

also learn life skills, and enjoy crafts, activities and singing.

Volunteer positions: mature female volunteers (post secondary and older) who are willing to participate in the program as well as take turns chaperoning the girls on the bus.

Kids Korner – runs every Sunday from 6:30 - 7:45 p.m. (during the Streetlight evening Sunday Service). Each week the children are told a Bible story to correspond with the evening message, recite the Lord's Prayer, Apostle's Creed and learn some Bible texts. The program ends with a snack and some time to play games.

Volunteer positions: Volunteers to tell a Bible story (curriculum provided) on a monthly basis, volunteers to help the story teller and regular volunteers are also needed to drive children to and from the service.

Calvinist Cadets – Monday evenings from 7:00-9:00pm. - a program geared toward local boys aged 11 and up. The goal of this program is to help boys grow spiritually in all areas of life (devotional, mental, physical, and social) by providing a program uniquely designed so that Christian men can mentor boys effectively.

Volunteer positions: Male volunteers, with or without Cadet experience, includes attending rallies and challenges against other Cadet Clubs.

Youth Ignited – Every other Friday evening from 7:00-9:00pm neighbourhood teens are offered a place to hang out, listen to live bands, play games and mingle with other Christian youth. We also learn about the Bible through video-clips, movies and discussion.

Volunteer positions: Mature teens and adults are encouraged to come and get to know the teens! Youth groups are also welcome to participate in our program. We also ask bands to consider booking a Friday evening with us!

Mentoring Program – Many of the children in the Streetlight programs would benefit from having a big brother/sister type of relationship with mature Christians. We can set you up in a group of mentors so that each week 2 mentors can spend time with the child. A great way to make a positive difference in a child's life! This could also be an opportunity for a family, couples and grandparents to show God's love to a young child.

Sunlight Life Skills Club – We are a club which meets every Wednesday from 12:00pm-3:00pm where we teach each other basic life skills. Some of the topics covered are: healthy diet, budget choices, hygiene, and social skills.

Volunteer positions: Women who can help mentor and model skills like food preparation and making food choices. As well as being a listening ear to those who do not have a large social network and being a gentle advisor for someone who is having trouble knowing the right choice to make. We are a group of women helping women to do what women want to do.

Please direct donations and correspondence to:

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A ministry of the Canadian and United Reformed Churches



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NEWSLETTER

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VOLUME 26



"You are the light of the world.
A city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither
do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl.
Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to
everyone in the house. In the same way, let
your light shine before men, that they may
see your good deeds and praise
your father in heaven."

Matthew 5: 14 - 16

BOARD MEMBERS

Ed Aasman
chair

Henry Nienhuis
Vice chair

Henry Alkema
member

Katie Bethlehem
treasurer

Kevin Eigenbrood
transportation

John Hordyk
board relations

Dave Koning
*comm. of
administration*

Ryan Schutten
recording secretary

John Vander Heiden
expansion committee

Adrian Vanderlaan
liaison (Providence)

Rev. John Ludwig
Liaison (Ancaster)

Jeff Harsevoort
*Liaison
(Rehoboth URC)*

BOARD REPORT *Ed Aasman, Chair*

How quickly the summer months fly by! It seems like only yesterday that we were seeing the programs and bible studies wrap up. The staff took their vacations and came back rested. The building was quiet, so quiet in fact that the board was actually able to meet there a number of times over the summer months. Now that September is here we see the building filling up with the clubs, catechism classes and bible studies getting under way. God's blessing is evident in all this activity as we see that the work of the ministry is able to continue from year to year.

Tracy Lynn and Eric Hoeksema were blessed with the birth of another healthy baby girl. They welcomed little Alivia into their family and we join with them in thanking the Lord that he made all things well. After taking a few months off, Tracy Lynn is back again, working alongside Mieke. The continuity in our staffing ensures that the running of our programs goes smoothly.

At the board level we continue to see change. Gerlinda Beintema who has served as our treasurer for the last two years has decided to step down due to her many commitments between family, work and school. We were blessed by having her on the board. Her competence and professionalism were evident in everything she did and she will be missed by us all. In her place we welcome Katie Bethlehem as our new treasurer. Welcome Katie and we look forward to working with you. At the time of my writing this article, we are still searching for a corresponding secretary. If you are interested in serving with us in this capacity, we would love to hear from you. You can call or email us at the contact information found elsewhere in this newsletter and we will get back to you. We promise!

In our last newsletter we made an appeal for funds so that we could replace our old and tired bus. It was overwhelming to see the support that poured in. Thanks to this support we were able to purchase a bus that should serve us well for many years to come. Thank you to all who gave to this important cause. We would also like to thank the Transportation Committee for their work and in particular Mike Visser who found the bus, went down to the States, picked it up and drove it back to Canada and has it on the road ready for the new season.

Our building plans are still in the works. We have retained an architect who has presented us with some preliminary plans and the costs for making these plans a reality. There is still much work to be done before we can proceed, but we are finally making headway in our desire to have a building that will serve the ministry and all its associated programs for the foreseeable future.

We would like to thank all those who continue to support us both financially as well as through prayer. We covet those prayers, as we see this as the only way that the Lord will bless the work of Pastor Paul, Hilco, Tracy Lynn and Mieke. May the Lords work flourish in Hamilton.



Supervising the Lord's Supper: Faithfulness Wins over Feelings *Pastor Paul Aasman, Missionary*

We don't have a leg to stand on if our theory and practices as a church are not clearly based on God's word. We would lose our integrity and credibility. And a mission that has lost integrity and credibility will perish.

Every church needs to examine herself on this regularly. A mission church does so nearly every day and for nearly every single issue. It is invigorating and gratifying to search, struggle and confirm that what we believe and what we do is right by God's word.

Some issues require more struggle than others. The practice of supervising the Lord's supper is one of those. Only communicant members of our church and attested guests of sister churches may receive the bread and the cup. That is pretty normal for Canadian and United Reformed Churches. For folks at the Streetlight Church, it's almost as though we had come from a different planet. People are often bewildered, shocked and on a few occasions, outraged by this practice. Many people feel like they have been rejected from intimate fellowship with the Lord and his people. That is not the sort of feeling that a mission Church wants to produce.

And frankly, it hurts for me to uphold this practice in our church. Some of these are people about whom I have no doubt that they are Christians. I am regularly humbled by their sincere, and child-like yet robust faith. But I need to tell them that they cannot participate fully in the Lord's supper.

In the 2 ½ years since we began celebrating the Lord's supper at Streetlight, I have sat down with folks to explain how 1 Corinthians 11 compels us to supervise this sacrament and how the church has uniformly practised such supervision for its entire history, until the past couple generations.

Some understand our practice, though remain sceptical. Others just don't understand, and a number have turned away never to set foot in Streetlight again, though they had come near the Lord through this church. But most people respond with something like, "I've never heard that before. Yet, there it is, in black and white." And they accept it completely.

It's a hard issue, but few decisions have motivated people to seek formal membership in the church as much as this one has. That's a big step in a climate where church membership is generally disdained. Perhaps many of those who have joined would have joined anyway. But because the sacrament can only be fully enjoyed by members, many have sought membership.

This practice has been a great blessing to this mission.

The church is right to supervise the celebration of the Lord's supper. It is, I'm convinced, the will of our Lord. It may be difficult, and it may hurt, but blessings come to those who follow him, even against their druthers.



Street Beat *Mieke Zwaan, Youth Worker*

Summer was a great time for me to be introduced to my new job here at Streetlight. Although most programs were in recess, there were many exciting events and developments.

Many of the kids and teens had an opportunity to go to Campfire! Bible Camp for a week of learning about God, making new friends, and a lot of fun. From waiting anxiously for the bus on Monday morning, somewhat unsure of what was about to come, to reluctantly coming off the bus on Saturday, big smiles, showing off hemp bracelets, too tired to talk except for the question if they could please go again next year. Thank you everyone at camp for all your hard work, for serving with your whole

heart, and for always pointing to Jesus Christ.

We also had a bit of our own 'camp' going on at Streetlight. For 2 weeks we had kids from the neighbourhood attend our Kids Club Summer Camp from 9-12 each morning. Enthusiastically hosted by volunteers from the Rehoboth URC and Living Water URC, we had some good times. We learned about the life of Moses, learned new songs and made some nice looking crafts. We had about 50 different kids attend the program; many of them had never attended Streetlight before. A big thank you to all the volunteers from Rehoboth and Living Water as well as Brenda and Missy Visser who tirelessly helped out with all things summer camp!

Campfire! sent a team of teens and leaders during Service week. And what a team it was! They scrubbed floors, sorted clothes, listened to testimonies of some of our Streetlight members and hosted a fantastic community dinner where we had around 150 people show up for a meal and a good chat. We loved it that they came and are so thankful for their hearts of service!

As temperatures and colours change outside we look back with thankfulness for a good summer. We also look forward with much anticipation to a new season. There are some exciting programs that are just about to start or have started by this time. For some of the programs we could still use some volunteers. Send us an email or give us a call if this is something you are interested in!

Please remember the work of the staff and volunteers in your prayers, that God may bless the programs and the youth attending them.

LOOKING TO VOLUNTEER? We need you!

Streetlight depends on many volunteers to run their Bible studies, youth programs, and special events. Here you will find some descriptions of volunteers that we are looking for. Please contact us to further discuss where you can use your talents to serve God and neighbour at Streetlight.

Kids Club - a program geared to the downtown neighbourhood children. Runs after school, 3:45 until about 5:45 every Wednesday. These children, ranging from 5 to 10 yrs old, are taught a Bible story by a trained Streetlight story leader and then join together to participate in a snack and crafts or outdoor games.

Volunteer positions: Volunteers to participate with the children as they are being taught the Bible lesson, help kids with crafts and games as well as help set up crafts, snacks and games.

Kingdom Seekers - runs every Thursday from 7:00-8:30, a program geared for girls aged 11 and up. The purpose of this program is to involve young girls in interactive learning focused on Bible knowledge. The girls