

**FELLOWSHIP CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**  
**www.fellowshiptobicoke.com 416-622-9647** CCLI # 11332175

**Pastor Joan DeVries**  
**Mar. 18, 2018**

Welcome to Fellowship Church as we continue our Lenten series on Living Water. Today we will go to the Potter's House and consider what to do with the dried, cracked, broken and 'useless' parts of our lives. We will learn from a psalm of distress that we are to bring those pieces to God for redemption. Water can soften even the hardest places, and perhaps something new can be made. Please join for further fellowship over refreshments in the Church Hall after the service.

**LENT SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:00 A.M.**  
**WE GATHER TO WORSHIP**

Welcome

*Please stand as you are able...*

Songs of Praise: **"Come, Now is the Time to Worship" LU 526;**

**"How Lovely is Your Dwelling" LU 507 vs. 1, 2, 3**

Call to Worship: Jeremiah 18:2-6

Opening Prayer/Prayer of Invocation

God's Greeting

Songs: **"As the Deer" LU 503; "To The River"**

*Please be seated...*

**WE ARE RECONCILED TO GOD**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon **"My Times Are in Your Hands" - Psalm 31 LU 458**

Children may leave for Sunday school

**WE OFFER GIFTS AND PRAYERS**

Offerings: 1. Church Fund (white envelope) 2. Denominational Shares (yellow envelope)

Offering Accompaniment: **As the Deer Pants for the Water LU 332:** solo

Prayers of the People & Prayer for Illumination

**GOD SPEAKS & WE RESPOND**

**Scripture: Psalm 31:9-12 and Psalm 31: 21-24 (pages 548 & 549)**

**Message: Water for Softening**

Prayer of Application

*Please rise...*

Song of Response: **"Have Thine Own Way, Lord" LU 737 vs. 1, 3, 4**

**WE LEAVE TO LOVE AND SERVE GOD**

Blessing

Closing Song: **"When Peace Like a River" LU 451**

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**Easter Weekend Services**  
**Good Friday Service, Friday, March 30, 7:00 p.m. (Communion)**  
**Easter Sunrise Community Service – Sunday, April 1, 6:59 a.m. Centennial Hill**  
**Easter Service at Fellowship – Sunday, April 1, 10:00 a.m.**

**Sunday Mornings**

We note that Pastor Joan's last service with us will be on Good Friday and her last Sunday of preaching will be on March 25<sup>th</sup>. A special coffee social will be held after the service next Sunday.

**OFFERINGS** Today:       1. Church Fund (white env.)  
                                   2. Denominational Ministry Shares (yellow env.)  
 March 25       2. St. James Food Basket  
 April 1         2. Resonate Global Mission

**March 18 – Denominational Shares – Calvin Theological Seminary**

Today's second collection will support Denominational Shares. In 2018 Fellowship CRC will have 10 collections in support of Denomination Shares including Calvin Theological Seminary. Since 1876, Calvin Theological Seminary has faithfully prepared leaders who nurture disciples and serve the church. Today, graduates of Calvin Seminary can expect to be ready for effective ministry in a rapidly-changing, multicultural world. Calvin Theological Seminary is a learning community in the Reformed Christian tradition that forms church leaders who cultivate communities of disciples of Jesus Christ. For more information go to [www.calvinseminary.edu](http://www.calvinseminary.edu)

**March 25 – St. James Food Bank**

Next week's second collection is for the **St. James Food Basket** in Etobicoke. Each Wednesday volunteers set up the St. James Food Basket in the St. James United Church Fellowship Hall. Working with the Daily Bread Food Bank, Second Harvest and local suppliers, they provide perishable and non-perishable food items and sundries to individuals and families in need. They serve senior citizens, new Canadians, individuals receiving social assistance, the homeless and families that are simply down on their luck. St. James Food Basket seeks to provide a positive, relaxed environment providing an opportunity for participants to sit, chat and share a cup of coffee, bowl of soup or whatever we have on hand. For more information please go to <http://www.stjamesunitedchurch.com/foodbasket>

**Calendar of Our Upcoming Events**

**COFFEE BREAK:** This coming Wednesday we will be studying the last lesson of the book of Ephesians. The following week will be our Easter brunch and program. On April 4 we begin a 6-week study on the "Power of Forgiveness" and what the Bible has to say about this topic. All ladies are invited to join us for this study. Coffee is ready at 9:30 a.m.

**EASTER SUNRISE COMMUNITY SERVICE** This year's Easter Sunrise Community Service will be the 49th annual gathering. The trumpet will sound at 6:59 a.m. sharp! Join us as we gather with other churches of the Etobicoke West Ministerial on the top of Centennial Park Hill. (The walk up from the east parking lot is shorter; the walk up from the west parking lot is gentler.) In addition, there will be a litter pickup on the hill from **3-4 p.m. on Saturday, March 24th**, to ready the site for worship; meet at 3pm in the east parking lot.

**WORSHIP COMMITTEE** will meet this Wednesday, **March 21st** at 7p.m. at Irene's. Please note the new date.

## Council & Committee News

**FROM THE MINISTRY DIRECTOR:** *Lent* is a traditional time of preparation for Easter, privately and as a confessing church. Some of the ways we can prepare together for Easter include:

- **In Worship:** Our teaching and worship series for Lent is focussing all this month on "Living Waters"
- **In Prayer:** Every Tuesday at 10 a.m. we will gather at the church to intercede for the neighbourhood. Can you come?
- **In Sharing:** Invitations are going out to the neighbours for our Easter service. Is there someone you can invite?
- **In Service:** On the afternoon of **Tuesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>**, at **1 p.m.** we're planning a **Workday** to get the building ready for Easter. Can you help?

Here at Fellowship we rightly speak a lot about our care for God's creation. Earth Day gives us an opportunity to get out into our neighbourhood and put this creation care into practice. On Sunday, April 22, from noon to 2pm, we will be cleaning nearby Bloordale Park, starting at Burnhamthorpe Road and heading south along the creek. This is registered with the City of Toronto as an official Earth Day Community Cleanup. We will be inviting our neighbours to join us. Please put this in your calendars; further information will be provided as we approach the date.

## Community Events

**"AGING: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES"** is the theme of a one day event planned for April 21, 2018. How we deal with the many issues we face in "the third third" of our life as individual believers, as well as the response of the Christian community, will be dealt with by keynote speaker and four well qualified workshop leaders.

Aspects such as our faith life, our ability or inability to live independently, ending up parenting our parents, our interpersonal relationships and changes in our mental capabilities will all come under scrutiny. The help we can give involves all of us at some time. The question of the assistance we need and of what might be available faces many of us even **to-day!**

Disability Concerns sponsors this conference in Maranatha Christian Reformed Church in Woodstock. To register online go to <https://www.crcna.org/disability>. Groups of three or more can still get the discount rate of \$35.

**ALL ONTARIO YOUTH CONVENTION 2018** - High school students and adult leaders can now register online at [allontario.com/register](http://allontario.com/register) or visit [facebook.com/allontario](https://facebook.com/allontario) for more information.

**COMBINED PALM PASSION EVENING SERVICE:** On March 25, several Christian Reformed congregations and ministries will gather for a combined Palm-Passion Sunday evening service. The gathering will take place at 1<sup>st</sup> CRC in Toronto (67 Taunton Road). It will begin with refreshments and fellowship at 5 PM, and the service will begin at 6 PM. The theme will be: "Joy in God Empowering Justice for All," and it will culminate in a beautiful sharing of the Lord's Supper together. This will be our fourth annual combined service, and everyone is welcome. You will feel glad you participated.

**HAMILTON PLACE CONCERT – March 31, 2018, Hosanna Choir & Mattaniah Christian Male Choir.** Tickets are now available for the annual combined concert at FirstOntario Concert Hall (formerly called Hamilton Place) on Saturday, March 31 at 7:30pm. Tickets can be obtained through a choir member, or online at [www.hosanna-choir.org](http://www.hosanna-choir.org)

**"LEARNING HOW TO GROW RESTORATIVE CHURCHES":** Conflicts within churches are real but we can deal with them in a way that deepens relationship, strengthens community, and builds our faith. Join us for a three day hands-on training, including support afterwards, on "**Learning How to Grow Restorative Churches**". The training is offered through *Shalem Mental Health Network* and will be in

Ajax, ON on April 27, 28 and May 12, 2018. If you attend a CAP church, you are eligible for a 10% discount on the training fee. For more information and to register for the training, visit: <http://shalemnetwork.org>, or call 905.528.0353 or toll free 866.347.0041

**THE LIGHTHOUSE** celebrates 50 years in 2018. On Sunday April 22, 2018, at 6:30p.m. the Lighthouse will host a celebration service at First CRC in Toronto (67 Taunton Road). You are invited to come and celebrate with The Lighthouse its first 50 years. There will be a time for reflection and sharing as well as a time of giving thanks and praise. For more information, please contact Rob at 416-535-6262 | 416-802-5943 or [rob@lighthousecentre.ca](mailto:rob@lighthousecentre.ca)

### **Guest and Member Information**

**ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR** is in the office most weekdays from 9a.m. to noon p.m. **The bulletin deadline is noon on Thursday.** Church email: [rehofellowcrc@bellnet.ca](mailto:rehofellowcrc@bellnet.ca). **OR 416-622-9647.**

**ALLERGIES: Some of our members are highly allergic to peanuts and tree nuts, e.g. cashews, almonds, hazelnuts, pecans, etc. Please don't bring peanuts, tree nuts or anything containing these items to the church. Thank you.** (For the benefit and peace of mind of those with allergies or food sensitivities please label any homemade item you bring to church.)

**ANY CONCERNS WITH THE CHURCH BUILDING:** Contact any member of the Committee of Administration.

**CHILDREN: Kids Bulletins** are available. **Nursery** is provided.

**CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES:** for guests (or members who may have forgotten theirs) are available at the entrance beside the guest book.

**HEARING ASSIST DEVICES are available.** They are located on the shelf in the church office.

**IF YOU ARE AWAY FROM CHURCH** due to illness, vacation, etc. and you wish to have the bulletin emailed to you, please advise the Administrative Coordinator.

### **Miscellanea**

**JOHN KNOX CHRISTIAN SCHOOL, BRAMPTON** If you or someone you know is interested in sending their children to John Knox Christian School please call Christine at the school 905-451-3236 ext 129 or go online to learn more about setting up an Educational Success Consultation and the possibilities available for your child at John Knox. For your convenience, we also offer Walk-In Wednesdays every week from 9:00am-12:00pm – no appointment needed. Sign up before April 1 to qualify for our Early Bird discount!

Have a preschooler who is ready for school? Check the school's website for the dates of our FREE Ready! Set! School! program for children ages 3-5. [www.bramptonjkcs.org](http://www.bramptonjkcs.org)

**LIGHTHOUSE NEEDS:** We are always in need of egg cartons (cardboard only) and plastic bags to pack fresh foods for our food bank clients. It is a fun and easy way to help out our neighbours in need. Drop off your egg cartons and plastic bags today!

**[www.crcna.org/Canada](http://www.crcna.org/Canada)** - The website for the Christian Reformed Church Ministry in Canada. If you want to understand and be resourced for ministry in Canada, check out [www.crcna.org/Canada](http://www.crcna.org/Canada). Join The Network ([www.crcna.org/Network](http://www.crcna.org/Network)) to find blogs, discussion topics, ministry Q&A, church jobs, and much more!?

**Our Vision**

***We are a fellowship rooted in Biblical faith.  
We share the love of Jesus Christ,  
Reaching out to one another  
And to the communities in which God has placed us.***