



FORGIVENESS

“Oh what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven, whose sin is put out of sight!” Psalm 32:1

THE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF STRATFORD SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2026

Minister: Pastor Martin Dam PH: 519-274-9709

Email: pastormartin@stratfordcrc.org

Minister: Pastor Nick Bierma PH: 250-300-5927

Email: pastornick@stratfordcrc.org

Clerk: Adam Roth PH: 519-501-1775

Email: clerk@stratfordcrc.org

Access to the live stream is available through www.stratfordcrc.org.

The service is available by telephone: 888-704-3708

Shalem Mental Health Network [CAP]: 866-347-0041

Bulletin Announcements: Thursday 12:00 pm

Email: office@stratfordcrc.org Website: stratfordcrc.org PH: 519-273-1292

Celebrating 75 years – God is Faithful – Deuteronomy 7:9

“Oh, what joy for those whose disobedience is forgiven, whose sin is put out of sight!”
Psalm 32:1. God’s unfailing love surrounds us and He fill our hearts with songs of joy. Let us worship the One who is our hiding place, the One who forgives all that is sinful in us. Please join us downstairs after the service for a time of fellowship and refreshments.

This evening we will witness the installation of Gary VanZandwijk as elder.

ORDER OF SERVICE

10:00 am – Pastor Martin Dam

This morning we celebrate the Lord’s Supper. If you are a communicant member in good standing of a church that professes Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, if you love and trust Him alone for your salvation, if you are truly sorry for your sins, and if you sincerely desire to live in obedience to Him, we warmly welcome you to participate with us in the sacrament.

God Calls Us to Worship

Welcome & Call to Worship: Psalm 51:10-12

Silent Prayer & Song of Response: “Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven” PH 475 v 1, 2, 3

*God’s Greeting

*Mutual Greeting

*Opening Praise: “Be Unto Your Name”

Time of Confession

Celebration of Lord’s Supper

(Please note: We use gluten free bread. The centre cup and the innermost ring of cups in each communion tray contains juice. The remaining cups contain wine).

Serving Elders: Mark Sikma, Harry VanderKuylen, Adam Roth, Justin Otten

God Speaks His Word to Us

Song of Approach: “There is a Redeemer” LH 833

(During the Hymn of Approach children aged 3 to Grade 3 leave for Sunday school.)

Prayer of Illumination

Text: Psalm 32

Sermon: Truth Balms | Drawing Near

*Hymn of Response: “Nearer, Still Nearer LH 659

SERVE Update

Kingfisher Mission Update: Tom & Beth Scott

We Respond with Prayers and Offerings

Congregational Prayer

Offerings: 1. General Fund / Ministry Shares 2. Stratford House of Blessing

We Go with God's Blessing

*Benediction

*Closing Song: "In Christ Alone" LH 770

**means stand if you are able*

Elder: Harry VanderKuylen

Hall Monitor: Anthony DeWeerd

Music: Esther Roth

Ushers: Dave & Karen Brouwer

Sound: Luca Pol

Projection: Jason DeWitt

Streaming: Nathaniel DeWeerd

TODAY'S OFFERING: Stratford House of Blessing helps people in our community in their immediate time of need through emergency food and personal care items; programs to reduce childhood inequity; and the provision of essential supplies for unique needs (weather wear, blankets and supplies for people who are homeless and steel-toed work boots for those seeking a return to work). The primary focus of House of Blessing is the food bank which provides people with fresh, frozen and shelf-stable food along with toiletries and hygiene products by way of free home delivery and in-house appointments. The children's programs include healthy snacks, diapers and formula, Welcome to the World Baskets for new babies, Off to School Smiling Kits and the Christmas Toy Program. To learn more about how you can help or to access our services please visit shob.org or call us at 519-273-3433. Thank you for your support!

A FATHER'S DAY PRAYER: We thank You God for the gifts of fathers in our lives. We pray for strength and blessing over every father who seeks to walk closely with You in this life. We pray for the Holy Spirit to fill them. Give our fathers continued wisdom and guidance as they love and support and encourage their families. Keep our fathers safe and surrounded them with Your love and grace.

PSALM SERIES: This week we are drawing Psalm 32:1. *"Oh, what joy for those whose disobedience (sin) is forgiven, whose sin is put out of sight!"* This Psalm brings to us the peace and relief of knowing God's grace and forgiveness. Children and adults alike are encouraged to reflect creatively on Psalm 32 and to share their artwork with the church family. Clipboards, crayons and drawing sheets are available in a basket at the back of the church for anyone who would like to participate. Please return all supplies after each use.

VACATION: Pastor Martin will be away on vacation from June 23rd to July 2nd, returning to the office on Friday, July 3rd. If you have need of Pastoral care, please contact Pastor Nick

or your District Elder. May God go with Pastor Martin and Becca as they travel and may they return refreshed and renewed.

ORDER OF SERVICE

6:30 pm – Pastor Nick Bierma

Welcome & Call to Worship

Silent Prayer & Hymn of Response: “Hear Our Prayer, O Lord” LH 884

*God’s Greeting

*Songs of Praise: “Praise the Lord, For it is Good” LH 549

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” LH 601

Installation of Elder: Gary Van Zandwijk

Scripture: Exodus 20:15

Sermon: “Freedom for All”

*Hymn of Response: “Take My Life and Let it Be” LH 863 v 1, 2, 4, 5

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Apostles Creed

*Benediction

*Closing Song: “Go My Children with my Blessing” LH 946

**means stand if you are able*

Elder: Harry VanderKuylen

Music: Brianna Peachey

Projection: Dibora Roth

Sound: Isaiah Super

Streaming: Adam VanderHeide

OFFERING SCHEDULE:

Jun 28: Stephanie Ten Hove

Jul 5: Ontario Christian Gleaners

Jul 12: Christian Education Fund

Jul 19: KARIS

UPCOMING SERVICES

Jun 28: 10:00 am

Jul 5: 10:00 am

Jul 12: 10:00 am & 6:30 pm

Jul 19: 10:00 am

PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY: *“My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.” Psalm 73:6.* Please hold in prayer those in our congregation who continue to need our encouragement and God’s healing: Ann Berg, Darryl Berg, MaryAnn Frankruyter, Jeff Geleynse, Trix Heida, Maria Post, David Scheele, Gwen Soepboer, Nellie Tiemens, Henk Vanmeurs, and Theresa Wesseling.

PRAYERS FOR OUR MISSIONARIES: *He (Jesus) told them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into*

His harvest field.” Luke 10:2. Please remember in prayer those missionaries that we as a congregation are encouraging and supporting – John and Marion Vandermeer, Benj & Brie Gillen, Stephanie Ten Hove, Makayla Meinen. Remember Tom & Beth Scott and their family as they are preparing to return to Kingfisher Lake. May God bless the work of their hands.

FOLLOW ALONG WITH THE SCOTTS: The Scotts are leaving for Kingfisher Lake later this week! If you would like to follow along with them this summer, you can join their Facebook group at facebook.com/groups/scottministryupdates or email newsletter: [The Scotts’ Ministry Updates](#).

CONGRATULATIONS: We offer our congratulations to Brynn & Ron de Bruin who were united in marriage on Saturday, June 6th. May God bless with this young couple as they begin life together. ***“Be devoted to one another in love” – Romans 12:10***

CONGRATULTIONS: We offer congratulations to Kate & Adam Boersen who celebrated their wedding with family and friends on June 20th. May God be their guide today, tomorrow and always. ***“Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.” Ephesians 4:2***

DIRECTORY UPDATE: Please update your directory with the following information:
Harry & Gwen Soepboer
639 West Gore Street Apt 404 – Tower 1
Stratford, ON N5A 7N2

YOUNG ADULTS KICK-OFF BBQ JUNE 28: Join us as we kick off the summer with a BBQ around 12:30 on Sunday, June 28th! All young adults, including Grade 12 graduates, are welcome and encouraged to come out for an afternoon of great food, lawn games, and fellowship. Bring a lawn chair, invite a friend, and head to 4701 Line 29, Stratford after the morning service. We look forward to spending the afternoon with you!

BETHEL CRC YOUNG ADULTS: We welcome you to a worship night on Sunday, July 5, at 7:00 pm with Nick Bierma bringing us a message from Psalm 1. When: July 5 @ 7:00 pm. Where: 345 Elizabeth St E Listowel ON. Who: Anyone aged 18-30ish

SAFE CHURCH PAPERWORK TO SECRETARY: Please forward Safe Church paperwork to Betty DeWeerd at office@stratfordcrc.org or by placing it in the mailbox outside the church office. For all other Safe Church questions, please contact a member of the Safe Church Committee: Leo Laarman – Council Rep, Adrianna Borgdorff, Bonnie DeWeerd, or Kristen Parker, or email safechurch@stratfordcrc.org. Thank you!

75th ANNIVERSARY: CHURCH FAMILY PHOTO: A huge **THANK YOU** to everyone for your enthusiasm and cooperation last Sunday morning! While we have not yet seen the end result, we know that it will be perfect. Seeing all those people in our gym and knowing they are our “family” is such a blessing. To God be the glory!

75TH ANNIVERSARY: SHARE YOUR STORY: We would like to know you better! As part of our church’s 75th anniversary, we are sending out an invitation to share your or your family’s story of how you came to attend the Stratford CRC. Please check your email and/or your mailslot for questions to help you **Share Your Story**. If you have any questions, please contact Rita Weima or Hilda Olbach, 75th Anniversary Committee.

75 ACTS OF KINDNESS: Let’s bless others 75 times and then 75 more! Join our 75th Anniversary kindness initiative. Bulletin Board Details: Pick one idea and while you are out and about, allow God to lead you to a person who might need your help or thoughtfulness. Prepare a meal or tell someone to have an amazing day! Take the time to spread blessings and kindness. Happy anniversary Stratford CRC!

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMPLETED: This is a reminder for parents that Sunday, June 14th was the **LAST WEEK** of Sunday School. The Education Committee would like to thank all the volunteers who gave their time to teach and help with these classes. As we move into the summer months and allow everyone to take a well-deserved break, all children are encouraged to participate in the entire worship service. We praise God for this faithful Church family and the blessing of all its little ones. We trust that come September this congregation will once again heed the call to ***“Train up a child in the way they should go.”***

3-YEAR-OLD SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL: Council is once again looking for someone to organize and coordinate teachers and helpers for summer Sunday school for children who are 3 years old. Typically, in the past this was done by a parent or family who have a child that attends the class. The curriculum is ready and available as a continuation from the now completed Church education year. If this is something you are willing take on for the summer months, please contact the Clerk as soon as possible. Email: clerk@stratfordcrc.ca or call 519-501-1775



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2026: Registration is open! VBS is open to children aged 4-10 (birth years 2016-2022). Scan the QR code to register or find a link on the church Facebook page.

USED STAMPS: Thank you to everyone for collecting their used stamps this year and putting them in my mail slot. My stamp contact from Sarnia is coming to Stratford next month. If you have been saving all year and have a jar ready, could you place them in the box across from the mailboxes. Heather DeWitt

Happy Birthday!

*Seniors

Sun Jun 21 – Jacob Mosterd

Tues Jun 23 – Linda Renkema*, Alanna Poortinga

Wed Jun 24 – Leo Laarman*

Thurs Jun 25 – Jennifer Talsma

Fri Jun 26 – Kristen Parker, Esther Visser

Sat Jun 27 – Darren DeWitt, Rhett DeWitt, Chelsea Olbach

KEY RETURN: If you have changed program leaders – Cadets, Youth, GEMS, Friendship, etc., please return your keys to the office. If you have given your key to the next program leaders, please let the office know. (office@stratfordcrc.org)

SERVE 2026: Our summer **SERVE** week is fast approaching and we are hoping that we can get YOUR help. We are looking at around 55 people (Youth and Leaders) attending this year, which means we will have lots of mouths to feed. In the next couple of weeks I am going to post a list of specific items that we will need for the week; we appreciate anything you can do to help. The items can be brought to the church or given to Vanessa Van Maar. If you would like to donate anything specifically, please let Vanessa know by calling (519-955-1309) or talking to her at church. Thank you church family for everything you do.

THANK YOU!! All leaders and youth have now been matched up with prayer partners from our church. Thank you so much to everyone who was able to help with this piece of SERVE! A blue bin is downstairs on top of the coat racks that prayer packages can be dropped off over the next few weeks.

YARD GAMES AND HAMMOCKS FOR SERVE: I am looking to borrow some yard games for the Serve day away again on July 10. This year we are also looking for any parachute hammocks that people are willing to lend. Please text or call Rebecca Olbach at 226-792-1240 or email at rebecca-woudstra@hotmail.com. Thanks in advance!

SINGLE IN CLASSIS HURON? Inge Rylaarsdam (Palmerston CRC), Samantha Kappers (Bethel CRC - Listowel) and Grace-Emma Bierma (Stratford CRC) are collaborating to host a curated speed dating social for Christian singles between the ages of 25-40. **When:** Friday, June 26 from 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm [Dinner will be served at 6:30pm hosted by Holy Smokes BBQ] **Where:** Moorefield, ON **Cost:** \$25 Reserve your spot (as space is limited) by June 12, by emailing: speeddatingsocial1@gmail.com Once you've registered, you will receive a confirmation email with the details regarding payment, the specific location and an overview of the evening. Looking forward to seeing you there!

STRATFORD & DISTRICT CHRISTIAN SCHOOL is looking to hire a part time, band teacher. This position is a 16% position, two classes two days a week, starting Aug. 31, 2026. Candidates must be passionate in their faith in Jesus Christ, dynamic, energetic and possess strong classroom management skills. Candidates must also be able to teach all instruments in a brass and woodwind band. Only those candidates receiving an invitation to interview will be contacted. Please send a personal statement of faith and resume to: David Straatsma, Principal principal@sdcs.on.ca 190 Queensland Rd., Stratford, ON, N4Z 0A3.

JOB POSTING: Employment Opportunity. Bethel Listowel CRC is seeking a Youth Director/Youth Pastor to join our ministry team. The successful candidate will be passionate about connecting with youth to encourage and nurture their spiritual growth and support them as they live out their faith in their everyday life. There is some flexibility in this role as we are willing to tailor the job description to the successful candidate. You could be an ordained pastor or a youth director, seeking a full-time position (ideally for us) or part time. A detailed job description is available upon request. If you are interested in this position, or know someone who might be, please contact Ed Boelens, HR Committee Chair, at HR@bethelcrc.com. Application deadline is July 20, 2026, with a start date soon afterward. We look forward to hearing from you.

COFFEE SERVERS:

Jun 21: Chris & Charlene Huizinga, John & Audrey Joosse, Tyson & Laura Sjaarda

Jun 28: Luke & Corinna Puklicz, Christopher & Kristen Parker, Sam & Nicole Straatsma

July 5: Aart & Rachel Mosterd, Bert & Marianne VanRavenhorst, Ernst & Elaine de Freese

COFFEE PREP

Jun 21: Ralph & Heather DeWitt

Jun 28: Rita Weima/Heidi Baard

USHERS

Jun 21: Dave & Karen Brouwer

June 28: de Bruin Family

PROJECTION

Jun 28: Luke Olbach

Jul 5: Angelina VanderWal

STREAMING

Jun 28: Geena DeWeerd

LIBRARY

Jun 21: Claire Tiemens

Jun 28: Rose Heida

GREETER

June 28: John Timmermans

SOUND

Jun 28: Shawn Hummel

Jul 5: Joel Koskamp

STREAMING

Jul 5: Jonathan DeWeerd

JUNE NURSERY SCHEDULE

Mothers of the Month: Lydia Zein & Corinna Puklicz

I – Infants C – Crawlers NC – Nursery Class downstairs

***Arrives 15 minutes early to welcome parents and children**

- 21 I/C – **Sheila Best***, Christine DeWeerd, Alanna Poortinga, Zizipho Roth
 NC – **Jayme Koskamp***, Noah Puklicz, Sydney Hummel
 PM – Vanessa Van Maar, Grace Van Zandwijk
- 28 I/C – **Jenna DeWitt***, Michelle VanderWal, Brittany De Lange, Lydia Sikma,
 Melayna Grieve
 NC – **Elaine De Freese***, Lydia Dam, Peyton Pennings

SUNDAY JUNE 21 TO SATURDAY JUNE 27

Mon 22-Jun	9:15 AM	One Care Exercise Program	Gym
Tues 23-Jun	9:15 AM 7:00 PM	One Care Exercise Program Music & Worship	Gym Library
Wed 24-Jun	9:00 AM	Pickleball	Gym
Thurs 25-Jun	9:00 AM	One Care Exercise Program	Gym
Fri 26-Jun	9:00 AM 10:00 AM	Pilates Women's Ministry	Gym Double Classroom

SUNDAY JUNE 28 TO SATURDAY JULY 11

Wed 1-Jul	9:00 AM	Pickleball	Gym
Fri 3-Jul	9:00 AM 10:00 AM	Pilates Women's Ministry	Gym Double Classroom
SAT-SAT Jul/4 - Jul/11		SERVE	

SUNDAY JULY 12 TO SATURDAY AUGUST 1

Jul 13-18		Pickleball 9:00 AM 15-Jul	Pilates/Women's Ministry 9:00am/10:00 am 17-Jul
Jul 20-24		VBS 9:00 AM Jul 20-23	Pilates/Women's Ministry 9:00am/10:00 am 24-Jul
Jul 27-31		Pickleball 9:00 AM 29-Jul	Pilates/Women's Ministry 9:00am/10:00 am 31-Jul