



God always hears us when we pray

THE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF STRATFORD SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2026

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

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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

“I love the Lord, for He heard my voice; He heard my cry for mercy.” Psalm 116:1. We gather together to worship and praise God; for He is gracious and compassionate. Whatever we might be facing today, He hears us. Come let us worship! Please join us downstairs after the service for a time of fellowship and refreshments.

ORDER OF SERVICE

10:00 am – Pastor Nick Bierma

Preservice: “He Will Keep You” Psalm 121

God Calls Us to Worship

Welcome & Call to Worship

Silent Prayer & Song of Response: Psalm 19

*God’s Greeting

*Mutual Greeting

*Opening Praise: “With Grateful Heart My Thanks I Bring” PH 183
“I Will Sing of My Redeemer” PH 479

Time of Confession

Confession

Assurance of Pardon

God Speaks His Word to Us

Song of Approach: “Jesus Strong and Kind”

Prayer of Illumination

Text: Psalm 116

Sermon: Truth Balms | Deep Calls to Deep

*Hymn of Response: “I Love the Lord, for He has Heard My Voice” PH 116

We Respond with Prayers and Offerings

Congregational Prayer

Offerings: 1. General Fund / Ministry Shares 2. Karis Global

Offertory: “Goodness of God”

We Go with God’s Blessing

*Song: Great is Thy Faithfulness

*Benediction

*Closing Song: Psalm 42 – “I Will Praise Him Again”

**means stand if you are able*

Elder: Barry Horensma

Music: Corinna Puklicz

Ushers: Don Datema/ Brayeden VanderHeide

Projection: Rebecca Olbach

Hall Monitor: Gerald VanderPloeg

Greeter: Wilma De Young

Sound: Luke Puklicz/Coen Hummel

Streaming: Joel Heida

TODAY'S OFFERING: KARIS Global – At Karis Disability Services (formerly Christian Horizons), our values come from our belief that every person is loved by God and created in His Image and is gifted to contribute to their community. For almost 30 years, **Karis Global** has been partnering with pastors, educators, and leaders in other countries, promoting belonging and inclusion in communities. This work is 100% donor-funded and goes towards disability advocacy, outreach and inclusion initiatives. Would you like to learn more about Karis Global, our church-equipping initiatives, family camp ministry, or our work across Canada? Visit karis.org, pick up a newsletter, or speak with **Rose Heida** to learn more. Thank you for supporting this ministry!

NEXT WEEK'S OFFERING: Ramoth House – Ramoth House is a non profit, inter-denominational agency based in Mount Forest, Ontario dedicated to providing practical support and encouragement to young women between the ages of 16-25 who are either pregnant or parenting an infant. Young women are given the opportunity to realize their parenting potential while acquiring valuable life skills in hopes that the cycle of hurt and poverty may be ended for the next generation. For more information visit their website at www.ramoth.ca

PSALM SERIES: This week we are drawing Psalm 116:1. ***"I love the Lord, because He hears my voice and my prayers. He bends down to listen."*** What a beautiful image of our great God. Bending down and actively listening to us each time we pray. Children and adults alike are encouraged to reflect creatively on Psalm 116 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. The children's artwork is displayed on FB, the preservice slideshow and on the credenza in the foyer.

COMMUNION: We will be celebrating Communion in the outdoor evening service, July 26th at the home of the Visscher's. Take time in the coming week to confess your sins and give thanks for the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Our Saviour took our sins on Himself for our forgiveness and our salvation.

OUTDOOR SERVICE: Next Sunday evening we will be meeting at the home of Peter & Sandra Visscher for a time of music and worship. (297026 29th Line Zorra, Lakeside ON N0M 2G0). Everyone is welcome!

VBS BEGINS THIS WEEK! July 20th to July 23rd

SHINING A LIGHT ON WHO JESUS REALLY IS!

"Jesus said to them again: "I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in the darkness but will have the light of life."

John 8:12

All week VBS kids will explore ways that light BRIGHTENS, light ILLUMINATES, light REFLECTS and light REVEALS, not only at VBS but also in the world around them!

OFFERING SCHEDULE:

Jul 26: Ramoth House

Aug 9: Teen Challenge

Aug 2: Wycliffe – the VanderMeers

Aug 16: House of Blessing

UPCOMING SERVICES

Jul 26: 10:00 am & 6:30 pm

Aug 9: 10:00 am & 6:30 pm

Aug 2: 10:00 am

Aug 16: 10:00 am

PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH FAMILY: ***"Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart."*** Psalm 37:4. 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, Maria Post, David Scheele, Gwen Soepboer, Nellie Tiemens, Henk Vanmeurs, and Theresa Wesseling.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS: Wishing Bill Visser a blessed 89th birthday on Friday, July 24th. May God continue to bless Bill and give him all he stands in need of in the coming year.

PRAYERS FOR OUR MISSIONARIES: ***"The Lord is my strength and my shield; in Him my heart trusts and I am helped."*** Psalm 28:7a. 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: If you would like to follow along with the Scott's as they minister in Kingfisher Lake this summer, you can join their Facebook group at facebook.com/groups/scottministryupdates or email newsletter: [The Scotts' Ministry Updates](https://TheScottsMinistryUpdates.com).

GREIFSHARE: We are hosting a new session of GriefShare beginning in September, and meeting on Monday afternoons. We are looking for two people to join the team and to be alongside the facilitators as support. Please call Joanne 519-949-4812, Ruby 226-303-4933, or Linda 519-275-2570. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

?????: Thank you to whoever put some Youth Group pictures in my mailslot for the archives. I always appreciate receiving items such as these. Whoever you are, could you please contact me as it would be helpful to have some information about the photos such as what events they were, dates, names or anything else you can tell me. Thanks! Betty Van de Kemp, Church Archivist

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!

<u>Happy Birthday!</u>	*Seniors
Sun Jul 19 – Alesha VanRavenhorst	
Mon Jul 20 – Austin Boersma, Nyah Puklicz	
Tues Jul 21 – Karen Goforth, Jolene DeBoer, Kierra Mosterd	
Wed Jul 22 – Joshua Schreuders	
Thurs Jul 23 – Shirley Jepson*	
Fri Jul 24 – Bill Visser*	
Sat Jul 25 – Alexandra Sinden	

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!

OFF TO SCHOOL SMILING: Looking for an idea of how to spread blessings in the community? Check out the **OFF-TO-SCHOOL SMILING** program through the House of

Blessing. You can support students for Kindergarten to Grade 12 with new backpacks and essential school supplies! A list of items is available on the Church Bulletin Board or the 75 Acts of Kindness Bulletin Board downstairs. Financial donations are also welcome!



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.

VBS 2026 CLOSING PROGRAM: You are invited to join us at 11:30 am on Thursday, July 23 for our VBS Closing Program to watch the children sing the songs and Bible passages they've learned during the week. Hope to see you there!

SAVE THE DATE Ramoth House is having their annual fundraising dinner on Friday Oct 2, 2026, at 6:30pm at the Mount Forest and District Sports Complex. Tickets are \$300 for a table of 8 or \$37.50/individual. Deadline to purchase is Sept 26, 2026. To reserve a ticket please call 519-323-3751 or email Brenda at office@ramoth.ca

MUD, SWEAT, AND GEARS MOUNTAIN BIKE CLUB: We are opening up some spots in our highly exclusive mountain bike club. If you think you might have what it takes, here are some details.

- **What:** Bike riding on the local trails. These are mountain bike trails, so a mountain bike would be a good idea. Typical ride is 15-20 km.
- **Where:** Fanshawe, Wildwood, The Pines, occasionally Hydrocut or Turkey Point
- **When:** Typically, we ride once a week (usually Wednesday) starting around 6pm, followed by a time of refreshment.
- **Qualifications:** To be a successful candidate, you: **1)** Own a bike that is functional, **2)** Can bike at least 15 km, **3)** Don’t cry (much) if you fall down, and **4)** Think hotdogs are one of the basic food groups.

Contact: Chat with Peter Visscher, Steve Hiemstra, or Aiden Talsma

COFFEE SERVERS
 Jul 19: Dave & Emily Grieve, Justan & Vanessa Van Maar, Brian & Jenn Super
 Jul 26: Joel & Vanessa Koskamp, Esther Visser, Heidi Flikkema, Will & Tracy Sumner
 Aug 2: Quintin & Sara McDonnell, Evan & Lisa Poortinga, Gerald & Amanda VanderPloeg

COFFEE PREP
 Jul 19: Joanne Schreuders and Teresa Peachey
 Jul 26: Tim & Betty Van de Kemp

USHERS
 July 26: Tanner Meinen/ Joel Meinen
 Aug 2: Tim & Betty Van de Kemp

LIBRARY
 Jul 19: Rita Weima
 Jul 26: Marjorie Vanmeurs

GREETER
 Aug 2: Fran Timmermans

PROJECTION

Jul 26: Jason DeWitt (Dibora Roth*)

Aug 2: Luke Olbach

STREAMING

Jul 26: Jonathan DeWeerd (Adam VanderHeide*)

*Tech scheduled for Sunday evening in the event of inclement weather on July 12 & 26

JULY NURSERY SCHEDULE

Mothers of the Month: Breanne Olbach & Josie Koskamp

I – Infants C – Crawlers NC – Nursery Class downstairs

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

- 19 I/C – **Corinna Puklicz***, Jenn Hummel, Jocelyn Sikma, Shauna DeWeerd
- 26 I/C – **Quinton McDonnell***, Brynn De Bruin, Kierra Mosterd, Olivia Pennings
- NC – **Frank DeWeerd***, Eleanor Van de Kemp, Rayelle Grieve

AUGUST NURSERY SCHEDULE

Mothers of the Month: Gabriëlle Mosterd & Vanessa Koskamp

I – Infants C – Crawlers NC – Nursery Class downstairs

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

- 2 I/C – **Josie Koskamp***, Wilma DeYoung, Micah Dam, Ava DeWeerd
- NC – **Esther Roth***, Avery DeWitt, Zach DeWeerd
- 9 I/C – **Adrianna Borgdorff***, Kirby Pol, Alesha Van Ravenhorst, Bronwyn Bradshaw
- NC – **Heather Olbach***, Jolene Van Ravenhorst, Emma Speelmen
- 16 I/C – **Rebecca Olbach***, Dayna Otten, Averianna Pol, Nyah Puklicz
- NC – **Kari Puklicz***, Josh Mosterd, Margaret Sikma
- 23 I/C – **Gabriëlle Mosterd***, Amanda Olbach, Ana Gutierrez, Max Oosterom
- NC – **Sara McDonnell***, Naomi Puklicz, Ethan Hummel
- 30 I/C – **Vanessa Koskamp***, Michelle VanderWal, Alyson Otten, Alyssia Mosterd
- NC – **Bryanna Fischer***, Dibora Roth, Alyda Tiemens

SUNDAY JULY 19 TO SATURDAY AUGUST 8

Mon - Thurs	9:00 AM	VBS	Building
Jul 20-24			
Tues 28-Jul	7:00 PM	Music & Worship	Library
Wed 29-Jul	9:00 AM	Pickleball	Gym
Wed 5-Aug	9:00 AM 7:00 PM	Pickleball Meeting	Gym Library

