

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship Service Streetlight Ministry-The Way
MONDAY		
TUESDAY	6:00 pm	Mess Prep 3C's Practice
WEDNESDAY	2:30 pm 5:00 pm 7:30 pm	Extencicare Mess Worship Practice
THURSDAY		
FRIDAY		Youth Sleep over
SATURDAY	8:30 am	Yoga

## GREETERS

Sept. 13	Ross and Karin McCallum Bill and Cheryl Mennill
Sept. 20	Fred and Laura Nydam John and Helen Olthoff



# Discover Christ & Grow in Him.

First Christian Reformed Church  
Sunday, Sept. 13, 2009

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## WORSHIP: SUNDAY, Sept. 13, 2009

**You are Peter, a rock. This is the rock on which I will put together my church, a church so expansive with energy that not even the gates of hell will be able to keep it out.**

Matt 12: 18, *The Message*

Good morning. We want to welcome you to Christ's following as it is lived here at First CRC. A very special welcome to guests and newcomers as we kick off a new season in the church.

This morning we ask the question, "Why Church?"

When talking to non-church people, more often than not they don't have issues with Christ, per se, but with the church. Even some Christians argue that they can still be a good Christian and not attend church. Why do we spend every Sunday together in worship and praise, when we could stay home for extra sleep or family time? Why do we commit money, time, and other valuable resources as this gathered group of Jesus-followers in downtown London? The two main answers the scriptures give us are: Christ and community. In Christ, God offers his love to this world. Christ created his church and through his church nurtures a distinctive community. This community, in turn, is to demonstrate in their love and witness, the presence and practice of the living Christ to their non-believing neighbours. Perhaps there is only one answer to the question, Why Church? Love.

Come back tonight for "The Way" service at 5:00 pm. The Way is an alternative style service in partnership with Streetlight Ministries.

Next week we will be celebrating Lord's Supper.

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sept. 20	10:00 am	Pastor Pieter
	5:00 pm	Streetlight Ministry/The Way
Sept. 27:	10:00 am	Pastor Willemina
	5:00 pm	Streetlight Ministry/The Way

## YOUTH

### Youth: Grades 9 – 12

- WELCOME to a new year! Sept. - Dec. schedules are in your boxes.
- Kick off event: overnigher at the church, Sept. 18 - 19.
- Please come to the church picnic and bring your soccer shoes for the game of Youth vs. Council.
- SW Classis Youth retreat is Oct. 23 - 25 at Pearce Williams Conference Center.

### CD's: Grades 7 and 8

- Here we go with a new year! 2009-10 CD calendars are in your mailboxes.
- Please bring soccer shoes to the church picnic for our soccer game of Youth vs. Church Council.
- Camping (weather permitting!), Oct 2 -4.

**GEMS** - will begin a new season on Thursday, Sept. 24th from 7:00 - 9:00 pm. Look for information in your mail slots today.

### Offering:

#### Sept. 13: First CRC

We, as a church, are committed to growing spiritually by offering active ministry programs for people of all ages in the church and downtown London community. We believe that God has blessed our church and He intends to advance these ministries with the financial resources He has entrusted to us. Please give generously.

#### Sept. 20: -Operation Manna

For more than 35 years, Operation Manna (OM) has provided funding and consultation in support of local community ministries. It provides funds and services to churches and organizations that are active in sustainable community development. It also serves as a link between diaconates, churches and local service opportunities.

## SMALL GROUPS

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### Common Ground

**Have you just graduated from high school? Are you a student at Western or Fanshawe? A working “twentysomething” looking for a place to connect?**

Today, after church, **Kick off BBQ** at Pastor Willemina and Chaplain Kelly’s home—18 Portal Crescent. If you need a ride, meet downstairs at the information desk. It’s all about community and hospitality—so come on out!

### Sermon Discussion Groups

The pastors plan to create small group discussion questions based on the fall sermon series. If you are willing to facilitate a group based on this material, please contact Pastor Willemina.

### Griefshare Group

Struggling with the death of a loved one or know someone who is? Grief is a journey, but you don’t have to go it alone. We are starting a Griefshare group on Wed., **Sept. 16** from **7:00 – 9:00 pm**. This group meets every week to explore the various aspects of the grieving process. For more information, contact Pastor Willemina at [raham@skynet.ca](mailto:raham@skynet.ca) or 519-432-7997.

### CoffeeBreak: Women’s Bible study

Start date is **Wed., Sept. 27** from 9:30 – 11:00 am. More information coming.

### Current

Current is a Bible study and small group for young adults in transition. Whether you are single or married, starting a family or starting a job, join us as we socialize and learn more about God and His Word. We are having an upcoming BBQ social event, so keep an eye on the bulletin next week for more information. To know more about Current, contact Kirsten Eisinga at [keisinga@rogers.com](mailto:keisinga@rogers.com) or 519-936-8281.

## WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS AND NEWCOMERS

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We hope that you will feel at home among us. We invite you to fill out a Welcome Card, located in the pews, so that we can get to know you and meet your needs. Join us for refreshments in the downstairs Fellowship Hall, following the worship service. Our nursery, open to newborns through 2 year old, is located at the far west end of the church basement. Children, age 3 to grade 6, are dismissed as indicated in the order of service to Church School classes held in the upper and lower west sections of the church. (Children need to be picked up at their classroom.) Browse our Information Desk downstairs for information on our church, parking, our Alpha program, Small Groups, as well as other ministries and classes available to you. Hearing assistance devices are available from the sound booth before the service. If you have any questions, feel free to ask any member of the congregation or a pastor. May you be blessed here today.

## CHURCH FAMILY

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Please pray for:

- **Abeta Dekoker** as she’s finishing her chemo treatments.
- **Wiepe Witteveen** as her rehab from surgery has proved to be fairly painful so far.

Birthday Greetings to: **Mary Postma** (Sept. 14), **Helen Olthoff** (Sept. 15), and **Nicolas Veenhof** (Sept. 19) who celebrate their birthdays this week. God Bless.

Email change: **Steve and Arlene O’Brien**: [saccobrien@rogers.com](mailto:saccobrien@rogers.com)

Please notify the office with any pastoral care concerns.

There are a number of copies of the Preaching Plan for the coming year on the information desk downstairs. If you should not find a copy left, please give Barb a call at the office, 519-432-7997.

**Bethel CRC News:** please pray for Amber Bootsma, granddaughter of Clara and Jack Hoekstra-Bootsma, who was born three months prematurely and continues to face the challenges of growing and developing.

## CHURCH NEWS

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### Weekly Giving Announcement

Last Week Actual:	\$8677.00
Budget Year to date required:	\$294,174.00
Year to date actual received:	\$259,469.00
Year to date giving deficiency:	\$34,705.00
Cause of the Day: Deacons:	\$828.20

### Dunamis Conference: Ignite II

For many of us, the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives is a bit of a mystery. If you want a rooted, Reformed perspective on a Spirit-filled life, mark **Oct. 23 - 24** on your calendar. We will be hosting the second Dunamis conference in the Fellowship Hall (even if you didn't go to the first one, you can come to this one!!). Look for more details in upcoming bulletins.

### Meal Ministry

We have a core team of members who faithfully provide meals to those in our church undergoing medical treatment, experiencing bereavement or adjusting to the birth of a new baby. We would like to expand this ministry and give others the opportunity to participate. There are two ways you could take part in this ministry.

1. Volunteer (after being contacted) to make a meal occasionally and deliver it to the member or family at a mutually agreed time.
2. Freeze a meal or single portions (labeled with date, type of meal and instructions for reheating) and deliver it to the church to put in the Deacon's Meal Ministry section of the freezer in the room beside the kitchen.

If you would like to participate in this ministry, please call Diane Broad at 519-268-3537 or email me at [broaddj@gmail.com](mailto:broaddj@gmail.com) with your name, telephone number and email address.

### Christian Festival Concert

A Christian Festival Concert, will be held at Roy Thomson Hall, (Toronto), on Friday, Nov. 20, at 7:30 pm. featuring the Ontario Christian Music Assembly under the direction of Leendert Kooy, with Andre Knevel at the organ We have booked a coach at \$20.00 per person to leave London at 3:00 pm. and returns at 11:00 pm. Six tickets remain for the main floor at \$30. For tickets with bus reservation, call John Witteveen at 519-472-0605.

## CHURCH AND OTHER EVENTS

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**Annual Fellowship Club Bike Trip:** The trip is scheduled for Saturday October 3rd. The trail will be the Goderich to Auburn Rail Trail (GART). It follows an abandoned CPR line and is a safe off road experience. A round trip on the GART is only about 25 km and we plan to add a scenic tour through the Goderich shoreline as well. For more information please contact the Fluits [@andyfluit@rogers.com](mailto:andyfluit@rogers.com), or 519-472-4307.

### London Christian Elementary School 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament

At Highland Country Club, on Thurs., Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>. The cost is \$135.00 per golfer, which includes 18 holes of golf, cart, lunch and dinner with dessert. Final registration is Sept. 19. If interested or for more information, please contact Heather Gee at 519-268-8510 or Carl Vandergoot at 519-268-3237.

### Mess Prep Night is Back!!

Over the summer months our Mess community has continued to grow, allowing our church, together with Youth for Christ, to reach out and touch the lives of 70-100 people in need each week. Beginning September 8<sup>th</sup> our Tuesday night prep night will return, and we are in real need of volunteers to join us in preparing our meal. If you are interested in contributing in any way, please see Jennifer Eisener or contact her at [dedic8edmum@yahoo.com](mailto:dedic8edmum@yahoo.com) or 226-663-5773. Tuesday Night Prep: 6:00 pm-7:30 pm; Wednesday Night Dinner: 5:00 pm-7:00 pm

### Theology on Tap

On **Wed., Sept. 16**, Robert Joustra will be speaking on *"Doing Public Life and (Still) Believing Stuff: Meditations on Andrei Rublev's Icon of the Holy Trinity."* Happy Hour at 8:00 pm, talk at 9:00pm. at The Wave, University Community Centre, 2nd floor. How do people who hold to a religious belief/faith engage in public dialogue and advocacy? Is religious faith incompatible with Western, liberal democracy? Joustra will outline ways of responding to these questions and offer suggestions as to how people of religious belief can work constructively together with people from diverse political, philosophical, and moral backgrounds. ALL invited!

### Rehoboth Homes Fall Banquet

Join us for our annual Fall Banquet and Silent Auction this coming Friday, Sept. 18, 2009 at Sacred Heart Parish-Henderson Hall in Ingersoll! Tickets \$25.00. Reserve your seat by Sept. 14—e-mail [rehobothaa@amtelecom.net](mailto:rehobothaa@amtelecom.net) or call 519-765-4207.