
Christian Reformed Church
88 Main Street East,
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Welcome

Worship: Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

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Monday - Friday 9:00 am to noon

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Mission: Drayton Christian Reformed Church is a Christ-centred fellowship led by God's Word and Spirit to share His gifts of grace and hope.

- joyfully serving our God in all that we do
- learning and sharing His Word with others
- encouraging the use of our spiritual gifts
- loving, supporting and caring for each other

Drayton CRC Connection May ~ 2019



*Flowers appear on the earth;
the season of singing has come,*

Song of Solomon 2:12a

It's not that the crew wasn't making decisions. On board the massive *MV Derbyshire*: a bulk carrier or freight ship. September 9, 1980. While on route from Sept-Illes, Quebec to Kawasaki, Japan. No, all 42 crew members were making many decisions. Split-second. Non-stop. Days on end. In the fight of their lives: battling Typhoon Orchid.

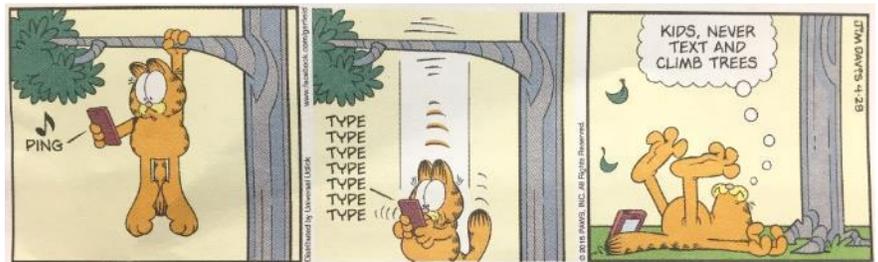
MV Derbyshire's story aired last week. On the first episode of a Discovery Channel new series called "Disasters at Sea." I'm sure this title leaves nothing to guess-work. After what might only be described as a time of intense, heart-pounding decisions Typhoon Orchid wins. No "Mayday" ever issued. No trace of the ship found, other than one empty lifeboat six weeks after the tragedy. Families of those lost, understandably, begin searching for answers.

It would take 14 years. And, help from the International Transport Workers Federation. The *MV Derbyshire* is located 4 km below the ocean's surface in June of 1994. Forty days are spent taking pictures; studying the 1.3 km debris field. In the end, families receive their answer. Massive typhoon waves sheared off small ventilation pipe covers at the front of the ship. Slowly, unseen by the crew, seawater entered forward spaces. Slowly, the *Derbyshire's* bow rode lower. Finally, in the darkness of night, a wave breaks over the ship into the cargo hold. Time for decisions ran out instantly.

It's the beginning of May. Though we're not experiencing a typhoon, spring rains continually remind us a new season has arrived: a season that comes with its own set of unique decisions. What day will we begin working the fields? Which flowers or shrubs will need transplanting? What will be worn to special school events like graduations? What summer job opportunities will we pursue? With warmer temperatures and nature ready to transform back into beautiful colour, "... springtime ... joins with all nature in manifold witness to God's great faithfulness, mercy and love" (Gray PH #556).

While it's true seasons in nature (and in our lives) continually change, the Bible teaches one season never changes. "*For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms*" (Ephesians 6: 12). "*At stake,*" writes one commentator, "*is the titanic conflict between God and the powerful spiritual forces that continually war against Him in heaven.*" Like the decision-making crew of *MV Derbyshire*, our daily struggle or fight isn't about what we can see (or, "other people" in Ephesians), it's about what's unseen: Satan and his deceptive work.

Decisions are important. Our son's Garfield calendar illustrates this point well. "*Kids [everyone?!], never text and climb trees.*" Make wise decisions. Hang on to Jesus who says to the wind and waves: "*Quiet! Be Still!*" (Mark 4: 39). As we remember Jesus' ascension into heaven, this month, pray His Holy Spirit "*make the goal of our lives, not earthly things, but the things above where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand*" (Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 49). It's time for decisions aware of on unseen things.



Ascension Blessings,

Pastor Paul

Dear Congregation:

Early in 2019 a letter was submitted to Council, outlining concerns regarding the negative impact that the behaviour of some youth is having on their peers as well as on some of their youth ministry leaders.

Council wishes to remind the congregation that the adults who lead in various capacities – as Youth Leaders, Sunday School teachers and Cadet and GEMS Counsellors - are volunteers. The reality is that the adults “stepping up” and leading our children are volunteers and we must support each and every one of them. One reality of dealing with negative behaviour is the potential for “burn out”; a person who may have been initially excited to serve may decline to volunteer the next time they are asked, given his or her past experiences.

Council recognizes that one key strategy to encourage a respectful, healthy and safe environment for all is effective communication. All leaders are encouraged to speak with the impacted parents - immediately and in a respectful way - to seek ways to solve negative behaviour.

Council also recognizes that most young people, regardless of the program he or she is attending, want to be there and have a desire to learn. And so it should be. The reality is that negative behaviour by some has the real potential of destroying the desire for the majority of others to go to his or her program with joy and anticipation.

Council understands that each child matures differently and is facing different challenges as they are slowly but surely developing into adulthood. But this process does not excuse negative and potentially destructive behaviour which impacts those around them.

Therefore, as mentioned before, we need dialogue. Council encourages parents to talk to their youth and ask how he or she feels about the programs that they attend and ask for input. Contact your District Elder if you have any constructive suggestions.

If, after reading this open letter of concern, you feel called to help out in any of our many youth programs, then by all means, contact a Youth Ministry Leader.

Council has directed the Safe Church Committee to come up with additional solutions to the concern of negative attitudes and disrespect. But asking a committee to come up with recommendations and policies does not guarantee success. What could encourage success is collective, open and honest discussion about this important matter. We all need to look ourselves in the mirror, whether we are a young adult or a senior citizen, and ask, “How can I contribute in making my church the best, the safest, the healthiest environment where my child/children DESIRE to come”.

Above all, we must pray! We cannot create healthy environments on our own. So, you are encouraged to pray - individually, as families, in small groups - for guidance and leading of the Holy Spirit. We must recognize that people, both young and old, have been hurt. We must “own” the fact that people have been “burned out” while freely giving of their talents. We all know that writing wonderfully-written policies does not determine success – in fact, those will fail.

What we all must recognize, as a loving church community, is that the only thing that will create a safe, positive and joyful environment for all is mutual respect for one another.

Sharing God’s Grace and Hope,

Drayton CRC Council

GEMS

GEMS made the most of our last meetings for some fun crafts and games! The groups have done such a variety of fun things! Spa night, sewing, potting plants, painting, arrangement making and more! We made and distributed a large amount of chilli, cookie mix and dessert mix too! All the while learning what it means to, Be a Blessing!"

Drayton GEMS Club Coordinators,
Judy D. & Mandy M.



From the Office

I would like to thank everyone for the warm welcome as I started my new journey here at Drayton CRC. If you are in the area, drop by, coffee is always on! I look forward to meeting all of you. New office hours will be **Monday to Friday 9am to noon**. Contact information is the same, secretary@draytoncrc.org.

Jeanette

From the Barnhoorn's

Back in January, we held the first in a series of Scripture Listening and Reading Group (SLRG) training in Nyankpa. This is a training for people to learn how use the audio Scriptures in Bible studies. One of the participants that came was a young man named Benjamin. He came late for the training on the first day. We weren't sure if he was really serious about the training. We are always looking for people who have potential to lead groups in the future.



A big part of the training on the first day is to memorize the questions that will be used in the Bible study groups, so Benjamin missed a lot of important material but he came back on day two and we could see that he was committed to being there. He had learned the questions by heart, and was ready to thoughtfully think about questions given to him.

On the third day, the participants go out into the community to practice what they have learned. They play the audio Bible and then ask a series of questions to those in the Bible study without teaching or preaching.

Later in the day, we met in smaller groups to find out from them who they felt God wanted them to start a group with. Benjamin said that he would do the Bible study with the old people in his neighborhood and their old neighbors. When he was asked "Why do you want to go to the old people?" he shared this story,

"Today, after our first Bible study, I did a second one because I had extra time. I went into one compound and there was an old woman there. I asked her if I could share with her. She said yes. When she listened and heard, she was so happy. She said, 'I have been going to church for a many years but I don't understand the Hausa they are using. But today, I have heard God's Word! Will you come back and share with me again?' I want to go back to her."

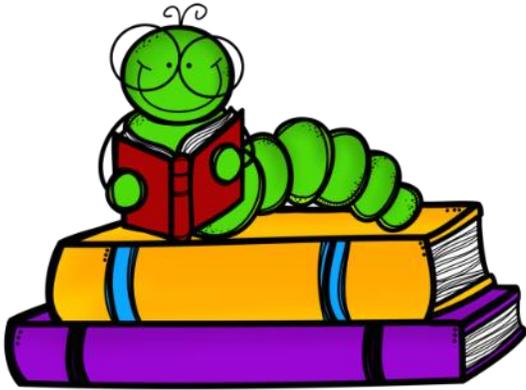
Benjamin's experience has not only enabled Benjamin's experience has not only enabled him to engage with Scripture in a new way, but God is already using him to enable others to do likewise! We Thank God. We are so looking forward to the time when all Nyankpa speakers are able to not only read Scripture, but hear it and even watch it. They will be able discuss it and grow because of it and see their lives and communities holistically transformed because they have been able to use well translated scripture.

Pray that Benjamin and the other 26 people who received this training and went away with the audio Scriptures will be faithful to go and do what they planned and feel called to do.

Pray that the Word will be truly heard and touch many hearts in Nyankpa land. Benjamin was one of three groups who went to old people. Every group reported that the listeners said the same thing, "I have been hearing and not understanding, until today." May they hear and understand, and fall in love with Jesus!



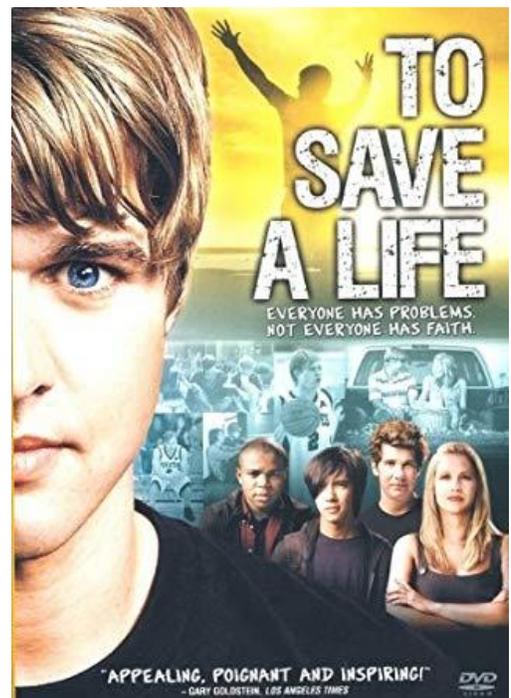
Library's Pages



We have cleaned up and moved a few things around in our Library. We have also added more books and DVD's. One of the new DVD's that was added to the Library is the movie, **"To Save A Life"**. (PG-13) It is the story of a high school senior whose life was shocked when his childhood friend takes his own life in the hallways at school. Jake starts asking questions and re-evaluates his life, friends, future decisions, and ends up finding God. But when Jakes life starts falling apart, is his new-found faith strong enough and does he have the strength to stand up for what is right. This is a good family movie to watch with your teens and will open doors for good meaningful discussions.

Other new movies that have been added to our library are:

1. Soul Surfer
2. The Andy Griffith Show
3. A Song from the Heart (Amy Grant)
4. Standing Firm
5. Where the Red Fern Grows
6. Flicka (Tim McGraw)
7. The Ultimate Gift



SERVING SCHEDULE FOR: May 2019



Nursery Parents: Eddy & Lauren Koster

	May 5	May 12	May 19	May 26	
Nursery	Mandy Sonia Lauren Kiersten	Martha Sandy Jocelyn Becca s	Corrina Theresa Shawna Reeghan	Mary Joyce Mikayla Finley	
Little Lambs	Denise DeWeerd Sawyer Rumph	Mathilde Bons Liberty Thalen	Rob Abby	Gerri Reid	
Subs	Martha Rumph Jocelyn DeWeerd	Corrina Duimering Shawna Rumph	Mary Mikayla	Rita Alexis	

	Bingo at the Terrace
May 1	Lucy / Theresa
May 15	Pat / Betty

Date	Greeters	Coffee Servers
May 5	GEMS	GEMS
May 12	Martin & Grace	Dave & Mandy Harry & Marg
May 19	Jack & Theresa	Herman & Heather Tony & Jane
May 26	Mathias & Cheryl	Luke & Willeke Scott & Emily

	Royal Terrace
May 5	Jane
May 12	Reformed Church
May 19	Ed
May 26	Palmerston Missionary Church

	Hall Monitors	Library
May 5	Randy	Tracy
May 12	Teresa	Sharon
May 19	Sharon	Jill
May 26	Arnold	Julie

	Sermon Learnin' Grade 5 & 6	Sermon Learnin' Grade 7 & 8	Joel SS Assistant	
May 5	No Class – GEMS Sunday	No Class – GEMS Sunday	Janice	
May 12	Alfred Bep	Francis	Abby	
May 19	Arnold Yvonne	Paula	Aiden	
May 26	Phil John	John	Becca	

May 2019

Birthdays and Anniversaries

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
			1 B Mike H.	2 A Martin & Darlene V.	3	4 B Dirk L. B Darian R. A Mark & Katie S.
5 A James & Irene S.	6	7 B Natasha H.	8 B Cole M. B Wayne V. B Julie W. A Randy & Lisa G.	9 A Bruce & Jenn R.	10 B Shawna R. B Michelle T. B Carter M. A Doug & Sandy S.	11 B Kaitin S. B Taralyn D. B Emily D. A John & Jayne M.
12 B Courtney B. B Eric D. B Morgan S.	13	14 A Harold & Dorothy S. A Henk & Lauren V.	15 B Rachel V. B Briana V. B Jan B. A Henry & Sonia B.	16	17	18 B James D.
19	20 B Janelle Z. B Marilyn B. A Phil & Yvonne V.	21 B Bert V. B Connor D.	22 B Cynthia D. B Earle K. A Mike & Ange H. A John & Heather K.	23 B Sandy S. B Martin V. B Jenna S. A Fred & Cora S.	24 B Kyle M.	25 B Brooklyn V.
26 B Mary N. B Scott N.	27 B Harry H.	28 A Tony & Jane M.	29 B Patricia M. B Matthew R. B Reeghan R.	30 B Crystal H. A Hank & Betty T.	31	

May 2019 Event Calendar

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
			1 2:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Directory Photos	2 2:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Directory Photos 7:00 p.m. - Youth Road clean up	3 2:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Directory Photos	4 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. CCS Pancake Breakfast 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Directory Photos
5 GEMS Sunday Soup & Buns Lunch Leader: Pastor Paul Offering: GEMS Global	6	7 8:00 p.m. Council meeting	8	9 7:30 p.m. Youth Group games against Council	10	11
12 Leader: Rick DeGraaf Offering: World Renew	13	14 TBA Website Committee meeting	15	16 8:00 p.m. Committee of Stewards meeting	17 All Ontario Youth Convention (AOYC)	18 All Ontario Youth Convention (AOYC)
19 All Ontario Youth Convention (AOYC) Leader: Pastor Paul Offering: Drop Inn	20 ~Victoria Day~ All Ontario Youth Convention (AOYC)	21 8:00 p.m. Deacon's meeting 8:00 p.m. Elder's meeting	22	23	24	25
26 Leader: Nick Kuipery Collection: Conestoga Bible Camp	27	28	29	30	31	