

# Nobleford Christian Reformed Church newsletter ~ Sept 26, 2021

## Israel & Jordan Study Tour (March 31 - April 12, 2022):

Travel to NT sites connected with Jesus' life and the early church: Bethlehem, Nazareth, Caesarea, Capernaum, Bethsaida, Sea of Galilee, Caesarea Philippi, the major biblical places in Jerusalem, Masada and much more. This tour also uniquely involves key biblical sites in Jordan, including the amazing city of Petra. Contact Dr. Jeff Weima, Professor at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading biblical scholar, at [wemje@calvinseminary.edu](mailto:wemje@calvinseminary.edu) or 616-328-3110.



LIVING JUSTICE • LOVING MERCY • SERVING CHRIST

## Dear friends at Nobleford CRC,

We know it has been a busy fall as we try to readjust and reassess. Our congregations are full of tired people, and each new email feels like another hurdle to overcome. We feel this struggle and we decided to try to make our September update as simple as

possible for you. You can find a two-minute video highlighting what's going on at this link: <https://vimeo.com/606672670/da5fbc50d8>

Please feel free to email this to your congregation, share it in your Facebook group, or show it before, during, or after the service. If you have questions or would like any additional resources, please let us know.

On behalf of World Renew,

**Iona Buisman**

## We are excited to host a Croquette Fundraiser in lieu of our Annual Turkey Supper.

As the Turkey Supper was always a very successful fundraiser for our schools we would very much appreciate monetary donations in addition to your croquette order if you are able to do so. Charitable Donation tax receipts are available upon request for additional donations over \$20.

Turkey croquettes will be available to pre-order online for \$15/dozen. They come frozen to be deep fried or baked by you.

Order Link: <https://forms.gle/ER4c5uNAWukHxdyQ8>

Order deadline is Oct 1, 2020.

Croquette orders will be available for pick up at ICSS on October 18 between 12:00-4:00pm. If this date does not suit you please make arrangements for someone to pick up your order for you.

At this time we will be preparing Croquettes based on pre-orders only. If you have any questions please contact Heidi at 403-393-3060 or email [ics.fmglocal@gmail.com](mailto:ics.fmglocal@gmail.com)



## The Banner

**Get The Banner Straight to Your Inbox** - The Banner, the magazine of the CRC, will send you news, features, and columns straight to your email inbox! Sign up for the weekly e-newsletter by visiting [thebanner.org/signup](http://thebanner.org/signup). While you're there, you can sign up to receive The Banner print magazine straight to your door as well! [TheBanner.org/signup](http://TheBanner.org/signup)

### Faith Formation Ministries

**Faith Practice Reflection Tip** - Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Sabbath: Read Psalm 23 and ponder or discuss the following questions: Reflect on the words “I shall not want” (or, as The Message puts it, “I don’t need a thing.” How often do those words describe you? How have you experienced God’s “goodness and mercy”? How might you be an agent of goodness and mercy to your neighbor or to your “enemies”? (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit [bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject](http://bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject))

### Safe Church Ministry

**Safe Church October Webinar** - Join us on Zoom October 6th, at 12pm Eastern for our October Safe Church webinar: Faith Leaders and a Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Violence. This webinar features a conversation with Rev. Michael Ten Haken (Pease CRC), Judy Pearson (Director of the Pearl Crisis Center), and Glenda Rittenour (Court Advocate), to discuss how they function as a Community Coordinated Response Team in Pease, Minnesota, in response to domestic abuse and with battering intervention programs. <https://bit.ly/SCOctoberwebinar>

**Today is Abuse Awareness Sunday** - The Safe Church ministry of the CRC invites congregations to imagine a more holistic approach to nurturing a safe and healthy church community where abuse itself becomes unthinkable and where survivors feel supported and safe. Please help this valuable ministry that empowers all CRCs by giving now at their website: [crcna.org/SafeChurch/Donate](http://crcna.org/SafeChurch/Donate)

### ReFrame Ministries

**Groundwork: You Shall Not Steal** - Stealing of any kind reveals a lack of trust in God’s provision. Join Groundwork as we study Exodus 20:15 and dig into scriptures that help us better understand the damage stealing causes in our relationships and what attitudes of the heart we can cultivate to help curb any temptation to steal something for our own benefit. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

**Groundwork: You Shall Not Give False Testimony** - Twisting someone’s words or leaving out vital information that skews the truth, and keeping silent when we should speak up can be just as damaging to another person as a lie. Join Groundwork as we study Exodus 20:16, and other scriptures to learn more about what it means to bear false testimony or witness and the importance of truth. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

**Groundwork: You Shall Not Covet** - The desire to possess what God gave someone else reveals insufficient trust that God provides enough. Join our Groundwork conversation as we study Exodus 20:17 so that we understand the spiritual and relational implications of coveting and learn how we can combat covetousness and enhance gratitude in our lives. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

**Family Fire** - is an online community exploring Spirit-led family, marriage, parenting, in-laws, blended families, and intimacy. Find encouraging articles and devotions at [familyfire.com](http://familyfire.com). Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.

**Spending Time with Jesus** - Check out this week's kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). If you were going to spend time with Jesus, what would you want to do? Would you play with him? Would you ask him questions and talk about stuff? Listen now at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) and subscribe to KC's weekly emails for all the new content.

**Zacchaeus and Jesus** - Check out this week's kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). How would you describe the character of Zacchaeus from the Bible story? Which words would you choose: wealthy, curious, or a man of faith? Listen now at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) and subscribe to KC's weekly emails for all the new content.

**The Lord's Prayer** - Check out this week's kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Jesus taught his disciples how to pray. This week's devotion looks at what Jesus taught them. Listen now at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) and subscribe to KC's weekly emails for all the new content.

**How Do You Pray?** - Check out this week's kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). When you pray to God, what do you say to him? In Matthew 6:9-13, Jesus said to his disciples, "You should pray like this..." Listen now at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) and subscribe to KC's weekly emails for all the new content.

**Stoking the Spirit in Your Marriage** - Family Fire is proud to share a series of videos on improving your marriage, titled, "Stoking the Spirit in Your Marriage." Based on their long-running series of in-person marriage seminars, Pastors Deb & Steven Koster discuss skills and fundamentals everyone can use in their marriages. Get the series in 13 installments right in your inbox with your free subscription to Family Fire. Visit [familyfire.com/stokingmarriage](http://familyfire.com/stokingmarriage)

**Disability Concerns October Learning Series** - Disability Concerns Ministry is excited to share our newest resource with you: Everybody Belongs, Serving Together ([www.faithward.org/everybody-belongs-serving-together/](http://www.faithward.org/everybody-belongs-serving-together/)). Join us this October, every Thursday evening at 8pm (EST) as we dive into this resource, inviting leaders in our community to speak on topics covered in this handbook. Visit our website to find out more and to register for this series: [bit.ly/dcc2021series](http://bit.ly/dcc2021series) (Hosted by Disability Concerns Canada)

Resonate Global Mission

**Check Out Go Local** - Are you interested in learning more about connecting with your neighbors and living your faith outside of the four walls of your home or church? Resonate Global Mission's Go Local cohorts equip believers with postures and practices for joining God on mission in our neighborhoods. Want to get a feel for what Go Local is all about? Resonate ministry leaders are offering two Go Local: Preview experiences on Wednesday, September 29 from 1-2:30 PM ET and 8-9:30 PM ET. Learn more and register at [www.resonateglobalmission.org/preview](http://www.resonateglobalmission.org/preview)

**Join a Go Local Cohort!** - Resonate Global Mission ministry leaders are starting new Go Local: Essentials cohorts at the end of September and beginning of October. Go Local cohorts equip believers with postures and practices for joining God at work outside of the four walls of a church building. Go Local cohorts are available for individuals, churches, and pastors and church staff. Learn more and find a cohort that works with your schedule at [www.resonateglobalmission.org/essentials](http://www.resonateglobalmission.org/essentials)

**Diaconal Coaches Needed** - Diaconal Ministries Canada's network of Diaconal Coaches is one of our most valuable tools to inspire and equip deacons across Canada. We are currently looking for a few coaches to add to our amazing team, specifically in Classis Niagara, Lake Superior (Winnipeg area), Ontario Southwest (formerly Chatham) and Eastern Canada (Eastern Ontario). A Diaconal Coach serves as an equipper and encourager for local diaconates. Coaches do this by holding workshops and training events, by providing relevant resources, and by connecting deacons and churches to local organizations. Coaches receive a modest remuneration and an expense budget. Want to learn more? Email [dmc@crcna.org](mailto:dmc@crcna.org) or visit our website for more information: [diaconalministries.com/diaconal-coaches/](http://diaconalministries.com/diaconal-coaches/)

## Race Relations

**All Nations Heritage Sunday - October 3** - Next week is All Nations Heritage Sunday and we'll celebrate the multicultural church of Christ. Consider giving now to the All Nations Heritage Scholarship Fund that provides financial assistance for students of various ethnic minorities attending universities affiliated with the CRC. Check out the website: [crcna.org/AllNations](http://crcna.org/AllNations)

## World Renew

**You Can Share Hope with Vulnerable Families this Thanksgiving** - In two weeks, let us join World Renew as they give thanks for God's love and abundance. Learn how, through the Free a Family® program, vulnerable families are remaining hopeful through the challenges of COVID-19. Discover how through our gifts we can help families get training in small business management to grow their income or learn about climate-adaptive farming practices so their crops yield more. For more information go to: [www.worldrenew.ca/free-a-family](http://www.worldrenew.ca/free-a-family)

**Join World Renew in Extending God's Love to Vulnerable Families** - Next week we celebrate Thanksgiving and give thanks to God for his bounty; let us give thanks too for our brothers and sisters in Christ who through God's grace are journeying away from hunger and poverty. We will join World Renew and learn how the Free a Family® program has helped a single mother to stay positive and continue to trust in God's abundance through the challenges of COVID-19. For more information go to: [www.worldrenew.ca/free-a-family](http://www.worldrenew.ca/free-a-family)

**Happy Thanksgiving from World Renew!** - Happy Thanksgiving! God calls us to care for the vulnerable and Thanksgiving is the perfect time to share God's love with men, women, and children struggling with poverty. Through the Free a Family® program, World Renew equips families with the tools and training to overcome poverty for the long term. To donate, call 1-888-WRLD-RNW or go online to: [www.worldrenew.ca/free-a-family](http://www.worldrenew.ca/free-a-family)

**A Heartfelt Thank You from World Renew** - Thank you for your Thanksgiving gifts! World Renew believes strong families help build strong communities and through your gifts to the Free a Family® program you are helping families to discover their God-given strengths and resources so they can journey to food security and income stability and break cycles of poverty for generations to come. If you would like to learn more about how World Renew is answering God's call for justice and mercy, please visit: [www.worldrenew.ca](http://www.worldrenew.ca)

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## **Good Morning Dear Coffee Break and Ministry Leaders,**

I'm just sending a quick reminder of some details coming up. Please RSVP soon, if you'd like to join us!

- 1. Canadian Leaders Connect: Monday, Sept., 27th (New Date) 1:00pm - 2:30pm** (Eastern Time) - Join an online zoom meeting for all Canadian Coffee Break and Small Group/Bible Study Leaders. I'll start us off with devotions and sharing some new ministry events and ideas. We'll hear from each other as well, so come and share your best ideas or your most challenging questions. **Please RSVP to be added to the zoom list.**
- 2. Online Bible Study - Revelation 1-3 ( 8 sessions) (New Resource):** Thursdays, 1:00pm - 2:30pm (Eastern Time) **beginning Sept. 30th.** If you don't currently have a Bible study, or if you want to learn more about how to lead a group (on or off zoom), please join us for this Canada Wide online Bible Study. You **must register here:** <https://forms.gle/df6nATZToTS8tKmQ7>
- 3.** We've had to cancel the workshop for **Engaging Spiritual Conversations.** We'll offer it again in January.
- 4. Zoom Workshop: (New) This Thursday, Sept. 23rd, at 1:30pm,**(Eastern Time) Join with others to learn how to use Zoom effectively for Bible Study! We'll touch base on the specifics of Zoom, and demonstrate how to use it, and give some tips for leading a group well on Zoom. **Please RSVP to be added to the zoom list.**

Please let me know if you have any questions. I hope to see you at one of these events in the next week!

Blessings,

Marian Lensink