



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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prior to the published

9:30 am: Pastor Reinier Noppers

Readings: Isaiah 40:1-11

Sermon: Matthew 3:1-17 text vs 2. "Here Comes the King"

5:30 pm: Pastor Reinier Noppers

Readings: Matthew 5:33-37, 23:16-22

Sermon: James 5:12 "Words of Integrity"

Meditation

John the Baptist is a unique individual, a distinct character and a wonderful fulfilment of the promises God made to his people. He appeared out of nowhere –dressed like the prophet Elijah –diet including locusts and wild honey –a message both old and new! He did no miracles, yet his coming is one of the greatest miracles of all – born to parents who were too old to have children, born to the poorest yet declaring the King of kings – no academic qualifications yet the greatest, most profound message the people longed to hear!

He was sent as a preacher – a proclaimer – one brief, urgent message that continues to ring through the ages – Here comes the King! Here comes the King!

His message prepares the way and declares the coming!

"Repent, for the Kingdom of heaven is near!"

In this simple summary, John the Baptists bridges the gap from Old to New Testament – the call of the OT prophets to forsake evil, and turn away from sin - to the New Testament – when the King comes! In a generation that had almost given up hope, that had almost forgotten the promises of God, he calls with power and grace: "The time is here!" The King is here!"

Pastoral

A warm welcome back to Anneli Assaad who has been in South Africa with the passing of her grandmother and then also to care for her mother through some medical issues. We thank God for the opportunity to spend this time with family and also for safekeeping and the blessings of healing and strength. Nelson Nieuwkerk and Rebekah Oostryck are also due to return today from their mission trip to the Philippines. Again we can be thankful for such opportunities and pray that God will add His blessing to the work they have done.

Continue to pray for our elderly, as well as those who have had surgery recently.

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.

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 church

Second Offering

4-Dec

Manoah House

11-Dec

Reformed Theological College (RTC)

18-Dec-

Diaconate

This morning, immediately after the service, we will be holding a short meeting to vote for one deacon to serve in our midst. The single nomination is Phil Oostryck.

After that we will also have time for coffee and our monthly shared lunch, so do stay and enjoy the fellowship and good food.

A reminder that as from Christmas Day we will no longer be holding evening services. Christmas Day will also be the final LINK till end January 2017.

Next Sunday is our regular Classis preaching swap: we will welcome John de Jongh for the day and I will be leading worship in Australind.

Today is the last day for donations for the **Bibles For the Persecuted Church** to be received: either in the bag at the back of the church or directly to myself or Trudy. If you have forgotten to bring it, just let us know. ☺

COMPASSIONATE CATALOGUE

By now you should have received your "COMPASSIONATE CATALOGUE." If not, please check your pigeon hole or find a spare copy on the table at the back of the church.

The "COMPASSIONATE CATALOGUE" is an opportunity for you to direct your giving to a specific cause through the work of our denomination's international diaconate outreach programmes in either Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands or India. Contributions will be used to purchase "GIFTS" that from \$5.00 to \$1200.00. Certain gifts are tax deductible but most are not.

Giving can be done individually by following the steps in the catalogue or your general donation can be given to Trudy or Reinier where funds will be pooled to contribute to a larger gift like a cow or perhaps even a well (if sufficient funds). If giving a general donation, please place in an envelope marked COMPASSIONATE POOL FUND. Just prior to Christmas we will tally funds and allocate funds to the largest possible gift we can purchase as a church community. For more details, speak to Trudy.

Sunday School Giving

Over the past year, the Sunday school children have given \$400.00 into the Mission Money Box. These funds will now be directed to World Transform to purchase 40 Gift bags for the children of Korku, India. Thanks to all who have contributed. Let's continue to remind our children and ourselves that we are richly blessed here in Australia with both the freedom and opportunity to worship our LORD and the many things (food, home, finances, education, health services) we have, that so many other families do not always enjoy. Let's continue to teach giving as Christ gave to us.... generously.

Session Report.

Session met for the final meeting of 2016 this past Tuesday, with apologies from Geoff Van Schie. Some time was spent looking at chapter 6 of the book "Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands" by Paul David Tripp, and discussing the ambassadorial nature of ministry. As ambassadors we are called, not just to bring the message of the King, but use also His methods of grace and mercy as we reflect His character.

Ministry is far more than simply doing a job, as it involves faithfully representing our Lord in both outcomes and methods. In this we are called to love God's people, know their hearts, speak God's word, and enact godly change as we walk together in obedience to our King.

It was noted that Phil Oostryck had accepted his nomination to be voted as deacon. Details for Profession of Faith of some of our young people will be finalised in the new year. Pastoral matters were reported on and a time of prayer for the congregation. The Angel Tree ministry is still coming together, with some extra compliance requirements from Prison Fellowship being fulfilled. A time of mutual censure was held with the upcoming Lord's Supper and it was again a blessing that we have such strong unity within the session.

A time of evaluation regarding preaching and worship was again very positive. A report was given on the recent Classis meeting, including their concurrence with our decision to cease second service, and an agreement to draft an overture to amend the Church Order to reflect current practise in many of our congregations on this matter. As an outcome of our recent church visitation, Classis agreed to set up a think tank to assist Perth as we seek to find ways of ministering effectively.

Most correspondence was simply noted, and a request from Jack Van Bommel to support our mission workers from the Solomon Islands as they visit WA was heartily endorsed. The meeting concluded in prayer at 9:00pm.

Classis Short Minutes 2016-11-19

Craig van Echten (Australind) opened the meeting with a devotion from Matthew 16:13-20, encouraging us to confess Jesus in times of contention as well as times of peace, and to remember that Jesus' promise to build his church is a sure one.

After an opening prayer, apologies were noted from Grace CRC, Forrestdale, Geoff van Schie, and Dave Groenenboom. Australind collected and read out the church credentials.

Church visitation reports were received and some things were highlighted by some of the visitors.

The question was asked about how future support of Manoah relates to the declining number of members going into the village. The point was made that we have a covenantal responsibility, which goes beyond the local church, and that the Hostel is the greater need. This is an ongoing discussion and Classis would request for Manoah to share more with the churches about the work there.

The practice of second services was raised, given that a large number of CRCA churches only meet once and the Church Order (CO) still states that 'ordinarily' there would be two worship services. Classis agreed that an overture should be written and presented to Synod to amend the CO to more accurately reflect the practice in the denomination.

To assist Perth church with its current struggles and the question of future planning, a 'think tank' of Classis members was proposed and will get together early next year.

After sharing some prayer points and praise points, there was a time of open prayer for each other's churches. Classis also acknowledged the passing of Eppie Pellicaan, praying for her family and giving thanks for her life and her and Pieter's ministry in WA.

Classis was encouraged by the positive work of the State Youth Council and Worker, Jayden Swarts. Some events have been run and an Easter Camp is planned for next year.

In the election of Classis Moderamen for 2017, Dan Kroon was made Chairman and John de Jongh made Vice-Chairman.

Willetton initiated a discussion about doing semi-regular joint evening services for all the WA churches. After some positive discussion, it was agreed to keep talking at Church Councils with a proposal to come.

Paul O'Rourke from Emily's Voice addressed Classis to share a bit about their organisation and its work. The folk behind Emily's Voice decided the best way to tackle the issue of abortion was to share the stories of real people. Many who have had an abortion say that if just one person was a voice encouraging them to have their

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Church Website: www.crcperth.org.au

baby, they would have changed their mind. Emily's Voice aims to be that one voice. They use mainly media campaigns on TV, radio, and social media. The campaigns seek to target wider family as well as the potential mother. More information can be found at www.emilysvoice.com and www.notbornyet.com.

G.O.S.P.E.L. Prayer Points for December

1. 210 new believers from the field received baptism in November. Kindly pray for these new believers. In spite of threat from other sects and fundamental Hindus, these believers declared their Christian faith in public and vowed to obey the Lord Jesus in their lives.
2. Some six medical camps and three first aid training program were also conducted in Nov. Nearly 1600 beneficiaries received free medicines in the interior villages of GOSPEL adopted villages in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat.
3. Ramtu an evangelist from Gujarat lost his wife Devli on 16th Nov. Devli was receiving treatment for breast cancer for the last three years. Ramtu is comforted by God's grace despite his great loss. He is on compassionate leave.
4. A Vacation Bible School program was conducted in Gujarat in November. In one village nearly 100 Children participated.
5. Our workers praise God for five new motorcycles purchased in the month of Nov. Motorcycles are a very useful tool for GOSPEL workers to get into interior places. We thank God for the Compassionate Catalogue which have provided funds for these motorcycles.
6. In a new cluster in the Udaipur region of Rajasthan, there are 130 new believers who accepted Christ as Saviour. They are planning to administer baptism later this month.

THE AMAZING RACE for ages 13 - 18

Saturday, 10th December 2016

Great Prizes to be won!!!

Meeting @ Kings Park War Memorial

@ 10.30am – pick up again @ 3pm.

Cost \$20; bring running shoes & water bottles,
lunch and snacks provided.

State youth representatives also have information about this event so you can talk to them for further details. Jayden Swarts

What's on this week

Today shared lunch after Church

Wednesday 9:00 AM Bread @ Church

WORSHIP MINISTRIES

Date	Preacher	Duty elder	Greeters	Reader	Data	Sound	Musician
4 December AM	R. Noppers	Sam	Bardi & Jacqueline	Jacqueline	Evan	Paul vdk	Ralph
4 December PM	R. Noppers	Sam	Bardi & Jacqueline		Luke	Klarinda	
11 December AM	J.de Jongh	Willem	Sam & Eiril	Raymond	Johan	Paul vdk	Elsa
11 December PM	J.de Jongh	Willem	Sam & Eiril		Paul N	Nelson	Elsa
18 December AM	R. Noppers	Steve	Willem & Yvonne	Nelson	Johan	Nelson	Rebecca
18 December PM	R. Noppers	Steve	Willem & Yvonne		Paul N	Nelson	

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

HELPING HANDS

Date	Coffee Fellowship	Crèche	Sunday School
4/12/2016	Knoetze, de Haan	Annette, Eliza	Saara, Bethia
11/12/2016	Pleysier, de Jager	Jacqueline, Jordan	Yvonne, Bethia
18/12/2016	Janong, Mary	Mieke, Beslin	Trudy, Eliza



Birthdays This week

6th of December Helen van der Kooij

7th of December John van den Berg