



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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Worship Services in Perth

22 November 2015

9.30 A.M. Reinier Noppers

1 Timothy 3:1-13, Titus 1:6-9

“Spiritually Mature Leaders”

5.30 P.M Geoff Van Schie

29th November 2015

AM: R Noppers

PM: R Noppers

Meditation

4 REASONS FOR BIBLICAL LEADERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

by [Brian Cosby](#) • April 30, 2015

I'm thankful that God didn't leave us to guess about the qualifications of church leaders. Both Titus 1 and 1 Timothy 3 provide some basic traits that should characterize elders and deacons. Elders, for example, should be men who are “above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach” and so on (1 Tim. 3:2). They must “not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain” (Titus 1:7). Elders should also “shepherd the flock of God...being examples to the flock” (1 Pet. 5:2-3).

Deacons should be men “full of the Spirit and wisdom” (Acts 6:3). They should be “dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain” and so on (1 Tim. 3:8). Like elders, they should “be tested first” (v. 10). The “council of elders” (1 Tim. 4:14) plays a key role in the examining and vetting process, as well as the ordination and installation by the laying on of hands.

But notice what are *not* listed as qualifications: seasoned banker, Fortune 500 CEO, politician, an earned Ph.D. in theology, a “nice guy,” or the ability to swing a hammer.

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)

First Offering

For the ministry of the local church

Second Offering

22 Nov Reformed Churches Youth Committee
29 Nov Diaconate
6th Dec Manoah House

Unfortunately, these often become the qualifying factors. Moreover, being *qualified* doesn't mean being *perfect*. If that were the case, we would have no elders or deacons at all! This is not overly complicated. But having *unqualified* elders and deacons can prove disastrous. I want to give you four basic reasons why it is not only God-honoring to have biblically-qualified elders and deacons, but pastorally wise and helpful.

1. They make decisions on behalf of your church. I want the most spiritually mature, wise, humble, Christ-exalting, Scripture-knowing, and household-managing men serving as elders and deacons in my church. Why? Because they make decisions—big and small—on behalf of our church. An elder in the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA), (*CRCA for us* ☺) for example, can vote at the highest court of our denomination. If we don't insist upon biblical qualifications, you can have a very unqualified (or even unsaved!) person voting on decisions that effect the entire church, which is neither safe nor right. At the local level, this could lead to entertainment-driven “worship,” neglect of healthy church discipline, and many other devastating trends that we are seeing across our nation. We should strive to have biblically-qualified leaders making decisions on behalf of our churches.

2. They are examples to the flock. When you examine the lists of qualifications in the passages mentioned above, most of them have to do with character and family life. A healthy church will have elders and deacons who are godly and humble examples to the flock (cf. 1 Pet. 5:3). Unqualified officers—who are promiscuous, uncontrolled, disrespectful, inhospitable, and so on—actually prove a hindrance to the spiritual growth of the members. If the members are told, “Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls” (Heb. 13:17), but the leaders are leading the sheep to Dr. Phil rather than to Jesus, we have a problem. They should be examples to the flock so that they follow qualified elders and deacons who, in turn, are following Christ (1 Cor. 11:1).

3. It provides greater unity and peace in the church. I've served in churches where some elders love Reformed theology and others hate it. I've seen elders split over infant baptism. I've known a deacon to have committed adultery and continue as an active deacon. Make no mistake: *quarrels among the shepherds can disillusion the sheep*. Oftentimes, leaders who are quick-tempered or uncontrolled (cf. Titus 1:7-8) dig in their heels, take “sides” in the church, and begin lobbing condescending grenades at one another. Fed up with division, people start leaving. Not that having qualified leaders doesn't rule out the possibility of division, of course, but it does generally provide greater unity and peace in the church. Personally, I'm grateful for the unity of our elders at Wayside Church and I don't take that for granted. (*As am I here in Perth CRC!*) And while they not perfect and battle with sin,

House Sitting

House sitter wanted – Werner and Hannelore Laurich are looking for a house sitter from Monday 30th November to Friday 1st January 2016.

If you are interested please contact us on:

6161 6379 or Mobile: 0402 023 400.

Student Residence House Parents

We're seeking a married couple to join our team in 2016 as House Parents at our Waurm Ponds campus.

Barkley Hall is a residence for 60-70 young people studying at the RTC and other institutions.

The position focuses on extending Pastoral Care to the residents. On-site accommodation is provided.

Applicants must be fully committed to the aims and ethos of a Christian educational institution.

Further information including a Position Description is available on request from the College office.

Expressions of Interest should be addressed to the General Manager -
admin@rtc.edu.au<mailto:admin@rtc.edu.au>
Closing date: Monday 7 December 2015

they are nevertheless biblically qualified. Our members, in turn, see the unity and the peace and it excites them and gives them confidence to strive with us in our vision and mission as a church.

4. It's a functional trust in the sufficiency of

Scripture. Rather than simply trusting someone's financial experience as the qualifying characteristic for making a good deacon, we have opportunity to trust in the sufficiency of Scripture. Having financial wisdom is certainly a good thing, but it's not God's qualifying *priority* for that office. It might seem that a certain missions-minded man in your church, for example, should be an elder (and for that reason alone). But if he does not manage his household well, he is unqualified (1 Tim. 3:5). This is a step of faith, where worldly wisdom crumbles at the feet of the One who shames the wise (1 Cor. 1:27). Scripture is sufficient. Let's trust God's design—in providing the perpetual offices of elder and deacon—for the God-honoring governing of the body of Christ.

Pastoral

This morning we celebrate again as a congregation with the blessings of God in providing leaders for this church. We give thanks for Henry Alberts, Raymond van der Kooij and Evan de Haan and their service over the past few years; and look forward to seeing God add His blessing as Sam Assaad and Paul van der Kooij take up their respective tasks as elder and deacon.

Steve Ossevoort's father, Willem Boom, passed away on Wednesday morning and Steve left Friday morning to spend time with the family as they prepare for the funeral. May God grant His grace and peace upon Steve and the family through this time of sorrow, and also for Annette and the boys as they stay here in Perth. We are thankful that Mr Boom was a man of faith and is now with the Lord in glory. A little bit of good news is that Steve currently has some work and we pray that God will provide long term employment for him.

Noeline's brother Paul has improved substantially over the past weeks after a lung transplant and we give thanks to the Lord for His wonderful answers to prayer; and continue to seek His healing hand upon Paul.

Helen van der Kooij has done some damage to ligaments in her knee and will have scans this week to determine the extent of the injury. In the meantime she needs to move around as little as possible. We pray that the damage is not too severe and that Helen will soon recover completely.

Birthdays this week

26-Nov Henry Alberts

27-Nov Luke Ossevoort

Sunday school

We will continue with our weekly lessons until 20th December. Currently we are being reminded of God's love for the Old Testament people and also for all of us... his children. In last Sunday's lesson we spoke how we show our love. One element was obeying God's commands and showing this in how we treat others. As the end of the year draws near we will tally up our year's mission money and together with the children decided on what we can do for others through the COMPASSION catalogue (as we have done in previous years). In a practical way the children can see their donations as a means for showing love for others. Money will be collected until our last lesson but only money collected until the end of November will be used to purchase gifts. Money given in December will be held for next year's mission fund. Sunday School will recess over the summer holidays and recommence in February. Saara, Yvonne & Trudy

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Thursday 12:00 p.m. prior to the
published Sunday date.

Eliza Noppers, together with a team from Rehoboth Christian College, leaves this week on a mission trip to Manila, in the Philippines. We pray this trip will be a blessing not just for the orphans to whom they serve but also for the members of the team. A big thankyou yet again for all who have donated goods, money, and contributed in some way to make this trip possible.

Philippines Mission Trip

Thank you to all who have donated goods for Garage Sales, items to be taken to the Philippines and cash for the "Hope Parcels. All planning, and fund raising will result in my departure this coming Wednesday. I will be leaving in the early hours with 25 other students, staff and support people to the Philippines. Your support as a congregation has been greatly appreciated. A prayer calendar is on the table, which will highlight the planned events for each day. A member of the team is planning to do an update each day, which will be printed and placed on the table each Sunday I am away (for those technically minded, you are able to follow the link to the web page which can be found on the prayer calendar yourself). I have been assigned to the red team. I would greatly appreciate your prayers at this time for the whole team and the people in the Philippines whom we will work alongside.

With thanks
Eliza Noppers

Session will meet, DV, this Tuesday evening at 7:30 p.m. at the church

The total amount for the ***Bibles For the Persecuted*** ministry of \$950.00 has been forwarded to the Bible League. Thank you all once again for this wonderful generosity in supporting persecuted Christians. Our sacrifice in a small things makes a huge blessing for those whose very lives are in danger for the sake of Christ Jesus our Lord. *"For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing."* 2 Corinthians 2:15.

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". Willetton will not be holding an evening service on the 27th December, but there will be an evening service in Gosnells on that date: throughout January both Willetton and Gosnells will be holding evening services and members are encouraged to attend there.

COMPASSIONATE CATALOGUES 2015 are in your pigeon hole. If you did not get one please see Trudy.

What's On This Week

Tuesday	24 th of November	7.30 p.m.	Session meets @ Church
Wednesday	25 th of November	9:30 a.m.	Bread @ the church
Friday	27 th of November	7.00 p.m.	Final G.E.M.S night @ Gosnells Church

Coming Events:

Canning Bible Study: Wednesday 2nd December at the home of Henrik and Mysella Janong

Worship Ministry

Date	Duty Elder	Greeters	Data	Sound	Musician	Preacher
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
6 Dec a.m. p.m.	Willem	Henry & Yvonne	Johan Luke	Paul van der Kooij	Elsa Rachel	R.Noppers
13 Dec a.m. p.m.	Raymond	Willem & Jannet	Evan	Johan Isaak	Rebecca	J.de Jongh

Video: James

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

Date	Coffee Fellowship	Crèche	Sunday School
22 Nov	Ventor, Victor	Ilzebel, Emma, Nelson	Trudy & Leon
29 Nov	A&M Slooter, Assaad	Vanessa, Rebekah, Beslin	Yvonne & Saara
6-Dec	Oostryck, Morgan	Jacqueline, Isaak, Bethia	Trudy & Rebekah
13-Dec	Nieuwkerk, Knoetze	Melody, Jordan, Klarinda	Yvonne & Saara