



Weekly Newsletter of the Christian Reformed Church of Perth Inc.

Welcome

A warm welcome to all who have come to the services today, and a special welcome to visitors. May the Lord bless each of us as we worship together, that His Name may be glorified and that we are encouraged and strengthened in faith. A crèche is available at the back of the building for those who wish to use it for children aged 0-4 years of age. Please join us for refreshments and fellowship after the service.

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 Forward all material to her by the Thursday 12:00 p.m. prior to the published Sunday date.

Worship Services in Perth

8 November 2015

9.30 A.M. Peter Kossen
 The Book of Philemon
Grace in the life of Onesimus

5.30 P.M. Craig Van Echten
 1John 3:11-24, Galatians 5:16-26
Practical outcome #1 = Love

15 November 2015

9.30 A.M. Reinier Noppers
5.30 P.M Reinier Noppers

Meditation

Why Can't I Shake My Sins?

A surprising answer to a stubborn problem.
 by Kevin A. Miller

A man came to see me. It was the beginning of Lent, the original "40 Days of Purposeful Repentance."
 "Pastor," he said, "I want to confess my sins." And in tears, he spoke honestly and openly about the sin in his life—nothing illegal, most known only to him, yet serious, and he wanted to turn away from it. We talked and prayed together, and he left.
 Forty days later, he came back.
 "How are you doing?" I asked.
 "I haven't made much progress," he admitted, his eyes unable to meet mine.
 In his agony was a question I've often asked: "Why does sin so stubbornly remain in our lives?" He and I both want to change more than we have and more than we do.
 I've heard many answers, ranging from "You just haven't gotten serious enough about turning away from your sin" to "You need an experience of greater or entire sanctification" to "You need an accountability partner" to "You need to let go and let God." All helpful, to a point, but they didn't seem to fit this man hunched over in front of me.

Worship Service Snapshot

A typical service includes a time of singing praise to our God, an opportunity for prayer and a message is given by the Pastor.

There is also a time for us to give financially. If you are not a member or regular attendee of CRC Perth, please don't feel obligated to participate in the offering.

In the morning service, children (4-9 years old) attend church for the first part of the service and leave for Sunday school after a Children's talk.

At the end of the evening service there is a time to ask questions pertaining to faith.

Please utilise the church's electronic banking

Banking details:

Commonwealth Bank of Australia
Christian Reformed Church of Perth
BSB: 066 153 #: 1002 5589

Mark as tithe or first offering or the name of the second offering (e.g.: Diaconate)

Offerings Update:

Oct 4	\$2877.70	
Cadets and Gems Local	\$178.20	
Feed A Family	\$418.65	
Oct 11	\$2053.50	
Diaconate	\$233.30	
Oct 18	\$2483.40	
Solomon Islands	\$249.40	
Oct 25	\$2714.75	
Christian Wheatbelt	\$410.10	

First Offering

For the ministry of the local church

Second Offering

8 Nov WA Future Churches Fund
15 Nov Leprosy Mission
22 Nov Reformed Churches Youth Committee

5 Colombo Street, Victoria Park, Western Australia, 6100

Church Website: www.crcperth.org.au

So I read several classic books of spiritual devotion. Their answer was not what I expected; in fact, it was the opposite.

In the first book, Francois Fenelon, a Christian spiritual adviser in the 1600s, wrote a letter that included a phrase that stopped me: "Sometimes [God] leaves people with certain unconquerable imperfections ..." Really? God does this? What good end could God possibly have in mind for leaving unconquered areas in our lives? Fenelon continued, "... in order to deprive them of all inward self-satisfaction ... Self-reliance, even in the matter of curing one's faults, fosters a hidden conceit."

In other words, we are most concerned about our "unconquerable imperfections." God is more concerned about our pride. And in order to stab our pride, he may leave those imperfections in our life, for a time, to make us humble, to cause us to throw ourselves, in frustration with ourselves, upon God.

Even faults that stubbornly remain can be used by God for our good, says Fenelon: "Let us profit by the faults we have committed, through the humble consciousness of our weakness, without discouragement."

I swelled with hope. Could it be that our frustratingly persistent sins, which abound, lead us to a greater awareness of God's grace, which so much more abounds? In a second spiritual classic, *Introduction to the Devout Life*, Francis de Sales concurs: "For the furtherance of humility, it is needful that we sometimes find ourselves worsted in this spiritual battle." Needful. Necessary for us. But "we shall never be conquered until we lose either life or courage. ... we are certain to vanquish so long as we are willing to fight."

Our persistent failings bring us "abjection" (humility), and that's spiritually beneficial as long as we persevere. While striving for holiness, we must not underestimate the value of humility. As Peter of Damaskos wrote in the *Philokalia*: If "you sin out of habit even when you do not want to, show humility like the Publican (Lk. 18:13); this is enough to ensure your salvation."

So when struggling with persistent sin, take heart. God is at work, and even your persistent failings may work to your good and his glory. Let yourself be humbled by your falls. Fenelon concludes: "Bear with yourself in your involuntary frailties as God bears, wait patiently for His appointed time of complete deliverance, and meanwhile go on quietly and according to your strength in the path before you, without losing time in looking back; sorrowing over [your sins] with humility, but putting them aside to press onwards; not looking upon God as a spy watching to surprise you, or an enemy laying snares for you, but as a Father who loves you. ... Such you will find to be the path toward true liberty."

Committee for Social Responsibility

The next Committee for Social Responsibility meeting:

Will meet on Wednesday 18th of November , 7.30pm At 7 Matthew Way, Thornlie

This will be the last meeting for 2015 . The committee shares information on current social issues and supports various pro-life and Christian-based organisations dealing with issues in a practical way.

We will show extracts from a video series (David Platt: Counter Culture) which encourages us to think of topical issues from a Gospel perspective.

All welcome-phone 0415 269 075

Bible For the Persecuted

The *Bibles For the Persecuted* boxes has so far collected \$514.00, thank you for this generosity.

If you have not yet contributed to this ministry opportunity and still wish to do so, please hand your boxes / donations to Trudy by **next week**, so that the final amount can be sent off to the Bible League.

Birthdays this week

9-Nov Paul Van der Kooij

Pastoral

In every need we cast ourselves upon the Lord, who provides healing, hope, peace and comfort in exactly the right measure and each in its own time as we need it: Yvonne Herft continues to improve slowly but is still very limited in mobility, and at this stage unable to come worship with us as getting in and out of a car is far too difficult. Do pray for Yvonne through this difficult time.

Dini Stroop also put her back out recently, and after spending some time with her daughter in Waikiki is home again: we do pray for ongoing recovery and strength for Dini as she struggles to regain her mobility and independence.

Noeline's brother Paul had major surgery this past week with a lung transplant: at this point the reports of progress have been positive but he still has a long way to go and we commend him and their family to the Lord for healing and strength.

Welcome this morning to Peter Kossen and this evening to Craig Van Echten as they lead us in worship on this our regular Classis preaching swap: I am blessed to be able to have this Sunday off from preaching and will be doing "fatherly duties" assisting Leon on a photography project outside the city light limits.

Ordination/Installation of Office Bearers:

If there are no lawful objections, the ordination of Sam Assaad as elder and installation of Paul van der Kooij as deacon will take place in the morning service on Sunday 22nd November, 2015.

Reminder

There will be no evening services in our church on Sunday 27th December, as well as January 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st, due to the holiday "exodus". Evening services will still be held in Willetton and Gosnells and members are encouraged to attend there.

Announcements

Wilson Fellowship meets again D.V. **Wednesday 11th**

November 2015 , 7:30 P.M at **Mrs Zoehout's Place**

Please Study **Lesson 10** book of John Also read John 18:28-19:16 ALL WELCOME!!

Discipleship Training Coordinator

The Reformed Theological College, Geelong, is seeking to appoint a part-time Discipleship Training Coordinator to oversee development of a new suite of online discipleship training courses designed to aid churches in equipping people for church and life ministry.

This newly created position is suited to someone who has a degree in theology, aligns fully with the theological position and ethos of the RTC, has a proven track record in discipleship training, is a highly organized self-starter, works well with other people and is capable of driving the discipleship training project.

A full position and project description is available on request from admin@rtc.edu.au

Expressions of interest should be sent to the Principal (principal@rtc.edu.au) by **11 December 2015**.

125 Pigdons Road
Waurin Ponds Victoria 3216
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www.rtc.edu.au

Items for the Philippines

Items for Eliza to take to Philippines can still be placed in the box marked PHILIPPINES. The box will remain there until mid-November.

Suitable items should be NEW : children's summer clothing, bathers, children's underwear, caps (keep clothes free from commercial logos and English words), small runners, thongs, white socks, band aids, children's vitamins, stationery (coloured and lead pencils, sharpeners, sharpie marking pens, rulers, etc.). Or cash can be donated for HOPE PARCELS - – parcels filled with basics like rice, flour, basic hygiene items etc., to be distributed during Philippines Mission Trip to the under privileged. (November-December). Items will be purchased in Philippines. Cash should be placed in envelope marked with Philippines Hope parcels and handed to Trudy or Eliza. **REMEMBER EVERY DONATION (SMALL OR LARGE) HELPS SOMEONE WHO HAS LESS THAN YOU.**

CANNING BIBLE STUDY will Lord willing meet again coming Wednesday November 18th, 7:30 p.m. at the home of Bardi Bester, studying Isaiah 54, Chapter 19 in the book.

SENIOR MEN OF OUR CHURCHES

Our next meeting is planned for **TUESDAY 17th November, 10 A.M** at the Peletier home, 26a Bridge Street, Wilson.

Our guest speaker will be Rudolph Van Noppen, WA representative for the Barnabas Fund, - Aid Agency for the Persecuted Church.

As this will be the last meeting for the year, we will wind up the meeting a little earlier and stay for lunch.



Compassion Catalogue

The Compassion Catalogue 15 will (God willing) be available at the end of November

You are encouraged to make a selection of gifts towards a ministry to which you wish to give.

Choose from Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, India and even Iraq.

GOSPEL

Gujarat Outreach Support by
Planting churches, Economic
change and Literacy training

Prayer Points for November

1. Because medical work is one of the felt needs in the mission field. "World Transform" has launched (at our request) a new medical project in Oct 2015. This will be featured in the Compassionate Catalogue this year. A team of 3 women (see Gift 13) are doing health care, first aid and hygiene awareness in the target communities in South Gujarat and Maharashtra. Please pray that this program will be an effective tool to for also sharing the love of God in Christ in this mission field.
2. We thank God for 38 new souls from Narmada, South Gujarat and Barwani clusters. These new believers have been baptised and added to God's fold through baptism. Kindly pray for these believers to grow in Christian faith and become a powerful witness for Christ in their communities.
3. Elders training was conducted in the Maharashtra cluster for 28 elders. Biblical church government is an important focus of the GOSPEL ministry. Please pray that this training will help our elders to fill their role effectively in the newly formed churches.
4. GOSPEL has been involved in children's ministry for many years. As a part of children's ministry, VBS(Vacation Bible School) teachers' training was conducted. Nearly 30 workers and volunteers attended. Kindly pray for VBS program which will be conducted in Nov. We are planning to target 1,500 children (many non-Christian).
5. Medical clinics are being organised this month. Christian Doctors and volunteers are donating their time and medicines to be involved in these camps. May God bless their work.

What's On This Week

Wednesday	11 th of November	9:30 a.m.	Bread @ the church
		7.30 p.m.	Wilson Fellowship @ Mrs Zoehout's place
Friday	13 th November	7.00 p.m.	CEMS @ Gosnells Church
Saturday	November 14 th	9:30 a.m.	Love for Kids Russia- Information and Coffee Morning @ Willetton Christian Reformed Church

What's Coming Up

Wednesday	November 18 th	7:30 p.m.	Committee for Social Responsibility meeting @ 7 Matthew Way Thornlie
Wednesday	November 18 th	7.30 p.m.	Canning Bible study @ Bardi' s place

Worship Ministry

Date	Duty Elder	Greeters	Data	Sound	Musician	Preacher
8 Nov a.m. p.m.	Raymond	Willian & Jill	Evan	Johan Isaak	Rebecca	P.Kossen C .Van Echten
15 Nov a.m. p.m.	Steve	Raymond & Rob	Johan Luke	Isaak Luke	Rachel	R Noppers
22 Nov a.m. p.m.	Bardi	Steve & Hetty	Isaak	Paul Nieuwkerk	Elsa	R Noppers G.Van Schie
29 Nov a.m. p.m	Henry	Bardi & Jacqueline	Paul Nieuwkerk	Johan Luke		R.Noppers

Video: James

Helping Hands Please arrange your own swap if you are unable to do your duty.

Date	Coffee Fellowship	Crèche	Sunday School
8 Nov	Pleysier, Hetty, Johan	Annette, Klarinda, Joshua	Saara & Bethia
15 Nov	Alberts, Mary	Rebecca de H., Leon, Luke	Trudy & Emma
22 Nov	Ventor, Victor	Ilzebel, Emma, Nelson	Trudy & Leon
29 Nov	A&M Slooter, Assaad	Vanessa, Rebekah, Beslin	Yvonne & Saara