



WILLOWDALE WEEKLY

Willowdale Christian Reformed Church
70 Hilda Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M2M 1V5
Tel: 416-221-7829 / Deadline: **Thursdays at noon!**
willowdalecrc.com

May 5, 2019

Council Meeting Notes:

Council met on Wednesday, May 1, 2019.

For the first part of the meeting we met with Pastor Martin Vellekoop. Pastor Martin is a Specialized Transitional Minister but will not be working with Willowdale in that capacity. He is currently working with the Crossroads Community Church in Ajax, but circumstances there allow him some extra time to consult with other churches. He will be preaching in a four person rotation (more on that below) and will also be helping us with some workshops (see the Healthy Congregations announcement elsewhere in The Weekly), and some planning during this time without a pastor. To set expectations from the beginning, Pastor Martin will not be available to be called by Willowdale CRC.

Some of you may recall that the last time we were without a pastor, we had a three person rotation of preachers – Syd Hielema, Erick Schuringa and Brian Walsh. This time arrangements have been made for a rotation of four preachers – Cara DeHaan, Syd Hielema, Lesli VanMilligen and Martin Vellekoop. Depending on their vacation schedules, we will see and hear them beginning in June, over the summer and into the fall. Other preachers will fill in where needed.

Heather Woods reported on the activities of the Pastor Search Team; information and requests for congregation participation will be coming from the team.

We heard an update on the Kitchen Table Visits, 55 visit reports have been received and Alana is beginning to compile the data. If you have not yet received a visit, please contact your ward elder or deacon to make arrangements; it's never too late!

Council nominations were also discussed; members have been approached to serve. Some have said "yes" for which we are thankful. Others are still thinking, for which we are also thankful. It would be a joy to have a full slate of nominations. Once again, it's never too late!

Henry Eygenraam, Chair of Council, received an email from Pastor Herm and read portions of it to Council. The email began and ended with thank you! *"It's already been a week since we vacated the Chelmsford premises and mainly what's stayed on my/our mind(s) is a bunch of grateful thank you's! Those three months went by quickly looking back...and what stands out from our end is the hospitality and welcoming spirit toward us and toward the continuing supply of newcomers. " "....thanks again for having Dee and me those months...it was a privilege to be of service and to worship-plan with Hye-jin."*

Today's Guest Preacher: Let's welcome Harry Salomons, a retired CRC pastor who will be preaching with for us this morning.

Birthday Correction: Last week Rozita Yamini celebrated her birthday on April 29, her name was noted incorrectly. Happy belated birthday Rozita!

Birthdays this week:

May 6 — Charles Corro

Congregational Workshop: A Healthy Congregations workshop is being planned at Willowdale CRC for Friday evening, June 21 and Saturday, June 22 (at the church). Pastor Martin Vellekoop will be the presenter.

Healthy Congregations uses the insights of family systems theory to help participants learn how they can influence the health of their congregations, and how to detect and avoid unhealthy patterns of living together in community.

The workshop was originally created by Dr. Peter Steinke and is based on the work of Dr. Murray Bowen. This specific workshop design was developed by the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center. Pastor Martin is a licensed presenter of this workshop.

Materials need to be ordered for the workshop, so it's important that everyone who is interested in attending register in advance! The church will be covering the costs of the materials. Please email Alana at alana.yoneyama@willowdalecrc.com to register.

Alphabet of Faith and Scripture Continues: You are invited to find, memorize, and share with the congregation Scripture starting with the letter "I". You may post your chosen scripture on the back Sanctuary wall, or you may follow along at home. Please note you can join in any time – it is never too late, ask Henry for a pad of Post-It notes.

1st Offering Collection is for the Church Budget: This offering pays for the operational expenses of the church including staff salaries and benefits, the cost of running the church building and the parsonage, office and program expenses and our ministry shares. These ministry shares allow our denomination and classis (region) to support missionaries, pastors-in-training, our colleges and seminaries as well as outreaches, both global and local.

2nd Offering – NewGround (formally Operation Manna): NewGround (formerly Operation Manna) has been helping churches establish vital community ministries across the country for over 35 years.

Along with Community Ministry Support, NewGround will now include a nation-wide Youth Justice Initiative and offer Deacon Scholarships.

Through the revamped NewGround Program Diaconal Ministries is intentionally building into church leaders of today and tomorrow to impact communities with the love of Christ.

Cheltenham Care Community Service (5935 Bathurst Street): Cheltenham Sunday Service, today at 2:30 p.m. – because of their Mother’s Day Tea, Cheltenham asked if we could do the Sunday service a week early. Everyone welcome, especially to help with the singing.

Update on Exercise Class: Mondays at 12 noon there is gentle fitness with Jessica for 45 minutes. Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. the exercise class meets for coffee. At 11:00 a.m. there is a falls prevention class (balance and strength training) with Mandy for one hour. These classes are free and all are welcome. For more info just come at the above times or call Suzanne Christie

Tuesday Morning Bible Study: On Tuesday, May 7 at 10:00 a.m. we will study Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43, *The Unforgiving Servant*. All are welcome.

Congregational Potluck Date Changed!: Our 2nd Congregational Potluck Lunch originally scheduled for June 16 has been moved up to May 26! Please adjust your calendars accordingly. Invite your family, friends, and neighbours.

Preaching Schedule:

May 12, Shiao Chong, editor of The Banner, former York University Chaplain

May 19, Cal Seerveld, member, Willowdale CRC and Professor Emeritus in Philosophical Aesthetics at the Institute for Christian Studies in Toronto

Mar 26, Martin Vellekoop, Specialized Transitional Minister, Crossroads Community Church, Ajax

NeighbourLink News: Looking for help with baking for our "Hello Spring" fund raiser June 8th. We need small tarts, cookies, squares, etc. If you can help please see Angie or Beth. Tickets are available for the "Hello Spring" Silver Anniversary Garden tour and Tea June 8th. Just see Parsia Shendi, Angie Arguelles, Corrie Vanderhoef or Beth Little.

Joyfully Giving – April 2019

	Actual for February	Budget for February	Actual Year to Date	Budget Year to Date
Church Operations	\$23,985.65	\$22,156.00	\$76,519.98	\$88,624.00
Other Causes	\$6,755.85		\$21,460.60	

Week at a Glance: May 5 – 11

Day	Time	Location	Event
Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Sanctuary	Morning Worship
	11:50 a.m.	Sanctuary	Newcomers Orientation
Monday	12:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall	Seniors Exercise Class
	7:00 p.m.	Sanctuary	Joyfully Singing
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Room #1	Morning Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall	Open Ping-pong Night
Wednesday	7:00 a.m.	Room #1	Men’s Bible Study
Thursday	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship Hall	Seniors Exercise Class
	7:00 p.m.	Old Toddler Room	Farsi Fellowship

Schedules

Nursery Volunteers	
Today Nell DeBoer & Xanthe van Lingen	May 12 Liese van Lingen & Nicholas van Lingen
Coffee Servers	
Today Angie Arguelles, Joseph Batac, Cor & Hetty Verhage	May 12 Audrey Killer, Nell DeBoer, Nancy Fernhout
<i>Reminder – coffee servers are to lock all outside doors – thank you!</i>	
Willowdale Greeters	
Today Angie Arguelles	May 12 Suzanne Christie
Second Offering	
Today NewGround (formerly Operation Manna)	May 12 World Renew (Barbara Kayanja)