



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

28th February 2016

AM: R Noppers

Reading : Isaiah 53 John 1:19-39a Text: John 29
“Look, the Lamb of God!”

PM: Geoff Van Schie

Meditation

According to some recent historical studies, Lent came about as early church leaders were saying both yes and no to possible ministry practices in light of contemporary cultural challenges.

In A.D. 313 the Roman emperor Constantine converted to Christianity, and made it legal—even preferable—for Roman citizens to become Christian. Suddenly the church had a lot of adult baptisms to celebrate!

But that created a challenge: How was the church supposed to ensure that people who wanted to be baptized were serious about Jesus? And what did the church need to do to shape these new Christian lives? Baptism alone was not enough. More was needed to form these new Christians as disciples of Jesus.

So the church developed a 40-day course of preparation for baptism—a time of Bible study, catechism study (that’s right—catechism study 1,200 years before John Calvin), and spiritual disciplines including prayer and fasting. This was a super-charged “40-day spiritual adventure” or “40 days of purpose” (both are modern riffs on an ancient idea). The idea was that during those 40 days believers should be either preparing for their own baptism or encouraging someone who was preparing for baptism.

Instead of a time for focusing only on the suffering and death of Jesus, Lent became about focusing on our union with Christ’s death and resurrection in baptism. Romans 6:3-4 served as a theme text: *“Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.”*

In terms of doctrine, this put the emphasis not only on God’s gift of forgiveness (justification), but also on the gift of new life in Christ and the Holy Spirit (sanctification). Lent was a time for new and veteran Christians to live into—to “practice”—the basic moves of the Christian life: to deny oneself, to turn to Jesus, to put off gossip and bitterness, and to put on patience and compassion. Just as

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 during the offering.

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 this local church.

Second Offering

28th Feb Christian Wheatbelt Fellowship

6th March Help a Child Foundation

13th March World Transform

20th March Candidacy Committee

athletes need to drill key skills and musicians need to practice scales, so too Christians need to practice self-denial and self-giving love. In other words, Lent was developed in what we now call a "missional context." It was a pastoral innovation for a time much like our own, where vast numbers of people do not grow up in the church. Lent was the church's way of saying yes to the free offer of salvation and no to cheap grace—baptism without discipleship. (Calvin Institute of Christian Worship)

Pastoral

Welcome to pastor Geoff who will be leading the service this evening: a reminder also that there will be a service at Manoah this afternoon at 2:00 p.m. Dini Stroop is recovering quite well and able to get around a bit; at this stage there is no definite date as to when she will be able to leave Carinya. Yvonne Herft is also feeling a little better again and is receiving treatment for her blood clots. She still has a lot of discomfort and pain and is not able to get around much. We commend them both to the care of the Lord and ask that He will grant healing and strength. Henry and Jannet Alberts are heading off to New Zealand later this week to spend time with family. We wish them a safe and enjoyable trip. I trust those who attended the Childsafe training day yesterday were encouraged and equipped for the task of ministry with our young people.

Catechism Classes as usual: after church today in the room behind the church (please remember to knock if you need to come in) and then also Monday afternoon, with the young people being picked up from Rehoboth School.

Shared LUNCH next Sunday.

Announcements

Ladies Fellowship meets D.V Wednesday the 2nd of March 1:30 P.M. at the Church : the topic will be studying is Sealed by the Angel of Grace . Revelation, 7 Lesson 8.

All Ladies very Welcome

Classis WA – Short Minutes

20.02.2016

Classis was hosted by Willetton CRC at the Willetton Church. Rev. Dan Kroon opened with a devotion from Hebrews 10:19-25. Dan especially welcomed Jack de Vries (Ministry development coach) and Andrew Pow (Crossroad Bible Institute) who both subsequently gave some very edifying presentations.

Church Reports:

- **Australind CRC** gave thanks for the great turnout to the Creation Ministries seminar late last year. A prayer point was for the parenting course that they are running within the church at the moment.
- **Gateway** shared their new vision and mission and prayed that it might be embraced by the congregation and especially those on the fringes.
- **Gosnells CRC** gave thanks for the stability enjoyed of late. They also gave thanks for a number of Profession of faiths. A prayer point was that there might be good ongoing participation in the newly implemented small groups.
- **Grace CRC** gave thanks for continuing outreach to Warburton, Blackstone, & Jameson which is having a positive impact on the congregation. They also gave thanks for many of the equipping courses,

From the Deacons

To the congregation

Many thanks to all those who participated in the 2015 Angel Tree
The Deacons

Manoah Market Day

Please keep Saturday April 30th 2016 free for our annual Market Day. Your junk is someone else's treasure. Please start collecting - you may drop any non-perishable items off at Manoah House office or speak to Willy Louw ☎93981902. Thank you!

Birthdays This Week

28-Feb Steve Ossevoort

& Jessica O'Sullivan

including both women's and men's study groups. A prayer point was for the finances which have come under strain due to the mining downturn and the subsequent impact on jobs in the congregation.

- **Hope CRC** gave thanks for stability. A prayer point was for the finances which were under strain.

- **Kalgoorlie** reported that Pastor Jaco Classen is now working in chaplaincy for five days per week, including working as an area Chaplain.

- **Perth CRC** gave thanks for the number of visitors they continue to have. A continuing prayer point is for greater numbers to achieve a 'critical mass.'

- **Willetton CRC** gave thanks for a number of longterm attendees who have committed to membership. A prayer point was for wisdom in dealing with those on the fringes.

- **Wilson CRC** gave thanks for the recent institution of their Church and the support of Classis during the institution service. A prayer point is the outreach training that they are currently running to equip their people.

Ministry formation: Jack de Dries spoke about the discipleship matrix. He also shared some results from NCD (Natural Church development), which highlighted the need to work on 'loving relationships.' Finally, he shared about some of the work going on in the Solomon Islands and particularly the hope of building a secondary school for 500 students on Isabell Island.

Crossroad Bible Institute: Andrew Pow is the new field worker for CBI. He expressed his thanks for the support of the Churches. He also shared about the tremendous impact that the ministry is having, and that they are looking for more people to get involved.

Youth: Classis committed to funding the 'State youth coordinator' from the Classis quotas. Classis also decided "*To set aside surplus 2015 Synod funds for the WA Classis Youth Coordinator position.*" So initially, a large proportion of the 'State youth coordinator' costs would be offset by these surplus Synod funds, and also the Classical fund.

Needy Churches and Future Churches fund: Both Brett Bylsma and Chris Eikelboom were set aside to report back to Classis regarding the purposes of these funds and how they can support the Churches in future. Related to this, the money set aside for the Wheatbelt ministry from the 'Needy Churches fund' would be reviewed.

Safe Schools Coalition: In his capacity as 'Heads of churches' Peter Abetz warned of the dangers of the Safe schools Coalition program. He encouraged people to interact with school boards to request them not to participate in this program which glorifies homosexual behaviour etc.

Warburton: Peter Abetz also reported on the Ministry to Warburton, Blackstone, and Jameson. The ministry continues to be appreciated and they have a very strong rapport with people in those communities which continues to build as the years of involvement go on. Also, those who participate continue to be blessed as they participate in ministry in remote areas.

CSR: The next 'rally for life' is planned for the 17th of May 2016. All are encouraged to participate.

Colloquium Doctum for Jaco Classen: Grace have requested a Colloquium Doctum for Rev. Jaco Classen. This has been planned for the next Classis meeting.

The meeting closed with prayer at 12:30pm. Craig van Echten (reporter)

What is on this week

Sunday	28 th Feb	After church	Sunday catechism class
Sunday	28 th Feb	2:00 p.m.	Singing and Worship at Manoah
Monday	29 th Feb	3:45 p.m.	Catechism at Noppers' home
Wednesday	2 nd March	9:00 a.m.	Bread @ the church
Friday	4 th March	7:30 p.m.	Youth @ Gosnells CRC

Worship Ministry

Date	Duty elder	Greeter	Data	Sound	Reader	Musician	Preacher
28 th Feb	Willem	Sam & Jannet	Isaak Paul N.	Paul vdK Nelson	Raymond		R.Noppers G. Van Schie
6 th March	Steve	Willem & Jill	Johan Luke	Isaak Klarinda	Nelson	Rachel	R. Noppers
13 th March	Bardi	Hetty & Rob	Evan Paul N	Paul vdK Nelson	Raymond	Rebecca	B Murphy C Van Echten
20 th March	Sam	Bardi & Jacqueline	Johan Paul .N	Isaak Nelson	Jacqueline	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
28 th Feb	P & Y van der Kooij, Hetty	Melody, Leon	Trudy, Vanessa
6 th March	Knoetze, Mary	Rebecca, Saara	Yvonne, Bethia
13 th March	John v/d Berg, Nieuwkerk	Jacqueline, Isaak	Saara, Yvonne
20 th March	Noppers, Loos	Vanessa, Bethia	Trudy, Rebekah

Coming up

6th March Shared LUNCH

25th March Good Friday and Lord's Supper

3rd April Shared Lunch

6th April 64th Anniversary of Christian Reformed Church of Perth

30th April Manoah Market Day