



# WILLOWDALE WEEKLY

## Willowdale Christian Reformed Church

Tel: 416-221-7829 / Email: [office@willowdalecrc.com](mailto:office@willowdalecrc.com)

70 Hilda Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M2M 1V5

**The Bridge App – Search Home Church: Willowdale CRC**

**February 16, 2024**

**Praise Report for Nasser & Sylvie:** On Wednesday, February 12 at the regular meeting of Classis Toronto, Nasser Zand and Sylvie Charliekaram passed their exam of faith and life as well as biblical and theological knowledge to be ordained as commissioned pastors in the Christian Reformed Church. Therefore, on **Sunday March 2** we will, Lord willing, gather at 7:00 p.m. at the church to ordain Nasser and Sylvie as Commissioned Pastors, serving with Spiritual Growth Ministry, and continuing their Farsi Fellowship ministry at Willowdale CRC. We give thanks to God for this ordination journey and look forward to celebrating, encouraging Sylvie and Nasser, and praising God together.

### **Prayer Requests:**

Please pray for the **Kronemeijer family** as they will be in the Netherlands until July.

Please pray for our **1<sup>st</sup> offering** for our **church ministries and expenses**, faithful giving is a blessing to our whole church family.

Please pray for our **2<sup>nd</sup> offering**; The Lighthouse is an inner-city ministry operated by Classis Toronto Christian Reformed Churches "Helping People Change Lives". At The Lighthouse we offer community services such as a food bank, Income Tax Clinic, life skills, information & referrals, programs for children and seniors, counselling and specialized services for Vietnamese and Hispanic communities. For more information visit [www.lighthousecentre.ca](http://www.lighthousecentre.ca)

### **Save the Date – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**

**Fundraiser:** The Willowdale Fundraising Team will be hosting a pancake supper fundraiser for our church on **Shrove Tuesday, March 4**. There will be 2 seatings 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10.00 each for adults, \$5.00 for children under 12 years old and under, children under 5 years old eat for free! Please speak to Beth Little about how to buy your tickets. The team is also in need of volunteers to help on March 4<sup>th</sup> with cooking and serving pancakes. Contact Beth Little if you help. [beth.marie.little@gmail.com](mailto:beth.marie.little@gmail.com)

### **Birthdays:**

February 16 — Lukie de Waard

February 19 — John D.W.

### **Open House in Remembrance of Nasser Zand's**

**mother Ferdous:** Dear Willowdale CRC Congregation, you are invited to an Open House in remembrance of Nasser's beloved mother (Ferdous) who recently passed away in Iran. Please join us as we gather to honour her life and share our love and support with Nasser & Sylvie and their family.

Date: Sunday, February 16

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Location: WCRC-Fellowship Hall

We hope you can join us in this time of reflection and fellowship.

**Food and Faith Conversation:** Youth and young adults are invited to gather right after the church service today for food, fellowship, catechism, and Bible study. This program is for six consecutive Sundays. For more information, please contact Pastor Greg.

**Cheltenham Nursing Home Today:** Today we plan to have our monthly worship service at 2:45 p.m. If you are able to join us to help with the singing, please contact Hye-Jin or Nell D.

**Human Sexuality Report:** The Christian Reformed denomination has had extensive conversations about its [Human Sexuality Report](#) that was published five years ago. On February 23 at 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., we at Willowdale will develop initial reflections concerning this report through a conversation facilitated by Syd Hielema. Pastor Syd will suggest a framework for the conversation and invite a sharing of honest reflections for this sensitive topic. There will be coffee and dessert. For more information, please contact Pastor Greg. The session will be offered only in English.

**If you can contribute treats for the dessert table**, please let Alana know.

**Reformational Journey Through Lent:** During the Sundays in Lent we will be focussing on our Reformed tradition and how we speak with a Reformed accent. How do we live into this rich biblical tradition that we have learned from Calvin, Kuyper, Bavinck, Seerveld, Mouw and others? For example, we will begin by learning about divine sovereignty and the four derivatives: common grace, antithesis, sphere sovereignty and the church as institute and organism. We will go from there together on our journey towards the cross where Jesus brings renewal and redemption, grace restoring nature, God's sovereign plan.

**ZOOM Host Schedule:**

February 16 – Alana  
February 23 – Alana

**Greeters Schedule:**

February 16 – Gerard D.  
February 23 – Suzanne C.

**Coffee & Tea Serving Schedule:**

February 16 – Cici, Lyn, Roy F., Farnaz H.  
February 23 – Alana Y., Nasim K., Haniyeh H., Lelia N.

**Please Note Upcoming Changes to Liturgy Publication:**

Starting on Sunday, March 2, to be good stewards of the environment and finances, the liturgy bulletins will be reduced to 12 pages and 100 hard copies. As usual you will receive via email on Saturday mornings the ZOOM link, liturgy, and Willowdale Weekly in separate files.

A few hard copies of the Willowdale Weekly will be available from the welcome table in the Narthex for guests, and members who do not use email.

*Please consider sharing a copy of the liturgy on Sunday mornings so there are enough to go around.*

Thank you for understanding and supporting this change.

**From the Deacons:**

Starting in March your offerings will be collected from the pews during the worship service, as was done before in pre-pandemic times. Please contact the deacons if you have any questions.