



# CALEDONIA CONNECTION

FALL 2017



## 2020 VISION - COMMUNITY SERVICE



Watching the members of our church serve others is one of the great joys of being a pastor. Just about every waking hour, of every day, of every week, you can be assured someone, somewhere, is serving someone else. It's pretty amazing.

Serving others can be so simple. Here are just a few of the things I see: bringing a senior member a cup of coffee after a worship service, helping a visitor find their way around our building, delivering a meal to a new mom, serving in nursery, Sunday School, High School Perspectives, driving a senior citizen to a doctor's appointment, teaching a craft at a summer camp, tutoring a student who needs a little extra help, serving as a valet before and after worship services, setting up tables and chairs for special events, taking down tables

and chairs, visiting people in the hospital, visiting shut-in, serving meals to the homeless in downtown shelters...

the list seems almost endless. Starting this Fall, add to this list, providing food for a child that might not get a good meal over the weekend. In this newsletter you will read more about the Hand2Hand Backpack Program. This act of kindness fits perfectly what is stated in our 2020 Vision,

***"We will seek to serve those in our community who are struggling to meet the basic necessities of life."***

Christ followers are called and equipped by God to serve others. We do this not simply because God commands us to serve; we do this because Christ has first served us.

Pastor Scott

### **\*\*NEW MEMBERS CLASS\*\***

**October 15,22,29**

**11:00am-12:00pm**

*Are you interested in becoming a member of Caledonia CRC?*

*Do you have questions about what it means to join the church?*

*Do you desire to publicly profess your faith and/or be baptized?*

*Sign-up by contacting*

**PASTOR SCOTT**

***sgreenway@caledoniarc.org***  
*or*

**MICHELLE DIELEMAN**

***michelle@caledoniarc.org***



***“What does God want to see in happening in our church by the year 2020?”***

2020 Vision is a simple framework that will allow us to focus our energies on a set of ministry priorities. These ministry priorities include:

**MULTIPLICATION/DISCIPLESHP (Grow)**  
**COMMUNITY SERVICE (Serve)**  
**FELLOWSHIP/HOSPITALITY (Connect)**  
**STEWARDSHIP (Give)**

Each one of us can get involved. Here's how:



**GROW**

- Seek or initiate a 1:1 Discipling Relationship - Ask any Staff or Council Member about the “Discipleship Tree” in the entry area near the office.
- Volunteer in Children or Youth Ministry to influence kids for Christ.
- Pray that God would lead you to someone outside of your family in which you can enter a 1:1 discipling relationship.



**SERVE**

- Donate items and pack backpacks for the Hand2Hand Backpack Program
- Participate in the Caledonia Harvest Festival
- Watch the bulletin for service opportunities to individuals in the community
- Serve with the Outreach Team preparing and & delivering Thanksgiving baskets
- Prepare and donate meals to the Freezer Meal Ministry



**CONNECT**

- Seek out someone you've never met and introduce yourself, show hospitality.
- Attend Monthly Coffee and Connection & CONNEXT Events
- Join or create a small group
- Be a Host or Guest at the next Hospitality 101 event.



**GIVE**

- Watch and listen for upcoming information from Council regarding the Debt Elimination Campaign. Prayerfully consider how you can become involved.
- Find your own unique way to serve the church through your time, talent & treasure

A detailed list of the 2020 Vision Goals is available at the Info Counter



“Do not withhold good  
from those who deserve it,  
when it is in your power to act.”  
Proverbs 3:27



## Hand2Hand Backpack Program

This fall Caledonia CRC will begin participating in a ministry called Hand2Hand. The Hand2Hand program partners churches and schools together in order to provide children with food for the weekends. The program is intended for families who currently may be experiencing a financial burden. Caledonia Elementary has asked our church to partner with them in the Hand2Hand program in order to offer help to local children in need.

Here's how Hand2Hand will work: Select students at Caledonia Elementary will be invited to sign-up for the program. Those who are signed up will receive 8-10 food items in a black school logo drawstring bag that will be provided at the first week of participation. These food items will be shelf-stable and include a combination of breakfast, snack and lunch/dinner items. Backpacks are distributed confidentially, and there is no cost to students to participate.

As a church, we will be responsible for purchasing and collecting food items for students, coordinating volunteers to pack the food into bags and pray over the bags, and bringing bags to school on Fridays. We have started a pantry to store food in, which is located in the high school area.

If you are willing to donate food items, please place them in the collection bin in the church's narthex. We will be collecting items throughout the school year. All food items must be shelf-stable and not expired.

### Below is a list of some of the items that can be donated:

- Cereal (individual size)
- Pop-Tarts
- Breakfast Bars
- Granola Bars
- Applesauce Cups/Pouches
- Fruit Cups
- Trail Mix Packets
- Microwave Popcorn Packets
- Fruit Snacks
- Pudding Cups
- Chips, Crackers or Cookies (individual size)
- Peanut Butter or Cheese & Cracker packets
- Canned Vegetables
- Cans of Chicken
- Tortillas
- Taco Seasoning Packets
- Pasta
- Tomato Soup (large can)
- Chicken Noodle Soup (large can)
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Juice Boxes

Please consider how you can be part of this simple yet impactful program. By putting food directly into the hands of children in our community, they are better able to learn, concentrate and excel in school. And we as a church can show love to those right here in Caledonia.

Ellen Roodvoets - roodvoetsellen@gmail.com  
Rachelle McKenzie - rmck009@comcast.net

## Upcoming Events

- Sep.10 Education Hour Begins
- Sept. 10 Adult Education
- Sept.10 ROOTS Kick-Off
- Sept. 13 Book Club
- Sept.16 CONNEXT Event
- Sept. 17 Volunteer Training Meeting
- Sept. 20 GEMS/Cadets Kick-off
- Sept. 25 GEMS Car Hop
- Sept. 27 WiRED Kick-off
- Sept. 30 Harvest Festival
- Oct. 1 ROOTS Large Group
- Oct. 3 Coffee Break begins
- Oct. 11 Book Club
- Oct. 11 Outdoor Club
- Oct 15 New Members Class
- Oct. 22 New Members Class
- Oct. 25 WiRED
- Oct. 29 New Members Class
- Oct. 29 Communion
- Oct. 29 ROOTS
- Nov. 1 GEMS/Cadets
- Nov. 8 Outdoor Club - Chili Fest
- Nov. 15 GEMS/Cadets
- Nov. 22 WiRED
- Nov. 23 Thanksgiving Day Service
- Dec. 13 Outdoor Club
- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Service AM
- Dec. 25 Christmas Day Service
- Dec. 31 Communion

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## MEN'S BIBLE STUDY SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

### **WEDNESDAY MORNINGS**

A one-hour, weekly group is forming for Bible study and prayer. This fall we will focus on the book of 1 Peter.

**WHO:** Men of all ages are invited  
**BEGINS:** September 13 @ 6:00am-7:00am  
**WHERE:** Office Area @ Caledonia CRC  
**CONTACT:** Scott Greenway [sgreenway@caledoniarc.org](mailto:sgreenway@caledoniarc.org)

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### **SUNDAY MORNINGS**

This group will begin the year completing the book by John Ortberg:

***When The Game Is Over It All Goes Back in the Box.***

From there we will collectively choose a book to read and study together.

This is a wonderful and safe group of men who care about our church, our faith, our families and each other.

**WHO:** Men of all ages are invited  
**BEGINS:** September 10 @ 11:00 AM-11:45 AM  
**WHERE:** Roadside Room  
**CONTACT:** Larry Plaisier [plaisierlg@gmail.com](mailto:plaisierlg@gmail.com)  
Todd Memmelaar [todd.memmelaar@steelcase.com](mailto:todd.memmelaar@steelcase.com)

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### **SATURDAY MORNINGS**

Meeting weekly, this fall an 8-week DVD Bible Study by Ray VanderLaan will be launched: ***Life and Ministry of the Messiah***  
In this series we will look at 8 different locations where Jesus taught in the region of Palestine.

**WHO:** Men of all ages are invited  
**BEGINS:** September 8 @ 7:00am-8:15am  
**WHERE:** Roadside Room @ Caledonia CRC  
**CONTACT:** Merle Buwalda 616-260-2791

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## WELCOME

INTERN PASTOR  
BEN VERKERK

[bverkerk@caledoniacrc.org](mailto:bverkerk@caledoniacrc.org)  
616-448-8668

I'm excited to be serving alongside the amazing staff, volunteers, and congregants in Caledonia this year. In fact, I grew up in Caledonia myself, but that town was in Southern Ontario, Canada.

From there, I received a Bachelor of Commerce from McMaster University and entered the work force for several years. I lost my passion for business after leaving a difficult management position that helped direct my course towards seminary. I enrolled in a Masters of Arts in Early Judaism, again at McMaster and spent some time working in the construction and carpentry fields. In time, I realized my calling was to serve God in the church and transferred to Calvin Theological Seminary.

I have been affirmed in this call time and time again through my work at the seminary, in my previous internship with A Christian Ministry in the National Parks, and in my term as the Student Senate President. This past summer I moved to Steinbach, Manitoba, about 3 hours north of Grand Forks, ND, to be near my girlfriend, Leshia (lee-sha). I worked as a framer during the day and spent the weekends enjoying baseball games, the zoo, some camping, and plenty of walleye fishing.

I look forward to the blessings and challenges that come along with ministry in a church, and am excited to get to know you all!



RETURNS OCTOBER 3

Kick-off Brunch

9:30 AM-11:00 AM

**Questions? Contact:**

**Kerri Diemer 891-2135**

**Kari VanRyn 970-2176**

Coffee Break is an opportunity for fellowship and Bible Study.

Children ages infant through Kindergarten are welcome and carefully cared for in Nursery and Story Hour.

**Mark your calendar and invite a friend!**

**Coffee Break is for women of all ages and stages in life. Come as you are!**

This year we are plan to open up God's Word and work through the book:

***Ten Women of the Bible*** by Max Lucado

The lives of these women are very different from our own. And yet, in many ways, we often find ourselves facing the same issues they faced. Even more, these stories show us there is a God who sees us where we are and loves us for who we are. Join us as we look at these stories and learn how God can use us today.

Volunteers  
Needed



Caledonia Harvest Festival is  
Saturday, September 30 from  
10am-12pm  
in front of  
the Caledonia Library.

Volunteers are needed to help run the  
booth for Caledonia CRC from:  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
or 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Caledonia CRC will  
be hosting cookie  
decorating,  
a craft and hayride.

Sign up sheet is at the  
*Information Counter.*

Questions?  
Contact Abby Terpstra 616-242-1132



***Search for and  
follow Caledonia CRC***



***on  
Facebook  
Twitter  
Instagram & YouTube***

**GEMS** *Girls' Club* CAR HOP

**September 25  
5:00-7:00 PM**

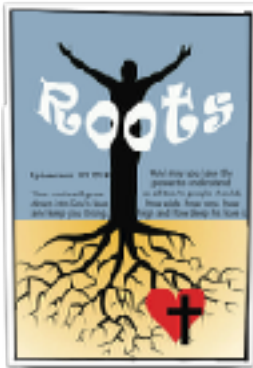


**26th Annual Car Hop  
at Caledonia CRC!**

**Cruise on in with your classic car,  
or come as you are and enjoy  
a throwback evening  
of dining fun served up by our  
favorite GEMS!**

**Proceeds goto GEMS FUND**





**WHAT:**

## **CHILDREN & YOUTH VOLUNTEER TRAINING MEETING**

**WHO:**

If you volunteer in any of the following areas:

*Nursery*

*Pre School Worship*

*Stepping Stones Elementary*

*WiRED*

*GEMS/Cadets Roots/Perspectives*

*Coffee Break Story Hour*

**WHEN:**

**September 17 @ 3:45pm in the High School Area**

**WHY:**

The safety of our children and youth, along with the integrity of our volunteers are of utmost importance at Caledonia CRC. In order to uphold these standards all volunteers are mandated per the policy to attend this child protection training every other year. If you absolutely cannot attend this training please contact Marlene, Shelley or JoAnne and other arrangements will be made. Thank you for partnering with us to protect our children and students.

## **Important High School Ministry Event**

This fall, parents will have the opportunity to attend a small group teaching/discussion on how to have “the sex talk” with their students.

“The Whole Sex Talk” material created by the PRC (Pregnancy Resource Center) is a biblically-based, six session multimedia program that empowers parents to have healthy, ongoing conversations with their kids about love, sex, and relationships.

**WHEN:** Thursday nights October 12, 19, 26, November 9,16

**WHERE:** High School Area

**COST:** \$5.00/study guide

**SIGN-UP:** Ministry Wall

**CONTACT:** Joanne Buist





CALEDONIA CRC  
**CONNEXT**  
**EVENT**

**SEPT. 16 @ 6pm**

ROAD RALLY  
**SCAVENGER HUNT**

*Find more details in the bulletin  
and at the Ministries Wall!  
Sign Up by September 14!*

**ADVENTURE AWAITS!!**

Looking for a way to connect with people outside of Sunday mornings?

CONNEXT EVENTS are offered as a fun way to get to each other.

The September CONNEXT Event will be a Road Rally Scavenger Hunt in Caledonia!

We will begin at Brett & Rachel Smith's House (9059 Alanada Drive, Caledonia) where we will split into teams and receive the rules of the game. Sign up at the Ministries Wall by Sep. 14 or email Sarah VanRegenmorter [s.vanregenmorter@gmail.com](mailto:s.vanregenmorter@gmail.com)

This is an adult only event.