

February 12th, 2017

Perth Congregation:

Pastor: Reinier Noppers

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Welcome

A warm welcome to all who have come to the service 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 typical service includes a time of singing praise, prayer, Bible reading 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.

Crèche is available for children aged 0-3 at the rear of the church building during the service. Most Sundays children (4-9 years old) attend church for the first part of the service and then leave for Sunday school during the offering.

After the service please join us for refreshments and fellowship either to the side of church or in the hall.

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:

12th Feb Solomon Islands

19th Feb WA Needy Churches

26th Feb Wheatbelt Fellowship

An outreach of Perth CRC is:

Christian Wheatbelt Fellowship

Pastor: Geoff van Schie

6 Booth Street,

WONGAN HILLS 6603

Phone: 08 9671 13 49

Email: gvschie@ozemail.com.au

BSB: 066 153 A/C 1044 1603

Christian Reformed Church of Perth Inc.

5 Colombo Street, Victoria Park, W.A. 6100

Weekly Newsletter



THE LINK



AM: Craig van Echten

Reading: Malachi 1:1-14

Text: Leviticus 22:17-33 "Serving God with the Best"

Meditation

Augustine once commented that we all have a "God-shaped vacuum" which only God can fill. However, humanity has sought to meet that need in every way possible – except with God! We chase after power, and wealth and beauty – we long for genuine friendships, lasting relationships. We pour our efforts into careers, education, achievements – and yet we are the most discontent, unhappy, and unfulfilled generation to date.

God is the solution. For we have a hunger of the heart, a hunger that cannot be filled by any substitute, a spiritual emptiness that can only be filled by God Himself. ***"My soul thirsts for God, for the living God."*** We long to know the presence of God! In fact, our thirst is so great, our longing so strong, as a deer pants for the water... We need to be complete. We need to be satisfied. We need God. He alone can satisfy our deepest longing. So what do we thirst for? Do we thirst for God, above and beyond all else? Or are there other things, earthly things, possessions, status, achievements – that cause the same thirst in us?

To answer that question, consider the next phrase: ***"When can I go and meet with God?"*** This is no abstract thirst: nor an abstract solution. It is about worship – meeting with our God: going to the house of God, gathering with His people: as our greatest desire, as that for which we long the most – as that part of our life which is the most important and our hearts desire!

A picture that raises deep questions about worship. About our devotion. About what causes us to thirst? When we go to church, how much do we remember? If we are unable to go, is there grief? When we come, do we come to worship, or come to spectate? Are we filled with joy, or consumed by distractions? Are we bothered by others, or rejoice in every single one who is there? As the psalmist concludes: not once but several times: ***"Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Saviour and my God."***

Pastoral

A warm welcome to pastor Craig van Echten from the Australind congregation who leads us in worship this morning. May God pour His blessing upon us as we praise His glorious name and hear His Word proclaimed. I will be leading the service in Gosnells this evening.

Next Sunday, DV, we will celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper together. It is appropriate that we examine ourselves before this celebration: asking the basic questions of faith: Do I come to celebrate Jesus Christ as my one and only Saviour? Do I come to celebrate that my life belongs to Jesus in every detail and moment? Do I come to celebrate that I am a member of a family of believers whom I am called to love and encourage? This self-examination focuses us back on Jesus Christ as the source and strength of our salvation, our life, and our relationships: so that we may indeed sit in true unity around the table. Any visitors who wish to celebrate the sacrament with us are asked to speak to a member of session prior to the service next Sunday.

Pastor Geoff had surgery on his right hand this past week, and we can be thankful the surgery appears to have been successful and Geoff is recovering well. It may be a few weeks before he is able to drive or fly again but we pray that healing will be swift.

Sam Assaad did some damage to his knee recently, and will be seeing a specialist about surgery in the coming weeks. We pray that this can happen soon and that Sam be restored to full mobility.

Session meets this Tuesday at the church, starting at 7:30 p.m. This will be our first meeting of the year. Please pray for guidance and wisdom as we seek to remain faithful to God, do His Kingdom work, and continue to guide His congregation to His glory.

Catechism will be held as usual after the service next Sunday.

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

1. We thank God for 775 new souls who responded to God's call to repent and believe. These received the sign of baptism through the ministry of G.O.S.P.E.L. workers in 2016. Even though there were fewer baptisms than in 2015, it is a wonderful harvest!
2. Christmas programs were conducted in all the clusters. Some 8,000 people attended. Over 25% of these were non-believers who they heard the Gospel message. May God bless those who heard about Jesus for the first time. Similarly, nearly all the Tuition Centre children (300) are children from non-Christian families. Please pray that the Christmas message will work in the heart of these children.
3. One worker named Harish from Rajasthan mission field was overseeing the building of a gathering hall at Amalya village. Some local police officials asked him to stop the construction work. This disturbance is due to pressure from some Hindu extreme groups in this area.
4. Another 2 wells were drilled in the mission field. The recipients thank our Lord God for the bore wells in their villages. This is great witness to for the whole community. They now do not need to walk long distances to get drinking water.



Gujarat Outreach Support by
Planting churches, Economic
change and Literacy training



Wilson Christian Church will be hosting **Childsafe Training** on the 25th of February, conducted by John van Dyk our denominational Childsafe coordinator. The training is open for anyone who wants to be trained, and anyone involved in children's ministry is encouraged to attend. The details are as follows:

When: 25th of February, 2017

Where: Rehoboth Christian College,
Multipurpose room, Cr. Armstrong Road and Dalton Place.

Times: Team Member Training: 9am - 12pm

Team Leader Training: 1pm - 4pm

Cost: \$11 to cover materials

RSVP: Thursday 16th of February. Please get all registrations to Clarissa Swarts
(ichthus_85@hotmail.com or 0413 900 664)

Morning and Afternoon Teas will be provided but we ask that people bring along their own lunch.

Russia Outreach, 2017.



Time is marching on and June will be here before we know it! So far we have had little response from people to join a team to the Children's camps this year. It would be fantastic to be able to send a team to camp Horizont where we have been for 12 years now every July. The camp staff and children really

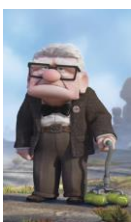
look out for the Aussie team each year and appreciate our effort to go there and share God's love with the children as well as some of our Aussie culture. For the past 5 years we have also been doing a Human trafficking awareness program with the children, warning them of the dangers and what to look out for so they will not be trapped in this evil practice. It is a wonderful experience and one that will change your life!

Please contact Jenny Abetz if you are interested even just to find out about it. She has all the information needed for the trip and is looking forward to a huge support from your church.

Jenny Abetz: 0415267874 or jabetz@amnet.net.au



SENIOR MEN OF OUR CHURCHES



We will commence our meetings again, Lord willing, on Tuesday 21st February, at 10a.m. It will be held at Pastor Tony Van Drimmelen's home, 4 Inglis Place, Willetton. (note change of venue)

Will be good to meet again after some months break.

Jan

What's Happening This Week

Tuesday 7:30 p.m. Session Meeting @ the Church

Wednesday 8:30 a.m. Bread @ the Church

Sunday 19th Lord's Supper & Catechism

Coming Up...

Tuesday 21st February 10:00 a.m. Senior Men of the Church @ Pastor van Drimmelen's

Saturday 25th February 8:30 a.m. Classis Meeting @ Gateway Community Church, Cockburn

Saturday 25th February 9:00 a.m. Child Safe training @ Rehoboth College, Wilson

Sunday 5th March Shared Lunch @ the Church



Birthdays this week

Tuesday 14th Sam Assaad

Thursday 16th Ken Loos

Service Rosters

Date	Preacher	Duty elder	Greeters	Reader	Musician	Data	Sound
12 th February	C van Echten	Bardi	Sam & Jacqueline	Nelson	Rebecca	Johan	Paul N.
19 th February	R. Noppers	Willem	Bardi & Yvonne	Jacqueline		Paul N.	Nelson
26 th February	R. Noppers	Sam	Willem & Jill	Beslin		Luke	Klarinda
5 th March	R. Noppers	Willem	Sam & Hetty	Nelson		Evan	Paul vdK
12 th March	J. de Jongh	Bardi	Willem & Eril	Raymond		Johan	Nelson

Helping Hands

Date	Coffee	Crèche	Sunday School
12 th February	Husselmann, Mary	Melody, Luke	Trudy
19 th February	Knoetze, Johan	Trudy, Klarinda	Yvonne
26 th February	R van der Kooij, Elsa	Annette, Nelson	Yvonne
5 th March	Loos, Morgan	Vanessa, Bethia	Saara
12 th March	Ossevoort, Janny	Jacqueline, Nicola	Saara