

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Worship Service and Church Picnic Streetlight Ministry-The Way
MONDAY		
TUESDAY	6:00 pm	Mess Prep 3C's Practice
WEDNESDAY	5:00 pm 7:30 pm	Mess Worship Practice
THURSDAY	7:00 pm	Gems & Cadets
FRIDAY		Collective Kitchen
SATURDAY	8:30 am	Yoga

GREETERS

Sept. 20	Fred and Laura Nydam John and Helen Olthoff
Sept. 27	Lloyd and Gerda Oudman Andy and Marilyn Oudman



Discover Christ & Grow in Him.

First Christian Reformed Church
Sunday, Sept. 20, 2009

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WORSHIP: SUNDAY, Sept. 20, 2009

**I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message,
that all of them may be one.**

John 12: 21

Good morning and welcome to First CRC. Today is picnic day and you are heartily invited.

In today's service we continue to ask the question, Why Church? We do this by looking at the unity of the church. One thing the church has done well, it seems, is to argue & divide. This is clearly seen within our own CRC's history. Yet, one thing Jesus prays for on behalf of all future believers, is unity. He prays that we be one, just as He and the Father are one. So, what does this unity look like? What does it mean for us as London First CRC to be one, among many churches? Within our own congregation, we already struggle with differences and tension. How, then, do we pursue unity within our own church as we seek to present Christ to our neighbours?

We are celebrating communion this morning. If you confess Jesus as your Saviour and are a professing member of a Christian church, please feel welcome to participate. We celebrate with bread and juice. There is a gluten-free wafer also available.

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

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sept. 27	10:00 am	Pastor Willemina
	5:00 pm	Streetlight Ministry/The Way
Oct. 04:	10:00 am	Pastor Pieter
	5:00 pm	Streetlight Ministry/The Way

YOUTH

Youth: Grades 9 – 12

- See you at the church picnic! Remember we are playing soccer vs. the Council. No cleats!!
- SW Classis Youth retreat Oct. 23 – 25, **forms in your boxes.** Please give registration forms to Anita **before Oct. 4 along with a cheque for \$56** (as First CRC subsidizes \$24 for your registration).
- Platbill statements are in your boxes also.
- Next youth group meeting is Sunday, Sept. 27, from 7:30 – 9:30 in the youth center. Come on out!

CD's: Grades 7 and 8

- Remember after the church picnic lunch today we will be playing a Youth vs. Church Council soccer game at 1:30! No cleats!
- Camping kick off (weather permitting!), Oct 2 -4. Thanks to those who have already given me their registration forms.

GEMS and **Cadets** meet this week.

Catechism is starting up for grades 7-12 on Tuesday, **Sept. 29** from **6:45-7:45 p.m.** Look for more information in your mailslot.

Offering:

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.

Sept. 27: Fred Witteveen

Fred is our CRWRC ministry partner serving in Kenya, East Africa. Fred gives leadership and support to a wide variety of national partners engaged in faith based community development in areas such as HIV/Aids, agricultural development, micro business development and peace building. Please keep Fred, Georgina and Mariah in your prayers (you'll find a prayer card in your mail slot).

SMALL GROUPS

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, come join in the church picnic. If you need a ride to the park—meet at the information table downstairs. Next week is lunch at Pastor Willemina’s house. It’s all about community and hospitality—so join in!

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. This week’s session prepares us for what to expect along the journey of grief. It emphasizes that everyone’s journey will be unique and warns against comparing grief experiences. We meet this Wed., **Sept. 23** from **7:00 – 9:00 pm**. New members always welcome. Contact Pastor Willemina at raham@skynet.ca or 519-432-7997.

CoffeeBreak: Women’s Bible study

What is Coffeebreak? Each week women of all ages meet for worship, Bible Study, connecting and snacks. Scheduled nursery volunteers offer childcare. Come and check it out! Our first study is “The Beautiful Mess” as we explore how Christ teaches us to work through the messiness of our relationships—whether work, marriage, family or friends. Start date is **Wed., Sept. 30** from 9:30 – 11:00 am.

Current

Current is a Bible study and small group for young adults in transition. We are having a BBQ next week Sunday, September 27, at 5:00 pm at Neil and Amber Van Andel's home. They live at 197 Lorraine Avenue. Feel free to bring a salad or dessert to share. For more information, contact Kirsten Eisinga at keisinga@rogers.com or 519-936-8281.

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS AND NEWCOMERS

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 years 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 Small Groups, as well as other ministries and classes that 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

Please pray for:

Fred and Laura Nydam, as Fred was admitted to the hospital this week and hopes to start chemotherapy.

Birthday Greetings to: **Cor DeWeerd** (Sept. 23) and **Nellie Hildering** (Sept. 25) who celebrate their birthdays this week.

God Bless.

Please notify the office with any pastoral care concerns.

Pastor Pieter and Pastor Willemina will be attending Classis this coming Tuesday. Pastor Pieter will be at meeting in Grand Rapids on Thursday and Friday.

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.

CHURCH NEWS

Weekly Giving Announcement

Last Week Actual:	\$8,368.00
Budget Year to date required:	\$302,346.00
Year to date actual received:	\$267,837.00
Year to date giving deficiency:	\$34,508.00
Cause of the Day: First CRC:	\$4,756.45

GROW update

From Fundraising: If you are a member and have not responded yet and we need your input. We will be in contact with you during the week of September 21st.

Please check out the updated **floor plans** are on display downstairs. Any and all feedback would be much appreciated

FIRST CRC ANNUAL FALL KICK-OFF PICNIC – TODAY immediately after our morning worship service at **Weldon Park in Arva** (go 2 km north of Masonville Mall on Richmond St. (Hwy 4), turn right onto St John's Drive in Arva, and go straight ahead into the park.)

We'll have Cake and *Tim Hortons* Coffee, a Shared Picnic Lunch, games and finally a Youth vs Church Council Soccer Challenge.

PLEASE BRING (if you are able):

- 1) Your own dishes/cutlery & beverages, lawn chairs/ blankets, and outdoor sports equipment.**
- 2) Food to share: Last names: A - D: a large dessert
E - M: a large salad
N - Z: 1 doz prepared buns**

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE! Bring your friends. If you need a ride from church please gather downstairs at the Information Desk.

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.

CHURCH AND OTHER EVENTS

Annual Fellowship Club Bike Trip: on 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. Ccontact the Fluits @andyfluit@rogers.com, or 519-472-4307.

London Christian Elementary School 15th Annual Golf Tournament

At Highland Country Club, on Thurs., Oct. 1st. 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.

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 with your name, telephone number and email address.

Day of Encouragement – Saturday, October 17th

This annual one day conference will be held at Redeemer University College in Ancaster. Deacons, Elders and members of the congregation are welcome to attend this day of inspiration, encouragement and training designed to equip leaders for ministry in our church. The day consists of workshops, fellowship with other churches and a concert of Michael Card. If you plan to attend, please contact Kirsten Eisinga before October 7 at keisinga@rogers.com or 519-936-8281 to register as the cost is covered by the deacons. For more information about the Day of Encouragement or to find out what workshops are available, please ask Kirsten for a brochure of visit www.diaconalministries.com and click on the link.