

September 1, 2019

**Ministry Information & Contacts**

Summer Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 9am-1 pm

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Website: [www.ebenezercrc.com](http://www.ebenezercrc.com)

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**Ecclesiastes:**

*Finding the Good Life*



# Welcome to Ebenezer!

Good morning and welcome to Ebenezer. This morning we wrap up our summer series through the book of Ecclesiastes. In some ways the author of Ecclesiastes ends the book by bringing us full circle to the same place where we started and reminding us that all is vapor. And yet, I trust that by God's grace we are not the same people that we were when we started our journey through Ecclesiastes. God has been at work in our church in many ways throughout the summer and I pray that He will continue to shape and fashion us according to His will.

## WELCOME & PRAYER

SONG — *Made to Worship*

## GOD'S GREETING & WE GREET ONE ANOTHER

SONG — *My Life is in You Lord*

## CONFESSION

SONG — *I Will Wait for You*

## ASSURANCE

SONG — *Psalms 23*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

### THANK OFFERING

1 - Ebenezer Ministries      2 - Calvin Seminary

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*(No Sunday School)*

SONG — *I Need Thee Every Hour*

SCRIPTURE READING — **Ecclesiastes 12:9-14**

SERMON — **What Life Is All About**

SONG — *Renewing, Reforming the Church in our Day*

PARTING BLESSING & CLOSING SONG — *Hear the Call of the Kingdom*

## Church Family

Congratulations to **Joyce D** who will celebrate her **85th birthday** on September 2nd and to **Albert T** who will celebrate his **90th birthday** on September 3rd. We thank God for you and wish you God's blessings on your special day and all year through!

Congratulations to **Joel & Candice P** on the birth of their son **Thys Jelle**, born Wednesday, August 28. We praise God for the blessing of new life and rejoice with you as you welcome this precious gift.

*If you are experiencing physical or emotional difficulties, please speak to Pastor Jason, your district Elder, a Deacon or contact the church office. We want to support you in your journey. We pray that God will provide you with peace, comfort and healing.*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** - Sunday School is finished for the summer. Sunday School will start up again for all ages near the end of September. Children are invited to stay with their parents during the service for the next few weeks.

**GEMS GIRLS CLUB** - Our GEMS Club (Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior) is a club for girls in grades 4-8. Plans are underway for the upcoming season which will begin on September 25th. In order for this important ministry to run well a few **more counsellors are needed**.

If you are interested in joining this fun, impacting and fulfilling ministry please talk to Leanne K or Charlene V for more information.

**FRIENDSHIP MINISTRIES:** It is that time of year again when organizing begins for a new year. October is a busy month with Friendship beginning on October 21<sup>st</sup>. Heather DeBoer, from Friendship Canada, will host an evening on October 23<sup>rd</sup> here at Ebenezer, including groups from the surrounding area (more information to follow). October 25-26 is The Umbrella Conference in Calgary. Choose Joy! Umbrella Conference brings together:

- \* ministry leaders
- \* families and individuals impacted by disability
- \* professionals
- \* community agencies and support workers

under one umbrella for the purposes of learning, sharing and championing the cause to include people with disabilities in our faith communities. Join us and experience the JOY of inclusive community! If you are interested please check out the website at [www.umbrellaconference.com](http://www.umbrellaconference.com). Contact Wendy B. with any questions and to register by Wednesday.

## Deacon's Corner

**1<sup>st</sup> Offering: EBENEZER MINISTRIES** - This offering is used to cover the day-to-day expenses of the church, fund the various ministries at Ebenezer, cover the salaries of staff, and contributes to the ministry shares that we are committed to as members of Classis Alberta North and the CRC Denomination.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Offering: CALVIN SEMINARY** - Calvin Theological Seminary exists to serve the Christian Reformed Church in North America and wider constituencies by preparing persons for biblically faithful and contextually effective ministry of the Word and by offering Reformed theological scholarship and counsel. For more info see calvinseminary.edu

**Next Week: DEACONATE** - Deacons are church officers whose main job description is to administer the mercy of Christ to all people. The deacons are also called upon to motivate the members of Christ's church to faithful, obedient stewardship of their resources on behalf of the needy. Along with loving deeds and with gifts of money and assistance, the deacons serve the needy with counsel, leading people to see the grace of our loving Savior and recognizing the Lord through whom all blessings flow.

Dear friends: **WARM GREETINGS FROM HONDURAS.** For most of you, summer is drawing to a close and those with school-aged children are gearing up for new rhythms. Praise God for the changing seasons!

When we last wrote, Honduras had experienced several weeks of protests, strikes and in some cases, violent demonstrations. We praise God for relative calm during the month of July. There have been intermittent protests during August, but they have not garnered large followings as was the case in June. The issues in the country have not been resolved and the society seems to become more polarized as time marches on. Please pray for genuine dialogue and true justice at all levels of society.

**Blessings, Caspar and Leanne Geisterfer**, Resonate Global Mission and World Renew

The Newsletter is posted on the **Deacon's Bulletin Board** and extra copies are available at the Welcome Centre.

**FALL FAMILY POTLUCK.** According to the calendar, fall marks the beginning of the end of the year. But for many of us who have children in school or who participate in ministries at Ebenezer, fall is the start of a new season. In order to celebrate the start of the new ministry year, we will be having a church-wide potluck lunch immediately after our church service on **Sunday September 15.** Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend for a time of fellowship, encouragement, laughter and good food. **Food assignments: If you plan on attending and your last name begins with the letter A-F please bring a side dish to share. If your name begins with G-S please bring a main dish to share. If your name begins with T-Z please bring a dessert to share.**

## Coming Up @ Ebenezer

<b>Sunday, September 1</b>	<b>@ 9:15 am</b>	Weekly Prayer Meeting
	<b>@ 10:00 am</b>	Worship Service
	<b>@ 5:00 pm</b>	GEMS Leaders Meeting
<b>Tuesday, September 3</b>	<b>@ 7:00 pm</b>	Council Meeting
<b>Sunday, September 8</b>	<b>@ 9:15 am</b>	Weekly Prayer Meeting
	<b>@ 10:00 am</b>	Worship Service

**PROJECTION TECHNICIAN WANTED!** We're looking to train another projection technician! If you're interested in the technical side of worship at Ebenezer, contact Nicole V or talk to her after church. We require technicians to be of high school age and the commitment involves being available every 5-6 weeks, worship practices (typically Thursday evenings) as well as projection on Sunday morning.

## Delight In Creation

### What is a **story-teller**?

A person who has experienced the goodness of God in creation and is willing to tell of this moment in 5-10 minutes. Your audience will be an eager group of 5-10 children of one age (ages 3-grade 3) and their mentor and helper. Bring your stories of blessing, of something you have learned, of an exciting adventure, or an amazing find—all parts of God's creation! "Show and tell" is fun for all ages!

Here again we will first look to persons of silver-haired age and experience. However, if you have a great story, do share it with us! And you want tell it more than once, there are different groups that you could go to on different Sundays!

We need 6 stories each week, for just a few minutes at the beginning of our classes. Can you recall a time when you knew God's presence in creation? In your experience? Through a story found in Scripture? We'd love to hear your story!

A special **story-telling workshop** will be provided for everyone interested on Sunday evening, September 22, 7-9 pm.

Please contact the Ebenezer office or Joanne K for more info or to sign up.

## Denominational News

**CALVIN SYMPOSIUM ON WORSHIP 2020** - The annual Calvin Symposium on Worship is a 3-day conference sponsored by the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship and the Center for Excellence in Preaching. It will be held Thursday, January 30, 2020 - Saturday, February 1, 2020 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The conference brings together a wide audience of artists, musicians, pastors, scholars, students, worship leaders and planners, and other interested worshippers. People come from around the world for a time of fellowship, worship, and learning together, seeking to develop their gifts, encourage each other and renew their commitment to the full ministry of the church.

*Ebenezer is hoping to send a group of worship leaders to this Symposium. If this is something you may be interested in, please let any member of the worship ministry team know by September 30.*

*More news and encouragement can be found at*

*<http://www.ebenezercrc.com/news>.*

*A paper copy is posted on the Bulletin Board along with News from The Kings University and Redeemer University College*

**EDMONTON CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS GOLF TOURNAMENT** is on Saturday, September 7th at the Sandpiper Golf & Country Club in St. Albert. We have spots available for golfers and foursomes. All proceeds go toward the West School Building Project and a request has been made for sunny and warm weather. Registration forms are available on our web site: [www.edmchristian.org](http://www.edmchristian.org) or call 780-408-7933. Join us!

**ABUNDANT HARVEST/DECLARING FREEDOM TO CAPTIVE SOULS/PARTICIPATING IN SOMETHING ONLY GOD CAN DO AT YOUR CRC CAMPUS MINISTRY!** The University ministry invites graduate and undergraduate students, recent alumni, and young adults in careers to join our campus community for food, fellowship and conversations. We meet every Thursday from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Campus Ministry space (HUB 176, one level below HUB Mall) starting September 5th. For more info contact Rick Mast at [rmast@ualberta.ca](mailto:rmast@ualberta.ca) or just show up!

**MEN'S COMMUNITY CHOIR OPEN HOUSE** – Edmonton Christian Male Choir proclaims the gospel in song to seniors and nursing homes, worship services and in concert. Men interested in singing in our Christian community choir are invited to try us out. Come to our open house on Monday, September 9 and 16 at 7:25 p.m. in the chapel at the Cornerstone United Reformed Church of Edmonton, 11610 - 95A St NW. Find out more about ECMC at [www.facebook.com/ECMChoir](http://www.facebook.com/ECMChoir) or email [ecmchoir@gmail.com](mailto:ecmchoir@gmail.com)

**FIRST CRC IN ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE** would like to invite all Classis Alberta North churches to our **installation service, of Pastor Ken Douma**, on Sunday, September 8 at 10:00 am. There will be a potluck and time of fellowship following the service.

## Thank You To Our Volunteers!

**Ushers:** Marilyn Z, Andy Z

**Next Week:** Tim C, Bev C

**Greeters:** Dick & Judy O

**Next Week:** John & Wendy T

**Welcome Centre:** Marco D

**Next Week:** Jen F

**Coffee Duty:** Henk & Mennie S, Brendan & Alicia Brent & Michelle T

**Next Week:** Alex & Alinda B, Sam & Bethany G, Elly M

**Serving Elder:** Roy V

**Next Week:** Terry V

**Worship Team:** Grace D

**Next Week:** KerryAnne H

**Projection & Audio:** Matt K/Jamie B

**Next Week:** Dan V/Ted K

**Nursery Supervisor** - Janette G

Inf: Janette G, Brianne R, Dale H, Seth A

Tod: Lauren T, Sam G, Damien B

**Next Week:** Nursery Supervisor - Christine H

Inf: Christine H, Michelle (Brent) T, Leanne K, Grace C

Tod: Brad T, Linda H, Daniel Ba



*If you have a conflict, please arrange for a substitute. If you need help with this, please don't hesitate to call the office. You can find the volunteer schedules online at [ebenezercrc.com](http://ebenezercrc.com).*

**WORSHIP LEADERS AND ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:** Please plan to gather on Sunday, September 15th from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. here at the church, as we unite together in a time of praise and worship. The format will be somewhat different than in the past, in that we will join together as one mass team, singing old favorites, and working through new material together. If you have a favorite song selection (old or new), please let Grace D. or Jason D. know. We hope to have a list of the songs and key signatures for you well in advance. Bring your instrument or voice so that we can make a joyful noise together!