



Join us Sunday morning at 10 am or anytime throughout the week. This morning is GEMS Sunday and Pastor Erick presents a message based on their theme, "Rise Up." He will be focusing on the book of [Isaiah chapter 40, verses 28-31](#).

The GEMS theme this year is a command "Rise Up!" Like so many commands in the Bible, it has a passive part to it. We rise up by falling down and letting ourselves be carried by God.

The following Nominees for Council have agreed to allow their names to stand for service as an Elder / Deacon: Corinne Bosch, Anne Haas, Jordan Stuive, Teresa Huinink, Pauline Smit, Clarence Vanderhout / Rod Blake, Derek DenBak, James Stieva, Lorie Toohey, and Kevin Westra. **Professing members of the congregation will be asked to affirm the nominees listed below after the Morning Service on April 14th.** The names of the new Council Members will be **drawn by lot on April 21st.** The Installation of Office Bearers will take place during the Service on May 5th. **Absentee Forms will be available at the Welcome Centre and must be returned to the ballot box, by no later than April 12th.**



### Let's Build Community Connections!



The Deacons have agreed to support a food program for those experiencing homelessness in St Catharines. Tuesday is an open evening in the spring/summer and we have agreed to make 80-100 bag meal each week and deliver them to designated spots. Your Help Is Needed...shopping for supplies, making and packing meals, delivering on a designated route. **Contact Pastor Eric ASAP if you're willing to help.** [ericks@mountainviewcrc.org/416-689-8721](mailto:ericks@mountainviewcrc.org/416-689-8721). You can donate to support this work by Cheque, Cash, E-transfer or the Bridge App: "Street Food Project-

St Catharines" on the memo line.

**Neighbourhood #3. Your Potluck is April 14<sup>th</sup>!** Please sign up to bring a Main Dish, Snack or Dessert for the meal and come connect. Contact Sandra Devisser 905-563-5485/[sandra1dv@gmail.com](mailto:sandra1dv@gmail.com)



**PLEASE NOTE...**

**A Note from the office... Thursday AM Deadline for news/info/ads/prayer requests for Church Family:** Any prayer requests or concerns that come up after that *can still be shared* with the office and will be communicated wherever they are needed but not "in print".

**Lost & Found Table in the Gym/Fellowship Hall this Sunday, April 14th FOR THE LAST TIME.** Come pick up your things if you want them before they make their way to GBF.

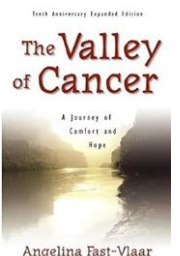


**Neighbourhood 2 Mystery Guest is happening April 28<sup>th</sup>.** Sign up to be a guest or a host! Hosts are expected to provide beverages and a light lunch. Sign up by contacting Janice: [phil.janiceschwanz@gmail.com](mailto:phil.janiceschwanz@gmail.com) / 289-377-8389 OR let your elder know. *Nic Hielema, Tony Kamphuis and Janice Schwanz.*



**Mountainview's Library is OPEN** before and after church and on weekdays for self-checkout. We'd like to highlight some new books at the Library over the next month or two. **Here's our second new book:**

**The Valley of Cancer** by *Angela Fast-Vlaar* - Angelina takes the reader far past her physical suffering to experience the soul-changing struggles, heartache, and rewards of her valley. The physical, emotional, and spiritual dimensions of overcoming cancer-Angelina brilliantly intertwines all three in this very moving and intimate book.





**2024 Guided Prayer Retreat continues on over the month of April.** You can still participate from home even if you were not able to register. **Stop by the Guided Prayer Retreat Table in the lobby and get the daily handout to follow along at home. Click here for [more information](#).**



**START THE PARTY! Kids@Mountainview Camp 2024 Registration IS OPEN and going fast!!** There will be six weeks of camp, each with their own theme. Visit [mountainviewcrc.org/kids-camp](http://mountainviewcrc.org/kids-camp) for info or to register. For questions or more info., email or call camp Director Christine Winter: [camp@mountainviewcrc.org](mailto:camp@mountainviewcrc.org) / 905-932-4786



**SAVE THE DATE: Youth Ministry is hosting an event, "Shining a Light on Pornography" on May 13, @ 7pm,** led by Kaitlyn Fretz (Daylight Addiction Counseling). This is a session for parents with children of all ages. Learn more about the impact of pornography and more importantly, how to take preventative measures, foster open communication in your home, and work together to support your youth as a community.

## OTHER COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS OPPORTUNITIES...



**Niagara Christian Concerts is pleased to present an evening with Keith and Kristyn Getty. On October 26, at 7:30 pm** (Ticket sales open Monday April 8 and will sell quickly), special guests Matt Boswell and Matt Papa will be joining Keith and Kristyn Getty for their first-ever national tour together at First Ontario Concert

Hall in Hamilton. Prepare for an unforgettable evening of worship and celebration featuring new songs from the Gettys' upcoming projects, just-released hymns from Boswell and Papa's "Our God Will Go Before Us" album, and more as we proclaim the hope of the Gospel together! Need info? Tickets? Visit: <https://www.gettymusic.com/falltour2024>. Follow NCC at <https://www.instagram.com/nccconcerts2023/>

**Cairn Christian School, Smithville, presents 'The Second Mile,' a student-created production based on the bible verse Matthew 5:41.** "If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles." The cast includes 50 actors from grades 4 through 8 who wrote the play themselves. Grades 4-8 form the choir, band and tech team. God-inspired, student-created, and student-led.



Join us in celebrating the beautiful work of our students. **Tuesday, April 16th at 11:15 am** has limited spaces available for parents as Cairn Smithville primary, Cairn Stoney Creek, and **Pastors** will be joining us. **Wednesday, April 17th, at 11:15 am,** there will be a show for **grandparents and senior friends** (No tickets are required for this show). **Thursday, April 18th at 6:30 p.m. will be the show for family and friends.** To God be the glory! **Tickets are \$5.00. Reserve at <https://bit.ly/Cairnsecondmile>**

**This summer, a friend of Cairn Christian School is reviving a Korean student summer camp experience.** He (Danny Huh) is looking for homestay spaces for these students (13-14 years old) in the Niagara/Hamilton area from August 12 to August 21. This would pay an honorarium of \$1000. If you are interested, please see additional details at <https://bit.ly/KoreanHomestaySmithville>



**Beyond the Culture Wars Conference** - Our world and our churches are so polarized and divided these days. Why is that the case, and what can we do about it? Come find out at "Beyond the Culture Wars," a conference put on by the Institute for Christian Studies and hosted by Martin Luther



University in Waterloo, **April 18-20.** Featuring presentations by James K.A. Smith, Kristin Kobes Du Mez ("Jesus and John Wayne") and many others, this conference will educate and equip you to help make more people feel more comfortable at your church and in the faith. Supported by the CRC, Shalem Mental Health Network, Citizens for Public Justice, and more. Register/Find out more at [luther.wlu.ca/beyond](http://luther.wlu.ca/beyond).

**Institute for Christian Studies - Summer Courses** - ICS is offering the following courses this summer: What's Christian about Christian Education? Reformational Philosophy; Lead From Where You Are:

Making a Difference in the Face of Tough Problems, Big Questions, and Organizational Politics; Called to Teach: Formation and Learning (registration deadline for these three courses: April 19); and State, Society, and Religion in Hegel's Philosophy (registration deadline: May 10). To learn more, visit [icscanada.edu/summer-courses](http://icscanada.edu/summer-courses), or email [academic-registrar@icscanada.edu](mailto:academic-registrar@icscanada.edu) to register.



**Family Outreach Ontario invites you to an information evening on *Friday, April 26*** at Rehoboth United Reformed Church (Ancaster). We are excited to have as guest speaker Rev. Al Bezuyen, pastor of Zion United Reformed Church in Sheffield, who will present “Redemption and Recovery”. Please plan to attend and tell others about it as well. It will be an evening you will be sure to remember. A collection will be taken to cover our costs. **7:00pm: Doors open, Refreshments/Meet & Greet; 7:30 - 9:00pm: Presentation and Q&A period;** followed by refreshments and opportunity to discuss.

**Family Outreach Ontario** was there for this family and addict. This was his response after accepting he had an issue with alcohol: “I thought I could fix the problem on my own and nobody would know about it. What a mistake that has been. It almost ripped our whole family apart. Thank you so much for your love and care.” Call 905-933-3994, e-mail us at [info@familyoutreachontario.com](mailto:info@familyoutreachontario.com), or visit our web site [www.familyoutreachontario.com](http://www.familyoutreachontario.com).



**Worship for Justice Concert** – Redeemer is sponsoring The Worship for Justice tour featuring Don Moen, Paul Baloche, and Brooke Nichols when it comes to campus for one of four concerts in Southern Ontario on **April 27, 2024**. [Learn More](#).



**May 6 @ 7pm “Make Your Own Kind of Music”- Momentum is back on stage at the First Ontario Performing Arts Centre!** Momentum Choir will bring you through a journey of how being a part of a community and fitting in can be a difficult process. [Purchase your tickets here.](#)



**2024 Youth & Young Adult Trip to Nicaragua** - World Renew extends an invitation to all Canadians age 15-25 to join us in Nicaragua this summer from **August 2-11!** We are recruiting youth and young adults to experience God in another culture, developing a perspective on poverty, missions and community development. To learn more about this trip and to register, visit <https://bit.ly/nicaraguaflyer>.

**World Renew Tanzania and Kenya Discovery Tour** - Join us on an enriching journey to East Africa, travelling to Tanzania and Kenya from **June 11-25, 2024**, where you will experience a little bit of everything—meet vibrant communities, learn about East African culture, experience a safari, and witness firsthand the power of compassionate action! This is your invitation to be a part of something truly meaningful—a journey of inspiration, hope, and transformation with World Renew. **Registration Deadline is May 11th, 2024.** For more details on this life-changing tour, please visit: <https://bit.ly/2024tourflyer>



**Feeling overwhelmed with anxiety, stress or loneliness?** Want to talk to one of our psychotherapists or counsellors? We are *here to help!* Please call 905.309.0944. We will be answering the phones *Monday - Friday daily between 9am – 4pm.* Sessions typically run about an hour. All of our services are free and confidential. **Sometimes we all need help!**

## CHURCH CALENDAR

Staff work a combination of in the office and at home throughout the week. At least one staff person is typically in the church each weekday. Contact info: <https://www.mountainviewcrc.org/staff-1>

Sun April 14	10:00 a.m.	Sunday Service; Pastor Erick Schuringa; Message on Isaiah 40:28-31; GEMS Sunday; Baptism; Nametag Sunday
	12:30 p.m.	<b>Neighbourhood 3 Potluck</b>
	7-9 p.m.	Youth Alpha




Mon April 15	6:30	p.m.	Cadets
Tues April 16	7:00	p.m.	Volleyball
Wed April 17	9:30	a.m.	Mission Circle
	7:00	p.m.	Evening Coffee Break
	7:00	p.m.	Knitwits @ Hinke's
	6:30	p.m.	GEMS
Thurs April 18	7:00	p.m.	Worship Team practice
Sun April 21	10:00	a.m.	Sunday Service; Pastor Erick Schuringa; Message on ;
			Friendship Sunday
	7-9	p.m.	Youth Alpha

## JOYFUL GIVING

**THIS WEEK'S OFFERING: April 14th A.M. – GEMS** stands for Girls Everywhere Meeting the Saviour and is a relationship building club which was established more than 40 years ago. The ministry of GEMS continues with the purpose of bringing girls into a living relationship with the Lord. This is done through bible study, singing, crafts, games, and fun outings with dedicated counsellors and junior counsellors. Your donations help us to mentor and nurture girls in our church and surrounding community, in their walk with God.

**UPCOMING OFFERING: April 21st A.M. – Friendship (Local):** The Friendship Group consists of about 15 young people and adults from our church and surrounding community with developmental challenges. Special friends from our church meet with these young people and adults every Thursday night from September to May. We enjoy an evening filled with the good news of God's love through Bible stories, singing, crafts, and special activities.

  
**NewGround Sunday (May 5)** - For over 40 years, NewGround (formerly Operation Manna) has helped churches across Canada love their communities by getting them connected to local ministries. This was possible through the generosity of churches like yours. Will you join us once again and help even more churches across Canada love and bless their communities in the name of Jesus? Visit Diaconal Ministries Canada's website for more information or to donate: [diaconalministries.com/newground](http://diaconalministries.com/newground). \*NEW\*: You can also give via e-transfer to [dmc@crcna.org](mailto:dmc@crcna.org).



**Double Your Gift to Support God's Mission** - A generous donor will double any amount you give to Resonate's Where Most Needed fund, including through church offerings, through April 30! Visit [www.resonateglobalmission.org/double](http://www.resonateglobalmission.org/double) to find out more.



**Support The Banner!** - By supporting The Banner, the monthly magazine of the Christian Reformed Church, you extend the reach and expand the impact of this journalistic ministry. To help keep this community conversation going please give online now at: [TheBanner.org/Give](http://TheBanner.org/Give)



**Board Members Needed** - Are you eager to contribute time toward making a positive contribution to your local church and classis? Do you have experience in non-profits, budgeting, strategic planning, or governance? Do you have time to volunteer to help your local church and its deacons impact communities with Christ's love? THEN BECOME A BOARD MEMBER with Diaconal Ministries

Canada! Diaconal Ministries has been equipping and supporting deacons in the CRC in Canada for over 20 years. We are currently searching for a Board Member for Classis Niagara and for Classis BC NW. (Our Board includes one representative from each Canadian classis in the Christian Reformed Church.) If you would like to receive more information on this role or if you would like to submit your interest, please contact Ron Vanden Brink, National Director, at [rvandenbrink@crcna.org](mailto:rvandenbrink@crcna.org). He'd love to connect with you!

## DENOMINATIONAL NEWS

**NEWSLETTERS FROM OUR MINISTRY PARTNERS** – Available under “Community Partners” on our Website. Posted as they come in. Paper copies can be requested from the church office.. [Browse through the work of local and CRCNA ministries...](#)

**Kids Corner: Imagine When...** - How do you like to use your imagination? Maybe you imagine the characters in a book you're reading. Perhaps you can imagine a treehouse you want to design. Though your imagination is something only you can see, it can also help you shape your ideas. New inventions, solutions, and creations can all stem from your imagination! Check out all the great content at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net), like The Spring Scavenger Hunt, and go for a hike!.



**Groundwork: Justice and Righteousness in Amos** - Amos was a shepherd until God called him to deliver a searing message to Israel. Join Groundwork as we study Amos 1-9 to hear God's message of justice and righteousness and to be reminded of the strong connection between how we live our daily lives and how God sees our worship. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.



**Thrive Faith Formation Tip** - Practicing celebration early in the day can help adjust our mindset and focus us on God's goodness. Consider beginning each morning by praying a Scripture passage of celebration, such as Psalm 103:1-5. Learn more at [crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject](http://crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject)



**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](http://familyfire.com). Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.



## JOBS AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



**Cairn Christian School is inviting applications for a part-time (20% FTE) office support position in Stoney Creek starting in August 2024.** Tasks include: regular reception, daily school communication, internal administration for the school building and staff, and creating and publishing the weekly newsletter.

Our mission is to inspire students to love, learn, and lead together in God's world. We are looking for a candidate who will embrace and further this mission in a dynamic, fluid environment, bringing the energy and confidence needed to support the staff and student learning community. Questions? Email Bonnie Desjardins: [bdesjardins@cairnchristianschool.ca](mailto:bdesjardins@cairnchristianschool.ca). Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



**We Are hiring at Shalom!** Working at Shalom is a great opportunity to share your gifts and talents in a wonderful workplace and to become involved in the community! We take pride in offering the best possible care and making Shalom home for our residents. Become part of the team! [Visit our website](#) and send your resume or any questions to [hr@shalommmanor.ca](mailto:hr@shalommmanor.ca) to see if a career with Shalom is a good fit for you!



**Family Ministry Coordinator:** Jubilee Fellowship CRC, a vibrant and welcoming community of faith in St. Catharines, Ontario, is seeking a Family Ministry Coordinator (FMC). This person will play a pivotal role in shaping the spiritual formation of our members by overseeing education, curriculum development, volunteer recruitment and training for programs from nursery to adult ages. For a full posting of the position and qualifications see [Family Ministries Coordinator](#). We invite those passionate about ministry to submit a resume and a cover letter outlining their relevant experience and vision for family ministry at Jubilee to [fmcsearch@jubileefellowship.ca](mailto:fmcsearch@jubileefellowship.ca) by April 29.