



# CHURCH LIFE

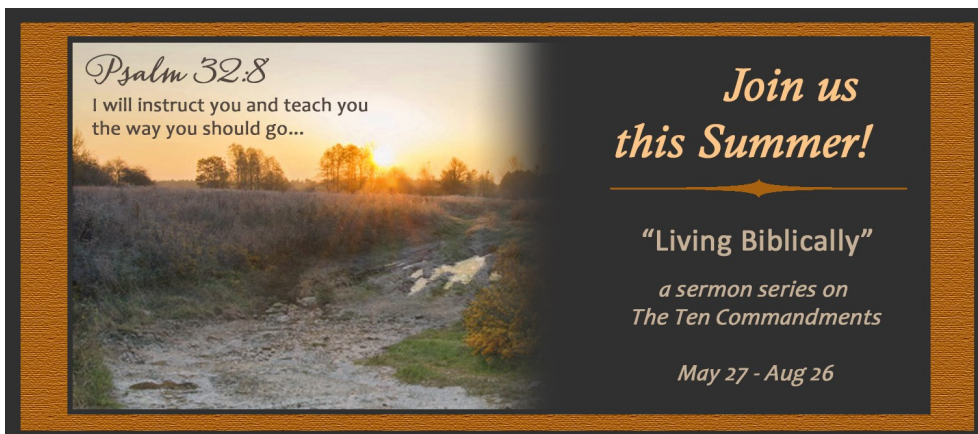
## CALENDAR OF EVENTS June 2018

- 3 9:00am—Sunday School  
10:30am—Worship Service  
12:00pm—Church Picnic
- 4 9:00pm—Men's Softball @  
Webster Town Recreation  
Center
- 5 7:00pm—Deacon Mtg.



- 10 10:00am—Worship  
3:30pm—Sunday Celebration  
at Cameron Community  
Ministries
- 11 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED  
6:30pm—Men's Softball @  
Webster Town Hall Recreation  
Center
- 13 7:00pm—Outreach Mtg.
- 14 7:00pm—Council Mtg.
- 15 7:00pm—RCS Graduation  
Ceremony and Reception
- 17 10:00am—Worship Service
- 18 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED  
7:30—Men's Softball @  
Webster Town Recreation  
Center
- 24 10:00am—Worship Service
- 25 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED  
7:30pm—Men's Softball @  
Webster Town Hall Recreation  
Center
- 28 7:00pm—Elder Mtg

Please go to the [RCRC website](#)  
for July Calendar items



## YOUR PASTOR IS ATTENDING SUMMER SCHOOL?



Pastor Anthony Selvaggio

Yes, I am attending summer school! Beginning in June, I will be taking two courses through Calvin Theological Seminary (CTS) as part of the Ecclesiastical Program for Ministerial Candidates (EPMC). The two courses I am taking are CRNCA Church Polity and CRNCA Church History. These courses are completed online over a 10 week period. The coursework involves reading, participating in weekly online discussions, writing

papers and completing a final exam. I recently successfully completed my first course at CTS, Reformed Creeds and Confessions, in April. This summer, during the week prior to Labor Day weekend, I will travel to Grand Rapids to meet the director of the EPMC program and complete a psychological assessment process with trained CRC psychologists.

### Why?

You may be wondering why I am doing all of this. After all, I have already earned a Masters of Divinity Degree (M.Div.) from an accredited seminary and served as an ordained minister in a Reformed denomination. The reason I am doing this is because the CRCNA is (rightly) concerned about making sure that its ministers are well trained and properly assimilated in the life and

culture of the denomination. For those ministers who are trained at CTS, this is a quite easy thing for the denomination to verify, but for outsiders like me there is a proper need to provide a pathway to accomplish a similar end. The EPMC program is the denomination's effort to do that.

### How Long?

You may also be wondering how long this will take. Generally, completing the EPMC program takes 24 months. However, it is possible that it can be completed in 18 months. I am trying to complete it in 18 months, but it remains uncertain as to whether this will be possible. The minimum amount of credits I need from CTS is nine credit hours. Assuming I successfully complete the two courses this summer, I

(cont'd on pg. 2)

*"I am very grateful that the denomination has created this pathway to ordination in the CRCNA because it made it possible for me to serve as your pastor. That is the most important thing to me..."*

## YOUR PASTOR IS ATTENDING SUMMER SCHOOL? (CONT'D FROM COVER)

will have six of those nine hours completed. I expect to take a one credit course on using digital tools in the ministry in September and completing the last two credit hours (a course on Reformed Hermeneutics) in the spring of 2019. I will need to make a second trip to CTS to be reviewed and approved by the faculty. Hopefully, the faculty will recommend me to be eligible to receive a call as a Minister of the Word at the Synod of 2019. It is possible that the timing will not all fall into place and that I will have to wait until the Synod of 2020 to complete the process.

### *A Request for Prayer and Patience*

As you can see, this process involves quite a robust framework with a variety of milestones. I covet your prayers for the completion of this process. My

greatest struggle is with the time I need to allocate to this process. I am quite aware that the time I am spending on this takes me away from other things I would like to be doing in the life of the congregation. It adds significantly to my workload, but its value is not immediately apparent to the congregation. Although I sometimes struggle with this, the process is based on sound principles and is ultimately valuable in that it helps to protect the congregation by making sure I am trained and properly vetted. Another side benefit is that the EPMC program helps to plug me into the CRNCA network and provide for broader exposure to denominational life. In addition to your prayers, I also request your patience. There may be times when I need to focus intensely on this process and it will take me away, albeit briefly, from my common pastoral duties.

The good news is that, while this path is long, I am able to fully serve the congregation as its pastor. As you know, I was examined at the April Classis meeting and approved for ordination to the office of Commissioned Pastor. I was publicly ordained to this office during our May 13, 2018 morning worship service. This office, while a stepping stone to the office of the Minister of the Word, allows me to do everything a pastor can do except take a call to another congregation and participate in the pension plan! I am very grateful that the denomination has created this pathway to ordination in the CRCNA because it made it possible for me to serve as your pastor. That is the most important thing to me and that is why I am going to summer school!

*~Pastor Anthony Selvaggio*

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## JUNE AND JULY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

6/3	Living Biblically Series: Titus 2:11-14 <i>Getting Motivated Part II</i>	7/1	Living Biblically Series: Exodus 20:1-2, 8-11; Hebrews 4:9-10 <i>The Rest of the Story</i>
6/10	Living Biblically Series: Exodus 20:1-3; John 14:6 <i>Who's #1?</i>	7/8	Living Biblically Series Exodus 20:1-2, 12; Romans 13:1-7 <i>You Say You Want a Revolution?</i>
6/17	Living Biblically Series: Exodus 20:1-2, 4-6; Colossians 1:15-16 <i>What's Wrong with this Picture?</i>	7/15	Living Biblically Series Exodus 20: 1-2, 13; Matthew 5: 21-22 <i>Truly Pro-Life</i>
6/24	Living Biblically Series: Exodus 20:1-2, 7; Philippians 2:9-11 <i>Say My Name</i>	7/22	Pulpit Supply—Rev. Bill Dykstra
		7/29	SBTW Sunday: Matthew 22:34-40 <i>The Benefits of Coming in Third</i>

## COUNCIL NOTES: MAY 2018



Tim Collins, Council President

True story: I once had a friend who fasted for forty days. He was a solid believer from a Four-Square background, and was using this as a way to re-center and fight some spiritual battles which had been plaguing him. He was careful of his health, and allowed himself juice and broth.

Started out only slightly north of his correct weight, and we, his friends, got to watch him descend through a healthy weight to something envied only by marathon runners. When he came out of the fast, he had gotten where he needed to be spiritually, but he was physically weak and recovery took time. A church vacancy is a little like that. At the end of our vacancy we were where God wanted us to be, but weak, and rebuilding takes time.

Rebuilding is all about focusing on our vision. The vision which Pastor Anthony has presented to the Council is one of growth, both growth of our church family as well as spiritual growth. We fan the flames of the

Spirit by feeding resources to the ministries that are working, and try to identify things which need to be updated.

In May, Council focused on two of our healthy ministries. The first was Worship Committee, chaired by Susan Gilbert-Collins. Our church has a history of careful, thoughtful worship, and much of this is due to the attention paid by the Worship Committee, which coordinates with Pastor Anthony and the rest of the Worship Planning Team. The Worship Committee is responsible for the mechanics of worship, review of services, oversight of music and liturgy, and all the elements which enter into our Sunday morning worship. Among the more delightful changes on the committee has been the addition of Kevin Smith, who represents a younger point of view.

We also met with Pastor Cornelison, who coordinates the vast Fellowship Committee. This committee oversees a broad range of activities, from Wednesday Koinonia nights to fellowship hour to Primetimers. It is truly awe-inspiring to see all they do. The exciting thing on the fellowship horizon is the church picnic, which will be held on church grounds after worship service on Sunday, June 3rd--mark your calendars!

Three other things are worthy of note. First,

Council discussed an invitation to host a K-2 Christian school which is attempting to get off the ground in 2019. We decided that this would weaken our focus, and didn't have sufficient overlap with existing ministries. Second, we continued our discussion of the process for identifying and drawing into service next year's new elders and deacons. Finally, we are actively working on a "safe church" policy. Churches face threats from the outside. Church shootings are very rare, but it pays to have thought about them ahead of time. Churches, and especially children in churches, sometimes face threats from within the church, and we are determined this not happen at RCRC. For this reason, all those who work with children in our church undergo background checks. Council is working on a policy which thoughtfully unites these threads bearing in mind the size and constituents of our congregation.

~Tim Collins, Council President

*"A church vacancy is a little like that. At the end of our vacancy we were where God wanted us to be, but weak, and rebuilding takes time."*



## FCWC REUNION PRAISE RALLY MEMORIES!

*"They decided it should be a reunion for Flower City Work Camp participants. That meant they had to have dates and plans in place in time to promote it at FCWC. The rest is now history."*

We spoke with Deacon Christine Ferraraccio about how the Praise Rally idea got started. (full disclosure, Christine is also the editors' daughter) "It started with a conversation with Pastor Anthony a couple months ago about the possibility of a prayer service to coincide with the National Day of Prayer. Talking about an event like that led us into a discussion of what other opportunities there may be, and I shared that I had this vision for a Praise Rally similar to what we had when I was in school back in the 80's and 90's," she said.

Pastor Anthony mentioned to Christine that Julie VandeBrake had a similar idea and suggested they talk. Once they

did, they decided it should be a reunion for Flower City Work Camp participants. That meant they had to have dates and plans in place in time to promote it at FCWC. The rest is now history.

Thank you to all those who helped make this event a success:

Pastor Anthony Selvaggio for his encouragement and message

Worship Coordinators: Kathy Quinn, Christine Ferraraccio, Jordan Grant  
Band members: Christine Ferraraccio, Jordan Grant, Meghan Sullivan, Matt Thiele, and Laura Thiele

Prayer Partners: Ed Belles, MaryAnn LaPolla, Julie VandeBrake, Anthony Selvaggio.

Security: Dan DeLallo,

Scott DeLallo, Matt Harris

Photographer: Amanda Colon

AV: Jim Quinn, Elizabeth Kuryla

Reception: Alice Harris, Gary Harris, Mary Ann LaPolla, Paul Ferraraccio  
Many, many cookie and food donors.

Thanks to Bill Gray's for the donation of paper cups.

Christine was quite impressed with the fact that the team meshed so well and were able fulfill their assigned roles. Special thanks to Jordan for his musical gifts and leading in worship, and to Jim Quinn for taking care of the A/V and securing a new screen for the sanctuary.

~Gary Harris







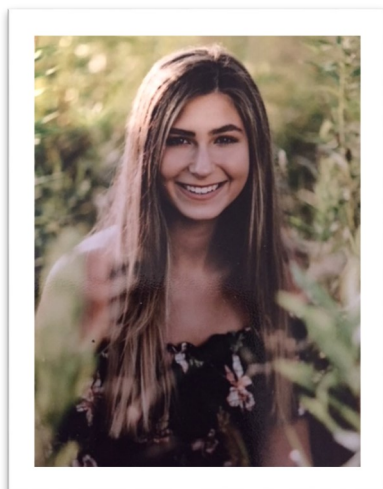


## CELEBRATING OUR GRADUATES!

Mae Frelier, daughter of Calvin and Laurie Frelier, will graduate from Penfield High School. She will be attending SUNY Brockport in the fall where she will major in Biology while following a pre-med trajectory. This summer Mae plans to go to SERVE with the senior high youth group and will continue her work at Heritage Christian Services.



*"These students have goals and dreams and hopes for the future. Our interactions with them can help them be achievers."*



Sophie Spoelhof, daughter of Dan and Jean Spoelhof, will be graduating from Webster Thomas High School. Sophie will attend Ohio Northern University in the Fall to Study Nursing. She is currently, and will through the summer, be working at Abbotts Ice Cream on Empire Rd. During her high school years, Sophie played basketball and Field Hockey. This year The Varsity Field Hockey team made it all the way to State Finals.

Emma Vande Brake, daughter of Tim and Julie Vande Brake, graduated from high school in May. Emma attended Gloria Deo Homeschool Co-Op and also took classes at Roberts Wesleyan College (dual enrollment). She is excited to start at Gordon College in Wenham, Massachusetts this fall and is still deciding on a major. Emma is grateful for the support from her church family and is thankful for the many friendships and memories from RCRC.





Mackenzie Harris, daughter of Matthew and Brenna Harris, will be graduating from Webster Thomas High School. She plans to attend Monroe Community College in the Fall. Mackenzie plans to continue to working at Delta Sonic in Webster.

Coby Veenje, son of Dan and Reba Veenje, who has been home-schooled, graduated on May 28, 2018. He is looking forward to studying nursing at Messiah College this fall.



Pete DeJong graduated from the Michigan State University College of Human Medicine on May 12, 2018. Dr. DeJong and his wife Eva have moved to Salt Lake City where he will spend the next three years in St. Mark's Family Medicine Residency at St. Mark's Hospital. Congratulations Pete!

Sarah Vande Brake, daughter of Tim and Julie Vande Brake, graduated from Houghton College in Houghton, NY on May 12th. She double majored in Biology and English. Sarah is interested in ecosystem restoration and environmental research. This fall she will begin serving in Americorps in the coastal area around Houston, TX. Sarah is thankful for the many words of support and encouragement over the years from the congregation.





## SUMMER'S BEST TWO WEEKS NEEDS YOUR HELP!

**We still have staff positions open. We are in need of both girl and boy volunteer Junior Counselors (for those 16 years old or older). Volunteers receive plenty of service hours along with a small stipend for their help.**

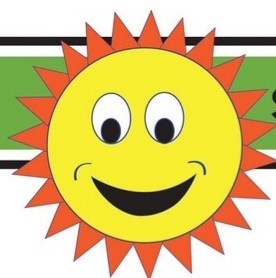
**Please share the attached poster with anyone who might be interested.**

**For more info please contact Dianka Sobiech**

**at [sbtwpenfield@gmail.com](mailto:sbtwpenfield@gmail.com)**

**or visit [sbtwpenfield.wordpress.com](http://sbtwpenfield.wordpress.com)**

*We are in need of both girl and boy volunteer Junior Counselors (for those 16 years old or older).*



### Summer's Best Two Weeks - Penfield

**We are hiring!**

**Paid and volunteer positions available!**

**July 23 - Aug 3, 2018**



We are looking for  
**high school & college age**  
individuals who love working with  
children and have a desire to share the  
love of God to children through sports!

Applications and more info are available under "staff" on  
**[sbtwpenfield.wordpress.com](http://sbtwpenfield.wordpress.com)**

If you have any questions please contact Dianka Sobiech  
E-mail: [sbtwpenfield@gmail.com](mailto:sbtwpenfield@gmail.com)

## THANK YOU, MILLIE!



During a time when searching for a choir director came up with no prospective candidates, Millie Washburn stepped forward to fill the interim period until a new choir director could be found. Looking to “the interests of others,” i.e. the members of the choir and our church family, she encouraged the choir to praise God with “passion and joy,” providing leadership and sharing her love of God and music. Thank you, Millie, for your generosity and leadership!

*“Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.”*

*(Philippians 2:4)*



## JUNE AND JULY MORNING OFFERINGS

Donations for the General Ministry Fund and Food Offerings are collected every Sunday. In addition, the following separate funds are scheduled for each Sunday:

### June

- 6/3 Christian Education Society
- 6/10 Deacons Fund
- 6/17 International Missions
- 6/24 Heritage Christian Services—Guatemala Cause

### July

- 7/1 Christian Education Society
- 7/8 Deacons Fund
- 7/15 International Missions
- 7/22 Cameron Community Services
- 7/29 Summer’s Best Two Weeks



## GEMS—AWARD NIGHT

This year of GEMS we expanded our leadership team again... Elizabeth Kuryla joined us as a Counselor In Training. Charlene DeLallo, Christine Ferraraccio, Lizzie and I had such a fun time with these young girls ranging in age from 5-11 who have TONS of energy!!!

Our theme this year was IN HIS STEPS and our scripture passage was 1 John 2:6, "Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did."

Through the course of our club meetings we've been talking about how Jesus invites us to follow Him. This is an invitation to receive His love and to live like Him. He rescues and forgives. He walks with us and guides us. He asks us to walk In His Steps.

When we choose to follow Jesus and live deeply aware of His presence, we will change from the inside out. Our words, actions, attitudes, and even where and how we



step will be transformed.

Again this year, we've had a lot of competition between the 4th & 5th graders to see who could earn the most badges. Through the badge work the girls are learning about God's love and that He is in all things... EVERYWHERE! This year our girls earned 76 badges all together!

In addition to our badge work, crafts & singing in club meetings, we also had a few special events:

Christmas Party with pizza, popcorn & a movie, gifts, a Christmas themed craft and of course the chocolate fountain.

Father/Daughter Bowling Event which is always well-attended by our girls and their daddies or grandpa's.

A Mother/Daughter Pool party is planned for this summer.

THANK YOU congregation for your love, support and prayers through this past year of GEMS! Christine, Charlene, Lizzie and I love this program and we love these girls. We are truly blessed to have them in our lives!

Thank you!

~Tina Davis





## CADET PINEWOOD DERBY

We are grateful for your support of our Cadets at our annual fundraiser. We enjoyed a delicious pulled-pork dinner prepared by Jeff Kuryla and George Kuipers. Cadets and members of the congregation designed derby cars to race. Fifteen members of our congregation competed in an open-class race, followed by the Cadet races. It was an exciting evening, and we raised \$429 after expenses.

Thank you for loving and supporting our Cadets.

The winners of the design competition were:

### Open Class

- 1st - Elizabeth Kuryla
- 2nd - James Selvaggio
- 3rd - Zach Veenje

### Cadets

- 1st - Joel Hughes
- 2nd - Kyle Hughes
- 3rd - Ben Bruinsma

The winners of the derby races were:

### Open Class

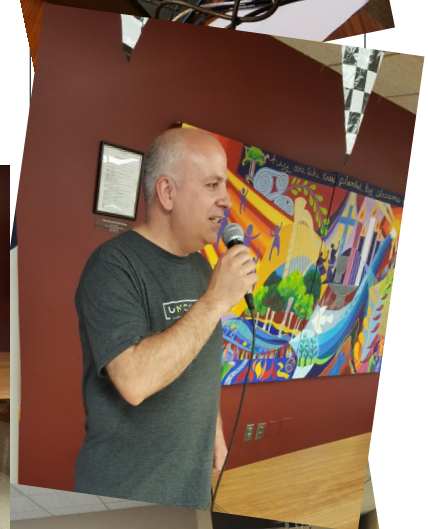
- 1st - Kevin Little
- 2nd - Elizabeth Kuryla
- 3rd - Claire Hughes

### Cadets

- 1st - Noah Carney
- 2nd - Joel Hughes
- 3rd - Luke Frelief

Thank you also to our leaders, Tim Collins, Dan Hooge, Tim Hughes, and Nathaniel Veenje. It was a good year, and I couldn't do it without you!

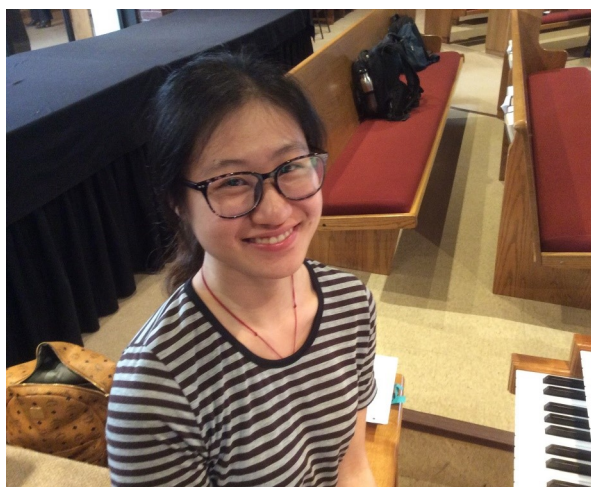
*~Danny Veenje*



## WHAT ARE THEY UP TO?

### CHECKING IN WITH OUR YOUNG ADULTS

*Note: This article is part of a continuing series of profiles of our post-high school young adults (up through about age 25). For this issue of the newsletter we catch up with Jiaqi Shao and Bethany Cok, who both have June birthdays. Let's remember to pray for all of our young adults in their walk with the Lord and as they think about their plans for the future.*



Jiaqi Shao is currently a student at the Eastman School of Music. We're grateful that she is able to fit being our church organist into her very busy and demanding schedule! Jiaqi has just finished her junior year and completed her move out of the dorms and into an apartment, and now has time to take a few deep breaths and savor at least a little relaxation time this summer.

Jiaqi was born and grew up in Shanghai, China, and moved to Rochester a few years ago to start her studies at Eastman. She began learning the piano at the age of four, and then took up studying the organ when she was

13. At the age of 16 she went to an organ festival in Leipzig, Germany, where she attended a master class and recital given by Eastman organ professor David Higgs. Eventually she decided that she'd like to study with him, and now here she is in Rochester, doing just that.

When I asked Jiaqi what she misses about life in Shanghai, she replied instantly, "The food!" and after a few more seconds added, "and the weather." American Chinese food doesn't have quite the same appeal for her, and she's not a great fan of the snow and cold. Still, she knew what she was getting into with the weather at least, since it was blustery and cold with lots of snow on the ground when she first visited Rochester for her Eastman audition. But she decided to brave life in Rochester anyway, and we're glad!

For the next six weeks or so Jiaqi will be practicing for her upcoming recital at the American Guild of Organists national convention in Kansas City in early July. She and six other young organists who were all regional winners in an AGO competition will be presenting recitals at this convention. The rest of the time this summer, she'll be catching up on sleep (a priority for college students during the summer months!), relaxing, practicing, and reading. She says her favorite reading is in history, philosophy, geography, politics, and traditional Chinese literature. She's planning to spend the month of August in Shanghai with her parents.

Jiaqi's birthday is June 23. Be sure to wish her a happy birthday! And pray that God will bless and speak to Jiaqi through our worship services, just as she is a blessing to us through her music.

*"Let's remember to pray for all of our young adults in their walk with the Lord and as they think about their plans for the future."*





Bethany Cok graduated from Calvin College in May 2016. Since then she's been living and working in Guatemala, in the city of Quetzaltenango (known more commonly as Xela, pronounced "Shayla"). Her first year there she was part of World Renew's Global Volunteer Program. World Renew is the CRC's relief and development organization. Currently Bethany is on the staff of a new organization called Sonido del Movimiento (SDM), which uses music and dance to support children living in a context of poverty, violence, and family challenges. She continues to do some work for World Renew as well.

Xela is located in Guatemala's western highlands and sits at an altitude of 7,500 feet. It is surrounded by mountains and volcanoes, including the active Santa Maria volcano, which last erupted in August 2013. Bethany occasionally hikes up volcanoes on free weekends. In the evenings she often goes out for coffee with friends. She also enjoys reading and keeping in touch with friends in the U.S. Bethany is taking violin lessons from a Guatemalan violinist in Xela who studied in a conservatory in Spain with a Russian violin professor.

One of Bethany's favorite things about living where she does is the opportunity to get to know lots of people from very different backgrounds. Whenever she comes back to the U.S. for a visit and takes her first hot shower with good water pressure, though, she wonders briefly why she's living in Guatemala... But then she remembers all that she appreciates about her life in Guatemala and after a brief respite is ready to go back to the work she is called to be doing.

Summer plans for Bethany include attending a close friend's wedding in Manitoba and climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania with her dad and sister.

Bethany's birthday is June 11. Please pray for Bethany in the challenges of her work and her daily life. She is so grateful for the love and support of her church family at RCRC.

## Coming Soon! Kids Camp 2018 Dreams and Schemes

Please join us to discover how God's faithful presence helps Joseph survive the bad times, do what's right, use his power for the good of others, and forgive those who hurt him.

**Who:** Children 4 years old to beginning 4th grade.

**When:** August 13-17  
9:00am to 11:30am

**Where:** Rochester Christian Reformed Church  
2750 Atlantic Avenue  
Penfield, New York 14526

Please call the church office at 381-7861 to register.





## SUMMER VACATION

What are your plans for the summer? With Memorial Day weekend the unofficial start of the summer, the completion of college's spring semester, and secondary schools winding down within the next month, many families will be going on vacation. Our family typically spends one to two weeks camping with our travel trailer. Over favorite camping destination over the last 5-plus years has been Cape Cod with sandy beaches, tasty seafood, varied recreational activities, and Cape Cod League baseball.

The Deacons noticed that the weekly offering also seems to go on vacation during the summer months which makes sense. If most members contribute each week through the offering basket then fewer members at church during the summer means lower weekly contributions as well. It is important however for steady contributions throughout the year since

expenses don't take summer vacations.

Electronic giving allows for consistent weekly contributions throughout the year. At the beginning of the year the Deacon's distributed the offering schedule which also asked each family to prayerfully consider what their firstfruit giving should be in 2018. With electronic giving, either through your financial institution or through the church website, automatic contributions can be scheduled on a weekly basis to help meet that commitment. One benefit of using electronic giving through your financial institution, sometimes referred as online bill pay, over the church website is that your bank or credit union doesn't typically charge a transaction fee which means your entire contribution is donated to the church. Regardless of which method of electronic giving used, always include your envelope number and the offering cause being con-

tributed to in the memo field. If no offering cause is specified in the memo field then general ministries is assumed.

These days many forms of technological advancements make it easy to exchange funds without cash or checks. Don't worry, the Deacons won't be installing chip card readers at the doors anytime soon and will still be passing the basket down the aisle to collect cash and checks which are always welcome. However, consider electronic giving as a simple means of giving and of fulfilling our stewardship responsibility as a congregation throughout the year.

The Deacons pray that God's hand of safety is on your family wherever you travel this summer. Thank you for faithfully supporting the ministries of RCRC and seeing our budget as investments in God's mission.

*~In Love, David Punter,  
for the Deacons*

*"...the weekly offering  
also seems to go on  
vacation during the  
summer months..."*

## SPEAKING OF SUMMER VACATION...

Your Church Life Newsletter Staff will also be taking some time off this summer, so we'll only have one edition for July and August.

Due date for articles will be July 22 with a publish date of July 29.

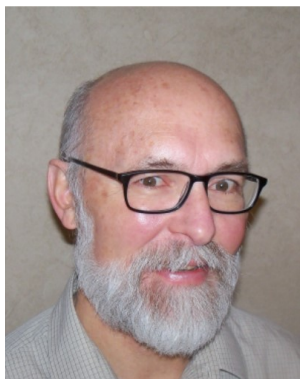
The following edition will be published on September 2.



Enjoy your summer, stay safe, and keep RCRC in your prayers!

*~ CLN Editors: Alice &  
Gary Harris*

## ANTICIPATION...



David Dill, Deacon

It's that time of year again – the end of the school year? The beginning of summer fun? Yes, all of those things, but also time to start thinking about new elders and deacons for the fall! We get excited with anticipation about a lot of things – a trip we are planning, a night out at a new restaurant, or getting tickets to a theater or sporting event that we are eager to see. But we tend not to have that anticipation for being part of what God is doing in his church! Sure, we might get excited about the Haiti trip, or even good news from Doug and Priscilla about progress on a new translation project – but at RCRC?

I have had the privilege, as a deacon and as a member of the Search committee, of having a front row seat to some pretty amazing things that have been happening at RCRC during the past three years. Council, the Elders in particular, have stepped up in a more active role of leading spiritual growth while we

were without a full time pastor – a devotional booklet on prayer, encouragement for involvement in groups, and a focus on being in the Word through regular Bible reading. If you talk with anyone who was on the Search committee you will hear stories of doors being opened and closed as we searched for a pastoral candidate. Throughout the Bible references are made to God's mighty work of salvation and his calling a people to himself – the big picture of the Gospel story. But within that big picture are smaller pictures, pictures intimately connected to the big picture, yet some of these pictures include our own witness to God's grace in action.

Stop by the church any day of the week and you will likely find many people quietly doing the jobs that need to be done to keep RCRC ticking. We cannot function without them! There are other people that our fellowship needs in order to function at peak efficiency, but are less connected. A long term attender who just never got around to joining, but as a consequence is not able to serve on Council. Or people who say, “No”, when asked to serve on Council, even though they may have gifts to lead, teach and challenge us in areas where we have grown lazy. Paul makes reference to the need to have all parts of the Body ac-

tive. We may question the wisdom of taking the next step to membership, or seriously considering whether we might say, “Yes”, when asked to be on Council.

*1 Cor 12:21 The eye cannot say to the hand, “I don’t need you!” And the head cannot say to the feet, “I don’t need you!”*

You may be right to say, “No”. You may be exactly where the Lord needs you. On the other hand, if you are burying your talent for any number of “perfectly logical” reasons that keep you from investing fully in the Kingdom, please reconsider. Anticipate seeing God at work at RCRC and use that vision as a source of motivation to take the next step – Yes!

~David Dill

*“I have had the privilege, as a deacon and as a member of the Search committee, of having a front row seat to some pretty amazing things that have been happening at RCRC during the past three years.”*



## CLASSIS SUMMARY AND PRAYER REQUESTS

In the April issue of Church Life, Gary Harris educated us on the organizational structure of the CRC, and that we (Rochester CRC) are one of 22 churches in the CANE (Classis Atlantic North East). On April 18 and 19, Pastor Anthony, Pastor Tineke, David Dill, and myself attended the CANE meeting in Pittsfield, MA. Have you ever wondered what goes on at these meetings? Read on . . .

Once we arrived at the Lakeside Retreat Center, we found our rooms, had dinner together in the dining hall, and began meeting one another. Once we returned to the meeting room, it was time for a welcome, worship, prayer, and business. We heard various reports that would be typical of a business meeting. Highlights you may be interested in knowing follow. The Classis Interim Team (CIT) reported on the election of delegates to Synod 2018 in June. Our own, Neil van Barneveldt, will be attending as one of four from CANE. The Church Renewal Team (CRT) informed Classis of some changes to church counselors for RCRC and Trinity CRC (Richfield Springs), as Pastor Nick Monsma (East Palmyra CRC) has accepted a call in California. Our new church counselor is Pastor Kurt Monroe from Valley CRC in Bing-

hamton. The evening session was concluded with worship and prayer. A time of fellowship was shared before retiring for the night.

Thursday began with the surprise of snow on the ground! Good thing I wore appropriate shoes/boots! The retreat center is located on a pretty lake (see picture)! Thankfully, the mid-April snow melted by lunch time! Off to breakfast we went before beginning the days' meeting, which encompassed why we, from RCRC, were so eager to be there! It was the day of Pastor Anthony's examination! We

were responsible for the sermon evaluations. Pastor Anthony was examined here at RCRC on February 11. Did you know there were such visitors at our service that day? The next part of the exam was conducted concurrently with both candidates. They were asked to share their spiritual background and journey. The exam consisted of knowledge of church standards, Church Order, practical matters, Scripture, and Reformed doctrine. They were questioned about their sense of call, appreciation of Christian Reformed polity, love for the Church and their congregations,



began with devotions and prayer and proceeded right to the work of examination, which took about an hour. It began with reports that all paperwork was received and in order for both candidates. Reports were presented by those that

spiritual gifts, relating to others, aspects of ministry they anticipate, Bible knowledge and understanding of Scripture, covenant, biblical interpretation and preaching, the sovereignty of God, the kingdom of God, the two natures of Christ, sacraments, infant bap-

*"...we, from RCRC,  
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tion!"*

tism, and what it means to be Reformed. There was opportunity for questions by them and any of the delegates. Motions were made, prayers were offered, a vote taken, good news shared, and prayers of thanksgiving and blessings made! Wow! It was awesome to witness the process!

After a coffee break to offer congratulations to Anthony and Justin, business continued with various reports. These reports concluded at the scheduled lunch time, which enabled us to eat and run! We loaded up the car and traveled back to Rochester after a most successful Classis meeting.

Aside from witnessing the examination process of Pastor Anthony, we agreed that hearing reports from representatives of church plants in CANE was a highlight of our experience at Classis. We heard from many dedicated Christians. It is amazing to hear what is happening within our Classis! Please join us in praying for the people involved in spreading the gospel.

- There is a Chin congregation in Albany interested in affiliating with the CRCNA. Pray the process continues and can move forward successfully.
- The Chin Christian Church of Syracuse desires to call a pastor. CANE voted to financially support the pastoral role for several years. Pray this young church

will flourish with their new pastor.

- Emmaus City Church in Worcester, MA, is working diligently to develop leaders. We met three members from this church and learned of their unique leadership gifts. A financial commitment was also made to one of these members for a Missional Residency. Pray this emerging church will grow and feel God's presence.
- Michael Lapian of the Indonesian CRC in Dover, NH, gave an update of the ministry there. He mentioned how they are praising God for miracles of healing and the power of prayer at work in their congregation. In my conversation with him after the meeting, he said they would welcome prayers from our congregation.
- Justin Ruddy (the other examinee) gave an update of the church plant in East Boston, MA. The church will be called Resurrection Christian Reformed Church. They hope it will be a multiethnic, English-speaking church, and will begin holding public worship by Fall 2019. Justin and his wife, Sarah, ask us to join them in prayer during this time of beginning. They ask for a close relationship

with God and that God may make himself known to this church; for faith, trust, courage, friendship, reconciliation, tact, tenacity, prudence, energy, partners, co-dreamers, and co-laborers as they move forward with this work.

- James Kim of the Syracuse Grace church plant sent a written report and we were asked to pray for James and his family, as they have gone through a very difficult time recently.
- Joe and Karisa Paravisini gave an update of their church plant, The Neighborhood, in Providence, RI. This couple and their five children have immersed themselves into this area to get to know the community. They ask for our prayers as they develop a launch team, develop leaders, and continue to invite people into their home, as they value developing relationships.

~Submitted by Amy Cline  
(attending Elder)

*"It is amazing to hear what is happening within our Classis! Please join us in praying for the people involved in spreading the gospel."*



## SCHOOL #33 END OF THE YEAR NOTES



In February we gave the teachers at School #33 notes of encouragement that were well-received. Now we want to give

each of them an end-of-the-year note. Stop by the events table and pick up some cards to add a personal note to the pre-printed cards.

Thanks to Mary Steensma for drawing the front of the cards and to Dick Astifan for donating the envelopes for the cards. Return the cards

to church by Sunday, June 10.

Look for further opportunities to serve School #33 even this summer and be thinking about how you can be involved next year. Thank you for your support of the students and staff at the school. Talk to Nancy Johnson if you have any questions or comments.

~Nancy Johnson



## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

As you already know, our Elders and the Church Office have been doing an excellent job keeping members aware of prayer concerns with the bi-weekly Prayer Page they've been publishing.

In order to not duplicate effort and to simplify where to look for things for members, your CLN

editors have decided (with approval from others) to stop adding these to the newsletter. For prayer concerns please refer to the Prayer Page which is emailed out every 2 weeks from the Church Office. Thank you!

CLN Editors, Alice & Gary Harris

**Prayer Room:** Someone will be available to pray with you, or for you, each Sunday morning in room 2 (next to the Library) for 20 minutes following the morning worship service. Written requests may be placed in the box in room 2. All information is kept confidential.



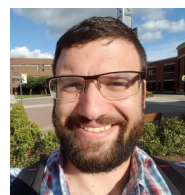
## WHAT'S NEW WITH OUR MISSIONARIES?



Bethany Cok working with [Sonido del Movimiento](#)



Doug & Priscilla Higby with [Wycliff Bible Translations](#)



A farewell message from Conrad Smith with [InterVarsity Christian Fellowship](#)



Zuiderveens in Haiti with [Resonate Ministries](#)

## JUNE-AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

### June

Tina Jennings  
Tara Steensma  
Tim Coughlin  
Genevieve Seyfried  
Timothy VandeBrake  
Ruth Machiele  
Denise De Lallo  
Millie Washburn  
Anthony Selvaggio  
Bethany Cok  
Luke Frelier  
Rena Lubberts  
Daniel Spoelhof  
Steven Tryon  
Jennifer Carney  
Michael Carney  
Diane Scott  
Abigail De Lallo  
Adriana De Lallo  
Danny De Lallo III  
JoAnne Frelier  
Jiaqi Shao  
David Dill  
Dianka Sobiech  
Elizabeth Kuryla  
Noah Carney  
Robert Cornelison

David Fenton  
Gary Harris (*send money*)

### July

Priscilla Higby  
Peter VandeBrake  
Malinda Quick  
Emma Verbree  
Gordon Haines  
Leah Chambery  
Mary Steensma  
Scott De Lallo  
Michael Coughlin  
Ty Hooge  
Jardus Le Roux  
Doug Higby  
Saskia Orr Lindenhovius)  
Michelle Selvaggio  
Joyce Smith  
Charles Steensma  
Kimberly Bruinsma  
Emma Spoelhof  
James Chambery  
Pat McQuay  
Leo Ostberg  
Daniel Veenje  
Audrey Anna Frelier  
Heather Verbree  
David Cok

Oliver Orr

### August

Judy Huussen  
Sarah Smith  
Elisabeth Bakker  
Juli Elliot  
Sharon Harrison  
Susan Frelier  
Molly Orr  
Aidan Coughlin  
Mary Van Someren Cok  
Christina Bakker  
Amanda Kuryla  
Ronald Frelier  
Kevin Smith  
Jackie Dykshoorn Fenton  
Sara Dill  
George A. Kuipers Jr.  
Marilynn Van Der Woude  
Jean Haines

For actual birthdates,  
please refer to the  
“Member Information”  
section (under the  
“More” tab) of the  
[RCRC website](#).



## VISITATION MINISTRY

*Each month a number of volunteers visit our members listed below. If you are interested in coordinating this important ministry, please contact Shari Harrison at [jsnyhonda@gmail.com](mailto:jsnyhonda@gmail.com)*

### **Lillian Barham**

Hill Haven Nursing Home  
1550 Empire Blvd  
Webster, NY 14580

### **Hermien Bouwmeester**

Kirkhaven  
254 Alexander St  
Rochester, NY 14607

### **David Bruinsma**

St. John's Home  
Hastings Building  
Room 248B  
Rochester, NY 14620

### **Gordon Haines**

St. Ann's Home  
1500 Portland Ave  
Rochester, NY 14621

### **Ben Hoadley**

Shire Senior Living  
2515 Culver Road  
Rochester, NY 14609

### **Roger Hoadley**

The Legacy  
40 Willow Pond Way  
Apt. 260  
Penfield, NY 14526

### **Ray Leuwen**

293 Rich's Dugway  
Rochester, NY 14625

### **Marvin Lown**

Aaron Manor (613)  
100 St. Camillus Way  
Fairport, NY 14450

### **Lois Smith**

Fairport Baptist Homes  
4646 Nine Mile Point Road  
Room 1H04  
Fairport, NY 14450

### **Grada Steenblok**

The Legacy  
40 Willow Pond Way, Apt. 211  
Penfield, NY 14526

### **Mary Zinkand**

The Episcopal Home  
535 Mt. Hope Ave, Apt. 115  
Rochester, NY 14620

*“Learn to be Christians  
at home. Practice  
forgiveness, mercy, grace,  
healing, serving, and  
giving.”*



**Next Month...**

## *NEXT NEWSLETTER*

**DEADLINE FOR OUR SUMMER ISSUE:**

**SUNDAY, JULY 22, 2018**

**DELIVERY DATE: SUNDAY, JULY 29, 2018**

Newsletter articles may be submitted by e-mail to  
the Editors at [amharris74@gmail.com](mailto:amharris74@gmail.com)  
(Please put "Church Life" in the subject line of submissions)

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