

Nobleford Christian Reformed Church

newsletter ~ **SEPTEMBER 23, 2022**

Hello Community Partners!

With increased demand for emergency food services, Interfaith Food Bank is in urgent need of volunteers. We have several openings for morning and afternoon shifts Monday – Friday and could really use some help as soon as possible. Those interested in volunteering should connect with Bill at volunteer@interfaithfoodbank.ca or by calling 403-320-8779.

At-home Faith Formation Tip - At-home Faith Formation Tip: What faith practices shape your life and the lives of the people who share your home? “It’s easy for us to think that we create our habits, but our habits also create us. The faith-forming things that we do together deeply affect the way we think and act. Because of this, consistently committing to your faith practices as a family has a significant impact.” —from Dear Parent: A Guide for Family Faith Formation, by Laura Keeley and Robert J. Keeley, available at FaithAliveResources.org. (Tip from CRCNA Faith Formation; crcna.org/FaithFormation)

Learn to Build Faith At Your Church Through Storytelling - In the Bible, God often uses stories to tell us who God is. We are part of his story and it’s important for us to see our story in his story. Help your church build relationships between generations, see how God is working in the faith of God’s people, and more. Join us for the Sharing Stories to Build Faith cohort this fall. crcna.org/FaithFormation/cohorts

At-home Faith Formation Tip - Thankfulness is an important faith practice. Each day between now and Thanksgiving, notice the things in your life that you can give thanks for. Write those things on slips of paper and collect them in a jar or box to read during your Thanksgiving celebration. Also visit tinyurl.com/ThanksPsalms for some beautiful Psalm printables you can use to decorate your Thanksgiving table. (Tip from Faith Formation; bit.ly/CRCFaithFormation)

At-home Faith Formation Tip - Everyday Family Faith is a pocket-sized resource for parents and caregivers who want to weave faith into everyday family life in simple, natural ways. For each day of the week it provides fun, do-able ideas and activities for exploring small portions of Scripture, praying together, talking about God together, and living out faith. Check it out at FaithAliveResources.org. (Tip from Faith Formation; bit.ly/CRCFaithFormation)

At-home Faith Formation Tip - The Building Blocks of Faith are four statements that, when they become increasingly true for a person, indicate that his or her faith is growing -- I belong to Jesus and to his body, the church. I know and understand the story of God’s faithfulness, of which I am a part. I have hope, through Christ, in all of God’s promises. I am called to work in God’s kingdom, and I am equipped to do that work. -- What opportunities do the people in your household have to grow in each of these ways? For more on the Building Blocks, visit crcna.org/FaithFormation/toolkits/building-blocks-faith. (Tip from Faith Formation; bit.ly/CRCFaithFormation)

Tour the Biblical Lands of Israel - March 6 – March 17, 2023. Experience a refreshing renewal of your faith, and gain a deeper understanding of the Bible, as you tour the biblical lands with teaching host, Pastor Peter Tuininga, and Sindbad Tours of Israel. See many of the biblical places (Jerusalem, Galilee, Caesarea, Jericho, and much more), and gain spiritual and historical insights which will make the Bible come alive for you. For complete information, cost, and registration, go to toursofisrael.wordpress.com or call Peter Tuininga: 1 289 877 8433 or e-mail: peter.tuininga@gmail.com

Calvin University Inauguration - Calvin University will inaugurate its 12th president on Wednesday, Oct. 26, 2022. We invite you to join in person or watch online as we welcome Dr. Wiebe Boer and celebrate the legacy and future of Calvin. The ceremony will take place at 4:00pm Eastern in the Van Noord Arena (Calvin's campus, Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA). Watch calvin.edu/go/inauguration for information and events leading up to the Inauguration.

Scriptoria Writers' Workshop - The Scriptoria Writers' Workshop welcomes all writers to its 2023 incarnation, to be held at Calvin University on June 19-23, 2023. Come spend a week of writing workshops, craft classes, meetings with editors and agents, and lectures and readings from our guest writers: Leslie Leyland Fields, Maurice Manning, Vinita Hampton Wright, Patrice Gopo, and others. Visit www.scriptoriaworkshop.org/home or contact Gary D. Schmidt at schg@calvin.edu for more information.

Give Thanks and Share Hope on Thanksgiving Day - In two weeks, join World Renew and Free A Family® participants in giving thanks to God for the generosity that is helping families to journey away from hunger, poverty, and injustice. Through your gifts to the Free A Family® program you help share Christ's hope with families by providing training in climate-adaptive agriculture and income-generating activities, improving access to community health support, and teaching through the peace and justice curriculum to encourage self-learning and healing. For more information, go to: worldrenew.ca/free-a-family

Help Open Doors to Blessings for Vulnerable Families this Thanksgiving - Next week we celebrate Thanksgiving and one way to give thanks for all of God's blessings is to answer his call to care for the vulnerable. Through World Renew's Free A Family® program, Merlyn in Honduras, has benefitted from training in climate-smart agriculture, small business management, and more. She says, "God opened a door to blessings for my family! We are better physically, economically, and spiritually." Through our gifts and offerings to World Renew, we can help open doors to blessings for more families like Merlyn's. To learn more, visit: www.worldrenew.ca/free-a-family

Join World Renew in Giving Thanks with Today's Offering - Happy Thanksgiving! Through World Renew's Free A Family® program, Sandress and Loyce in Zambia joined a village savings and loans group which helped bless their family immensely. Sandress says, "Prior to 2018, we used to have one meal a day...We are now able to have three balanced meals every day." Thanks be to God! Please give generously to the Free A Family® program on Thanksgiving Day, to help families in communities where World Renew works around the world eat better, stay healthier, and overcome poverty for the long-term. To become a monthly donor, call 1-888-WRLD-RNW or go online to: worldrenew.ca/free-a-family

A Message of Gratitude from World Renew - Thank you for your Thanksgiving gifts! World Renew is so grateful for your church and the gifts to the Free A Family® program. Through your generosity you have shared Christ's hope with families struggling with poverty and hunger. Your gifts help families to thrive spiritually, physically, and economically. To learn more about how compassion like yours helps World Renew in our mission to pursue justice and mercy, please visit: worldrenew.ca

Position Opening: Visual Designer - The purpose of the Visual Designer is to ensure brand consistency across World Renew Canada and create visual communications that tell an accurate and compelling story of World Renew's work. For more information on this exciting opportunity and how to apply, please visit <https://worldrenew.net/careers>

Position Opening: Program Manager - Direct and Digital Marketing - This position is a vital part of World Renew's Canadian Marketing and Communications team. This position is responsible for leading the strategic direction of direct marketing. Develop, implement, and evaluate digital marketing and communications strategies so that World Renew's constituents are inspired, educated, and motivated to ever increasing levels of engagement and financial support of the vision and mission of the CORE team and World Renew. Both email and direct mail will be used for these appeals, segmenting the general donor base for targeted and timed appeals. For more information on this position, please visit <https://worldrenew.ca/careers>

Making Peace - Check out the kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. What if your mom or dad asked you to "Go make peace" instead of "Go say you're sorry"? Would that look different? Would you feel different? Listen now at kidscorner.net and check out all the new content.

Indispensable in God's Eyes - Check out the kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. God says something very important about those of us who are weak. He says we are indispensable. How can you make someone who is different from you feel indispensable today? Listen now at kidscorner.net and check out all the new content.

Who is Welcome - Check out the kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Our churches are homes too. They are a home for our church family, a place where we learn about and worship God. How can you help your church family members feel like they belong today? Listen now at kidscorner.net and check out all the new content.

Groundwork: Jesus Teaches about Entering God's Kingdom, False Prophets, and Strong Foundations - As we conclude our study of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, let's examine his warnings and encouragement for our faith. Join Groundwork as we study Matthew 7:13-29 to hear what Jesus says we should be ware of to keep our eyes and hearts rooted in him. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

All Nations Heritage Sunday - October 2 - 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

Today Is All Nations Heritage Sunday - On All Nations Heritage Sunday we celebrate the multicultural church of Christ. You can support ethnic minority leadership in the church by giving to the All Nations Heritage Scholarship Fund provided by the CRC Office of Race Relations. It provides financial assistance for students of various ethnic minorities who attend universities affiliated with the CRC. Please designate your offering today or give online at: crcna.org/Race/Give

New: Faith in Action Online Course - Advocacy matters! When we speak out, we reflect the biblical call to work towards a just world in which structures and institutions give all of creation the opportunity to thrive. This online course can help you talk with your elected officials about the issues you care about. Find it at learn.crcna.org

MINISTRY REPORT

SEPTEMBER 22, 2022



Preserving a Rich History

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:58 NIV

Bible League Canada is delighted to continue being one of the accredited nondenominational organizations with the Christian Reformed Church in North America. Being reviewed and approved by the annual synod builds our relationship and affirms our common mission to see lives transformed by the Living Word of God!

Established in 1960 by John & Jo Vanderboom, Bible League Canada has a long history of Scripture placement in Canada and internationally. Rev. John G. Klomps,

director in 1985, continued to expand and grow the ministry and was instrumental in the establishment of the Bibles for Mission Thrift Stores (see story page 2). 1997 saw Rev. David Tigchelaar as executive director, followed by Mr. Dick Kranendonk in 2006. Today, under the leadership of Dr. Paul Richardson, Bible League Canada continues the commitment to doing missions through extraordinary international partnerships in over 40 countries.

***Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits.* Psalm 103:2 NIV**

It's all about the Bible

Connecting Canadian donor champions like you with global champions to see maximum impact and multiplying transformation:

Local believers equipped through Bible-centric discipleship programs to become **champions for the Gospel**, are **reaching their own communities with the Living Word of God**.

Bible League Canada works with local believers to place the Bible—God's Word—through children's ministry programs, adult ministry and literacy classes, training to start new churches, and with persecuted Christians, all over the world.

The Results

The results are amazing. In 2021, despite closed borders, prohibitions against in-person gatherings, travel restrictions, and persecution, **ministry partners have remained strong in their trust in Jesus and in their commitment to ministry**.

Celebrate all that has been accomplished by God's grace and equipping. People have found hope in Jesus, churches have been started, Scriptures have been placed and communities have been transformed. See what the Lord has done, in 2021:

2,822,671 Total Scriptures Placed

48,764 Leaders, Teachers, Church Planters Trained

509,801 People in Programs

407,881 Evangelistic Contacts

302,008 New Followers of Jesus

70,125 People Baptized

5,741 New Churches Started

You made this possible...

Ana was invited to a Bible study by her neighbour. There she received a Bible, made possible through your support, and she began to read it. The Holy Spirit revealed many truths for her life. The leaders shared their testimonies about God working in their lives, which amazed Ana as she realized God had been working in her life, even when she didn't know Him personally!

Jesus became Ana's Lord and Saviour, giving her hope and a purpose.

Ana loves to talk about Jesus to others and eagerly shares the truth and comfort she finds in the Bible. She is currently in the training to start new churches, also made possible through your support. As she trains, she leads a Bible study group in her neighbourhood and through her training, hopes to develop it into a worship group. Lives are being transformed!

Because the world needs the Living Word of God more than anything else.



Save more than money!



Working together

In 1988, two Canadians, Ben deRegt and Morris Thalen, travelled to India with Rev. John G. Klomps, and experienced first-hand the spiritual poverty there. They went home convicted by the Holy Spirit that they needed to do something.

What started with these three people who chose to use what was in their hands and hearts for God's Kingdom work, has turned into 50+ thrift stores and 34 years of faithful and fruitful partnership between Bible League Canada and BFM Foundation (Canada) Mission Thrift Stores.

Turning Your Donated Goods into Bibles



This unique joint ministry relationship sees Mission Thrift Stores converting donated used goods into cash. 100% of their net revenue supports the joint ministry of BFM Foundation (Canada) and Bible League Canada. This continued partnership has

furthered the reach of the Gospel message of Jesus Christ in over 40 countries worldwide.

**Shop, donate, or volunteer today!
Visit MissionThriftStore.com**

What can YOU do?

Dear Friends,

Jesus' command in Matthew 28:19 is clear: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..." (NIV)

As you strive to carry out the great commission, let Bible League Canada be your hands and feet for missions. Your primary mission goal, to bring Jesus to your community, is the same as the local champions we partner with in their communities, but they need your support.

Local champions are waiting for Bibles and training. These volunteer teachers, leaders, and pastors are eager for the training that equips them to fulfill their calling to disciple children and adults in their neighbourhoods. Will you provide the Bibles and training?

- **To support the training for 1 local champion to start 1-2 churches during their 2 years of hands-on training is just \$2,300.**
- **Training a volunteer teacher to teach a 30-person adult Bible-based literacy class is just \$1,350.**
- **Equipping volunteer leader with Bibles and the necessary training for children's Bible Clubs and Camps is just \$20 per child.**
- **Carefully providing Bibles to persecuted Christians in countries where it is dangerous to be a Christian, is just \$5 a Bible.**

Your church —you— can go and make disciples TODAY.

In His Name,



Paul Richardson
President and CEO

For more information, or to request bulletin inserts or PPT slides for church offering information, please contact Rachel Janecek rjanecek@bibleleague.ca, 1-800-363-9673 or visit BibleLeague.ca