



Join us Sunday morning at 10 am or anytime throughout the week. Pastor Erick will present a message about, **“Womb Theology.”** He will be focusing on the book of [Isaiah chapter 44 verses 1-5](#).

This week, as we continue our consideration of Isaiah, we are going to pause at the phrase "formed you in the womb". This image is throughout the Bible and we will explore its implications.

Let's Build Community Connections!

Help support a food program for those experiencing homelessness in St Catharines. We have agreed to make 80-100 bag meal each Tuesday and deliver them to designated spots. Your Help Is Needed...shopping for supplies, making and packing meals, delivering. **Contact Pastor Erick if you're willing to help:** ericks@mountainviewcrc.org/416-689-8721. You can



also donate to support this work by Cheque, Cash, E-transfer or the Bridge App: "Street Food Project– St Catharines" on the memo line.



Neighbourhood 2 Mystery Guest is happening April 28th. 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 / 289-377-8389 OR let your elder know. *Nic Hielema, Tony Kamphuis and Janice Schwanz.*

Potluck and Prayer – Sunday April 28th from 5-7pm – Let's come together for a special time of fellowship and faith, nourishing both body and soul! You can look forward to a time of Feast & Fellowship and also Prayer & Reflection. All are welcome. Gentle reminder: We are a peanut free church.



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 another new book:**

Countdown (Extreme Measures #4) by Lynette Eason - Flight paramedic Raina Price's past has marched back into her present-and it wants to kill her. With a stalker who knows her well, determined to end what he started, US Marshal Vince Correlli vows to protect her at all costs – even if it ends his career.



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.



It's not too late to participate! You can join us at home. 2024 Guided Prayer Retreat continues on over the month of April. Visit our table in the lobby OR visit our website for details www.mountainviewcrc.org/gpr. You can also speak to any of these Monthly Prayer Companions if you are looking for guidance about the process in the month ahead: **Graham Austin, Spencer Farrow, Sue Kikkert, Liz Meijer, Erick Schuringa, Jolene Veenstra, Erin VanDriel, and Brandon Vermeer.**



Prayer Walk Saturday, May 4th – Join Us! We'll be behind Giant Tiger and walking 8:30 – 9:30 am . All are welcome. If you are new to this group please contact Jane De Visser pjdevisser@sympatico.ca so we don't start without you.



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 for info or to register. For questions or more info., email or call camp Director Christine Winter: camp@mountainviewcrc.org / 905-932-4786

OTHER COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS OPPORTUNITIES...



Your opinion matters! Please complete the World Renew Supporter Survey. - Thank you for walking alongside World Renew to share Christ's hope with communities facing hunger, poverty, and injustice. World Renew is always seeking out ways to improve, whether in our programming around the world or in our communications with you. To that end, we invite you to complete a donor survey. As a thank you for completing the survey, we'd love to send you a copy of our 60th anniversary book, *Your Story is Our Story*, about ordinary people following God's call to do extraordinary things. We welcome your input: worldrenew.ca/survey

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>



The start of SOCO Beach Project 2024 is a week away - May 5! Pray for SOCO as we finish our preparations for the arrival of participants. In this week's newsletter, meet the last three of them and get excited as to how God's going to impact their lives through this experience. Read about the Resonate retreat & Act Five storytelling night. News link: <https://mailchi.mp/southcoastbeachproject/soco-update-april-25-6224329>



21Five, Canada's Gospel-Centred Family Christian Bookstore - Located on Redeemer's campus, 21Five is Canada's source for gospel-centred books, clothing & accessories, gifts, drinkware, cards & prints, Bibles, and more. [SHOP ONLINE](#)

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.](#)



Smithville Christian High School presents, The Importance of Being Earnest, by Oscar Wilde, a farcical and absurd comedy in which the main characters pretend to be fictitious personae to escape their burdensome social obligations. Four performances: **May 10, 11, 16 & 17, at 7:30 p.m.** Tickets are \$12.50 in advance or \$15 at the door. Tickets can be purchased with a credit card here bit.ly/Being_Earnest or reserved by contacting the school office at

office@smithvillechristian.ca or (905) 957-3255.

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 28 10:00 a.m. Sunday Service; Pastor Erick Schuringa; Message on Isaiah 44:1-5; "Womb Theology"; Communion

	5-7	p.m.	Potluck & Listening Prayer
	7-9	p.m.	Youth Alpha
Mon April 29	6:30	p.m.	Cadets
Tues April 30	7:00	p.m.	Volleyball
Wed May 1	9:30	a.m.	Mission Circle
	7:00	p.m.	Evening Coffee Break
Thurs May 2	6:30	p.m.	Friendship
	7:00	p.m.	Worship Team practice
Friday May 3	7:30	p.m.	Young Adults – Judge & Jester
Sat May 4	8:30	a.m.	Prayer Walk ; meet behind Giant Tiger in Grimsby
Sun May 5	10:00	a.m.	Sunday Service; Pastor Erick Schuringa; Message on Isaiah 42:1-9;
	7-9	p.m.	Youth Alpha

JOYFUL GIVING

THIS WEEK'S OFFERING: April 28th A.M. – Niagara Christian Gleaners is an organization in Smithville that seeks to visibly demonstrate God's love and grace by working with volunteers to collect, process, and make available surplus agricultural produce; sharing our abundance with those around the world who are in need. Gleaning is a biblical concept in which God instructed farmers to leave a portion of their crops for the poor to gather. Your donations help us to engage locally to impact globally in our ministry of mercy.

UPCOMING OFFERING: May 5th A.M. – NewGround (DMC) has been impacting communities for more than 35 years. God is always at work and calls churches to follow Him into their communities to share Christ's transformational love with each and every person. Cities and neighbourhoods should be impacted and blessed through the social action and thoughtful cultural engagement of local Christians. The NewGround program of Diaconal Ministries Canada partners with deacons and churches to break new missional ground, nurturing Spirit-led ideas into healthy ministries that bear everlasting fruit; assisting churches in areas like leadership development, fundraising, strategic planning and more. When you give, it's about the people in your community who will be reached through your gift.



There's Still Time to Double Your Impact - You can help join God's mission and spread the gospel by supporting Resonate Global Mission. From now through April 30, a generous donor will match your gift dollar for dollar—visit www.resonateglobalmission.org/double to find out more! Give while your gift will go twice as far!

Share Christ's Hope Through the Gift of Improved Health - According to the World Health Organization's most recent global maternal mortality report, every day almost 800 women die from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth—95 percent of these deaths occur in the Global South. Join World Renew in their campaign Women of Hope and discover how through your gift you can help provide training in proper health practices to new and expectant mothers, so they can better protect their health and the health of their children. Visit: worldrenew.ca/womenofhope



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

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: Push Pause - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net/. Rest can take many forms. As long as we slow down, pay attention, and enjoy God's blessings, we receive the benefits of rest. Try it! Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like The Spring Scavenger Hunt, and go for a hike!



Groundwork: Our Hearts and God's Character in Nahum and Zephaniah - Nahum and Zephaniah urge God's people to examine their hearts and act in ways that honor God and reflect his character. Join our Groundwork conversation as we study Nahum 1-3 and Zephaniah 1-3 to remember that God longs for our repentant hearts and for us to live as his ambassadors bringing justice, transformation, and reconciliation to this world. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Pastor Darrell Delaney Answers Your Questions - Pastor Darrell Delaney, co-host of Groundwork and author of the Today devotions for April 2024, will be answering your questions about how God's word addresses life's practical challenges in a live webinar on **May 2, 2024 at 12:30 EDT**. Post your question and sign up for the webinar at connect.reframeministries.org/answers



Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Pastor Rich Villodas observed, "Prayer is not about throwing holy words at God to see what sticks; it is, rather, entrance to a new way of seeing reality, the opening of ourselves to God's presence, and an act that trains us in love." Learn more at crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject



Thriving Essentials Overview Webinar - April 30 - Thriving Essentials is a training course for elders, deacons, church staff, and any volunteer ministry leader. This one-hour webinar will give you an overview of what the full 4-hour course involves, including discussions on key concepts of Mission, Discipleship, Discernment, and Leadership. Attend this preview on April 30 (11am EDT) to see if the full course is right for your church. Get more info at crcna.org/essentials

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. 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 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 by April 29.