

Nobleford Christian Reformed Church

newsletter ~ April 7, 2023

WORLD RENEW

Join World Renew in Sharing Hope with People Impacted by Cyclone Freddy - In early February, Cyclone Freddy developed over the Indian Ocean and made landfall in southern Africa three times. Freddy, the longest-lasting and most-travelled tropical cyclone ever recorded, brought torrential rains and high winds that resulted in landslides and flooding that claimed hundreds of lives and caused widespread damage across Malawi, Mozambique, and Madagascar. World Renew has released emergency funds to provide blankets, food, and tarps to people who have lost homes and loved ones. You can help families impacted by this disaster. Please give online at worldrenew.ca/cyclonefreddy, call 1- 888-975-3769, or mail your cheque, made out to World Renew with "Tropical Cyclone Freddy" in the memo line, to: World Renew, 3475 Mainway, PO Box 5070 STN LCD 1, Burlington, Ontario, L7R 3Y8.

Summer Service Trips with World Renew DRS - Looking for ways to serve with your congregation or youth group this summer? Join World Renew DRS to repair homes after natural disasters all across the US and Canada! We have sites available in Washington, Kentucky, Florida, Michigan, North Carolina, and more! Contact Chris, our Groups Program Manager, at cgibson@worldrenew.net if interested or with questions.

RESONATE GLOBAL MISSION~ Double Your Impact

In more than 40 countries where your Resonate missionaries work, Christians are asking for your help. **They ask "How will we train our leaders?" and "How can we reach our neighbors?" and "How can we get our young people involved?"**

In response, a generous donor has put a challenge to you, in order to help answer the call. From now until April 30, any amount you give to the general fund will be matched dollar for dollar, up to \$175,000! Praise God! Take a minute right now to donate, **while your gift will go twice as far!**

Call 1-800-730-3490, or mail a cheque to 3475 Mainway, PO Box 5070 STN LCD1, Burlington, ON L7R 3Y8, or online at the website: www.resonateglobalmission.org/Double. Thank You!

Thank You For Participating in Refugee Sunday - As the injustices of conflict, war, and violence escalate around the world, worsening the refugee crisis, God's call to welcome strangers rings out loud and clear. World Renew is grateful for your generosity that makes it possible for sponsorship groups to receive support as they go through the sponsorship process—support from World Renew's Refugee Sponsorship and Resettlement team that helps ensure their applications are processed smoothly and in a timely way. You are part of the story of welcoming newcomers to Canada. Thank you! For more information, visit: worldrenew.ca/refugeesunday

Even More Resources for Exploring Faith Practices through Intergenerational Worship and Church Gatherings - Want to try something new (and easy) at your church this summer? Last year we released resources for planning worship services, series, or gatherings on particular faith practices with people of all ages. This year we've added resources for six more practices! Learn more at crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject

Family Fire - 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.

Kids Corner: Easter: A New Beginning - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. This week's devotion explores the story of the Women at the Tomb. They were friends of Jesus who experienced deep sorrow when he died, but became the first people to share the good news of Jesus' resurrection! Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net like the Bible story podcast "The Women at the Tomb."

Kids Corner: Wow! Creation - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Think back on your day yesterday. Make a list of God's creations you saw that brought you joy, and then thank God for them. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net like the Bible story podcast "The Creation Story."

Groundwork: The Anticipation of Holy Saturday and the Thrill of Easter Sunday - Holy Saturday is a day to reflect on Christ's death before celebrating his resurrection on Easter Sunday. Join our Groundwork as we study John 19:38-20:23, Luke 23:55-24:47, and Matthew 28:16-20 to discuss the events of these holy days and remember again the unexpected, mind-blowing thrill of our salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. Listen now at Groundworkonline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

NewGround (Diaconal Ministries Canada) - NewGround Sunday is May 7th! "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last!" (John 15:16a). To date, NewGround has helped over 100 churches in Canada do ministry in and with their communities. Perhaps YOUR church was one of them! Did you know that over 80% of these ministries are still going strong today? While these ministries might not be in your own city or town, we believe that the work of the Lord is being done and you are actively participating in growing God's Kingdom all across Canada! Your generous donations are helping churches bear fruit -- fruit that will last for years to come. To donate or to learn more about this program, visit diaconalministries.com/newground.

Churches Loving Communities - NewGround is a program of Diaconal Ministries that empowers churches to be courageous and creative with ministry opportunities in their communities. (Perhaps you remember it as Operation Manna!) Our partners are stretched across Canada and they are showing and sharing the love of Christ and growing God's Kingdom in beautiful ways! Sunday, May 7, is NewGround Sunday. Whether your church is holding an offering or not, please prayerfully consider how you can support other Canadian CRCs and ministries by giving generously to NewGround. Visit our website (diaconalministries.com/newground) or our Facebook page (@diaconalministries) for more information. Thank you for your ongoing support!

NewGround Sunday - It's NewGround Sunday next week! NewGround is a program of Diaconal Ministries that helps churches love their communities and the people in them. (Some may remember it as Operation Manna!) For the last 40 years, NewGround has helped over 100 churches establish or grow community ministries right in their own backyard - to grow deep roots into their cities and neighbourhoods. What sets this program apart is that it aims to create healthy, sustainable ministries that will be around for years to come. Will you help us help even more churches grow God's kingdom in new and exciting ways? Learn more about this program and donate today by visiting Diaconal Ministries Canada's website: diaconalministries.com/newground

NewGround Sunday - For over 40 years, NewGround has helped churches across Canada love their communities. And today, over 80% of the community ministries that were started or expanded are still going strong today! Listen to one story from Thunder Bay, Ontario: <https://vimeo.com/814360869>. Check out the poster hanging in your church, which has more information about NewGround and its expanded activities. Use the QR code on it to donate or visit Diaconal Ministries' website: diaconalministries.com/donate-now/. Because of your generous gifts, we can help even more churches love and bless their communities in the name of Jesus!

Please attend our Annual General Meeting on April 24th at 7pm here at Interfaith Food Bank. We will present our Annual Report on activities in 2022 and Audited Financial Statements for 2022. We are also proposing updates to our Bylaws that will include clarification on terms of membership, updates for electronic notice/virtual meetings, and updates to gender inclusive language.



Please RSVP if you'd like to join us by calling 403-320-8779 or via email info@interfaithfoodbank.ca. Meeting packages that include agenda, reports and proposed new Bylaws will be distributed in advance to attendees.