



# Clinton Christian Reformed Church

## Sunday, July 18, 2021

### Church Family:

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**Prayer Needs:** Some members of our church family are not able to worship with us in person and we ask that you keep them in your prayers: *Jeene Amsing, Alice Bakelaar, Martin Geleyse, Sally Hellinga, Wilma Reinink, Jenny Valkenburg, Annie VandenHeuvel and Evelyn VanderWal.*

Other members of our church family are struggling and need God's healing hand and comfort: *Brian Cudmore, Kay Feddes, Janny Postma, Elisabeth Van Tol and Grace VanderWal.*

**Outdoor Praise & Worship: TONIGHT at 7 pm!** We are excited to sing and praise God together! Bring your lawn chair and refreshment (if desired) and a friend/neighbour. Song sheets will be provided and a digital version is attached to your weekly email for those who wish to use their phone or tablet. There will be sidewalk chalk for the children to decorate the pavement. Everyone is invited!

**Pastor Ray** will be on vacation from July 12 through August 3. If there are concerns, please contact your pastoral elder or the office.

### Birthday Congratulations to:

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>July 18:</b> | Nadine Otten  |
| <b>July 19:</b> | Linda Van Wyk   |
| <b>July 20:</b> | Janet Kuiper<br>Brian Cudmore<br>Lauren Kootstra<br>Eli Goodburn                              |
| <b>July 21:</b> | Herman Greidanus  |
| <b>July 22:</b> | ShariAnn Kuiper<br>Jake Schoemaker<br>Jasper Schoemaker                                       |
| <b>July 23:</b> | Henry Gerrits celebrating his 77 <sup>th</sup> Birthday<br>MaryAnn Neutel<br>Jason Rylaarsdam |
| <b>July 24:</b> | Alexa Cuellar   |



## **Church Its Ministries & Concerns:**

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**THIS SUNDAY'S OFFERING:** New Ground Canada

**NEXT SUNDAY'S OFFERING:** Huron Christian School Tuition Bursary

### **Ways to Give:**

**E-Transfer:** Remember that you can donate via e-transfer through your bank. Use [clintoncrctreasurer@tcc.on.ca](mailto:clintoncrctreasurer@tcc.on.ca) as the email and type whether it is for the church budget and/or the weekly offering in the memo. We understand that some banks are charging per e-transfer so if you would like to send your donation once a month you can do so. Please make sure that the memo line specifies budget and/or weekly offering.

You can **MAIL YOUR CHEQUE** to the church. Address is 243 Princess Street East, PO Box 697, Clinton, ON, NOM 1L0.

You can sign up for **PAR** if you haven't done so already. Contact Trudy MacDonald at [trudy.macdonald@sympatico.ca](mailto:trudy.macdonald@sympatico.ca). Pre-authorized remittance is for the church budget only.

**Live Streaming:** To watch the live stream, go to the church website – [www.clintonchristianreformedchurch.ca](http://www.clintonchristianreformedchurch.ca) and click the banner that says “Click here to watch live stream”. You may need to refresh the church webpage. If you’re having trouble or want to view the services but don’t have a computer, please contact Angela and she’ll see how she can help -- ([ajanekaptein@tcc.on.ca](mailto:ajanekaptein@tcc.on.ca) or 519-440-3011).

**Moving Forward:** Ontario is now in Step 3 of the Re-Opening Ontario plan. For places of worship, it means that we can welcome as many people to our church services as can be 2 meters apart. In keeping with this, the white plastic strips will be removed from the pews for the **July 25<sup>th</sup>** service and following. Council has agreed that, as a church, we will continue to follow the guidelines and regulations as set out by Public Health authorities which includes contact tracing, wearing masks indoors, not singing and keeping physical distanced. We will follow the changing regulations closely and make adjustments as soon as we are able. We pray that you will feel encouraged and in turn will encourage those in church leadership as we together navigate the next and hopefully last portion of Covid restrictions.

**Deacons Update:** Our leadership team for the Deacons is Marg Kroes as Chair, Al Durrer as Vice-Chair, Carolyn Van Dorp as Treasurer and Paul de Lange as Secretary.

**Exciting Ministry Opportunity @ Clinton GEMS:** Do you have a true love for God and girls and a willingness to have fun? Incredible exciting GEMS girls group right in our community is seeking a club coordinator or 2-person coordinator team. If you have prayed over this and feel this is something God is leading you to do, please contact Michelle Ringuette at 519-525-5809 or contact the church office at 519-482-5264 for more information.

**Thousands of Biblical Resources Available to YOU:** Our church has subscribed to an amazing resource for Christian content called **RightNow Media**. It's been called the "Netflix for Christian content" with thousands of online Bible-based videos on parenting, marriage, discipleship, leadership and so much more. There is a huge library of Biblical children's videos along with family devotional studies and Bible studies for all ages. Our church believes that RightNow Media is a tool that can help us live out our faith in every area of our lives – at home, at work, and in our community. There is something for everyone and it can all be accessed on your phone, tablet, computer, and smart TV. This is an amazing resource and everyone connected to our church will have the opportunity for free access.



**Reading Suggestion:** After losing everything he owns, forester Will Scarlet embarks on a search for none other than King Raven, whose exploits have already become legendary. After fulfilling his quest – and proving himself a skilled and loyal companion – Will joins the heroic archer and his men. Book #2 in the King Raven series by Stephen Lawhead, Scarlet!

#### **Other News:**

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**TODAY DAILY DEVOTIONAL** is available online at <https://today.reframemedia.com/devotions>. The July/August booklets are available and can be picked up at the entrance of the church.

**OUR DAILY BREAD DEVOTIONAL** is available online at <https://odb.org/?fbclid=IwAR1dW0Dx09iMGYCFpRUY6z2YXgW1l0TctehhU34wGr3OTNR9awXTKwwoDsk>

**The Banner:** Get the Banner by Email - Stay connected with our weekly e-newsletter, the Banner Update, delivering you new online content for free, by signing up at [thebanner.org/signup](http://thebanner.org/signup).

**ReFrame Ministries:** HOW DOES IT WORK? - Check out this week's kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Do you wonder about creation? Do you ask yourself how it all works? Practice wondering and asking questions. Listen now at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) and subscribe to KC's weekly emails for all the new content.

**GROUNDWORK: LOVE: THE GUIDING PRINCIPLE FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING** - The struggle for unity is not unique to the modern church. The Apostle Paul encouraged the Corinthian Christians to make Christ-like love their guiding principle and he taught them about spiritual gifts. Join Groundwork as we study 1 Corinthians 11-13 for guidance as we too seek to worship and live well together in community. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

**Disability Concerns:** Disability Concerns Leadership Training 2021 - Join us August 11 and 12th for our annual Disability Concerns Leadership Training Event. 11am - 2pm Eastern. Hosted online this year. All welcome! Find out more at: <https://bit.ly/whosmissinginmychurch>.

**Position Opening: Director of Disability Concerns:** Dear Colleagues in Ministry, The Council of Delegates recently declared the vacancy for the Director of Disability Concerns. This position will provide leadership to the ministry of Disability Concerns to promote and foster relationships,

communities, and societies where everybody belongs and everybody serves by assisting churches, agencies, institutions, and leadership within the Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA) and the Reformed Church in America (RCA) to:

- think and act in keeping with the biblical call regarding people with disabilities
- break barriers of communication, architecture, and attitude
- establish ministries with, for, and by people with disabilities and their families (Disability Concerns mandate).

A search team has been established to identify the individual God is calling to fill this role.

We'd like to involve you in our process to find the individual who will fill this significant leadership role. Could you please share this information through any means available and/or perhaps submit names and addresses of individuals you believe may be qualified for the position? A complete job description can be found at <https://crcna.pinpoonthq.com/en/jobs/16039>. The posting is open until August 6. We welcome your suggestions and encourage your prayers for God's guidance as we undertake this important task. If you'd like to nominate someone for this position, please send me an email at [Ivanharten@crcna.org](mailto:Ivanharten@crcna.org) with the person's name and contact information. We covet your prayers for the search team as they embark on their work. On behalf of Congregational Ministries, Lis Van Harten, Director of Congregational Ministries.

**Calvin University:** Praise Ye The Lord - The Calvin Alumni Choir presents virtual concert "Praise Ye The Lord" featuring works of Alice Parker, Sean Ivory, Poulenc, F. Melius Christiansen, and more. Join us for the YouTube premiere on July 23 at 7:00 pm. Find us on YouTube or Facebook by searching "Calvin Alumni Choir". We look forward to sharing our music with you once again. Any questions can be emailed to [alumnichoir@calvin.edu](mailto:alumnichoir@calvin.edu).

**Faith Formation Ministries:** At-home Faith Formation Tip - The Practice of Remembering: In the sacrament of The Lord's Supper we remember both the great sacrifice and the wonderful gift of Jesus' death and resurrection. Think and talk about how you might more fully enter into both the sorrow and the joy as you celebrate communion. (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit [crcna.org/FaithFormation/Practices](http://crcna.org/FaithFormation/Practices).)

**Diaconal Ministries Canada:** Diaconal Coaches Needed in Your Classis - A Diaconal Coach (formerly called Diaconal Ministry Developer) serves as an equipper and coach for local diaconates/deacons. Their role is to help deacons grow in their understanding and capacity as Diaconal Leaders, providing support, encouragement, and accountability. Each Coach receives modest remuneration and an expense budget. Want to learn more? Contact Diaconal Ministries at [dmc@crcna.org](mailto:dmc@crcna.org) or [rvandenbrink@crcna.org](mailto:rvandenbrink@crcna.org) or visit our website: <https://bit.ly/36huAOc>.

**Waterloo Campus Ministry - Letter to the churches of Classis Huron July 6, 2021:** It feels a little strange to lead off with loss. Typically, a letter like this would tell some stories about the great things that happened in the life of the ministry over the past year. But in a year like this one, how could I not start with loss?

For years now, most of my work on campus has been done with small groups, in small spaces, over food. That's not possible right now, and it hasn't been possible since last March 2020. **Campus remains relatively deserted.** I know some graduate students who have lab access, and for them, work life carries on fairly normally. But for most other folks, UW or Laurier haven't been places where

they've spent much time at all. A student said to me a while back *"I can't wait until I can walk into the library on campus and check out an actual book to read!"* I really resonate with that kind of longing, a longing for the ordinary ways we used to spend our days on campus. So much is lost when we're all away from the normally bustling, vibrant campus. When campus is full, there's a liveliness that helps nourish and energize the work I do. When campus is full, there's a sacred serendipity that happens when I cross paths with someone I haven't seen in a while. When campus is full, folks have the opportunity to move between spaces - from the classroom to the Chaplains Office, from the library to the campus pub, instead of sitting in front of their computers and switching from one Zoom meeting to another. All of that makes a huge difference in how this ministry actually *happens*.

The loss of "normal" ministry has been a major challenge this year. And while it's good to acknowledge loss, it'd be remiss for me to not also reflect on the ways God has done wonderful things through the ministry this year, in spite of it all. In fact, upon reflection, that seems like the true story of the year: the gift of good things, even in the very context of loss.

Like most of your churches, a good deal of ministry happened over Zoom this year. After a couple attempts to meet outdoors in windy Waterloo Park, the ministry's pub discussion group ***Fermented Faith*** and faculty fellowship ***Breakfast Book Club*** gathered regularly online. ***Fermented Faith*** actually thrived for the better part of the year - some new "regulars" joined us, and some alumni were able to pop in too, even though they now live in Toronto or Drayton or wherever. That was one of the unexpected gifts of Zoom - the borders of campus ministry were expanded. Throughout January, we had over a dozen folks each week at Fermented Faith, which is about the optimal size. And then, in the first week of February, no one showed up. Over the next few weeks folks drifted in, staying for a while, saying things like "I thought about not coming today." **Zoom fatigue is real.** In "normal" times, students would leave their class or their lab, and walk to the pub at Laurier, where there would be good food and a relaxed atmosphere. In our Zoom version of Fermented Faith there's no nachos and no new environment. Just another couple hours on Zoom after a full day of, well, being on Zoom. The ***Breakfast Book Club*** was ambitious, and spent most of the academic year reading Fleming Rutledge's magisterial ***The Crucifixion: Understanding the Death of Jesus Christ***. It's over 600 pages, but we made it through without it ever being a slog. If you've got the inclination to read a long book, I can't recommend this one enough, as Rutledge does so much to expand upon and articulate a story that we often think we understand so well. One philosophy professor in the group described it as **"profoundly redemptive"** to read.

Zoom also made **new kinds of collaboration** possible. Along with two of my colleagues, I helped host a **Spiritual Friendship** reading group, with students from Waterloo, Guelph, and Redeemer. We read three books on the subject of spiritual friendship, and used them as a foundation for our own reflections on the joys and complications of our own relationships. This sort of cross-campus fellowship wouldn't really have happened before Zoom became a normal, everyday means of connection.

I was also able to help host the **Waterloo Christian Scholars** group every other week. It's a small graduate student fellowship that gathers for prayer and support. It's a fairly international group, and it's a joy to pray with Christians from around the globe who've come to Waterloo for their research. Late in the winter term, I partnered with my Lutheran colleague at Martin Luther UC at Laurier, helping **organize a food and personal care items pantry**. In the spring, up to 65 students were able

to receive fresh produce and other necessities each week. Our aim is to continue providing the service through the summer and into the fall.

I've really enjoyed meeting graduate students this year! I've made good connections with a dozen or so grad students who I didn't know before September. That's been a lovely confirmation of some discernment I've been doing over the past year. **I've felt a nudge from God that this ministry is well-suited to create a graduate fellowship on campus.** Currently, there's 11 or 12 undergraduate Christian ministries at UW, but there's nothing for graduate students. There should be! And all the students I've spoken with this year have mentioned how much they miss the Christian communities from their undergraduate days. I'm hoping we might be able to launch something in the fall, should campus be open for student life activities again (as I write this, it's not exactly clear what will be possible on campus in September).

Ministry wasn't completely confined to Zoom. **I've learned a lot about the pastoral value of long walks in the park.** Over the year, I've gotten to know the paths in Waterloo Park and Victoria Park quite well (and the streets of UpTown and Downton Kitchener, too). It's funny - before the pandemic, I always assumed that I should meet students in my office, or at the campus Starbucks. But conversation and prayer flow in a different way outdoors - there's something powerful about praying Psalm 1 with a student, *lectio divina*-style, under some sturdy trees in the park. I'm going to keep this practice going post-pandemic.

There's much more I could write here, but I think I'll leave it at that for now, and turn over the remainder of the report to four students who've written small reflections on how the ministry has blessed their lives. Their words mean a ton to me, and have helped me see that even in a years such as this, loss doesn't have the final word. God is faithful through lean years and years of plenty. That faithfulness is reflected in Classis Huron's generous support to this ministry over not just this pandemic year, but over **six decades!** It's that long faithfulness that helps make stories like these students' stories possible. For that I thank you, sincerely, and ask that you continue to pray for me and for this campus ministry as it navigates the road ahead. **Peace, Rev. Brian Bork** [bbork@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:bbork@uwaterloo.ca)

I first met Brian in my second year at Laurier having recently recommitted my life to Christ. We began by sharing our life stories over coffee and continued to meet once a week on campus to chat about life and theology. It was during these one-on-one's that I experienced incredible growth as we studied several books and prayed together. Early in our relationship I knew I could trust Brian with some of my deepest struggles. As I opened up, I was constantly met with gentle and wise counsel that refreshed me with insight and clarity. With plenty of patience and grace Brian channeled my enthusiasm and passion to foster meaningful change that equipped me as follower of Christ and a shepherd to my peers. It wasn't just the content of our discussion that impacted me but also Brian's style of mentorship that modelled how to approach discipleship in my own life. Through Brian I was also given the opportunity to attend the *Leadership Studio*, *Fermented Faith*, and *Friday Night Dinners* at his house. Nearly six years after our introduction, we continue to meet online as I journey through pandemic life after graduation. - **Jaaron Pullenayagem, BA in Business Administration @ Laurier**

Two years ago, I never even considered going to a therapist, much less a chaplain. I thought that all I needed was a good career, a certain special someone, and a band to perform in. What changed? A

metaphorical slap in the face by a series of lectures I heard on Genesis. The very old, very strange Bible that's sitting on my family's dinner table wasn't just a dusty footnote of a superstitious, distant past anymore. Now it practically shone with eternal wisdom and truth. I realized that I had a choice to make: to push onward and confronting my demons, or to just go back with in the familiar world of math, technology, and more math. Somehow, the former wasn't backing down, so that's what I went with. Much to my dismay, my peers weren't interested in the very same ultimate questions that shook me to the core. But after my multiple conversations with Brian, I came to see that the world was even more incredible than I could imagine. I could bear all this alone, or I could share my thoughts with a group. And so, after I attending a multitude of rich conversations with the *Fermented Faith* gang was just what I needed, and it's been a major part of my discovery of Christianity. - **Grant Cheng, Math major @ UW**

In the nearly six years that I've been a part of this ministry, I've learned from God, from Brian, from the other chaplains, from my fellow students, and have even been provided the space and opportunity to learn from myself. I've met Christian brothers and sisters I would have never otherwise met, some of whom have now become dear friends with whom I share the intimate highs and lows of life and faith. I've even been given the opportunity to take on leadership, which has stretched me, grown me, and humbled me all at once, and has been an invaluable experience as I navigate my own calling to pastoral ministry. I wish I could write you a list of everything I've learned and all the concrete effects this ministry has had on my life, but I can't do that. Just like you probably can't tell me how your best friend has changed and shaped your life, or just how much it means to you to be a part of your church. Some things, and some people, find their ways so deep into our lives that we can't describe them except to say that they are a part of us. That, I think, in many ways is what church is, or at least, what it is meant to be. And that's what this ministry has been to me. - **Josh Martin, MA of Theology @ UW**

I've known Pastor Brian for quite a few years now. Over the past two and half years-ish of grad school I'm pretty sure I've at least once attended every campus ministry event. However, most regularly I've attended *The Table*, a morning liturgy of the Lord's Supper, and *Friday Night Dinners*, where Pastor Brian hosts people for dinner at his house once a month on Friday. Both of these times have been very meaningful to me. These relatively small gatherings echo what the early church must have been like, sincere community in which Christ was the centre and all are welcome. Participating in something so ancient yet relatively uncommon is a distinct break from the frantic nature of university. Being a grad student (especially at STEM-focused UW) often involves setting aside considerations of the spiritual world to investigate and explain our natural world. By contrast, *The Table* and *Friday Night Dinners* are joyful reminders that I am not the only Christian in my university community and that the spiritual world is in fact important. Beyond these types of "formal" events, Pastor Brian has also made sure to make the time to have one on one conversations. We have discussed more personal things like the hardship of having most of my undergraduate friends move away, or the seriousness of faith in the face of death. Pastor Brian's welcome perspective consistently reminds me of the presence of God in day to day things and that God's presence should always be considered when meeting life's larger problems. Reflecting on all this now, I think Brian, throughout all his ministry, has presented to me the clearest picture of what it means to be called Pastor. - **Kyle Langendoen, MMath @ UW**



## Virtual Grief Support Groups

**8 WEEKS THAT WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE!**

**GRIEF....is surrounded by so many myths, like -**

- **Time heals all wounds**
- **Replace the loss**
- **Grieve alone**
- **Be strong for others**
- **Hide your feelings**

**“Sound familiar???....”**

Whether your loss results from death, divorce, loss of job or childhood issues, recent or sometime in the past, healing **IS** possible.

### **New Zoom Groups Begin Monthly**

<b>TUESDAYS</b> Tuesday Aug 3 <sup>rd</sup> to Tuesday Sept 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2021  7:00 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.  8 spaces available	<b>WEDNESDAYS</b> Wednesday Sep 8 <sup>th</sup> to Wednesday Oct 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2021  7:00 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.  8 spaces available	<b>TUESDAYS</b> Tuesday Oct 5 <sup>th</sup> to Tuesday Nov 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2022  7:00 P.M. – 8:30 P.M.  8 spaces available
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**Not Familiar with Zoom?**

**Don't have a computer?**

**Don't worry.**

We will lend you an internet enabled, Zoom-ready tablet with headset and provide a brief tutorial.  
Seven tablets available – first come, first served.

**COST: \$35.00 For Resource Material (or what you are able to pay)  
Take the first step toward healing. CALL HURON HOSPICE TODAY TO REGISTER!**

Call : 519-525-6331 Email: shawn.vanosch@huronhospice.ca