

Classis Toronto Prayer Newsletter - August

In this monthly prayer newsletter we share what is happening in our Classis Toronto churches (22 Christian Reformed congregations) and our joint ministries. The focus is what is being celebrated and what the churches and ministries are dreaming God will do among them. However where appropriate, we will also share what challenges are being dealt with. Please remember these ministries at prayer times in church, small groups, around the family table and as individuals.

WILLOWDALE CRC

Weekly Ward Prayer

Starting this summer, Pastor Joel Kok is meeting every week for prayer with the elder and deacon representing one of the six wards of the Willowdale congregation. Pray that this new effort may bear fruit as the leadership commits to leading the congregation in prayer and care.

New Youth Leaders

Give thanks with Willowdale for two of its members, one newly arrived, who agreed to be youth leaders. Nicholas Chuba is leading the "Junior Youth" which is their pre-teen group. Jeanette DeBoer is leading the high school youth. Both are part-time paid positions.

Focus on Sundays – Worship and Discipleship

Give thanks with Willowdale for its Sunday morning discipleship program which is part of its "faith formation" efforts. Programs for children, youth and adults happen from 11:30 to 12:15.

Classis Toronto Activities

August 23, 5:30 pm: Classis Candidacy Comm.

August 23, 7:30 pm: Classis Ministry Comm.

September 1: Classis Executive Comm.

September 1: Deadline for Submissions for the Oct. 6 Meeting of Classis Toronto

September 7: Race Relations Comm.

September 22 or 29: North of 7 Imagine Event at Bethel CRC in Newmarket

September 25 evening: Classis Toronto All Nations Heritage Sunday Service at Community of Meadowvale CRC in Mississauga

October 6: Classis Toronto Meeting, Community CRC in Richmond Hill

October 14-16: Classis Youth Retreat (see over)

CLASSIS YOUTH COMMITTEE (CYC)

Classis Toronto Youth Retreat

The CYC has organized a youth retreat for October 14 – 16, 2011 at Ontario Pioneer Camp in Muskoka. Theme: Re-Connecting with God with various workshops which can be signed up for at the retreat. Watch for more information on this must-attend-event for high school youth.

Revisoning Youth Ministry

A discussion will be lead by the CYC during Fall/Winter/Spring 2012 with a goal to suggest ways to reform youth discipleship to be resonant with today's culture and to find ways to move toward a holistic, mentor-and-gifts-based approach to youth ministry. In May 2012 and beyond the CYC will hope to present its findings at a Classis Meeting as well as host and encourage discussions in congregations around Classis Toronto.

Additional CYC Members Sought for 2011/12

Current members are Brian DeBoer, Georgetown Youth Pastor; Ken Dryfhout, Meadowvale Ministry Associate; Jack Klooster (term ending), Richmond Hill Youth Pastor; Jason Postma, Bethel Newmarket Youth Pastor; Rev. Bart Velthuisen (term ending), Grace Scarborough Pastor. If you are interested in joining the CYC, contact either Corrie Bootsma, chair of the Classis Nominating Committee at bootsma@pathcom.com and/or Jack Klooster chair of the Classis Youth Committee at jackklooster@community-church.ca.

Prayer

Remember to pray for youth programs in all our churches. Pray for paid and volunteer youth leaders. And pray for the CYC as they seek to be a resource to all of Classis. Give thanks for their willingness to serve.