
BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR JANUARY 22, 2012

TODAY AT ELMHURST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

Worship This Morning Jesus' teaches that trees are known by their fruit: Good trees produce good fruit, bad trees produce bad fruit. However, there are many factors that go into the health of a tree: soil, sun, water. In this next installment of "upside down thinking" we'll consider how we are responsible to do our part in cultivating an environment in which God can bear good fruit through us.

Today we celebrate God's gift of life by observing Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. Thirty-nine years ago on January 22, 1973, the Supreme Court of the United States legalized abortion for all nine months of a pregnancy for any reason, snuffing out the lives of over 50 million children and wounding millions of women and men in the process. CareNet Pregnancy Services of DuPage provides spiritual, emotional and material support to women dealing with an unplanned pregnancy. You can help CareNet save even more lives by participating in **Coins for CareNet**. Pick up a baby bottle today at the displays in the lobby. One display is located by the Information Center desk, and the other display is near the exit on the west side of the church. Fill it with leftover pocket change and return it to church by Sunday, March 4. Your change will help hundreds of women and will help save lives.

Small Groups meet tonight at 6:00 p.m. as we continue the all-church study of "The Next Christians" by Gabe Lyons. Even if you were unable to attend last week, you are welcome to join us tonight. We will have a group for you. To prepare for tonight's study, please read **chapters 8-10**. (A discussion group also meets during the Adult Education hour. Please see the previous page for details.) **Books** can be purchased online at www.amazon.com. Books are also available in electronic and audio book format. No more copies are available at the church office.

WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

Jesus tells us that we must enter through the narrow gate. No one can come to the Father except through Him. In an increasingly pluralistic culture, many hear this claim as being exclusive and even offensive. In reality, Christianity is the broadest and most accepting of all religions. Jesus' ministry is founded on grace - unconditional favor - and is open to anyone and everyone regardless of who they are or what they have done.

We will conclude our study of "The Next Christians" on Sunday evening with the hope that we will increasingly witness God's influence in our current culture as we live out our calling as ambassadors of God's transforming grace, love and acceptance.

Consider preparing for worship by spending time with Jesus' words from the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 7:13, 14) ¹³ "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. ¹⁴ But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

ADULT EDUCATION

January 15, 22, 29: The Forum

- DisAbility: A Closer Look (Gathering Area, 2nd floor)

Jan. 22 – Meet the children in our church with special needs. Interact with them. Get to know them as people, rather than their “disability.” Hear their stories and the stories of their families.

Jan. 29 – Based on the 2 previous classes, we will determine how to move forward as a caring and inclusive community. Possible speakers – a representative from Joni and Friends and/or from Disability Concerns, a ministry of the Christian Reformed Church.

- The Belhar Confession (Room 204) The foundation of the Christian Reformed Church is its confessional identity. The CRC identifies itself theologically through adherence to the Heidelberg Catechism, Belgic Confession, and Canons of Dort. This summer, the CRC's governing board (Synod) will decide whether to add another confession to this list (something never before done in CRC history), thereby modifying or supplementing the church's identity. *Ben Ribbens* will help lead a discussion of the merits of adding the Belhar Confession to the confessional identity of the CRC.

- The Next Christians (The Garden Room)

We are part of a culture that is rapidly changing. We are no longer a culture dominated by Christianity. Christian values, priorities and perspectives no longer control our society. As Jesus encourages us in Matthew 7, we must figure out new ways to engage the culture and share God's perspective and influence. Today is week three of a four-week study being facilitated by members of the Small Groups Team and is an additional opportunity for people who might not be available to participate on Sunday evenings. (Please note: There will be a connection to the sermon topics so attendance at the first service is recommended to fully benefit from this class).

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- **Jan. 22 & 29:** Beginnings: A Continuing Look at Genesis (Room 207) Marve Wolterstorff will continue to help us discover what God intended and what He set forth for how we should live, work and play.

ELMHURST MINISTRIES FUND

With gratitude to God and thanks to our congregation, we are pleased to report that total contributions to the EMF in 2011 exceeded our budgeted amount by \$112,815.

2011 EMF Budget.....\$2,700,000

2011 EMF Actual.....\$2,812,815

Thank you for your faithful support of the ministries and operations of Elmhurst CRC.

EMF Receipts on January 15, 2012	\$	48,744
EMF Year-to-Date Receipts thru January 15, 2012	\$	93,941

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Confidential Prayer Chain: To send requests or to be added to the prayer chain, e-mail prayer@elmhurstcrc.org or call *Dianne Zunkel* at 630-530-7822.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Come this Saturday for a special time of music, prayer and reflection with *The Broken Halos* at Faith Evangelical United Methodist Church, 111 W. North Ave., Elmhurst from 6 - 7 pm. *The Broken Halos* are a rotating group of folks from ECRC who put on worship events to inspire, encourage and reach the community in a unique and fresh way. Some of the participants from our congregation include *Dave Hendricks, Ron Huisman, Cindy Vos, Bethany DeHaan* and several others. Open to all ages. Check us out on Facebook!

My Brother's Kitchen provides delicious meals to the Lawndale community every Saturday at Lawndale CRC. Our church has committed to serving every 2nd Saturday of the month. The commitment is 10:00 am to 1:30 pm. You will help serve food, setup, clean-up and interact with the people who come for the meal. It's an amazing opportunity to serve. If you or your small group are interested, please contact *Ron Huisman* at ron.huisman@elmhurstcrc.org or (630)935-5393.

CareNet's parenting program, *Bridges*, is in great need of the following baby supplies: diapers in sizes new born, 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 (do not need size 3); pull ups; Enfamil and baby food; wipes, baby wash, shampoo and lotion. We will be accepting donations for the next several weeks. Please place your donations in the container in the lobby by the west entrance. Thank you!

Family Swim Party Join us for a wonderful time at the Oakbrook Family Aquatic Center on **Saturday, February 11**, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The cost is \$3/person or \$10/family. Registration forms are available at the Information Center, or call Nancy in the church office to register at 630-600-5043. (All children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.)

Wednesday Evening Nursery If you need nursery for Wednesday evening activities, please contact Carol Evenhouse at carol.evenhouse@elmhurstcrc.org or 630-323-2398 by Tuesday **each** week to sign up. You can also sign up at the Nursery Desk. If you don't sign up, we may not have anyone available to take care of your children! Wednesday evening **nursery hours are 6:15 to 8:00 p.m.** Thank you.

Journey to the Center of the Church is a three-week class to help prepare you for membership at Elmhurst Church. Classes will be held **March 4, 11 & 18**, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the gathering area on the upper level. If you're interested in becoming part of the Elmhurst Church family, please call the church office at 630-600-5043 to register, or speak to *Pastor Gregg DeMey*. Attending the classes does not obligate you to become a member, so feel free to attend even if you're simply curious. Please let us know if you require use of the nursery (for children 0 to 36 months old).

This year's Spring Service Trip is Sunday, **March 4 – Friday, March 9, 2012** in Collier County, Florida. We will partner with "Habitat for Humanity" in the mornings (Monday thru Thursday) and local churches in the afternoons. All skill levels are needed! We perform whatever work is requested that matches our volunteers' skills. After the first of the year we will start to book flights. If you or someone you know is interested in participating in this ministry, please contact *Dan Barak* at allfin-ecrcspringtrip2012@usa.net.

STUDENT MINISTRIES

Sunday Morning Live meets today! Join us as we continue our series, *Dealing with*

Pain and Struggles. We meet in the Youth Room from 10:05 a.m to 10:55 a.m.

High School (9th-12th)

Nine:Twenty-Three meets this Wednesday in the Green Room, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The Edge The things we do, believe and trust determine what is being written. And for many of us, the story we are scripting could be so much more if we let God write, or even rewrite, our story. It's the story we long for, the one our hearts truly desire. Let's learn together with our new series, "*Write, Rewrite,*" **NEXT Sunday**, 6:00 to 8:15 pm in the Youth Room.

Our mission trip this summer is to...HONDURAS! The dates are July 14-21. Information is available on the website and Facebook.

Middle School (6th-8th)

Maximum Velocity We return from Winter Xtreme 2012 at 2:00 p.m. today. Maximum Velocity will not meet tonight. Our next meeting is **Sunday, February 12.**

SAFETY FIRST

If you ever need a **first aid kit**, just think Information Center and kitchens. There is a kit in the Information Center drawer and in every kitchen in the building (upper, main, and lower levels).

We have an **AED** (automatic external defibrillator) on the main level (just outside the Garden Room) and on the lower level by the bathrooms. All staff are trained to use this. But depending on the time and place of an emergency, any member may be asked to go get it. Take a few minutes to look for the AEDs.

You may also need to call **911**. It's important that you use a land line. There is a land line available in the Garden Room near the entrance and on the lower level in the play area.

CPR can save lives. Take time this year to be a life saver. Learn CPR. Call *Beth Rinsema*, Director of Care, if you are interested in taking a class.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Board of Trustees of the Christian Reformed Church has approved the request of the board of Back to God Ministries International to begin a search process for a new director due to the recent passing away of *Dr. Robert C. Heerspink*. If you know of viable candidates please check out the CRC website at www.crcna.org/jobs. Nominations can also be submitted to btgmisearch@crcna.org.

Spirito! Singers The Men of Spirito! are currently conducting auditions for the 2012 spring season and they would love to have you join them! Please call 630-941-0744 if you are interested in setting up an audition time. For information about concerts, audition information and to listen to the beautiful music of Spirito! visit www.spiritosingers.org or call 630-941-0744.

Video Marriage Conference Lombard Christian Reformed Church at 2020 S. Meyers Road will be hosting a Video Marriage Conference presented by Love and Respect Ministries on Friday night, **February 10** and Saturday morning, **February 11**. *Dr. Emerson*

and Sarah Eggerichs present a dynamic, high energy, practical seminar to help couples achieve the relationship they've always dreamed of. Cost of Registration is \$15 before 1/30/12 and \$20 after 1/30/12. Register at www.LoveandRespect.com. Information is available at the Information Center desk in the lobby.

Love Christian Clearinghouse Presents a Gallery Gala Fundraiser Open House Sat., **February 25** from 3:00 – 9:00 pm to support needy families in eastern DuPage County. The Gala features a fine arts exhibition and upscale crafts (paintings, photography, jewelry, pottery) and will be held here at Elmhurst Church. Come to browse, shop, and enjoy live music and tasty delights from local gourmets. Tickets in advance \$8.00; at the door \$10.00. For tickets in advance, contact *Ada* at 630/512-8673 or e-mail director@love-cc.org (Visa and MasterCard accepted.) An anonymous donor will provide a matching grant for up to \$5,000. Please help LLC reach their goal ! **Artists and musicians**, if you would like to participate, please contact: for artwork *Alyce* at 630/668-2244; for music, more information, tickets, *Ada* at 630/512-8673.

Getting married? Want to start out equipped for a strong marriage? Chicago Christian Counseling Center is offering a Pre-Marital/Marriage Enrichment Program entitled *Building a Strong Marriage* here at Elmhurst Church. Program includes a one-day group program on **Saturday, March 3**, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and a separately scheduled one-hour couple session with a facilitator. The program is facilitated by *Joy Bocanegra*, MA, Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor. For more information or to register call (708) 845-5500 x104 or go online at www.chicagochristiancounseling.org. The registration deadline is February 27. Brochures are available on the display counter in the lobby with more detailed information.

The Men of A-Chord will be performing a concert here at Elmhurst Church on Sunday, **March 4** at 4:00 p.m. Please come and enjoy an hour of song and praise. There is no charge for admission, but a free-will donation will be taken during the concert.

Chicago West Side Christian School Scholarship Fundraising Event CWSCS is a dynamic urban school that provides quality education for students from pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. For over forty years, this kingdom work has been educating children to lead and serve as well-rounded citizens prepared for the future and grounded in their Christian faith. To make this unique educational experience affordable and accessible, CWSCS hosts a scholarship fundraising event once a year that assists low-income families. **Save the date and join CWSCS on Thursday, March 15, 2012**, as they host their annual event with the theme "Building on the Rock." There, you will have the opportunity to meet our students, alumni, parents and teachers, tour the classrooms, and enjoy an evening of fun and fellowship. To learn more about CWSCS, visit www.cwscs.org or call 773-542-0665.

TIMOTHY CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

Attention Parents Interested in Preschool/Kindergarten at Timothy Christian Schools Fall 2012:

There are two important dates that you should know about:

This Tuesday, January 24th at 7:00 p.m. Preschool/Kindergarten information night.

Friday, February 3rd the application deadline prior to the classroom placement selection. In order to give your family the best chance of placement, please have your application in prior to this date.

If you have questions about the preschool/kindergarten application process, please consult timothychristian.com or call 630-833-4616.

Open House for the International Student Program Do you have a heart for internationals? Do you enjoy reaching across cultural boundaries? On Thursday, **February 2**, 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., Timothy Christian High School will be hosting an Open House for the International Student Program. This will be an opportunity to find out more about the program and/or learn more about the hosting opportunity for 2012/2013. Stop in, meet our students and host families, ask questions, and learn more. There will be a presentation and Q & A at 6:00 p.m. This meeting is open to all (past TC families, present TC families, members of a supporting church, families with young children, empty nesters who feel too young to be empty nesters, people looking for a unique way to serve at TCS). Questions? Please contact *Laura Hernandez* at 847-877-9711 or Hernandez@timothychristian.com.

Timothy Christian High School is seeking substitute teachers to fill two maternity leaves in the area of history and PE during May of 2012. Interested applicants should contact *Principal Clyde Rinsema* via email at rinsema@timothychristian.com. (Information about Timothy Christian Schools may be found on the school website at www.timothychristian.com.)

Timothy Christian High School is seeking applications for a full-time English teacher with an interest in drama coaching and a full-time history teacher for the 2012-2013 school year. Interested applicants should contact *Principal Clyde Rinsema* via email at rinsema@timothychristian.com. (Information about Timothy Christian Schools may be found on the school website at www.timothychristian.com.)

Timothy Christian High School is looking for qualified Christian coaches to fill the following positions: Spring 2012: Junior Varsity girls softball coach; Frosh/Soph boys tennis coach; Junior Varsity or Assistant girls soccer coach. Fall 2012: Frosh/Soph boys soccer coach. If interested, please contact *Jim Woudstra*, Athletic Director, at Woudstra@timothychristian.com or 630-782-4027.

To cancel a meeting, please call Jack Lanenga at 630-600-5072.

Sunday, 1/22/12

8:55 am Worship Service (Blended)
9:15 am Children's Worship (3 yrs – 1st)
10:05 am Church School (K-5)/Sunday Morning Live (6th-12th)
10:05 am Adult Education
11:05 am Worship Service (Contemporary)
11:25 am Children's Worship (3yrs - 1st)
6:00 pm Small Groups

Monday, 1/23/12

7:00 pm Community Service Meeting

Tuesday, 1/24/12

8:30 am Classical Conversations (Lower Level West)
8:30 am Classical Conversations-Challenge (2nd Floor)
9:00 am Little Lambs (Lower Level East)
12:30 pm Coffee Break Leaders (204)
7:00 pm Care Elders Meeting
7:00 pm Small Groups Team
7:00 pm Contemporary Worship Rehearsal

Wednesday, 1/25/12

7:00 am HS Girls Bible Study (Green Room)
9:00 am Men's Bible Study (Conference Room)
9:00 & 12:30 Coffee Break Bible Study
9:00 & 12:30 Little Lambs (Lower Level East)
11:00 am Elim Luncheon (Garden Room)
6:00 pm Prayer (Upper Level Prayer Room)
6:15 pm Little Lambs (Lower Level East)
6:30 pm Jr. GEMS/GEMS (1st-8th girls) (Lower Level West)
7:00 pm ESO Rehearsal (Worship Center)
7:00 pm Nine:Twenty-Three (9th-12th) (Green Room)
7:00 pm Coffee Break Bible Study
7:00 pm Men's Bible Study (204)
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
8:15 pm Brass Rehearsal

Thursday, 1/26/12

9:00 am Coffee Break Bible Study
9:00 am Little Lambs (Lower Level East)
9:30 am MOD Squad (Conference Room)
4:30 pm CYT (Lower Level West)

Friday, 1/27/12

Church Office Closed

Saturday, 1/28/12

7:30 am Prayer Group (Conference Room)
8:00 am Organist Rehearsal (Worship Center)
6:00 pm The Broken Halos (see announcement in bulletin)

Sunday, 1/29/12

8:55 am Worship Service (Blended)
9:15 am Children's Worship (3 yrs – 1st)
10:05 am Church School (K-5)/Sunday Morning Live (6th-12th)
10:05 am Adult Education
11:05 am Worship Service (Contemporary)
11:25 am Children's Worship (3yrs - 1st)
4:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal (Music Room)
6:00 pm Small Groups
6:00 pm Sr. High Girls Small Group
6:00 pm The Edge (9th-12th) (Youth Room)

We invite our guests to take a moment to complete this form. Please tear it off and drop it in the offering basket or leave it at the Information Center desk in the lobby.

Today's Date: _____

Please circle: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Miss

Last Name _____

First Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

E-mail address: _____

Please circle the service you attended:

8:55 a.m. 11:05 a.m.

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- Add me to the weekly email newsletter list.
- I have recently moved to the area

I would like to receive information about:

- Membership at Elmhurst Church
- Children's Ministries
- Little Lambs (3 yrs. thru 6 yrs.)
- Boys' & girls' ministries (3 yrs. thru 5th grade)
- Student Ministries
- Maximum Velocity - (6th-8th grade)
- The Edge - (9th-12th grade)
- Adult Ministries
- Coffee Break Bible Study
- Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS)
- Bible Study & Small Groups
- All other adult opportunities
- Healing Ministries
- Mid-Week Connection
- I would like to talk to a pastor

Comments/Prayer Requests: _____

Please stop by the Information Center to meet the pastors and pick up a "welcome packet" as our gift to you for worshipping with us today.

More details are available at elmhurstcrc.org

Welcome to Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church. We're glad you could join us!

Worship services are at 8:55 a.m. (blended) and 11:05 a.m. (contemporary)

Church School is available between the morning worship services at 10:05 a.m.

Assisted listening devices are available for use. You can pick one up at the sound booth located at the rear of the sanctuary or ask an usher.

Large print bulletins are available at the Information Center.

Nursery is available for children who have not yet reached their third birthday.

Coffee is served in the main lobby after the morning services. Please stay and get acquainted.

The Information Center is open after worship to answer your questions about our church and ministries.

Sermons are available on our website at <http://www.elmhurstcrc.org/resources/media/>. You can download or listen to the audio and also watch a video of the messages, as well as get a copy of the weekly bulletin.

Please note that the church office is closed on Fridays.

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Rev. Peter Semeyn
Lead Pastor, Director of Outreach

Pastor Gregg DeMey
Teaching Pastor, Director of Worship & Discipleship

Jack Lanenga, Executive Director of Operations

Beth Rinsema, Director of Care

Marcia Huizinga, Director of Fellowship

Ron Huisman, Student Ministries Leader