



Advent

The Prophet's Candle (hope)

Today is the start of Advent. The readings/ candle lighting and sermon series follow the themes of Hope, Joy, Love, Peace culminating with Christmas. The Old Testament people were so looking forward to the coming of the Messiah. He has come and we anticipate His coming again.



**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**

Interm 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.

Sermon Series – The readings/candle lighting and sermon series follow the themes of Hope, Joy, Love, Peace culminating with Christmas. The Old Testament people were so looking forward to the coming of the Messiah. He has come and we anticipate His coming again.

Song of the month - 72 Imagine

This Advent song invites us to reflect on how amazing it is that God came down to be a man and live among us. This fact is unique to Christianity and shouts to this hurting world that God cares deeply about us. He's not just some "big guy in the sky", but Jesus, the God-man, who comes to our rescue.

Back to the Basics - Sunday Evening Series

Would you benefit from a refresher in your understanding of what it means to be Reformed? The Sunday evening group will be spending December and January discussing this valuable theology using a video series on the Canons of Dort from pastor/theologian R.C. Sproul. **Meeting time will be 4:30-5:30pm Sunday afternoons**, refreshments will be provided, all are welcome.

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: 72 *Imagine*

God Calls us to Worship Him

- * Call to Worship
- * Silent Prayer followed by:
M116 Open Our Eyes
- * God's Greeting
- * Songs of Praise:
57 All Earth is Waiting
80 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

We Mark the Season of Advent

Advent Reading & Candle Lighting

Advent Song: 72 *Imagine*

Children's Message

Offerings:

- a. Local & Denominational Ministries
- b. Community Food Share

Special Music:

Light of the World (Lauren Daigle)

Offertory Prayer

Congregational Prayer

- * Song of Preparation:
56 Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

God Speaks to Us Through His Word

Scripture: Malachi 4:1-6, Luke 1:5-17

Sermon:

Living with Hope – a definite expectation!

Prayer of Application

God Sends Us into the World with His Blessing

- * Song of Response:
60 Hark, the Glad Sound! The Savior Comes
- * Confession of Faith:
Our World Belongs to God #23, 56
- * God's Parting Blessing
- * Doxology:
938 My Friends May You Grow in Grace

(*indicates please stand if able)

Prayer items: We remember in prayer:

- Comfort and peace for Dennis and Jennifer Wubs and 3 their young children in what are Dennis' final days of life due to cancer (the Wubs family send their children to TCS).
- Strength and comfort to John & Marguerite VanBruinessen and John Doesburg in their battles with cancer.
- Gertie DeJong as she has gall bladder surgery scheduled for Monday. We remember others recovering from recent surgeries
- Peace and trust in the Lord with the decision that Pastor Josh & April Tuininga have made to decline our call.
- College/University students who are busy with final assignments and upcoming exams.

In our Classis we pray for:

Athens, Pastor Dan Zylstra

In South Dundas we pray for: Lakeshore Drive United Church Pastoral Charge Rev. Janet Evans

Offerings received last Sunday

Budget	\$ 2,192
Karen Lubbers	\$ 1,278
Ottawa CR Campus Ministry-Sid Ypma	\$ 60

Offering Schedule

December 2 - Community Food Share

While donations of food are very much appreciated, cash donations provide us with more flexibility when it comes to providing healthy food choices for our clients. We use cash donations to purchase perishable items such as milk, eggs, meat, cheese, fruit and vegetables. Cash donations also provide us with the necessary funds to deal with shortages of other items.

December 9 - EduDeo Ministries (merged with Canadian Christian Education Foundation) is a Canadian mission organization that works worldwide in developing countries. Education is one of the most powerful instruments for reducing poverty and inequality. Their goal is to take this incredibly effective tool of education one extraordinary

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(Offering Schedule cont.)

step further and combine it with the transforming message of the Gospel. Their strategic approach includes accessibility for all children, teacher training, curriculum development and school construction.

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”

December 23 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.

World Renew Giving Tree: UZIMA is a Swahili word that means 'full of life.' In this season of giving, help people who live in extreme poverty experience Uzima –the fullness of life God intends. The giving tree in the front foyer is covered with ornaments that have giving suggestions for people in need around the world. You are invited to choose an ornament and follow the instructions on the back to purchase your gift (by mail, phone or online.)

Consider giving a chicken, a goat, or a children’s nutrition kit to those on your list that have all they need. Ask for an acknowledgement card (if you order before December 4) or send an e-Card, that lets your loved one know you have made a life changing purchase in their name. Copies of the full gift catalogue are also available. Feel free to take one home, look through it with your family, and together choose gifts that speak to you.

Please speak to one of the deacons if you have any questions, or need help completing your gift.

Happy Birthday

This Week - December

2 Janet Cousins
Carson Douma

3 Laura Lee De Jong

6 Shannon Jansen

Next Week -

9 Maaike De Jong
Marni Don

11 Evan De Jong
Jerry Haayema
Kolton Belmonte

12 Alice Howland-Douma
James Kooistra

13 Hannah Ross

14 Noah Westervelt
Stacey De Jong
Callen Munro

We rejoice with those celebrating more than 70 years

- Janet Cousins celebrates 71 years today.

- Maaike De Jong - 93 years next Sunday

- James Kooistra - 85 years next Wednesday

A Special Birthday: *On Wednesday, Dec. 12, D.V., my dear husband hopes to celebrate his 85th birthday. We thank the Lord for the many years He has given to Jim. On that day we would like to invite all the seniors for an “Open House” at our place, from 9:30 – 12:00 and from 2:00 - 5:00. Best wishes only, please! Alice Kooistra*

Pastor Josh Tuininga: Below is the response that council received from Pastor Josh and April. It is not the response we were hoping for but we do know that in God's time a pastor will come to serve full time in our congregation. Let us remember to pray for the Search Committee as they return to the task assigned to them.

Dear brothers and sisters of Williamsburg CRC,

April and I have been overwhelmed by your kindness, encouragement, grace-filled words and your prayers. In meeting with you and in conversations with many of you, we know that we could very easily be a part of the congregation and journey together.

I am so thankful for the grace that you have given us to work through this decision. It has not been easy. It has been filled with angst, joy, tears, certainty and uncertainty. I am thankful for people in both 'burg's that have assured us that God will give us peace with the decision.

We searched for peace while weighing two calls – a call to Wallaceburg and a call to Williamsburg. April and I still feel that God is calling us to Wallaceburg for a time and so we have to decline the call to Williamsburg. When we made that decision, we did feel peace. We do feel sadness at the disappointment that it may cause in Williamsburg. We pray for continued guidance and wisdom for your council and search committees.

God's Peace Josh and April



ADVENT

Today marks the start of the Advent Season. There is a notable amount of history and symbolism behind this tradition that we have celebrated for many years.

Advent ("adventus" is Latin for arrival) refers to a period of waiting and anticipation of the coming of Christ's birthday. Advent is sometimes referred to as a "mini-Lent", and may have started as early as the fourth century A.D., with an associated wreath (Lutheran Church) that commenced just prior to the Reformation in the sixteenth century.

Although our candles are not on a wreath of evergreen, much of the symbolism is preserved. The circular pattern represents God's eternal existence and love for us. The number of candles coincides with a 1000 years per candle from Adam and Eve until the present time.

Rose candles represent joy, purple candles...humility and penance, and finally, white indicates purity, glory and triumph. These are known as liturgical colours.

Each candle has a name. The Prophet's Candle (hope) is the first, The second, the Bethlehem Candle, is love. The 3rd is the Shepherd's Candle (joy) and the final Peace Candle belongs to Christ (the "Prince of Peace").

With the traditional Advent Wreath (sometimes known as the Advent Crown), the circle of evergreen represents eternity, the holly leaves and berries are for the blood spilled by Jesus as he wore his Crown of Thorns and the pine cones are for the resurrection of Christ.

The most powerful symbolism comes from the light generated by each candle. There are literally dozens of references in the N.I.V. Bible involving "light." Jesus Christ our Savior is known as the "Light of the World." Above our church's pulpit is a reference from the Psalms about "light" (God's Word) guiding our way in life.

Let us all give thought to what is said in 1 John 1:5: "GOD IS LIGHT, IN HIM IS NO DARKNESS AT ALL" as we see the lighting of each Advent candle this year. Have a very blessed Season!



Coming Events Calendar

Redeemer Christian High School invites you to join us for our annual Christmas Concert and Art Exhibit on **Thursday, December 13 at 7 p.m.** in the gym. Our choir, the concert band, a small string ensemble, the Grade 9 band, and the worship team will perform. You'll also see art by our Grade 10 Visual Art class. Admission is free and all are welcome.

OTTAWA CARLETON MALE CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Come celebrate the Christmas Season with the OTTAWA CARLETON MALE CHOIR's 21st Annual CHRISTMAS CONCERT 'SEASONS GREETINGS' with the OTTAWA CELTIC CHOIR & GUEST SOLOISTS on **Friday, December 14, 2018 - 7:30 PM at WOODROFFE UNITED CHURCH** (207 Woodroffe Ave, Ottawa). Tickets are \$15.00 from choir members or at the door. Net Proceeds will be donated to the OTTAWA HOSPITAL FOUNDATION CANCER RESEARCH. Information: Henk Huizenga at 613-293-9046 and at the choir's website: www.ottawacarletonmalechoir.com.

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.



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.

PARCELS FOR SEAFARERS: This is an very important part of the Ministry to Seafarers in Montreal. Bibles



are distributed along with the parcels giving them an opportunity to explain why we celebrate Christmas and brings joy to the lives of the men who spend months on ships away from their families. A box of simple gifts has a great impact! Please leave your gifts in the front lobby and the deacons will arrange for them to be brought to Montreal in early December.

Please check the November 18th bulletin for parcel details.

Events Calendar Dec. 1 - Dec. 8

SUNDAY 3pm **In Dulci Jubilo ~ A Concert of Christmas Music: by the Seaway Valley Singers** at the Iroquois United Church. Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door, \$10 for students and under 12 are free. Advance tickets can be purchased from Alice Howland or Margo VanGilst. We hope to have you join us.

MONDAY 7pm **GEMS, Cadets**

TUESDAY 7pm **Friendship - Bea**

WEDNESDAY 9:30am **Tot's N' Tea**

7pm **NO Youth Group**

THURSDAY 10am **Ladies Bible Study**

Noon **Iroquois Diners Club - Turkey Christmas Dinner**

The Coppertones will be there to entertain everyone. "The COPPERTONES" are a group of retired or off-duty OPP officers and their spouses and family. *Please call the J.W. MacIntosh Senior Support Centre at 613-535-2924 by Tuesday, December 4 to reserve your seat.*

7 - 8:30pm **Youth Group Caroling** we'll be teaming up with

Dixon's youth for our annual caroling at the Williamsburg Park Drive Villa. Please bring about a dozen treats to share with the entire group, and instruments are welcome.

SATURDAY 7am **Men's Bible Study**

10:30am - 2pm **Seniors/Youth Christmas Luncheon** seniors and

youth (GEMS, Cadets, youth group) are invited to this annual luncheon. Together we'll enjoy some games, carols and food courtesy of the deacons and community service committee. If you need a ride to/from this event, please contact Mark Geertsema.

FRUIT BASKETS - made up fresh daily with fruit and lots of "extras". Give someone a (mostly) healthy Christmas gift, and support Redeemer Christian High School too. Prices are \$40, \$50 and \$60. Call Wilma Mudde at 613-728-0154 for more information or to order.

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

	December 2	December 9	December 16	December 23
Elder Hall Monitor	Andrew van Veen Harold De Jong	Jack Menkhorst Jason Wagenveld	Harold Douma Dan Schuler	Ype VanderVeen John Guthrie
Deacons	Andrew Harbers	Mike Dewar	Mark Geertsema	Peter Venema
Projector	Tony V.	John M.	Josh G.	Devin G.
Usher Front Door	Margo V. Jack V.	Jo-Ann H.	Marge N. Ralph N.	Devin G. Brent G.
Musician Song Leader	Pam S. & S.	Margo Shirley	Tanya Mike	Jessica group of 4
Nursery Cuddlers	Janet N. Tanya G.	Jessica M. Kristin G.	Liz M. Amy B.	Stacey D. Crystal B.
Nursery Adventurers	Lindsey D. John M. Noah W.	Dan B. Nancy D. Devin G.	Karen M. Jeff T. Megan D.	John D. Laura Lee D. David T.
Jr. SS Teacher Helper Craft Helper Helper	Emma Amy Nicole David *Annika	Pastor Joe Brent Kristin Jason *Shannon	Crystal Koryn Tracey Melanie *Siena	Christmas program
SS Grades 1 Grades 2 Grades 3 Grades 4/5 Grades 6/7/8	Christmas Practice	Christmas Practice	Christmas Practice	
Coffee	Theo & Ria Mike & Jackie	Tony & Jessica Koop & Kathy	Gerald & Eva Bill & Tina	Ralph/Lisa Will & Bonnie

Woodland Villa:

Dec 2 J. & J. Wagenveld, T. & J. VanderVeen, Y. & G. VanderVeen, P. Venema

Letter to the missionary this week - K. & S. De Jong

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