



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

Worship Services in Perth

13th December 2015

AM: John de Jongh

Reading: Luke 1:1-25 **Text:** Luke 1:26-38

PM: John de Jongh

Reading: 1 Sam 2:1-10 **Text:** Luke 1.46-56

Meditation

"And there where in the city children keeping watch over their stockings by the heating duct. And Lo! Santa Claus came upon them; and they were sore afraid.

And Santa said unto them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people who can afford them. For unto you will be given great feasts of roast dinner and yummy food; and many presents; and this shall be a sign unto you, ye shall find the presents, wrapped in bright paper, lying beneath a tree decorated with tinsel, coloured balls and lights.

And suddenly, there shall be with you a multitude of friends and relatives, praising you and saying, it was just what I wanted!

And it shall come to pass as the friends and relatives have gone away to their own homes, the parents shall say to one another, Boy! What a mess to clean up. I'm tired. Let's go to bed and pick it up tomorrow. Thank goodness, Christmas only comes around once a year.

And they go with haste to their cold beds and find their rest."

Does that sound like Christmas to you? Now if that was all there was, why bother celebrating Christmas? Sounds more like a plague to be avoided than a real celebration!

How many people do we know who treat Christmas a little like that: a date that comes around every year; and the sooner it is over, the better? Fun while it lasts, but nothing ever changes?

For far too many people that is all Christmas ever means! And what about us?

Christmas is not really Christmas without a true focus upon the greatest gift ever given: the gift of "God who so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."

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

DEC 13th Reformed Theological College
DEC 20th Diaconate
CHRISTMAS World Transform
DECEMBER 27th
Manoah House

Pastoral

We extend a warm to John de Jongh who will be leading us in both services today, as part of our regular Classis preaching swap. I will be in Australind for the day.

Welcome back also to Eliza Noppers, and the rest of the Rehoboth team who spent the last couple of weeks serving amongst the poor in Manila. You would have seen the regular updates on the table, but if you would like to know more just ask Eliza about it.

School has also finished for our students, and as they enjoy a well-earned break we pray it be refreshing for them as well as teaching staff. The Youth Convention is also drawing closer, do pray that the final preparations, organising, travel plans and speaking arrangements all fall into place so that the convention will run smoothly and be a blessing to all who attend.

Dini Strop has been in a lot of pain recently, and was finally diagnosed with hip fractures caused by a fall some weeks ago. She spent last weekend in Fiona Stanley Hospital and is now in Fremantle Hospital, V Block, for treatment and rehabilitation. We do pray that the pain may be controlled and that Dini receives healing from God's mighty hand. Continue to pray especially for many of our elderly members who struggle with decreased mobility and health.

We are thankful that my dad, Peter Noppers was able to return home last weekend. With the correct medication his heart condition should stabilise.

A reminder that our Christmas Day Service will be at the usual time of 9:30 am on the 25th December. There will be a New Year's Eve service at Gosnells starting at 7:30 pm on the 31st December. We will only have morning services from the 27th December to the 31st January inclusive.

Copies of the Solomon Islands Newsletter are available: do take one and find out more about this valuable work done on behalf of our denomination. There are also Solomon Islands School Sponsorship Forms, a ministry which helps break the cycle of poverty for so many young children who do not complete their primary education due to lack of funds.

Next Sunday 20th December will be the last and final LINK for this year. So if there is anything that you desperately need to have included, please make sure it is given or sent to either Emma or myself before Thursday afternoon. RN

Year book updates

It is that time of the year when we start preparing for the 2016 Church Directory. Trudy may approach you to take a new photo or alternatively you can forward one to her via email. trudyn@live.com.au A draft copy will be available to check contact details soon.

Angel Tree

To The Congregation.
Please select a Name Tag from the Angel Tree. Purchase a Gift, attach child's Name Tag to the gift, and place on the table next to the Angel Tree.

Please have Gift List completed by 20th December 2015.

We will deliver the gifts.

Many Thanks.

The Deacons.

Birthdays this week

13th Dec-Shalo Beena

15th Dec –Geoff Van Schie

16th Dec-Isaak Nieuwkerk

Lost Bible

Someone is looking for a lost Bible. It was left in the old Brunswick Junction Church

Quite some years ago. It has some sentimental value because it was given as a gift in 1911.

It is a King James Bible and on the inside cover a message reads, 'From Syd' the year '1911.'

If you have seen this Bible, or if it has fallen into your possession, please contact Kaye van Kuyl

(08) 9390 8937 or 0407 194506.

Thank you, it would mean a lot.



Please support W.T.'s (formerly WD&R's) 2015 Christmas Day Appeal. Barela lives matter to God.

In the heart of Madhya Pradesh State of India, amongst Barela tribals, W.T. has initiated the "Heart Tribal Development Project" in 20 villages. It is a poverty reduction and community development project funded by CRCA through World Transform. [[W.T. can issue tax deductible receipts.](#)]

The issues seem insurmountable:

Lack of good drinking water. Poor land, low yields.

Low literacy rates >80%.

Women not equal. Poor maternal health.

Poor nutrition and high infant mortality.

Food insecurity that leads to crippling debts to crooked money lenders.

Addictions such as tobacco, alcohol.

Unskilled workers. There are few job opportunities so people have to get any kind of labouring work they can get. Seasonal migration for work makes them vulnerable for abuse.

Little government support. Police corruption. Bribery

Remoteness – lack of medical help.

Early marriages; no family planning; large families; poor education.

Employment Opportunity - Youth Work Coordinator (Part Time)

Classis WA seeks the services of a State Youth Ministry Worker to convene and lead the State Youth Council, and to develop and resource collaborative youth ministry among the churches.

This position is a new and exciting step for CRCA youth ministry in WA. The successful applicant will work with a team of passionate people committed to encouraging sound youth ministry goals in local churches.

This is a one day per week (.2 FTE) position.

Interested parties can request more information from David Groenenboom djgroenenboom@gmail.com 0418 383 055

*Expressions of interest must be received by **January 20, 2016***

What's On This Week

Wednesday	16 th of December	9:30 a.m.	Bread @ the church
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Worship Ministry

Date	Duty Elder	Greeters	Data	Sound	Musician	Preacher
13 Dec a.m. p.m.	Raymond	Willem & Jannet	Evan	Johan Isaak	Rebecca	J.de Jongh
20 Dec a.m. p.m.	Steve	Raymond & Eril	Isaak	Paul Nieuwkerk	Rachel	R.Noppers
Christmas	Bardi	Steve & Jacqueline	Johan	Luke	Elsa	R.Noppers
27 Dec a.m. p.m.	Bardi	Steve & Jill	Luke	Johan	Elsa	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
13-Dec	Nieuwkerk, Knoetze	Melody, Jordan, Klarinda	Yvonne & Saara
20-Dec	P & Y van der Kooij, Janong	Rebecca de H., Saara, Joshua	Trudy & Eliza
Christmas	Husselmann, Noppers, Hetty	Mieke, Emma, Eliza	HOLIDAYS
27-Dec	R & H van der Kooij, Pleysier	Annette, Bethia, Nelson	HOLIDAYS

Giving Update: Church

1 st November 2015	\$2642.00
8 th November 2015	\$5522.05
15 th November 2015	\$2465.65
22 nd November 2015	\$2960.90
29 th November 2015	\$3082.40

Second Offering

\$413.60	The Bible League
\$244.10	WA Future Churches Fund
\$248.75	Leprosy Mission
\$215.65	Reformed Churches Youth Committee
\$204.60	Diaconate

Total Giving Budgeted to Date \$62,590.00 (at 22 weeks)

Total Giving to Date \$60,447.25

Current Shortfall \$ 2,142.75