



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.  
Next LINK February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016

9.30 AM: R Noppers Lord's Supper

Micah 5:1-5, Matthew 2:1-12

**"Come and Worship Christ the King"**

5.30 PM: R Noppers

Matthew 25:34-40, James 1:27

**"Dirty Hands – Clean Heart"**

## Meditation

Once again Christmas Day is almost here, and yet again we are reminded of the great love of God. That God should love us when we love Him is one thing, but that He should love us who rebelled against Him is something altogether different, and almost beyond comprehension. On that first Christmas Day, God showed His love in the most practical, down to earth way possible, in a means no one could mistake or explain away – He came to live among us, born as a baby – not with the trappings of wealth and power but in squalor and poverty – laid in a manger, sleeping in a stable. The angels sang, the shepherds and the wise men worshipped, Simeon and Anna rejoiced; Herod plotted and schemed – yet the world has never been the same since! This is God's gift to mankind: His only begotten Son, so that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life! That is why we celebrate! RN

## Pastoral

There is more than one way to say "I love you". The book "The Five Love Languages" by Gary Chapman highlights all these ways of expressing love: words of affirmation, quality time, receiving gifts, acts of service and physical touch. As we celebrate the Lord's Supper, all five expressions come to light: as Jesus affirms us and declares His eternal love for us, as He reminds us He came to be with us, and never leaves us or forsakes us; we remember the greatest gift of God who gave His one and only Son; we gratefully accept this act of service that Jesus humbled Himself to death on a cross for us; and as we taste and touch the symbols that teach us we are firmly held in our Father's arms. In this wonderful blessing we are also reminded to eat and drink responsibly, recognising the body

## 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 20th** Diaconate  
**CHRISTMAS** World Transform  
**DECEMBER 27th** Manoah House  
**JANUARY 3rd** International Justice Mission  
**January 10th** Committee for Social Responsibility  
**January 17th** Target 21  
**January 24th** Reformed Theological College  
**January 31st** Diaconate  
**February 7th** TRAIN workgroup

and blood of our Lord, and so any visitors who wish to join us at the table are asked to speak to an elder prior to the service. Welcome to Mieke Slooter's parents, Mr and Mrs Heijkoop, who arrived this past week: they are here for about 5 weeks and we hope you have a blessed time with your family.

Ken Loos spent a little time in hospital last week but is again on the mend. Dini Stroop remains in Fremantle Hospital in what is expected to be an extended recovery period. We commend them both to God's care and seek His blessing on their treatment and healing.

This may be old news to many, but we rejoice with Rebecca and Evan deHaan as they expect their second child. What a wonderful blessing to look forward to the gift of new life and we ask that God will strengthen them both through the pregnancy and grant a healthy birth.

I have had a severe head cold / throat infection this past week, to the point where I was unable to speak for most of last weekend. A big thanks to Peter Kossen who took both services in Australind for me at short notice.

As many people travel over the holiday break, let's pray that God will keep each of us safe and return us in good health, refreshed and strengthened for the work of His Kingdom wherever He has placed us. If you do happen to be away, please check the rosters and find your own replacements if you are unable to be here.

The Youth Convention is also getting closer: 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 our young people as they enjoy this time together.

A reminder that we will hold a Christmas Service this Friday at the usual time of 9:30 a.m. Next Sunday, and through to the end of January, we will only be holding morning services. A New Year's Eve Service will be held on the 31<sup>st</sup> January at Gosnells at 7:30 p.m., and evening services will be held in Gosnells and Willetton throughout January at 6:00 p.m. Our next shared lunch will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> January, and then again on the 7<sup>th</sup> February.

Pastor Geoff and myself will be away from the 7<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> January, attending the GKSA Extraordinary Synod in Johannesburg, as well as meeting with representatives of the NGK and other Ecumenical duties. Pray for wisdom and strength for what will be a very busy time. Please contact one of the elders for any urgent pastoral matters during that time. This is the last and final LINK for 2015! Lord willing the LINK will recommence in February 2016. A big thank you to everyone who served in some way in this past year, contributed to the life and growth of our congregation, helped out behind the scenes, sat at a sound, data or video desk; looked after

## Year book updates

Please check your family details in the draft copy on the entrance table. A new draft has been printed. Last week two pages were omitted. Sorry for the mistake. Please see Trudy regarding photos or email an update to her [trudyn@live.com.au](mailto:trudyn@live.com.au)

## Compassion Catalogue

Thank you to those who have donated money for a larger item. You still have until Christmas Day to donate via the catalogue's back page, online or pass your donation to Reinier or Trudy to help purchase a larger item like a cow or well as a church family. Please mark envelopes Compassionate Large Item.

## Birthdays

21 Dec Selvin Victor  
28 Dec Ilizebel Venter  
6 Jan Netsai Chipere  
10 Jan Willy Scherpenzeel  
12 Jan Hetty Zoethout  
13 Jan Reinier Noppers  
28 Jan Takundra Mafungate

## READING ROSTER

If you are a gifted reader and would like to participate in the morning service by publicly reading the scripture passage in the a.m. service, please put your name on the list which can be found on the foyer table. We will trial from beginning February until Easter. Alternatively speak to Pastor Reinier

children, visited or welcomed visitors... in fact, a big thank you to all of you for being part of God's family here in CRC Perth. It is a wonderful blessing to be part of this family and Trudy and I would like to extend our prayers and thanksgiving to the Lord for being able to serve among you again this past year. Thank you for your encouragement and patience, and we would like to wish you all a very blessed Christmas and a fruitful, God-glorifying New Year. May each day of 2016 continue to be fresh opportunities to serve our King together. RN



**World Transform**  
Christian development for the needy

**Please give to W.T.'s (formerly W.D.&R.) Christmas Appeal.  
Barela lives matter to God.**

Because of serious poverty amongst Barela tribals, W.T. has initiated the "Heart Tribal Development Project" in 20 villages in Madhya Pradesh. It is a poverty reduction and community development project funded through World Transform. [W.T. can issue tax deductible receipts.]

Last week we highlighted some of the issues, this week we share some of the solutions that will be worked at.

Bert Kuipers – WT publicity

### positive solutions

- Prevent soil erosion of marginal lands. (avoid overgrazing/plant trees)
- Plan for rain water collection.
- Educate about saving schemes
- Strengthen village leadership to fight for justice and advocate for legal entitlements
- Seek alternate sources for income.
- Teach "new" agriculture skills. Aim to get better yields.
- Educate to assist family planning.
- Teach about importance of nutrition for pregnant and nursing mothers.
- Run clinics for appropriate treatments and early diagnosis of health issues.
- Prevent livestock contaminating water.
- Stop open defecation – build toilets.
- Urge people not to arrange childhood marriages.
- Ensure (boys as well as girls) are educated
- Start village savings schemes to avoid economic slavery to money lenders.
- People are interested to learn new things to change their situation.
- Continue to work at corruption.
- Educate about dangers of chewing tobacco, smoking and drinking alcohol.
- Seek to do all this in Jesus' precious name. [**GOSPEL evangelists work nearby.**]

## Worship Ministrys

Date	Preacher	Duty elder	Greeters	Data	Sound	Video	Musician
December 20 <sup>th</sup> a.m. p.m.	R. Noppers R. Noppers	Steve	Raymond & Eril	Isaak	Paul N.	James	Rachel
CHRISTMAS	R. Noppers	Bardi	Steve & Jacqueline	Luke	Klarinda	James	
December 27 <sup>th</sup> a.m.	R. Noppers	Bardi	Steve & Jil	Luke	Klarinda	James	
January 3 <sup>rd</sup>	R. Noppers	Willem	Sam & Hetty	Luke	Klarinda	James	Rachel
January 10 <sup>th</sup>	R. Patterson	Steve	Willem & Rob	Evan	Johan	James	Rebecca
January 17 <sup>th</sup>	R. Patterson	Bardi	Steve & Jannet	Johan	Luke	James	Elsa
January 24 <sup>th</sup>	R. Noppers	Sam	Bardi & Jill	Luke	Klarinda	James	
January 31 <sup>st</sup>	R. Noppers	Willem	Sam & Yvonne	Johan	Isaak	James	Rachel
February 7 <sup>th</sup> a.m. p.m.	R. Noppers R. Noppers	Steve	Willem & Hetty Willem & Rob	Paul N. Luke	Nelson Klarinda	James	Elsa

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

## Helping Hands

Date	Coffee Fellowship	Crèche	Sunday School
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
3rd Jan	Ossevoort, Jill	Vanessa, Klarinda	n/a
10th Jan	de Jager, Janny	Melody, Joshua	n/a
17th Jan	Everix, Bardi	Rebecca, Beslin	n/a
24th Jan	Alberts, Bill	Mieke, Emma	n/a
31st Jan	Assaad, Elsa	Jacqueline, Nelson	n/a

## Coming up

January 3<sup>rd</sup> Shared Lunch

February 7<sup>th</sup> Shared LUNCH

February 21<sup>st</sup> Lord's Supper

## What's On This Week

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec 9:00 a.m. Bread at the church

## Rosters

A copy of the duty rosters from January to March 2016 can be found in your pigeon hole or on the foyer table.

**BREAD MINISTRY** will operate over the summer months each Wednesday from 9:00 a.m.