

# **Nobleford Christian Reformed Church**

**newsletter ~ March 5 , 2022**

## **Friends of Immanuel Dinner**

The Society Board invites you to the Friends of Immanuel Dinner Fundraiser, on Wednesday, March 16! A delicious pre-ordered dinner and dessert, virtual entertainment by our ICSS choir and band, and an online auction of themed baskets put together by our ICES students.

Help us in raising funds for general classroom and student experience modernization by ordering your dinner here: <https://friendsofimanueldinner.square.site/>

## **Early Education Program & Kindergarten Open House**

Choosing a school for your child(ren) is one of the biggest decisions you will make in your life. To make things easier and get all your questions answered, Immanuel Christian Schools is hosting an Open House on Tuesday, March 22, from 6:30-8:00 pm. Come meet and get to know our teachers, school administration, and society staff. We look forward to seeing you.

## **Early Education Program & Kindergarten Registration is now open!**

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. Visit our Society website <https://www.societyforchristianeducation.org/> to apply.

Expression of interest opened for our Early Education Program is also running. Parents may now register children for EEP if they are four years old by Dec. 31 of the school year they are entering.

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.

**CALLING ALL GIRLS!** For over 25 years, Wildrose GEMS Camp has been providing an awesome summer camp experience for girls in southern Alberta. We are excited to announce that plans are once again underway for GEMS Camp to be held August 22-26, 2022 at the Rehoboth facility on Gull Lake. Registration forms are now available from your GEMS counselor (registration deadline is May 1). Come and enjoy fun and fellowship, crafts, activities, great food, singing, campfire, worship, and sharing the love of Christ together. If you are *going into* grades 5 through 8 in the fall of 2022 and wish to have a great summer experience, this is for you! Girls entering grade 9 who wish to learn leadership skills and discover their gifts for serving at camp can register for our Transition Year. Girls entering grades 10 - 12 are eligible to register as a CIT (Counselor in Training). Interested in volunteering as a camp cook or cabin counselor? Questions? Contact Bonnie Bennik at 403-652-1078 or email [bbennik@gmail.com](mailto:bbennik@gmail.com).

**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)

**Seeing God's Story Everywhere** - Check out the new kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). What can you do to help yourself see Bible verses every day? Could you paint pictures about what you've read? The more ways you can look at Bible verses the easier it will be for you to have God's Word "on your hearts" (Deuteronomy 6:6). Listen now at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) and check out all the new content.

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**Groundwork: Why Jesus Had to Die on a Cross** - We begin the season of Lent by slowing down and remembering why Jesus Christ's awful death was necessary. Join Groundwork as we study Genesis 3:14-15, Romans 5:12-17, Isaiah 10:1-3, Habakkuk 1:2-4, and Jeremiah 31:31-34 to reflect on scriptures that answer the question: "Why did Jesus have to die on a cross?" Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

**Groundwork: The Curse of the Cross** - We were rightly cursed by God for our failure to keep his covenant. Join our Groundwork conversation as we study Deuteronomy 28:1-19, Deuteronomy 21:22-23, Galatians 3:10-14, 2 Corinthians 5:21, and Isaiah 53:4-11 to better understand the cursed nature of the cross and discuss the implications of this curse and Jesus' death under it for our lives of faith today. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

**Groundwork: The Shame of the Cross** - As we seek to comprehend the fullness of Jesus' sacrifice, we need to revisit the shame of the cross. Join Groundwork as we study Isaiah 53:1-3, Philippians 2:5-8, Genesis 2:25, Genesis 3:7-10, Hebrews 12:1-3, and 1 Peter 2:4-6 to examine the relationship between sin and shame and unpack why Jesus' experience of shame was necessary for our salvation. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

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**At-home Faith Practice Reflection Tip** - Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Listening: Read Isaiah 55:3,10-11 and ponder or discuss the following questions. In what ways does God speak to God's people today? List as many as you can. (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit [bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject](http://bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject))

**At-home Faith Practice Reflection Tip** - Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Listening: Read Psalm 116:1-2 and ponder or discuss the following questions. Do you truly believe—with your heart as well as your head—that God listens to you? How, when, and where do you speak to and listen to God? How might you increasingly become someone who "inclines your ear" to others? (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit [bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject](http://bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject))

**New resource from Faith Formation Ministries!** - Faith Practices is an entry-level introduction to some of the practical "spiritual disciplines" that Christians throughout the centuries have used to draw closer to God. This booklet is a great starting place for individuals or small groups who would like to become more aware of and sensitive to God's voice in their everyday lives. Included are resources (such as lectio divina passages, journaling prompts, and creative action ideas) for exploring twelve faith practices. Visit [crcna.org/faithformation](http://crcna.org/faithformation) to learn more!

**Through Your Gifts You Can Help Change the Story of Global Hunger!** - Globally, an estimated 14 million children under the age of five suffer from acute malnutrition. No child should have to go hungry. No parent should have to watch their child waste away due to chronic hunger. As a member of Canadian Foodgrains Bank, World Renew responds to the food needs of families around the world who have been impacted by conflict, disaster, and food insecurity. Next week, let's join World Renew to learn how through our gifts we can help change the story of global hunger. Your gifts will be matched up to 4X by Canadian Foodgrains Bank. For more information go to: [worldrenew.ca/food](http://worldrenew.ca/food)

**Please join World Renew for Canadian Foodgrains Bank Sunday** - In 2020, conflict was the primary driver of hunger for over 99 million people in 23 countries. As a member of Canadian Foodgrains Bank, World Renew responds to the food needs of people around the world who have been impacted by conflict, disaster, and food insecurity, and works to find long-term solutions to end global hunger. Through your gifts today you can share hope with people around the world struggling with hunger. Your gifts will be matched up to 4X by Canadian Foodgrains Bank. To donate, call 1-888-WRLD-RNW or go online to: [worldrenew.ca/food](http://worldrenew.ca/food)

**A Heart-felt Thank You from World Renew** - Thank you for your generosity and for joining World Renew and Canadian Foodgrains Bank's mission to end global hunger. Through the gift of food you share hope with children, women, and men around the world struggling with food insecurity. If you would like to learn more about how World Renew is answering God's call for justice and mercy, please visit: [worldrenew.ca](http://worldrenew.ca)

**NewGround (formerly Operation Manna)** - NewGround has been a program of Diaconal Ministries Canada for over 40 years! Some may remember NewGround by its former name: Operation Manna. Operation Manna (OM) started as a food and aid program in Korea, led by World Renew (then CRWRC) in the 1960's. This international partnership spread to other countries and as it grew, the recipients of the annual OM offering also began to vary. In 2001, Diaconal Ministries carried on with the program which was primarily focusing on equipping churches in local ministry in Canada. To better reflect the mission and mandate of the program, and to expand its reach, in 2018 Operation Manna became NewGround. NewGround continues to offer financial assistance, coaching and resources to churches and ministries to help them flourish and grow God's Kingdom in new and exciting ways! Find out more on our website today: [diaconalministries.com/newground/](http://diaconalministries.com/newground/)

**Job Opportunity - Research Consultant** - Over the past months, Diaconal Ministries Canada, along with World Renew Canada, have leaned into the understanding that doing natural disaster and crisis response work in Canada is quite different from doing this work in the US and in other parts of the world. As disasters continue to present themselves in our nation, Diaconal Ministries is looking to hire a Disaster/Crisis Response Research Consultant who will research and write a "best practices report" and present this report to our team and World Renew Disaster Response Services (DRS). This will help our agencies decide on how best to move forward with this vital work here in Canada. This position is a Short-Term Contract Position (10 weeks @ 20 hours/week). Start Date: TBD. For the full job description, visit our website: [diaconalministries.com/our-team/careers-opportunities/](http://diaconalministries.com/our-team/careers-opportunities/). Please direct any questions or inquiries to Ron Vanden Brink, National Director for Diaconal Ministries: [rvandenbrink@crcna.org](mailto:rvandenbrink@crcna.org).

**Scriptoria: An Interfaith Writing Workshop** - Morning workshops. Afternoon instruction. One-on-ones with editors. Deep faith conversations. Think boot camp for your writing—whether it's fiction, nonfiction, or poetry—on June 20-24, 2022, in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Scriptoria: An Interfaith Writing Workshop with Gary Schmidt, Hugh Cook, Patrice Gopo, L.S. Klatt, Robert Hudson, Nikki Grimes, Vinita Hampton Wright, and more. Visit [scriptoriaworkshop.org](http://scriptoriaworkshop.org)

**Paul's Missionary Journeys in Turkey & the Seven Churches of Revelation** - (May 23 – June 4, 2022) Visit ancient sites connected with Paul's First, Second, and Third Missionary Journeys as well as the seven churches to whom John wrote the Book of Revelation. Join Jeff Weima, professor at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading biblical scholar, for this inspirational biblical tour. Contact Dr. Weima at 616-328-3110 or [weimje@calvinseminary.edu](mailto:weimje@calvinseminary.edu).

# Nobleford Christian Reformed Church

newsletter ~ March 18 , 2022

## Summit Reformed Youth Conference 2022 Update:

**Registration is now open for the Aug. 1-5, 2022 "Go & Tell" Conference.** The Conference theme focuses on the 'Great Commission' of our Lord in Matthew 28. We have a great line-up of speakers and Break-Out Session topics!

This year, Summit will be hosted on the campus of Olds College, in Olds, AB. We will have more space, cafeteria style meals, BBQ supper on Thursday night, etc. You don't want to miss it! Check-out the new Summit website (the Media page contains photos and videos from last year) and register at [www.summitrefcon.ca](http://www.summitrefcon.ca). Early-bird registration ends April 30th. Registration closes June 20 or when we reach 395 people.

The Lethbridge Pregnancy Care Centre invites you to join them for an Open House Saturday, April 2, 11-3pm. Drop in, meet the staff, and tour the Centre, including our new classroom.

Visitors will have an opportunity to sponsor furnishings for the newly renovated space and enjoy light refreshments.



Here is a link to our Facebook Event which can be shared on Social Media - <https://fb.me/e/2lx3KTuq8>

**BE COURAGEOUS!!!** That's the theme for Rehoboth Camp Ministry this summer, which is so fitting after 2 years without Camp! RCM provides a one-week camp experience for persons with developmental disabilities and is a life-changing week for campers and volunteers. Come and be a special friend to someone with a developmental disability and show them the love of Christ, and at the same time enjoy our beautiful camp facility. We are looking for counsellors for the following weeks:

R&R (a more relaxed week from June 26 – July 1), Adult 1 (July 2-8), Adult 2 (July 9-15), Independent (July 16-22), and Youth (July 23-29). Right now we really need nurses/LPNs at most of our weeks and a cooking crew for Independent Week.

Check out our website at [www.rcmflourish.ca/camps](http://www.rcmflourish.ca/camps) for descriptions of the weeks and more information. Anyone age 14 and up is welcome to apply. No experience is necessary and full training and support is provided. Bring a friend! For more information, please e-mail [camp@rcmflourish.ca](mailto:camp@rcmflourish.ca). With your help we can flourish in the land. See you at camp!

**The Annual Banner Appeal is underway!** - The 2022 appeal for The Banner, the CRC's award-winning monthly magazine, has started. The Banner is delivered free in print and online, and this annual donation appeal makes it possible. To help keep this community conversation going please give online now at: [TheBanner.org/Give](http://TheBanner.org/Give)

**Seeing God's Story Everywhere** - Check out the new kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). What can you do to help yourself see Bible verses every day? Could you paint pictures about what you've read? The more ways you can look at Bible verses the easier it will be for you to have God's Word "on your hearts" (Deuteronomy 6:6). Listen now at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) and check out all the new content.

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**Jesus' Palm Sunday** - Check out the new kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Jesus' humble entry into Jerusalem shows that though you are small, you are important to God. In God's kingdom, it doesn't matter how much money you have, or how smart you are, or how important you look to others. Listen now at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net) and check out all the new content.

**Resurrection People** - Check out the new kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Early on a Sunday morning, Mary Magdalene felt very sad; in fact, she felt hopeless. Her teacher and friend had been crucified on Friday, and now, mysteriously, his tomb was empty. Read what happens next! Listen now at [kidscorner.net](http://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](http://familyfire.com). Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.

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**You Can Help Open Doors to Welcome Refugee Families** - Around the world there are over 26 million refugees. They are children, women and men who have fled conflict, persecution, or disaster in search of safety. In two weeks, join World Renew in celebrating sponsors who helped open doors to welcome refugees to Canada. Discover how, through your gift to World Renew's Refugee Sponsorship and Resettlement Program or through sponsorship, we can together support refugees as they rebuild their lives here in Canada. For more information go to: [worldrenew.ca/refugeesunday](http://worldrenew.ca/refugeesunday)

**Join World Renew in Extending God's Love to Refugees** - Since 1979, Christian Reformed Churches across Canada have welcomed over 10,500 refugees through the World Renew Refugee Sponsorship and Resettlement program. Next week, Refugee Sunday, discover how during the sponsorship process one community came together and found reward in extending God's love to welcome a family from Eritrea. Through your gift in support of the program, we can help extend God's love to welcome more refugees seeking safety and a new start in Canada. For more information go to: [worldrenew.ca/refugeesunday](http://worldrenew.ca/refugeesunday)

**Deliver Hope to Refugee Families with Today's Offering** - Today is Refugee Sunday. Every day conflict, persecution, and natural disasters force families to flee their homelands in search of safety. Many will face the darkness of rejection and disappointment in their search. Through your gift to the World Renew Refugee Sponsorship and Resettlement Program, you help extend God's love and hope to refugee families as they journey to rebuild their lives here in Canada. To donate, call 1-888-WRLD-RNW or go online to: [worldrenew.ca/refugeesunday](http://worldrenew.ca/refugeesunday)

**Thank You from World Renew** - Thank you for extending God's love to our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world who have had to flee their homes because of conflict, persecution, or natural disaster. World Renew is grateful for your support that makes it possible for sponsorship groups to receive the support they need to assist refugee families to rebuild their lives in Canada. If you would like to learn more about how World Renew is answering God's call for justice and mercy in our world, please visit: [worldrenew.ca](http://worldrenew.ca)

**Join the Conversation "Rising Prices & Global Crises" with World Renew** - World Renew invites you to join the conversation "Rising Prices & Global Crises" on Wednesday, March 30th, at 2:00pm (Eastern). While the global spotlight is focused on the conflict in Ukraine you are invited to consider the more far-reaching impact of this conflict on food insecurity in the Global South. Ukraine and Russia are major suppliers of wheat, oil, and maize, as well as fertilizers used in agricultural production. The Russia-Ukraine conflict has fueled the rising cost of these commodities, putting severe strain on the already-struggling economies of developing countries in northern Africa, Asia, and the near east. Join the conversation to explore our interconnectedness and how human conflict can have global implications. To register, please visit this link: <https://bit.ly/3CPoeVH>

**Scriptoria: An Interfaith Writing Workshop** - Morning workshops. Afternoon instruction. One-on-ones with editors. Deep faith conversations. Think boot camp for your writing—whether it's fiction, nonfiction, or poetry—on June 20-24, 2022, in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Scriptoria: An Interfaith Writing Workshop with Gary Schmidt, Hugh Cook, Patrice Gopo, L.S. Klatt, Robert Hudson, Nikki Grimes, Vinita Hampton Wright, and more. Visit [scriptoriaworkshop.org](http://scriptoriaworkshop.org)

**At-home Faith Practices Reflection Tip** - Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Listening: Read Psalm 19:1-4 and ponder or discuss the following questions. How does God's creation "pour forth speech" about God? How might we become better listeners to the testimony of God's creation? How can each of us use our gifts and talents to help God's creation flourish? (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit [bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject](http://bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject))

**At-Home Faith Practices Reflection Tip** - Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Celebrating: Read Psalm 103:1-5 and ponder or discuss the following questions. When you look at your "inmost being," how often do you find yourself in "celebration mode"? What might you do to celebrate every day? Can you picture yourself "crowned with love and compassion"? Try that during your next prayer time. (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit [bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject](http://bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject))

**At-home Faith Practices Reflection Tip** - Reflection and Discussion Starter—the Practice of Celebrating: Read John 2:1-11 and ponder or discuss the following questions. Can you picture Jesus celebrating and being joyful just as easily as you can picture Jesus preaching and being serious? Why or why not? How might we invite Jesus to be at the center of significant celebrations today? (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit [bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject](http://bit.ly/FaithPracticesProject))

**Resonate Match Campaign: Double Your Impact** - Resonate Global Mission has a great opportunity for your giving to God's mission through the Christian Reformed Church! April 1-30, any amount you give for our special campaign will be matched, dollar for dollar, by a generous donor! Learn more at [www.resonateglobalmission.org/MatchMyGift](http://www.resonateglobalmission.org/MatchMyGift)

**Give to Resonate Now and Double Your Impact** - Don't miss out on an opportunity to double your gift to God's mission! Your gift will be matched dollar for dollar when you give to our special campaign at [www.resonateglobalmission.org/MatchMyGift](http://www.resonateglobalmission.org/MatchMyGift). The work of God's mission has changed a lot in the past 2 years but you can help the CRC respond and adapt through Resonate Global Mission.

**Spread the Gospel. Double Your Gift.** - Resonate Global Mission is working to help your church spread the gospel in your community. You can help provide hope and transform lives—and double your gift—by giving to our special campaign at [www.resonateglobalmission.org/MatchMyGift](http://www.resonateglobalmission.org/MatchMyGift). Any amount you give will be matched dollar for dollar!

**March 2022 Safe Church Webinar: Assessing Risk** - The Safe Church theme for this year is Safe Church Basics: Five Steps to a Safer Church. Join us March 23rd at 12pm Eastern for our first webinar: Assessing Risk. This webinar will feature a panel discussing abuse scenarios that have impacted Christian Reformed Church communities throughout North America. We will hear from a panel who will engage with these scenarios and then introduce a new tool from Safe Church called the Safe Church Assessment which is designed to assess risk and help determine how your church can do better in preventing abuse. register here: <https://bit.ly/scassessrisk>

**Come and Be Inspired** - We can all use some inspiration and togetherness. Registration is now open for Inspire 2022! Gather with us in the Chicago area on August 4-6 for a time of worship, learning, and fellowship. Register now to get the early bird rate; bring a group of more than 5 from the same church and get a further \$15 off! Full refunds are available until June 30; after that, you can transfer the registration within your church. Learn more and sign up at [crcna.org/inspire](http://crcna.org/inspire)

**Are Food Banks Really Working?** - Many congregations are involved in tackling food insecurity in their community, whether that's a food pantry, community fridge, or community garden. It's one tangible way of showing God's love and mercy to others. But how are these efforts impacting our community and actually solving the problem? Are food banks really working? If your church or diaconate would like to wrestle with hard questions and learn about innovative and dignified approaches to understand more fully how churches can move from charity to dignity and justice, then visit Diaconal Ministries' website for more resources! [diaconalministries.com/mercy-justice/#food-insecurity-poverty](http://diaconalministries.com/mercy-justice/#food-insecurity-poverty)

**Job Opportunity - Research Consultant** - As natural disasters continue to present themselves in our nation, Diaconal Ministries is looking to hire a Disaster/Crisis Response Research Consultant who will research and write a "best practices report" and present this report to our team and World Renew Disaster Response Services (DRS). This will help our agencies decide on how best to move forward with this vital work here in Canada. This position is a Short-Term Contract Position (10 weeks @ 20 hours/week). Start Date: TBD. For the full job description, visit our website: [diaconalministries.com/our-team/careers-opportunities/](http://diaconalministries.com/our-team/careers-opportunities/). Please direct any questions or inquiries to Ron Vanden Brink, National Director for Diaconal Ministries: [rvandenbrink@crcna.org](mailto:rvandenbrink@crcna.org). APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 21, 2022.



*The Ladies Auxilliary is offering you the opportunity to support our school by purchasing Hilltop Greenhouse gift cards! From APRIL 1-15, you can purchase gift cards in \$25, \$50 and \$100 denominations.*

*These make an excellent gift for Mother's Day, birthdays or any occasion!*



**20%** *of all orders goes back to the school!*

*Click the link below to place your order. Orders are open from April 1-15. After April 15, we will email you to confirm your order, give details about paying for the cards via etransfer and give a date when the cards can be picked up.*

[CLICK HERE TO PLACE YOUR ORDER](#)



***Never been to Hilltop?*** *They are located a short 20 minute drive west from Lethbridge, south of Monarch. They specialize in beautiful hanging baskets Check out their [Webpage](#) & [Facebook](#)*