019, 12 of our youth and leaders are heading to St. Catharines, Ontario for the Niagara SERVE mission trip. Hosted by local CRC's, this trip will include several youth groups who will spend the days doing service projects such as painting, yard work, food/clothing banks, youth drop-in center, etc. In the evenings are worship services and small groups. For more information: <https://www.youthunlimited.org/trip-locations/niagara-ontario/>

December 25 - Pro-Life Cornwall celebrates life at all of its stages, from conception to natural death. They are committed to educating the community to keep current on the subject, to speak out in an informed manner, to petition when needed, and to be present and supportive to those around us who are vulnerable.

December 30 - World Renew - General Fund

If you would like to contribute to the budget on the 31st please put it in the collection on the 30th. Thank you

Winter Mission Project: Would you be interested in spending a week in the Dominican Republic this winter working with a team from Resonate Global Mission to complete the construction of a small church building? Contact Jack VG for more information.



Happy Birthday

This Week - December

16 Kyle Oosterhof
Jackson Menkhorst

17 Gerrit Sluiskes

18 Kevin De Jong (Stacey)
Eric Jansen
Parker Schell
Emma Schuler
Sharon Schuler
Harrison VanGilst

19 Stephen VandeKemp

22 Martin Westervelt

Next Week -

23 Tanya TerHorst

26 Randy Tibben

29 Marissa Belmonte
Amber Haayema

We rejoice with those celebrating more than 70 years
- Gerrit Sluiskes,
80 years tomorrow

Thank you: A very big 'Thank You' to all who helped make my 85th birthday a very special event. The day was filled with visitors, e-mails, facebook messages, telephone-calls, you name it. We really enjoyed it. Above all 'Thank You, Lord' for Your faithfulness from day to day, and also from year to year. James Kooistra

COUNCIL REPORT FOR DECEMBER 11, 2018

Council meetings are generally held once per month to prayerfully deliberate the business of our church. Sometimes there is little to discuss and at other times there can be difficult issues to deal with. The goal of these meetings is to determine with the help of the Holy Spirit what is best for the congregation. At the recent congregational meeting some items were discussed and other concerns were expressed. These were dealt with at this week's council meeting and this report is a summary of that discussion. If you have concerns or wish to know more, please contact one of the deacons or elders.

Many members of council and of the congregation were disappointed when Pastor Josh Tuininga did not accept the call to our congregation. Some members questioned whether our congregation was ready to call a new pastor. It is the opinion of council that our congregation is ready and eager to have a new pastor. Many members of the congregation attended the pot luck which was an opportunity to meet Pastor Josh and his family. The Search Committee has resumed its task and is confident that in God's timing we will have a new pastor. In the meantime, Pastor Bernie has graciously agreed to continue his ministry in our congregation until the end of June with a few weeks vacation in March to visit family members. If you wish to have a visit with Pastor Bernie, do not hesitate to tell him.

Attached to the recent agenda for the congregational meeting was a report dealing with the process of choosing new office bearers. Council has read and studied this report which describes Synod's position and also lists how some churches in our classis choose their new elders and deacons. The first page of this report explains why council is studying this process and council will deal with this report again at their regular meeting on January 8. If you wish to have input on this discussion, do not hesitate to talk to one of the dea-

cons or elders or write down your thoughts and give them to the clerk. Any major changes would require approval by the congregation.

Since the resignation of Pastor John Noordhof, council has spent considerable time discussing how to minister to those of the congregation who are hurting and how to move forward as one body even though we may have differing opinions. Council has studied the reports from Synod and has sought advice from our church counsellor and from other CRC leaders. All the decisions that council has made have been done prayerfully and we believe with the guidance of the Holy Spirit. At the January meeting council will again address the issue of how to minister with grace, love and truth and at the same time enable healing.

Council is encouraged by all the active ministries of our congregation, by all the members who faithfully meet every Sunday morning to worship our loving and gracious God and by the testimonies shared even when members face crises in their lives. However, being a member of council can also be discouraging at times, such as when members neglect coming together for worship or when members leave our church family. At the meeting this week council acquiesced with the request from the family of John and Jana Westervelt and children Noah and Victoria and the family of Pam Westervelt, including Kimberly, Jillian and Larissa to transfer their memberships to Community CRC in Dixon's Corners. Council thanks them for their involvement in our church for many years and prays that they will be blessed and be a blessing in their new church.

Please continue to pray for council and the members of our congregation and pray that we may follow God's Word so that we can be a shining light in this community and be servants to each other, to our community and to the world.

Coming Events Calendar

Friends of the Apple Tree Ministry are sponsoring a **turkey dinner on Christmas Day** for anyone who wants to share in a community meal.

Dinner will be served at 12:30 p.m. in the Legion Hall in Morrisburg. Following a dessert of pie topped with whipped cream, there will be a chance to chat over coffee, join our musicians in some Christmas songs, and pick up a small treat from Santa.

While there is no charge for the meal, free will offerings will be accepted. Once the bills are paid, we use any additional funds for community outreach throughout the year.

There will be limited transportation to help people in the local area get to the dinner. Additionally, folks may call registration if they wish a hot meal delivered to them.

People who plan to come or who wish a meal delivered are asked to call Lynn Levere at (613) 543 3904 (church) or email appletreedinner@gmail.com or Elizabeth Irwin at (613) 543-3158 and let us know. Calling by December 20th will help us to make sure that there is plenty of food for all.

A Will is on Everyone's To-Do List: At 7 p.m. on Monday, January 14, 2019, Redeemer Christian High School will host an Estate Planning Seminar. The Christian Stewardship Services (CSS) seminar leader will walk through the basic questions people have about will preparation. Since this event is sponsored by the Christian School Foundation and CSS, attendance is complimentary. E-mail info@rchs.on.ca to confirm your attendance.



If you are planning your 2019 summer vacation, Camp Adonai will be held from August 11 - 16 for junior week at a cost of \$210 and August 17 - 24 for senior week at a cost of \$270. **This is also a great gift idea.** Please download the camper registration form from our website at campadonai.ca and send the application form and cheque to Ed Oegema, 791 Ferguslea Rd, R.R. #4, Renfrew Ont., K7V 3Z7 or email and e-transfer the form and fee to ed.oegema@gmail.com. If the registration is a gift going under the Christmas tree, please indicate this with a brief note and a confirmation letter will be sent confirming registration for the week of Camp.

LARGE PRINT Today Booklet: There is an extra Large Print TODAY booklet, for every month, available to someone who has difficulty reading the regular, small print. Please contact Jim Kooistra.

Ottawa Christian Counseling Service: Dundas County Divisional office. Please call the Ottawa office at 729-8454 to contact Elizabeth. All new clients must dial 0 for general inquiries.

Events Calendar Dec. 16 - Dec. 22

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|------------------|--------------------|---|
| SUNDAY | 4:30-5:30pm | Sunday Afternoon "Back to the Basics" Study Today we look at the mysterious doctrine of unconditional election. It's a word often used in the Bible, but what does it mean? Does it help or hinder evangelism? Today is the last time we meet in 2018. We'll pick up this study again on Sunday Jan 6, 4:30pm. <i>Refreshments will be provided, all are welcome.</i> |
| MONDAY | 7pm | GEMS, Cadets |
| TUESDAY | 7pm | Friendship - Ralph |
| WEDNESDAY | 7pm | TCS Christmas Performance |
| THURSDAY | 10am | TCS Christmas Performance |
| THURSDAY | 10am | LADIES COFFEE BREAK BIBLE STUDY Christmas Program, at the church, on December 20th. 10 - 11:30 am lunch afterwards at the McIntosh Inn ALL LADIES WELCOME TO ATTEND |
| THURSDAY | 10am | Tot's N Tea |
| FRIDAY | 7pm | Young Adult Christmas Gathering at the Groeneveld's |

TCS Christmas Performance: You are all invited to our Christmas Performance titled *Unto Us A Child Is Born*. We will celebrate the birth of our Saviour through music and readings. Performance times are **Wednesday, Dec 19 at 7pm and Thursday, Dec 20 at 10am**. Please rsvp for the Thursday morning performance as there will be special refreshments. You can contact the school at 613-535-2687 or office@tcswilliamsburg.ca.

Young Adult Christmas Gathering

All of you who are 18-30 years young, whether in school or in the workplace, are invited to the Groeneveld's on **Friday, Dec 21, 7pm** for a relaxing evening with good food and conversation.



Youth Group Schedule

Wed, Dec 5 - NO youth group
 Thurs, Dec 6 - Caroling at the Villa, 7-8:30pm
 Sat, Dec 8 - Seniors/youth luncheon, 10:30-2pm
 Wed, Dec 12 - Youth Group
 Wed Dec 19 - NO youth group
 Sun, Dec 23 - Lead Candlelight Service, 6pm
 Wed, Dec 26 and Jan 2 - OFF



Q. What did Adam say on the day before Christmas?
 A. It's Christmas, Eve!

| | December 16 | December 23 | December 25 | December 30 |
|--|---|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Elder Hall Monitor | Harold Douma Dan Schuler | Ype VanderVeen John Guthrie | Ype VanderVeen John Guthrie | Jack VanGilst Andrew van Veen |
| Deacons | Mark Geertsema | Peter Venema | Peter Venema | Andrew Harbers |
| Projector | Josh G. | Devin G. | Chris J. | Tony VanderVeen |
| Usher Front Door | Marge N. Ralph N. | Devin G. Brent G. | Betty-Ann v. Anjo N. | Lindsey/Alie |
| Musician Song Leader | Tanya Mike | Jessica group of 4 | Jessica Harold | Margo Mike |
| Nursery Cuddlers | Liz M. Amy B. | Stacey D. Crystal B. | Bonnie B. Bridget D. | Jackie L. Sarah G. |
| Nursery Adventurers | Karen M. Jeff T. Megan D. | John D. Laura Lee D. David T. | Dan S. Melanie M. Shannon G. | Ruth D. Koryn W. Brent G. |
| Jr. SS Teacher Helper Craft Helper Helper | Crystal Koryn Tracey Melanie *Siena | | Christmas program | Sharon Stacey Bridget Jess *Jordan |
| SS Grades 1 Grades 2 Grades 3 Grades 4/5 Grades 6/7/8 | | | | |
| Coffee | Gerald & Eva Bill & Tina | Ralph/Lisa Will & Bonnie | Jack & Margo Dave & Brenda | George & Robin Ype & Gail |

Woodland Villa:

Dec. 16 J.& J. Menkhorst, J.&K. Menkhorst, P. Venema

Letter to the missionary this week - W. De Jong

Mailing Address - Karen Lubbers, P.O. Box 423, Soroti, Uganda **Email:** ttklubbers@hotmail.com

Custodian / Church hall rental - Bill & Jo-Anne Hoftzyer 613-652-1211 / jwhoftzyer@hotmail.com

Bulletin Deadline is Thursday noon 613-448-3638, cell 613-330-4481 / aliceschuler@ripnet.com