



WILLOWDALE WEEKLY

Willowdale Christian Reformed Church

70 Hilda Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M2M 1V5

Tel: 416-221-7829 / Deadline: **Thursdays at noon!**

Email: office@willowdalecrc.com

January 3, 2021

Prayer Requests:

Please pray for the staff and residents of Holland Christian Homes as they are experiencing a COVID-19 outbreak. Harry A. is in Faith Manor and doing well. More information may be found at: <http://www.hch.ca/latest-hch-covid-19-updates/>.

Please pray for those who are experiencing financial hardship due to the latest COVID-19 lockdown in Toronto. Lord give us the courage to ask for help when we need it.

Pray for families who are separated by borders and seas to be reunited.

Pray for everyone who needs to get a COVID-19 test, that they can do so safely, and get results in a timely manner.

Pray for the safe distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine, praise the Lord that vaccinations are happening in Ontario.

Please continue to pray for all our essential workers in health care, and other vital services to our community, *especially as they prepare for the second wave, and flu season.*

Please pray for our church council - elders, deacons, ministry teams and committees, Operations Team, and staff as they continue to navigate this pandemic reality.

Please pray for our 2nd offering cause: Toronto District Christian High School (TD Christian High School). TD Christian High School is a caring, innovative, and Christian community of learners. We attract students from across the region and around the world. We pride ourselves in being a high school for the entire family. Our passionate teachers and staff go out of their way to ensure students are enfolded, engaged, and empowered, both inside and outside of the classroom as we help them "learn for service in the light of God's word."
www.tdchristian.ca

Birthdays this week:

January 9 — Mehrsa K.

January 9 — Chloe W.

Preaching Schedule & Learning Resource:

From Rev. Lesli:

As part of our next sermon series on what it means to grow as a community as we learn to love each other well we will be looking at the Book of 1 John. For those of you who would like to be exploring this book on your own here is a helpful resource on How to Read the Bible Book by Book by Gordon D Fee and Douglas Stuart. This is a great resource that would be helpful to all students of scripture. I have included the chapter on 1 John as an example of how this book is laid out and encourage you to use it as we go through 1 John together and perhaps consider adding it to your own library. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qfoijjil2OTthhZb2omUTEm4Tvr7K8fM/view?usp=sharing>

January 3, 2021 — Rev. Lesli van Milligen — Luke 24:13-25, Introduction to the Building Blocks of Faith

January 10 — Rev. Lesli van Milligen — I John 1:1-2:2, Love one another: Love that comes from Belonging to Christ and His People

January 17 — Pastor Syd Hielema — I John 2:3-11, Love one another: Love that comes from Knowing God

January 24 — Rev. Lesli van Milligen — I John 2:18-28, Love one another: Love that comes from Hoping in Christ

Farsi Fellowship: Farsi Fellowship Zoom meetings are held on Thursday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Translations will be provided if needed. Contact Sylvie Charlekaram.

مشارکت فارسی زبان و مطالعه کتاب مقدس، پنجشنبه ها از ساعت ۷ الی ۹ از طریق زوم برقرار می باشد

Update from the Pastor Calling Committee: The Pastor Calling Committee has been meeting regularly over the past few months. Following our communication to the congregation in early fall that the Pastors we were in conversation with withdrew their application, we needed to regroup. We had to work through some loose ends and plan our way forward. Over the past three months we have updated the Church Profile (which needed to be re-approved by Council); updated the job posting; solicited new nominations from the Congregation; and reviewed the Pastor Search Committee Portal for potential candidates we could reach out to. Our plan for January is to re-post the job opening on both the CRCNA website and our church website. We will also be reaching out to some Pastors directly.

The congregation is reminded that they can continue to submit nominations (via the PCC Candidate Suggestion form sent with the Weekly) to the PCC if there are Pastors that you believe would be well suited to ministry at Willowdale CRC. And, if you have questions or comments to share with the PCC, please send us an email to pastorcallingcommittee@willowdalecrc.com.

The PCC would like to thank the congregation for their ongoing support, both with words of encouragement and with your prayers.

New Fellowship Starting in January - The Chosen! Starting on **January 15, 2021** we will begin a new online fellowship similar to the way we did Alpha earlier this year. This time, we will watch an episode of the The Chosen - a new series that documents the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. We will watch an episode in English with Farsi subtitles, and have small group discussions afterwards. We hope many of you will be able to join us on alternating Friday evenings starting on **Friday, January 15 at 7:30 p.m.!**

Change of Address: Please note Cor and Hetty Verhage have moved, their new address is:

4711 Sideroad 15, Cookstown, ON, L0L 1L0

To reach the Verhages by phone: Hetty's phone number is 416-710-4209 and Cor's is 416-262-6774 (please note they no longer have a landline).

Willowdale CRC Ward Elders and Deacons:

Moore Park Ward

(North of Drewry Ave./Cummer Ave. and west of Leslie St. south of Steeles Ave; Yonge St. north of Steeles Ave.)

Elders: Corrie Vanderhoef and Sarah Moghadam

Deacons: Suzanne Christie and Ashkan Razaghi

Branson Ward

(South of Drewry Ave./Cummer Ave. and west of Leslie St. plus Brampton and Mississauga)

Elders: Rob Datema and John Meiboom

Deacons: Nell de Boer and Kyle Pippel

Markham Ward

(East of Yonge St. for region north of Steeles Ave.; east of Leslie St. south of Steeles Ave.)

Elders: Jennifer Dekker, Sylvie Charliekaram & Nasser Zand

Deacons: Peter Grauds and Joyce McBride

For the contact information for your Ward Elders and/or Deacons, please email Alana at office@willowdalecrc.com or alana.yoneyama@willowdalecrc.com

Weekly Zoom Events – Join us!

- **Worship Service** – Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m.
- **Bible Study** – Sunday evening at 7:30 p.m., contact Hye-jin Im or Rob Datema
- **Singing Gathering** – Monday mornings at 10:00 a.m., contact Hye-jin Im
- **Bible Study** – Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Contact Suzanne Christie
- **Bible Study** – Wednesday mornings at 7:00 a.m., contact Rob Datema
- **College & Careers Virtual Pizza & Board Games** – Wednesday evenings at 8:00 p.m., contact Jennifer Dekker or Suanne Miedema
- **Farsi Fellowship** – Thursdays at 7:00 p.m., contact Sylvie Charliekaram
- **The Chosen** – Starting on January 15 on alternate Friday nights, contact Jennifer Dekker.

Zoom Video Conferencing is available for your small group, Bible study, or special visits with friends for free through the church Zoom account. To book your Zoom gathering please contact Jennifer Dekker (jenniferanndekker@gmail.com).