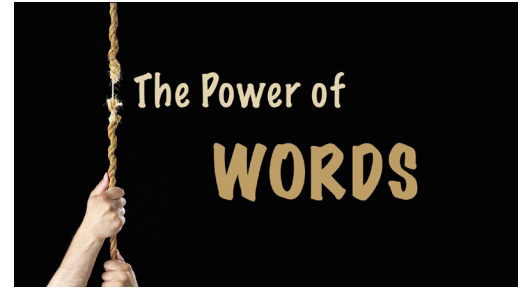




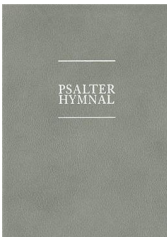
Join us Sunday morning at 10 am or anytime throughout the week. This Sunday Pastor Erick will present the first of a 4-part series on Power, beginning with “**The Power of Words.**” He will be looking at a number of passages Luke 4:31-37; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5; 1 Thessalonians 1:4-6; Ephesians 4:14-15.



Words have power. Jesus spoke with authority. Paul taught with conviction. We are called to speak the truth in love. We will explore how these things are connected as we begin the new year together.

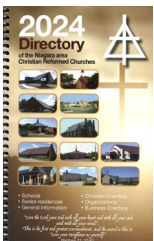
On Sunday January 21 we will be holding a congregation vote on whether we will extend an official call to Pastor Jolene. You may remember that we voted to bring her on staff with the assumption of this later vote. That was like a "promise ring"; January 21 is the engagement vote; her classis exam is scheduled for February 28; and the ordination is being planned for Sunday March 3 (that is like the marriage ceremony).

CONGREGATIONAL VOTE



PSALTER HYMNALS: The church has a number of copies of the grey Psalter Hymnal available. If you are interested in having a copy for your personal use. Pick up one today from the table in the foyer.

For those of you who use **offering envelopes**, they are also available on a table in the foyer.



2024 Directories have arrived! They are available on the table in the foyer. Pick up your copy today. A directory will be delivered to all persons in Shalom or in Nursing homes and to Evergreen members; *so no need for family members to pick one up*). A page of updates for the directory will be shared in January and quarterly after that. You are always welcome to update your contact information on the Bridge App or by contacting the office.

From the Deacons: On Sunday, January 14th, **Tyler Couperus of Global Aid Network (G.A.I.N)** will be attending our worship service. The deacons of mountainview are hosting a "meet and greet" and lunch for Tyler after the service. All who are interested in learning more about Tyler's ministry with GAIN and would like to attend the luncheon, please **RSVP** via email to: deacons@mountainviewcrc.org by **Thurs Jan 11th**.

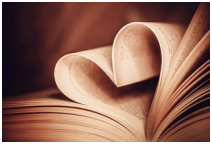


Let's Build Community Connections!



Curious about how you can help support DIG (Doppenbergs in Guatemala)? Talk to a team member about fundraising events, OR [visit our Mountainview DIG Events Page](#) (also on home page of the www.mountainviewcrc.org/).

- **You can donate to help the group or an individual.**
 - Bridge App – donate to DIG – Guatemala Mission
 - E-transfer to treasurer@mountainviewcrc.org (subject Guatemala Mission)
 - Cheque to Mountainview; Guatemala Mission in memo line



Mountainview's Library is OPEN before and after church and on weekdays for self-checkout. Adult Youth, Children, Fiction and Non-Fiction books are available as well as movies and audiobooks. **We will be highlighting some newer books again soon.**

Pastor Erick is offering a course on the basics of biblical interpretation **"Reading the Bible on its own terms."** Begins Tuesday January 16th, 2024 at 7:30 in the Council room for 4-6 weeks.



Youth Alpha begins this Sunday at 7 pm, led by Pastor Erick. All high school aged youth are encouraged to join in. Feel free to bring a friend.

Young Adults are invited to join Pastor Brady at the Judge & Jester on Friday January 12th @ 7:30 p.m. for their regular monthly gathering. **Good Chats, Good Food, Good People!**



SAVE THE DATE! Mark your calendar for the **2024 Week of Guided Prayer.** This year's theme **"Called to Community"** 2 ways to participate: Join in for One Week (7 days) April 7-13 or for One Month (7 times over 4 weeks) April 7-May 4. Mark you calendar, more information to come.



OTHER COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS OPPORTUNITIES...



MAiD legislation in Canada - Visit the EFC's [Take Action on MAiD](#) page to learn about talking points you can share, a petition you can circulate, and many more ways to keep taking action on medical assistance in dying. Your engagement on this issue has had an effect on decision-makers. The government can change the law to stop or delay MAiD for mental illness before the scheduled March deadline.



SOCO Beach Project Update: Need some encouragement - then read this week's SOCO newsletter! Join the SOCO Year-End Giving Campaign - every gift matters. If you are a young adult (18 - 29), be part of SOCO summer 2024 ~ living in an intentional Christian community while having a summer job, learning how God's story shapes your story to impact the world's story. Applications available. For more information: www.southcoastbeachproject.org
Newsletter: <https://mailchi.mp/southcoastbeachproject/soco-update-dec-27-6213929>



You are invited!! Who: Young Adults 18-30ish; What: YA Weekend Retreat; When: **Fri. Jan 19 – Sun Jan 21; Early Bird deadline (\$65) Jan. 7th; Reg. Deadline (\$75) Jan 14th;** Where: Maranatha CRC Woodstock; Why: Connect with other YAs in Southern Ontario, grow in relationships with them and with Jesus. **Registration:** <https://forms.gle/W3wFU1zYke3FkDV98>. **Facebook:** <https://fb.me/e/1rRLnuyqh>; **PROMO VIDEO:** <https://youtu.be/FcfZmrwM09U> We are praying for an amazing turnout of young adults!

MALE-VOICE AUDIENCE PSALM/HYMN SING: All men are invited to a male audience psalm/hymn sing, the Lord willing, on Saturday, February 3 at 7:00PM at Maranatha Free Reformed Church. Whether you sing tenor, bass or just enjoy singing the melody of songs, you will enjoy this event. A beautiful collection of psalms & hymns will be sung. The evening will be directed by Herman den Hollander and accompanied by Tjeerd Klaver on the organ. A free-will offering will be taken for the Niagara Christian Gleaners (Smithville) and Ontario Christian Gleaners (Cambridge). Looking forward to seeing you there. If you have any questions, contact hdenhollander@yahoo.com.

It's time get your tickets for the annual Hosanna & Mattaniah Choirs Concert at HAMILTON'S FIRSTONTARIO CONCERT HALL!! – March 30, 2024, DV Tickets are now available for the annual combined concert of the Hosanna Choir & Mattaniah Christian Male Choir concert which will once again be held, the Lord willing, at FirstOntario Concert Hall, 1 Summers Lane, Hamilton on Saturday, March 30 at 7:30pm. The choirs will be accompanied by Ryan Vandenberg (Organ), Andre Knevel (Organ), and Naomi Noorduyn (Piano) and the 13-piece Scott Harrison Brass/Percussion Ensemble. Tickets are available at \$25 & \$35, and can be obtained through the choir's website (www.hosanna-choir.org) a choir member, or contact Wendy den Hollander at 905-628-1211 or at hdenhollander@yahoo.com.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sun Jan 7th	10:00 a.m.	Sunday Service; Pastor Erick preaching; "The Power of Words"
	7-9 p.m.	Youth Alpha
Mon Jan 8	7:00 p.m.	Cadets
Tues Jan 9	9:30 a.m.	Coffee Break
	7:00 p.m.	Volleyball
Wed Jan 10	9:30 a.m.	Mission Circle
	7:00 p.m.	GEMS
	7:00 p.m.	Evening Coffee Break
	7:00 p.m.	KnitWits
Thurs Jan 11	7:00 p.m.	Worship Team practice
	7:30 p.m.	Friendship
Fri Jan 12	7:30 p.m.	Young Adults @ Judge & Jester
Sun Jan 14th	10:00 a.m.	Sunday Service; Pastor Erick preaching; "The Power of Weakness"
	7-9 p.m.	Youth Alpha

JOYFUL GIVING

THIS WEEK'S OFFERING: January 7th AM – Shalom Manor & Gardens is a special Christian, non-profit long-term care home and retirement centre, serving seniors mostly of Dutch descent who belong to the community of Reformed faiths. Limited government funding does not allow the services our seniors require that meet our expectations and standards. Your gifts will enhance immediate resident care, programs, and debt load.

UPCOMING OFFERING: January 14th AM – Benevolence: Your contribution to Mountainview's Benevolent Fund provides assistance for those in need in our church family and in our local community. These include basic needs such as food, clothing, housing and schooling. A church and community of our size has many varied needs within it. Please continue to support our ministry of Benevolence.



Is there a charity close to your heart that you would love to see thrive for years to come? Questions about wills and legacy? **Christian Stewardship Services is hosting open Q&A sessions** about these topics and more throughout the winter to answer all of your questions on charitable giving and estate planning. Find out more about the **Winter Conversation series** [here](#). While you are planning ahead, why not contact a consultant to maximize your year end giving, or set up an appointment to review your will in the new year? [Schedule an appointment](#) today!

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: Caring for You - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Did you know that along with caring for others, God wants us to care for ourselves, too? It makes God happy when you treat your body with respect and care, just like you would treat a special, holy temple. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like KC's The Bible in One Year Plan.




Groundwork: Compassion - The Christlike virtue of compassion is more than an emotion. Join Groundwork as we explore Matthew 9:36, Colossians 3:12-14, and 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 to discover why the apostle Paul identifies compassion as a defining characteristic in followers of Jesus and what it looks like in our everyday lives. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.



Thrive Faith Formation Tip - "Visio divina" is the practice of meditating on Scripture using art or other images. Try it by reading the story of the Prodigal Son in Luke 15 and then meditating on the art in Calvin University's collection based on this story (tinyurl.com/ProdigalArt). Learn more at crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject




Stories & Strategies: Strengthening the CRC in Canada - Are you interested in learning more about church planting and renewal in the CRC? Join the Canadian Ministry Board for stories (and best practice learnings from those experiences) and how they might be applicable to your local church context. We look forward to discussing these ideas with you alongside other church members & leaders. More at crcna.org/Canada


 **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. Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our community on Facebook.

Online Courses with Institute for Christian Studies - Enjoy lifelong learning! The following courses are available during the winter semester at ICS: What Were the Women Up To? Elizabeth Anscombe, Philippa Foot, Mary Midgley, and Iris Murdoch; God in Flesh and Blood: Revolutions in Christology; Issues in Phenomenology: Spirituality; Philosophical Inquiry and the Practices of Everyday Life: An Interdisciplinary Seminar on Philosophizing in a Time of Crisis; and Aristotle, Aquinas, and the Scholastic Approach to the History of Philosophy. Tuition is \$1,500 to take a course for credit, \$600 to audit, or \$400 for first-time auditors. The registration deadline for winter term courses is January 12, 2024 - email academic-registrar@icscanada.edu to register, or visit icscanada.edu/winter-courses to learn more

JOBS AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

 **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](http://www.shalommanor.ca) and send your resume or any questions to hr@shalommanor.ca to see if a career with Shalom is a good fit for you!

 **Resonate Global Mission is looking for an accountant to serve for 2-3 weeks in Nigeria.** Timeframe for serving is flexible. Learn more at www.resonateglobalmission.org/opportunity/accounting

 **The CRCNA is seeking a candidate to fill the full-time, permanent position of Executive Director Canada.** A search team has been tasked with recruiting for this position with the goal of having the successful candidate begin on or before May 1, 2024. Learn More at crcna.org/executive-director-canada-search



We are thrilled to introduce a new role to our Indwell Team in Hamilton. The **Event Coordinator** will love to plan and carry out key events that unify people who have a shared interest in the ultimate well-being of our vulnerable population. Posting at www.indwell.ca/careers. The closing date for applications is January 9, 2023.



Wellingstone Christian Home is presently seeking applicants for a live-in co-superintendent position. This position is responsible for 28% of the superintendent duties at Wellingstone Christian Home, with an anticipated start date of February 1, 2024. If you or anyone you know would be interested in this position, or for more information on the full job description, please contact the Wellingstone Office by email at office@wellingstone.ca or by phone at 905-383-0754.