

Nobleford Christian Reformed Church newsletter ~ Jan 15 , 2022

The students of Immanuel Christian Schools would like to thank you for your recent donation toward Christian education in southern Alberta. The mission of Immanuel Christian Schools is to provide a Christian environment in which God calls all His children to develop and use their gifts for joyful service in His Kingdom. With the help of gifts from supporting churches, we are able to fulfill our mission.

Thanks again!

In His Service, Scott Van't Land, Board Chair



It is pizza time again! Immanuel Christian Elementary School (ICES) is running our second annual school fundraiser with Little Caesars Pizza. We are selling pizza kits, bread stick kits, and cookie dough. This is a great fundraiser for our school as \$6.00 from each kit sold comes back to fund school related activities.

HOW TO ORDER:

<http://www.pizzakit.ca/fundraising-products?shop=1...>

OR

Go to www.pizzakit.ca

Click on Products then Shop

Select "Purchase & Support a Local Fundraiser"

Fundraiser ID: 39018

Kindergarten Registration opens January 17, 2022. Expression of Interest for our Early Education Program starts January 24 for returning families and February 7 for new families.

As an alternative program of the Lethbridge School Division, Immanuel Christian Elementary School provides a unique program as the faith-based foundation paired with the Alberta Program of Studies supports opportunity for students to grow and learn through the lens of the Christian worldview.

Immanuel Christian Elementary School offers full day Kindergarten in two different classes: Tuesday and Thursday, or Monday and Wednesday (and some Fridays). On the registration form, please indicate your preference. Preference for days will be given on a first applied - first served basis. There is busing available for Kindergarten students.

To apply and find out more information regarding our Kindergarten and EEP programs please visit the Society Website: <https://www.societyforchristianeducation.org>

If you have any other questions about Kindergarten or Early Education registration, please contact the office at Immanuel Christian Elementary School at (403) 317-7860.

RESPONDING TO THE HUMAN SEXUALITY REPORT: PANEL DISCUSSION

Classis Alberta South and Saskatchewan is hosting a special event intended to help members of our churches faithfully respond to the Human Sexuality Report - particularly the part pertaining to same-sex marriage and confessional status. We will have four pastors presenting three different positions. One pastor will hold the traditional perspective on same-sex marriage AND desire confessional status; two pastors (co-presenting) will hold the traditional position BUT NOT see the wisdom in confessional status, and a third pastor will disagree with the HSR's biblical theology and affirm same-sex marriage. Each pastor will be engaging the HSR with their own Biblical and Theological work. Our hope is that these pastors could demonstrate how to have a respectful, yet challenging, conversation. There will be a requirement to show proof of vaccination to be able to attend the meeting in person.

WHERE: Riverpark Church, 3818-14A Street SW

WHEN: January 22, 10am-12pm, with lunch to follow (lunch will be provided)

Zoom option available: for those wishing to attend via zoom,

To access the Zoom Room, just click on the following link: <https://zoom.us/j/93263845495>.

By Phone: Calgary is 1-587-328-1099

Meeting ID: 932 6384 5495

If you need a phone number outside of Calgary: Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/93263845495>

Background: The HSR is a document that will be discussed at Synod this summer, anticipating a decision that will have deep implications for how church hold differing beliefs on same-sex marriage (among other matters). Synod has encouraged churches to digest the contents of the HSR, and to dialogue with one another. At the Classis level, we started dialogue last March 2021 with some listening circles, hearing from Rev. Mary-Lee Bouma and Rev. Kathy Smith regarding some of our questions, and introducing delegates to the Challenging Conversations Toolkit (provided by the Office of Pastor Church Resources specifically for the HSR). While some of our delegates (at the Classis meeting) deeply appreciated the opportunity to finally start listening to one another, others who responded to our March 2021 Classis Survey were hoping for deeper engagement with the report itself, particularly its biblical theology of human sexuality. To this end, we especially request that the delegates to the March Classis attend this panel discussion

Thank you all for your end of year donation to the Ministry to Seafarers of \$838.85. We so appreciate your thoughtfulness, and your partnership in this Ministry. As we enter this new year with reduced funding from the Classes, donations like yours will be all the more essential for our ongoing operations.

I'm just completing the yearend report, which will be sent out shortly to the various classes. You should see the report in the next classis agenda, which will give a clearer picture of what happened through the past year. Suffice to say that it has been an up and down year, and presently with the omicron variant raging, restrictions for seafarers are once again becoming more stringent. Hopefully this season will pass quickly. Through it all the seafarers carry on - and they have been very happy to receive the Christmas gifts that we are still giving out.

Warm regards to you all, and thanks again for all your thoughts and prayers. Blessings,

Rev. Gary Roosma
Ministry to Seafarers Vancouver
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Vancouver, BC V6A 4G9
604-253-4421

Nobleford Christian Reformed Church

newsletter ~ Jan 8, 2022

From the Interfaith Foodbank: Please share the attached job opportunities as widely as possible. We have 2 great options for anyone interested in working with Interfaith Food Bank. Re:Fund Development and Donor Relations Supervisor Position and Driver and Operational Support Position Description



Thinking it's time for a more leisurely lifestyle? No snow shovelling, no lawn care, no utility bills, no grocery shopping and cooking. The choice is clear...**Elim Village**, a Christian retirement lodge, has several different suites available for immediate occupancy. Month to month rental is available as well as the option for a Life Lease. For further information or to book your personal tour, please call Mary at 403-715-1929.

***The Elim Society is in receipt of your donation cheque in the amount of \$800.00.** We are very humbled and so grateful to our Heavenly Father for such strong supporters of the Elim Society for Seniors Care, who play a major role in our mission which is "to support the well-being of residents by providing safe, comfortable housing in a loving community guided by Christian principles and values." Once again, our sincere thanks*

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. While you're there, you can sign up to receive The Banner print magazine straight to your door as well! TheBanner.org/signup

Show the World - Check out the new kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Have you ever grumbled? Say the word "grumble" a couple of times. Most likely, it will make your eyebrows crease and your mouth turn to a frown. In Philippians 2, Paul wrote to a church telling them to do everything without grumbling or arguing. How do we do that? Listen now at kidscorner.net and check out all the new content.

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. Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.

Word Power: MLK Day - Check out the new kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Did you know words have power? Your words. Your neighbor's words. Everybody's! Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. knew that. He used his word power to help people see each other as equals, no matter their skin color. Listen now at kidscorner.net and check out all the new content.

God's Global Community - Check out the new kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Did you know that God made every person on earth? And that no two of us are the same? God created an incredible global community, and you are a part of it. Listen now at kidscorner.net and check out all the new content.

Groundwork: Life and Reconciliation in Christ - Injustice and sin are rampant in humanity. But the Apostle Paul seeks to energize our faith when everything around us says we should be discouraged. Join our Groundwork conversation as we study Ephesians 2 to hear Paul's assurance that, in Jesus Christ, God's grace is abundant and we find justice, reconciliation, and belonging in God's family. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Faith Practices Reflection Tip - Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Engaging Scripture: Read Deuteronomy 11:18-20 and ponder or discuss the following questions. This passage envisions a community that is shaped and guided by God's Word—one in which God's people keep God's Word continually in front of themselves and pass it on to others. How do the Christian communities you are a part of (such as family, friends, church, other groups) live out God's commands in this passage? (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject)

Faith Practice Reflection Tip - Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Engaging Scripture: Read Isaiah 55:10-11 and ponder or discuss the following questions. The verses right before this passage are about forgiveness of sins, and the verses right after are about the joy of having the curse of sin lifted. How does this passage give you hope, both for your own life and for the world? In what ways have you felt God's Word helping you and those around you “bud and flourish”? (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject)

Faith Practice Reflection Tip - Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Engaging Scripture: Read Luke 24:45-49 and ponder or discuss the following questions. Luke says, “He opened [the disciples'] minds so they could understand the Scriptures.” What do you think that revelation might have felt like to these friends of Jesus? What does it mean to be a “witness” to the truths of the gospel? How do you (or might you) do that in your everyday life? (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject)

January Series 2022 - Coming this January for the 35th year, Calvin University presents the January Series 2022 – the award winning free liberal arts education delivered in 15 weekly, lunchtime lectures. This year the series begins on January 10 and continues weekdays through January 28 from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. Viewing options include attending the live presentations on Calvin's campus, attending simulcast presentations at over 50 remote sites across the continent, or watching digitally on demand each day until midnight on your own device. For all the details visit www.calvin.edu/january

Advance Your Career with a Graduate MBA Certificate - Are you looking to gain skills and knowledge in 2022 to advance your career? Are you looking to position yourself for professional success? Are you considering a full MBA yet not sure if you have the time? Explore Calvin University's MBA Certificates designed just for you. Earn a graduate certificate completely online and on your schedule. Learn more at online.calvin.edu

Calvin Symposium on Worship - (January 31 – February 4, 2022) Join this livestream conference, with several in-person sessions, sponsored by the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship and the Center for Excellence in Preaching, located at Calvin University and Calvin Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Learn more at worship.calvin.edu/symposium/

Launch of Thriving Essentials - Thriving Essentials is a new course for elders, deacons, church staff, and any volunteer ministry leader. These four, one-hour sessions are offered on Zoom and cover key ideas about mission, discipleship, discernment, and leadership. New groups start every month. Learn more and register now at crcna.org/Thrive

Disaster Response for BC Flooding - On Nov. 14-15, vast areas of the lower Fraser River flooded; the rebuild will likely be measured in years. The Gateway CRC sprang into action right away to support flood victims, and also helped to form the Abbotsford Disaster Response Coalition. This group is partnering with World Renew's Disaster Response Services to make a long-term impact on flood-ravaged lives. Donations can be made to the work of this coalition through World Renew (send a cheque with Abbotsford Disaster Response Coalition in the memo line).