

January 12, 2020

**Ministry Information & Contacts**

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# Welcome to Ebenezer!

Good morning and welcome to Ebenezer. Today we continue to think about a conversation that took place 2,000 years ago between Jesus and a hostile crowd. Jesus challenges the crowd (and us) to consider what it means to be a descendant of Abraham and a true child of God. - Pastor Jason

## WELCOME & PRAYER

**SONG** — *Praise the Lord, Sing Hallelujah*

## GOD'S GREETING & WE GREET ONE ANOTHER

### READING

**SONG** — *Made to Worship*

### READING

**SONG** — *Come as You Are*

### READING

**SONG** — *Faith Begins By Letting Go*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

## THANK OFFERING

1 - Ebenezer Ministries      2 - Days for Girls

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*(children age 3 to grade 3 leave for Sunday School)*

**SCRIPTURE** — **John 8: 37-47**

**SERMON** — **The Family of God**

**SONG** — *Let It Be Said Of Us*

## PARTING BLESSING

**CLOSING SONG** — *O Praise the Name (Anastasis)*

## Church Family

This week **Wilbur and Linda H** prepare to leave for Rwanda. They leave next Sunday, January 19th to deliver Days for Girls Hygiene kits and to participate in a variety of community projects. Let us lift them up in prayer asking that the Lord would use them as instruments of grace in these communities.

Please continue to be in prayer for **Gary A**, as he will see the Surgeon tomorrow, January 13th. Please pray for **KerryAnne H** this week as she goes for Surgery on Wednesday, January 15th. Also remember in your prayers **Beth N**.

*If you are experiencing physical or emotional difficulties, please speak to Pastor Jason, your district Elder, a Deacon or contact the church office. We want to support you in your journey. We pray that God will provide you with peace, comfort and healing.*

**COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR JANUARY MEETING** The meeting was opened with devotions and prayer bowl, where we select names from the congregations to pray for.

We started the new year off by briefly reviewing the different aspects of decision making in council. This included how topics or issues go from the individual to the executive, to council and finally to the congregation. As always, if someone has any ideas, please pass them on to an elder or the clerk.

Thank you everyone for your feedback from the congregational meeting. There is a lot to go through and so we were only able to focus on a few topics this council meeting. The feedback from the proposed new vision statement was discussed at length, taking careful consideration of all the feedback received. Council is now working on the next step to this exciting process. Also, in response to feedback requesting more frequent congregational meetings we are planning to have one towards the end of February. This meeting will include the actuals from our 2019 budget.

We received a wonderful, and the cutest 😊, request from an important group of young boys in our church looking for their soccer balls. We are in unanimous support of replacing these missing balls, but if anyone has any information as to where they went, we would love to know.

**NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS FROM THE CRC CANADIAN MINISTRIES DIRECTOR** - 2019 has been a wonderful year of experiencing the grace of God through the Christian Reformed Church and its 270 local communities. The ministry momentum year over year has been strong, thanks to the efforts of tens of thousands of CRC people across Canada. Thank you for being part of what God is doing via this re-forming church! From our National Gathering, where we heard that the church desires increased missional and spiritual practices in our communities, to the fight for effective changes to refugee policy, achieved through the halls of parliament and overseas in partnership with World Renew, and the delightful "I Am Not My Own tour" of Jeremy Benjamin... it has been a year of continued growth. I am looking forward to what God has in store for the CRC in and through its Canadian expression in 2020. Thanks to all of you as co-labourers in Christ!

# Denominational Announcements

## TURNING DOWN THE HEAT ON CLIMATE CHANGE: A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION:

**Climate Change and Global Warming** are the some of the biggest topics debated and discussed today. Undoubtedly climate change will have major impact on the world's energy use and our environment. Many of us are uncertain of what we can do to help the situation. The Edmonton Environmental Justice affiliate of the CPJ (Committee for Public Justice) would like to invite you to the first session of our speaker series on this topic. Our January session is entitled **"What is Climate Change and the Science Surrounding It?"** There will be an informative presentation by Dr. Gerda Kits and Dr. Kris Ooms from the King's University followed by a question period. **Date: Next Sunday Jan. 19, 2020 7-9 p.m. at Bethel Community CRC (14204 - 25 Street).**

**Additional sessions** will be on the topics of: "Canada's Global and National Response" (Sun. 09 FEB 2020), "Policies and Technologies" (Sun. 15 MAR 2020), and "Life-style Choices and Living with Integrity" (Sun. 19 APR 2020). Mark these dates on your calendar.

**COMMUNAL GATHERING:** On the Sunday evenings of February 2, beginning 6:30 p.m. and February 9 beginning 6:30 p.m., Covenant CRC and West End CRC respectively, together with the Classis Alberta North sub-committee formed to look at matters of sexuality, are hosting next steps in information and discussion on matters of sexuality, specifically LGBTQ2+. The evenings will be under the theme "Walking alongside". The first evening at Covenant will look at "Walking alongside LGBTQ2+ Christians" and "Biblical Perspectives on LGBTQ2+ Issues". The second evening at West End will be a panel discussion presenting on "Growing up LGBTQ2+ in the church". Please mark these dates and consider joining us for these presentation and discussions.

**NEWS FROM EMMANUEL HOME:** Emmanuel Home has an agreement in place to purchase a 3.7 acre property in the Inglewood neighborhood. While the project is still in the early stages of planning, there will be opportunities for you to be involved in the planning and feasibility portions of this exciting new development. Stay tuned for information on a community engagement meeting in early February, and check out our website for more information about the site itself. [www.emmanuelhome.ca](http://www.emmanuelhome.ca)

**FAITH FORMATION:** "According to psychologist Erik Erikson, identity is formed when an individual negotiates a role in a community. Emerging adulthood often finds young adults living away from family, their home church and other Christian communities at the point in life where they are negotiating these roles." Please join us as we welcome Rick Hiemstra, co-author of the Renegotiating Faith report who will be at Kings University this Wednesday, January 15th from 7-9pm to share about this very important research. A panel will then discuss the implications for the local church. Who is this for? Church leadership teams, Councils, Youth leaders/pastors/directors, Young adults Parents/Grandparents. There is no cost and is hosted by, Kings University, Classis Alberta North Youth Ministry, Edmonton Central Baptist Church and Faith Formation Ministries (CRCNA). For more information, contact Ron DeVries at 780-619-6566 or [rondevries@crcna.org](mailto:rondevries@crcna.org).

## Coming Up @ Ebenezer

|                              |   |                 |                       |
|------------------------------|---|-----------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Sunday, January 12</b>    | @ | <b>9:15 am</b>  | Weekly Prayer Meeting |
|                              | @ | <b>10:00 am</b> | Worship Service       |
|                              | @ | <b>7-9 pm</b>   | Youth Movie Night     |
| <b>Monday, January 13</b>    | @ | <b>7:00 pm</b>  | Friendship            |
| <b>Wednesday, January 15</b> | @ | <b>9:30 am</b>  | Coffee Break resumes  |
| <b>Sunday, January 19</b>    | @ | <b>9:15 am</b>  | Weekly Prayer Meeting |
|                              | @ | <b>10:00 am</b> | Worship Service       |
|                              | @ | <b>11:45 am</b> | Catechism             |
| <b>Sunday, January 26</b>    |   |                 | Cadet Sunday          |

**COFFEE BREAK RESUMES THIS WEEK** on Wednesday, January 15th. Please join us as we start the New Year together! Our new Bible Study will take us through the book of Hebrews. We will explore what it looks like to have our hearts and minds fixed on Jesus! Also, to kick off the New Year, we will welcome a guest speaker. Amy Walton, a sister-in-Christ, and a Registered Provisional Psychologist in Leduc, will encourage us in the New Year to orient our lives around loving others. Her talk will focus on Reaching Out to Women. Invite your friends. Anyone is welcome to join us for this special event!

**2020 CADET CALENDAR** The Cadet Calendar is now getting ready for print, and will be in your mailboxes on Cadet Sunday, January 26th!

**NEEDS:** We are still in need of sponsors to assist with the cost of producing the calendar. It is always our hope that any donations that come from the congregation and in the envelopes are put solely towards minimizing the cost of travel to the International Camporee, and the sponsorships cover the calendar's production costs. This year, our cost of travel is quite high, as our Cadets will be flying to Grand Rapids, so we are asking for your help. If you run a business, or know of anyone who would be interested in sponsoring the production costs of our calendar, please talk to Scott, or email [leduccadets@gmail.com](mailto:leduccadets@gmail.com).

**AND THANKS!** We truly appreciate the many years of your generosity and compassion for these boys to be able to attend this amazing event every three years! Cadets will be at the sanctuary doors at the conclusion of the Cadet Sunday service to collect calendar and International Camporee donations.

## Deacon's Corner

**1<sup>st</sup> Offering: EBENEZER MINISTRIES** - This offering is used to cover the day-to-day expenses of the church, fund the various ministries at Ebenezer, cover the salaries of staff, and contributes to the ministry shares that we are committed to as members of Classis Alberta North and the CRC Denomination.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offering - Days For Girls** - Every girl and woman has inherent worth and dignity. Days for Girls celebrates this by providing sustainable feminine hygiene solutions and health education. When girls and women have health, education, and opportunity, communities and our world are stronger. What if lack of feminine hygiene kept you in your room for days? No school for days. No income for days. We can change that! Days for Girls Canada works with the founding organization, Days for Girls International, towards the goal of every woman in the world having access to feminine hygiene. We make washable feminine hygiene kits for distribution to girls and women in need, Feminine hygiene education for the girls and women receiving kits, training for girls and women in need to sew washable feminine hygiene kits. For more information go to <https://www.daysforgirls.org/>

**NEXT WEEK - effect Hope** - effect:hope (formerly The Leprosy Mission of Canada) is a Christian development organization, focused on achieving lasting, positive change among people living with the causes and consequences of Neglected Tropical Diseases. Our values as followers of Christ include:

We are called to love and to seek restoration  
We are champions of community and collaboration  
We demonstrate honesty and integrity  
We are committed to high impact and effectiveness.

For more information go to <https://effecthope.org/>

**PUBLIC LECTURE**, this Tuesday January 14 at 7:00 PM - Please join us for an interesting and thought-provoking session in the Inglewood Room at Inglewood Christian Reformed Church, 12330 – 113 Avenue. Pastor Roy Berkenbosch will present (a lecture entitled "The Gospel According to Moses") an introduction to the Book of Exodus as a portal into the themes of the Old Testament.

**LET'S TALK MENTAL HEALTH SEMINAR** Steele Heights Baptist Church is hosting "Let's Talk Mental Health" a workshop taking place on Saturday January 25, 2020 from 9am-3pm at the church (5812 149<sup>th</sup> Ave NW). The cost for this event is \$35 and includes materials and refreshments. Join keynote speaker Rev. Dr. Capt. Gordon Poley as we discuss how to properly minister to family members, friends, co-workers and neighbors who may be experiencing mental health issues. This workshop is an initial conversation about mental health, and how the church can respond effectively. Lunch is not provided, so please bring a bag lunch, or prepare to make other arrangements, however beverages will be provided. **If you are interested in this event, please register at [shbc.ca](http://shbc.ca) before January 18, 2020.**

## Thank You To Our Volunteers!

**Ushers:** Marilyn Z, Andy Z

**Greeters:** Tim & Bev C

**Welcome Centre:** Tammy H

**Next Week:** Tim C, Bev C

**Next Week:** James & Cindy H

**Next Week:** Linda K

**Coffee Duty:** Jon & Rikki L, Bryan & Michelle T, Rudy & Karen G

**Next Week:** Glen & Christine H, James & Cindy H, Miriam P

**Serving Elder:** Wilbur H

**Next Week:** Herman B

**Worship Team:** Grace D

**Next Week:** Jason/Jordan

**Projection & Audio:** Matt K/Jamie B **Next Week:** Dan V/ Nicole V

**Nursery Supervisor** - Linda K

Inf: Linda K, Alex A, Gea T, Sophie C

Tod: Candice V, Yoka T, Daniel Bo

**Next Week: Nursery Supervisor** - Lisa K

Inf: Lisa K, Quentin A, Carrie B, Clara D

Tod: Wes V, Warren T, Lyon D



*If you have a conflict, please arrange for a substitute. If you need help with this, please don't hesitate to call the office. Thank you!*

*You can find the volunteer schedules online at [ebenezercrc.com](http://ebenezercrc.com).*

**ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT PLANNING AND DESIGNING WORSHIP SERVICES?** Do you have a heart to connect the people of God with God in worship? First Christian Reformed Church of Edmonton is looking for a part-time Worship Coordinator who will aid in the design of weekly worship services while coordinating and engaging our members to use their talents and abilities in worship. Organizational and administrative skills are a must, musical and creative skills are desirable, as well as a knowledge of new music and classic hymns. Salary dependent on education and experience. Please submit resume and cover letter to [pastorbrian@fcrcedm.ca](mailto:pastorbrian@fcrcedm.ca)