

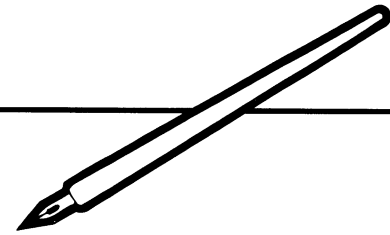
Clarion

THE CANADIAN REFORMED MAGAZINE

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Are infants in the church and unbelievers outside of it in the same position?

The controversy

Many evangelical Christians who accept Scripture as God's Word and want to live by it, reject the baptism of infants. One of their arguments is that infant baptism is commanded nowhere in the New Testament, and that it speaks about the baptism of believers. Baptists point here to the way in which the apostle Paul speaks about the meaning and aim of baptism in, e.g., Rom.6 and Col. 2. Paul addresses believers who were baptized and says in Rom. 6:3-8, "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized in Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, ... For if we have been united with Him in a death like His,... We know that our old self was crucified with Him... But if we have died with Christ,..."

The baptist's argumentation is that Paul speaks here about baptism as a sign and seal of what God has done in the hearts of those who believe. They have to hold on in faith to that work of God in them as pictured in their baptism. They must believe that that work in them is real. Since now regeneration, a being buried and raised with Christ, is through hearing and believing the gospel, upon which the believer is baptized, and since an infant cannot hear the gospel and believe, it should not be baptized. It is clear, says the Baptist, that baptism is for those in whom God has worked what their baptism pictures. It is for those who have appropriated Christ and His salvation, that is, who, through faith made it their own property.

The consequence is that there is no real difference between an unbeliever and a little child in the church. Both still lack faith. Both still need (the beginning of) God's work of regeneration. So both still lack salvation.

But to both also comes the promise of the gospel: if you accept Christ as your personal Saviour in true faith, you, too, will be saved.

Rom. 6:3-11 does not apply to infants in the church.

I would like to begin the defence of the practice of the church throughout the centuries with referring to the unity of the Old and the New Testament on a specific point, that of the Fifth Commandment.

The Fifth Commandment

The Fifth Commandment asks obedience to parents and addresses children of all ages. How can this Fifth Commandment be a part of the Decalogue, the Ten Words of the Covenant? The answer is simple. Children belong to God's covenant people. When God made the covenant with Israel, the people whom He delivered from the slavery in Egypt to be

His own precious possession, the children were included. Therefore, when He spoke to His people, when establishing the covenant, it was only natural that He addressed the children too. All this was according to God's promise to Abraham when He made His covenant with him. He promised to be the God of Abraham and of Abraham's children in their generations (Gen. 17).

Since, therefore, the children, too, were part of God's precious possession, He had a word of instruction for them also. They, too, had to live out of the faith that the LORD was their God and Redeemer. God addressed them in the context of the family. The family as unit belongs to God's creation work and is a basic building block of a people or nation. So the LORD said to them, "Honour your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land which the LORD your God gives you." The presupposition is that father and mother, belonging to Israel, will bring up their children in the fear of the LORD, in love for Him and to obey His will. The instruction of the father and the teaching of the mother are thus dominated by the covenant. To honour father and mother means to give heed to their covenantal education. In this way Israel would continue in the covenant with God throughout its generations.

In particular the book of Proverbs works this out. For instance, 23:22, 24, 25: "Hearken to your father who begot you, and do not despise your mother when she is old. The father of the righteous will greatly rejoice; he who begets a wise son will be glad in him. Let your father and mother be glad, let her who bore you rejoice." A wise and righteous son is one who fears the LORD and lives with Him and for Him, according to His Word. When Proverbs teaches that the foolish, unrighteous, disobedient son will perish, such is a punishment from the LORD.

Now it is striking that this Fifth Commandment is used by the apostle Paul when addressing the children in the New Testament church. In his epistle to the Ephesians, in 6:1-3, he writes: "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 'Honour your father and mother' (this is the first commandment with a promise), 'that it may be well with you and that you may live long on the earth.'"

This use of the Fifth Word of the Covenant by Paul is of great significance. It shows clearly that Christ's apostle treats the children as included in the church, to which he addresses his letters. They are part of the people of the new covenant. Therefore, the preamble, "I am the LORD your God" (for the sake of Christ Jesus), counts for the children, too. The adult believers, having received the position of children of God through adoption, are under obligation to live in faith. The children, having the same position, are under the same obli-

gation. That is why the apostle addresses them within the family context, together with their parents. Because they are holy, that is, they belong to the LORD, together with their believing parent(s), cf. 1 Cor. 7:14, who will instruct them in the faith and have them instructed in it.

Our conclusion must be: God sees and treats the children in the New Testament church in the same way as in the Old Testament. They belong to the covenant of God together with their parents. God says to the believing parents: I am your God, you belong to me with all that you are and have, all that I give you. This includes your children. They are mine, too.

When we express this belonging to God, this having the position of being God's adopted children, in New Testament terms, we can say that it means that believers and their children have the salvation which Christ obtained for God's people, in Christ. This salvation is what God gives in Christ, as proclaimed as His promise in the gospel: the forgiveness of sins and righteousness through Christ's blood, as well as the Holy Spirit who regenerates our heart and renews our life, cf. the Heidelberg Catechism, Q.A. 74 of Lord's Day 27.

Here we can see the difference in position between believers with their children and those who do not believe in Christ. Believers and their children, also the little infants, have a position within the covenant. They have salvation in Christ, God is their God in Christ. Now to those outside the covenant, to those who are still unbelievers, the gospel must be preached also. To them, too, in the gospel and its proclamation, God promises salvation in Christ. But they do not have salvation yet. God is not their God yet. In this position and condition they remain as long as they continue in their unbelief.

It is on the basis of this covenant with the believers and their children that we confess the comforting truth in the Canons of Dort, 1,17:

"We must judge concerning the will of God from His Word, which declares that the children of believers are holy, not by nature but in virtue of the covenant of grace, in which they are included with their parents. Therefore, God-fearing parents ought not to doubt the election and salvation of their children whom God calls out of this life in their infancy."

We do not confess that parents must not doubt the regeneration of these infants, but that they must not doubt their election and salvation. Not what has happened with their heart counts here, but what God has given them in the covenant with their parents in Christ.

Salvation for parents and children in Christ

Does this mean that the children in the covenant and church of the Lord are automatically saved? Can now children in the church say: we are born in the covenant and this means automatically that we are saved, unconditionally? They cannot. There remains the need of faith and regeneration for both the parents and for the children when they grow up.

When a person hears the gospel promise of salvation in Christ for everyone who believes, and the regenerating Holy Spirit opens his heart for it, such a person receives and appropriates Christ as his Saviour. This salvation can be expressed with Paul's words in Rom. 6:3-11. Those who came to faith and were baptized in Christ were baptized into His death and resurrection. They died with Him to sin and were raised with Him unto a new life for God. This salvation means, at the same time, that God makes such a person His covenant child. God is now his Father (Rom.8:13-17).

But having come to faith, the believers' possession of this salvation is not now an automatic thing. What God gives is always given in Christ. Parallel with it we can say: it is always given in promise. It will remain the "property" of the believer

in the way of a living and abiding faith. Faith remains the condition. Faith remains the instrument through which he appropriates this salvation. That is why the apostle Paul admonishes the believers to persevere in faith, in order not to lose what they have (2 Cor. 13:5, cf. Hebr.4:1, 12:25). That is why the apostle also urges the believers to keep looking at their baptism as a picture or sign and seal of the promise of the gospel: a sign and seal of God's saving work through the cleansing blood and through the renewing Holy Spirit. That is the salvation you have in Christ!



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IN THIS ISSUE

Editorial — Are infants in the church and unbelievers outside of it in the same position? — <i>J. Geertsema</i>	366
Remember Your Creator — Bored? — <i>R. Schouten</i>	369
Press Review — Developments in the Christian Reformed Church — <i>C. Van Dam</i>	371
College Corner — Notes of Appreciation — <i>C. Van Dam</i> ...	372
Ray of Sunshine — <i>Mrs. R. Ravensbergen</i>	373
CRWRF — Kodich Children's Home, West Pokot, Kenya ...	374
The story of Anchor — <i>M. DeGelder</i>	376
Report of the Annual Women's League Day, AB — <i>Mrs. K. Kampen</i>	378
Our Little Magazine — <i>Aunt Betty</i>	378

This need of regeneration and this requirement of faith applies also to the children. For them, too, this being God's children and having salvation in Christ, is never an automatic matter. When they grow up and become increasingly able to hear and understand the gospel, according to their age and ability, the Lord will also increasingly require from them that they believe and obey Him, and appropriate personally what they have in Christ. If they do not do this, but live in sinful indifference, they are breakers of the covenant and will lose what they have in Christ. As long as they live without Christ Jesus as their Saviour and Lord, and in their life do not reckon with Him and His will, they will have God against them and His anger is upon them.

God, the Creator, is our Redeemer. In His redemption work, in the covenant, He treats us in accordance with the laws of His creation work. The family in the way it exists as parents with infants who grow older and become capable to learn and do things is His handiwork. Christ has come to save what God created. This is more than just the human soul. Christ is Saviour for soul and body. He is Saviour also for the family. The soul, the body, and, yes, also the family is for God. Compare here 1 Cor. 6:13-20 and 7:14. In this light it is only natural that we read in the book of Acts that when the Lord opened the heart of Lydia for the gospel she was baptized "and her house" (16:15), and that also the jailer was baptized "with all his family" (16:33), and that Paul can say that he baptized "the household of Stephanas" (1 Cor. 1:16).

Therefore, the Creator does not demand faith from a baby. But when the baby becomes an infant that can learn about things in life, first within the family, God wants the parents to teach it about Him and about Christ Jesus. God wants His little child to learn to pray. And when the little child grows up a little more and becomes able to learn more about God, about sin, and about Christ Jesus and forgiveness of sins through Him, and about loving and serving Him according to His Word, the LORD wants the child to learn these things and accept them in faith. While at first only the parents are responsible, the older the child grows, the more God will hold the child responsible.

The idea that children in the covenant (young people) become only then responsible when they have made public profession of faith is totally wrong. It ignores and denies God as Creator. God wants the children in the covenant to believe

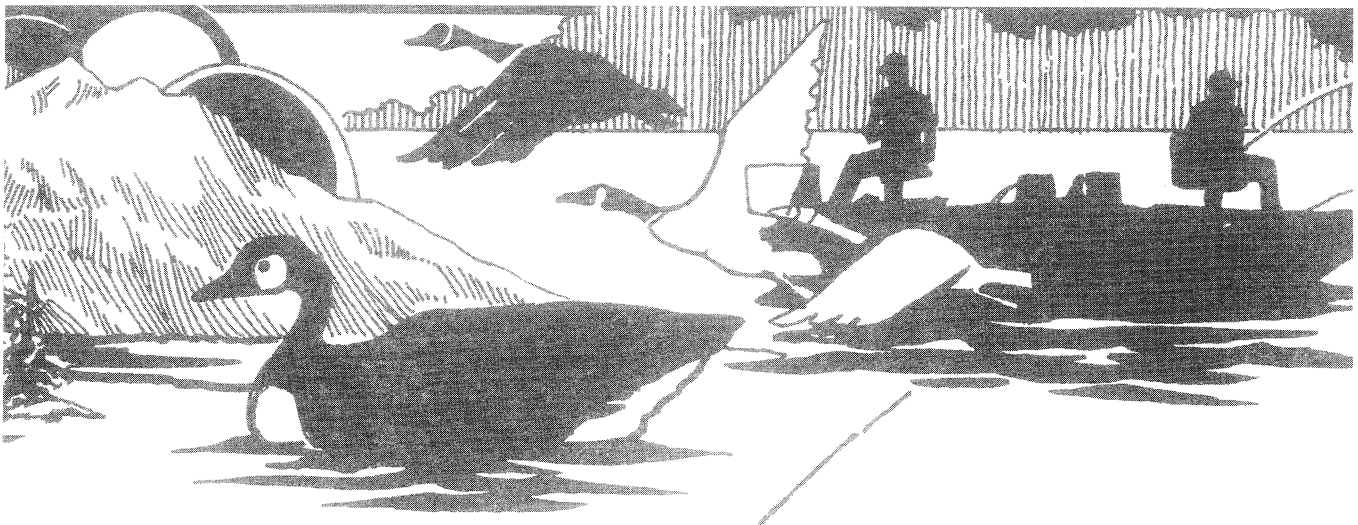
and trust Him. The older they grow the more He confronts them with the covenant obligation to live with Him in obedience of faith. Faith, also the public profession of it, is a matter of thankful obedience to the Creator and Redeemer. A life in practical unbelief in which a covenant child does not reckon with God and His will in his young life is disobedience that provokes God to anger. And unless there comes genuine conversion, this anger will consume. Terrible is it to fall in the hands of the living God, when His grace is rejected.

But does Paul in Rom. 6:3-11 not address believers? Does he not tell them to hold on to God's work of salvation in their lives as a fact, as something that has taken place? Paul writes: in your baptism you were buried with Christ, in the past tense. It has happened. You have been regenerated. And this we cannot say regarding to infants, can we? Regeneration is through the Word of God that is preached, isn't it? Yes, that is what Scripture teaches us. We read it, e.g., in Rom. 10:14-17, Jam. 1:18, and in 1 Pet. 1:23,25.

However, we must not separate what God has joined. We must not take the cleansing from sin through blood and Spirit apart from Christ. We must not build on our regeneration as fact on its own, loose from Christ. Then the danger is that we build our salvation on our having been regenerated, on our being believers, on our experience of God's work in us. We are to build our faith in our God who is reliable and trustworthy, so on His Word of promise: I have given and continue to give to you Christ in salvation in Him.

When Paul says: you were buried by baptism into death, and so on, he inserts the words "with Him." It means: the believers have their cleansing from sin and renewal of life, their regeneration, in Christ. And there is the calling to continue to appropriate in faith what they have (received) in Christ. I emphasized these things above already. And I stressed too that children in the church and covenant can have and do have the same obligation. Through faith that have to make what they have in Christ their own personal possession.

And when a child in the covenant does believe and loves the LORD his God, her God, we can only say: this is the pure and sovereign, undeserved grace of God in Christ, His electing love in Christ Jesus for people who are conceived and born in sin and who are by nature children of wrath. It is all from and through and unto God. He who boasts, boasts in the LORD. To Him belongs the glory for ever.



REMEMBER YOUR CREATOR

By R. Schouten

Bored?

Do you sometimes wake up completely depressed even though it is a nice sunny day? It's the middle of the summer holidays, but you can't think of a thing to do. It seems that life is passing you by while everybody else is having a great time.

Well, if this is true for you, you have a lot of company. People often look forward to being free from their regular work, but when they get that freedom, they don't know what to do with it. Free time is a problem. Each day becomes a burden instead of a joy. We even have to hear so-and-so complaining that he or she is bored!

Others find themselves gravitating to a very low level of leisure activities. They spend a lot of time at the video arcade or waste half the day watching low quality television. They might also get into quarrels with siblings and with Mom or Dad. Or else they just sleep the day away.

Christian young people often find the summer season problematic because there are so many things they are not allowed to do! They are told they can't listen to rock music all day in their bedrooms, they can't have big parties, they can't dance, they can't go to the pubs, they should stay out of the theaters, they are not permitted to hang out at malls all day, etc. etc. Furthermore, Mom doesn't want to see you vegging at home either. So what's a body supposed to do? Often we hear calls from young people for alternative activities.

Well, let's get into that for a while. What kind of activities can occupy a Christian young person during a summer break (or any break)? This is a worthwhile question because God calls us to be responsible stewards of also our leisure opportunities. He does not want to see us living at a low level of inactivity and boredom.

I would like to say this. God gave you a remarkable body. He gave you an amazing mind. He made you a member of the church. And now He has added the gift of time! Mind plus body plus time plus church membership should equal fun and learning and Christian service!

Don't fail to thank God for these gifts and don't fail to use them either!

Let me now simply mention some examples of worthwhile activities. I'll put them in a numbered list, but this does not mean that I start with the most important and end with the least. The list is completely random.

1. Visit some museums in your area. You can find a list of them in the Yellow Pages. History, science, and technology come alive in such places. It always surprises me that many people have not visited the museums in their own backyards. There is so much to learn. And museum staff are unfailingly helpful for interested young people.

2. Go on a hike. There are plenty of interesting day trips to be made in all parts of this country. And to make things more interesting, you can borrow different Field Guides from your local library to take with you. For instance, take along a handbook to help you identify the birds in your area. Or you could develop a knowl-

edge of the wildflowers with which God has graced the landscape. Even ordinary stones become fascinating when you learn the names of the different rocks and minerals. And while you are doing all this, why not try to draw some of the things which you have observed. If you don't think you can draw, get a book from the library helping you to learn! Most people can learn to draw as surely as they can learn to read. Also, you might keep a notebook in which you record the different things you have observed.

3. Organize a baseball game between parents and young people.

4. Ask your minister for a book to read about evangelism. If you've got a few dollars to spare, buy it yourself!

5. Take up a new hobby. This doesn't need to cost a lot of money. Knowledge is usually available for free! Some examples: sewing, stamp collecting, photography, gardening, woodwork. Set up an aquarium (you can buy one cheaply from a Bargain Finder type of paper).

6. Go fishing!

7. Take your younger brothers and/or sisters on an outing, e.g. to the local Dairy for an ice cream. Or else help them to blow bubbles or catch insects with a net. They (and your Mom) will love you for it.

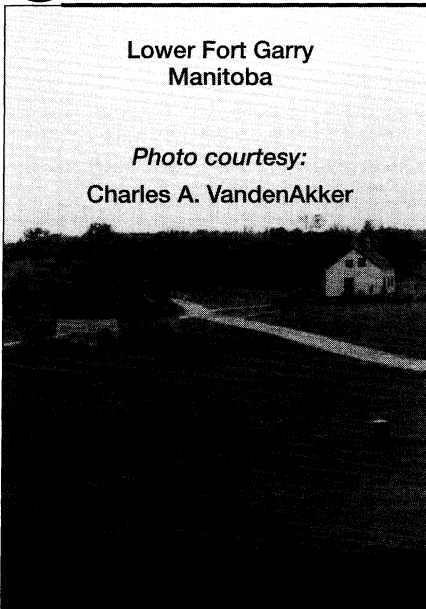
8. Visit sick members of your congregation at the hospital. Maybe this sounds intimidating, but if you do it just once, you will find it's not too hard at all. And those who are shut in will really appreciate your company. Sick visitation is not just something for a minister or deacon or elder to do. You can do this work alone or you can get together with a friend and form a "visitation team."

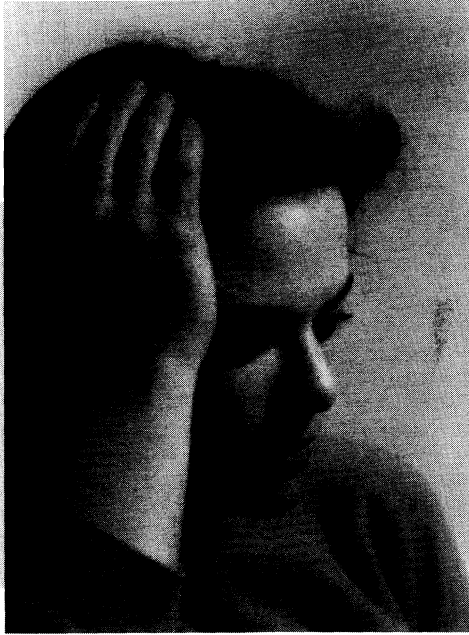
9. Create a list of skills that you and other young people have. Photocopy this list and hand it out to people who might be able to use your energy and skills. For example, there might be senior members who would love to have you over for a day to cut their lawns or clean their garage or wash their car or to help with the groceries or to paint a fence. Be

OUR COVER

Lower Fort Garry
Manitoba

Photo courtesy:
Charles A. VandenAkker





“Each day becomes a burden instead of a joy.”

happy to do this even if it's for free. Your reward shall be great in terms of satisfaction and strengthened relationships.

10. Try to organize a games evening. It doesn't take much to set up a ping pong tournament or the like on a Friday evening in the Church hall or school Gym.

11. Drama evenings can be a lot of fun. You can get books full of skits and plays at your local library. Or, why not (for even more fun) create your own drama? You can create drama by using your own experiences (in family, school, work), or you might begin by turning say, a short story, into something that can be acted. Or try dramatizing some childhood stories that everyone knows.

12. Write a short story or create some poetry.

13. Develop your musical tastes. The world of music is large and rich. Why stick to just one type of music? That's very limiting. While Dad and Mom might not be impressed if you lie on your bed all day listening to rock, they probably won't mind a bit if you take an hour or two each summer day to listen to good recordings of classical music. Try it. If you're honest, I'm sure you'll have to admit you love it. You'll develop real taste!

14. Why not get serious about learning to play an instrument yourself? Not everybody is a musical genius. But most average people can learn to play just about any instrument reasonably well. And music enriches our lives. With music, we bring praise to our Creator. And by the way, why aren't there more young people in our churches who can play the guitar? For get togethers and study

weekends, this instrument is a great asset. Once somebody starts playing, everybody will be singing in no time at all.

15. You want to learn about computing, but your family can't afford one? Well, try renting one for a month during the summer. It's very likely that you can afford it all by yourself (even if you only make \$10 a week babysitting).

16. Take a 1/2 hour per day and 1 hour on weekends to do serious Bible Study. For example, you can go through some of the minor prophets or read the letters of Peter. Read them right through in one sitting. Take notes. Try to find out the main ideas and the key terms of each book. Use the reference column to find other helpful texts. Figure out the historical details by using the maps in your Bible and by making charts for yourself. Keep a notebook in which you write down your discoveries.

17. Read, read, read. What should you read? Just about anything. Read historical books. Read decent novels (ask your English teacher for advice on a summer reading list. I'm sure he/she will be overjoyed to help!). Read the *Clari-on*. Read the editorials in your newspaper, together with the letters page (this is by far the most interesting part of the paper). You might even consider writing a letter of your own about a topic of concern.

18. If you have a video machine in your home, try watching some Christian videos. The number of educational and entertaining material produced from a believing standpoint is growing by leaps and bounds. One good example is: "J. Wycliff; The Morning Star of the Refor-

mation" — a 75 minute, multiple award-winning drama). Many cities even have a "Christian Video Rental Store." Look under "Video Equipment and Supplies" in the Yellow Pages or ask a local Christian Bookstore operator for information about availability.

19. If you live in the West, come out to the fourth annual Calgary Study Weekend from Aug. 23-27!

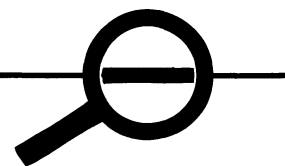
Well, that is the end of my list. If you have unique ideas of your own, I'd love to hear about them. I realize that not all of the above items will appeal to all people, but hopefully each reader will find something of interest. My hope is that young people will become less passive and more self-starting in their leisure activities. Often people get bored because they feel a need for someone else to entertain them. TV culture promotes passivity. But doesn't the entertainment culture show a shocking poverty of imagination? Surely we can do better than that!

Maybe you think that many of the above ideas sound just like work. Well, you're right! Free time is no excuse for idleness! Sure we can be lazy for a day or a week, catching up on rest for body and mind. But God despises long term idleness, whether during the school year or in the summer holidays. He wants to see His people engaged in worthwhile pursuits. After all, did He not say, "Six days you shall labour and do all your work." You don't have to be doing school work or working for pay, but you can still be working on something worthwhile.

Another reason for boredom can be that none of the above activities sound exciting to you. They don't have any appeal at all. All I can say is: try one! Stick to it for a while. And remember, too, that our old nature hungers for *sinful* leisure activities. We are inclined to desire the forbidden. But you can put your old nature to death. One of the ways to help you do that is to develop positive and constructive hobbies and leisure activities. And if you are bored because you feel that you are being left out while all the others have a great time, quit kidding yourself. They are probably as bored as you are. Or else, they are engaging in self-destructive, ungodly leisure activities which you don't really need anyway. Make use of the opportunities which *you* have!

Let's put boredom behind us forever and instead develop our minds and bodies in a God-pleasing way that enriches not only ourselves but also our families and churches.





Developments in the Christian Reformed Church¹

The concerned

In late spring, a new independent congregation which calls itself Independent Reformed Church was formed from concerned members of Calvary CRC in Flamborough as well as others from Cambridge. Those familiar with the geography of southern Ontario will recognize these places as being north-east and north-west of Hamilton. At the moment church services are held in Sheffield, just south of Cambridge. Liberalizing developments in the CRC had become too much for the thirty-two families (143 members) that form this new and growing church. Rev. Jerome Julien, formerly of the Calvary CRC in Flamborough, has accepted the call to be their minister and has now been ordained (July 21). Three elders from the Calvary CRC were also among those who left. In the official publication of the CRC, *The Banner*, of June 17, 1991 we read the following:

When asked why people at his church decided to start a new church rather than join an existing Christian Reformed congregation, Julien said, "I believe that this Independent Reformed Church is only a temporary thing. What will develop out of it in the future, I really can't say. I know there is a desire to retain some contact with the Christian Reformed Alliance... [which] at its last meeting laid down provisions for people like this who would decide that they could no longer remain within the Christian Reformed Church."

"I believe that this is done within that framework, and it's a temporary kind of thing."

Julien said he believes his new congregation has "no illusions" of staying independent from other Reformed churches. "The idea of independency is not precisely what we have agreed with throughout the years," he said. "There are those

who will say it is a bit of a contradiction. I guess at this point we could consider the church as an unaffiliated Reformed church."

The decision to remain independent for now is in agreement with the decisions made at last year's meeting of the Christian Reformed Alliance (CRA). The CRA advised that such independent churches should seek fellowship, through the CRA, with other congregations in like circumstances. The rationale behind this advice is to keep the concerned in touch with each other and prevent needless fragmentation of the true unity they have known. At the same time, there is, however, no desire to form a new church body. The CRA, therefore, also appointed a Committee of Fraternal Relations with the mandate "to explore, establish, and maintain relationships with churches which are committed with us to the Reformed Confessions." There are unofficial contacts with the Canadian Re-

formed Churches and the Free Reformed Churches. We wish the new congregation well and we hope and pray that one day all Reformed believers who want to serve the Lord according to His Word will find themselves in the unity of the true faith ecclesiastically.

Take it or leave

This year's synod did little to allay fears of the concerned. We will come back to this synod in the next Press Review. Here I want to touch on one issue.

The decision to open all offices to women was maintained with a large majority. Synod "also decided that biblical grounds should be added to the decision. To add those elusive grounds, Synod appointed an ad hoc committee of four ministers to glean the material...from past reports and send it off to the churches before the Synod of '92 (which is to ratify the decision to open the offices to women). (*Christian Renewal*, 15 July

CHURCH NEWS



ACCEPTED

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Cand. W.M. Wielenga

of Hamilton, ON

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1991). Judging from remarks made by Prof. H. De Moor, Associate Professor of Church Polity at Calvin Seminary, there will be no room for those in the CRC who disagree with this decision once ratified in 1992.

Dr. De Moor was asked how churches in the CRC would be affected if the 1990 decision regarding women as elders and ministers is ratified by Synod 1992 (*The Banner*, June 17, 1991). His response was that such a decision would be considered

“settled and binding.” Councils and churches will, of course, have the right to appeal, or more accurately, the right to request a revision of this decision... They must, then, with “sufficient and new grounds for reconsideration,” demonstrate to the satisfaction of synod that the prior decision indeed conflicts with the Word of God. After two decades of discussion on the women-in-office issue, it is not likely that “new grounds for consideration” will be found.

While acknowledging that it would be unwise to force churches into ordaining women elders and some sort of guidelines to implement the decision would have to be made “so as not to coerce anyone into a position that person could not hold in good conscience,” yet De Moor continues by giving this statement. “Once the decision has been made, however, it is ‘settled and binding,’ and those who say they cannot live with it have but one option left: to withdraw from the denominational covenant.”

One cannot fault Dr. De Moor for not being clear enough. He obviously does not want any room in the CRC for conservatives such as those in the Christian Reformed Alliance. When formally adopted, all must follow the new Church Order which will permit women office-bearers. According to *Nederlands Dagblad* (26 June 1991), the first women ministers are expected in the CRC by the end of next year. Time is running out. The message is take it or leave the CRC.

The bitter irony of this whole matter is of course that it is the CRC that is changing and becoming more and more un-Reformed and not the concerned who are often perceived as the trouble-makers. In this context it is noteworthy that the North American Presbyterian and Reformed Council (NAPARC) with a 5-0 vote decided that the CRC should reverse its decision to open all church offices to women. This action, initiated by the OPC, marks the first time that NAPARC has ever asked a member church to reverse a decision. It was argued that 1 Corinthians 14 and 1 Timothy 2 clearly prohibit women from holding office in the church. “In its resolution, NAPARC quoted Article 30 of the Belgic Confession, which says “everything [will] be carried on in the church...according to the rule prescribed by Saint Paul in his Epistle to Timothy.” (*The Banner*, January 1, 1991). This resolution has fallen on deaf ears. 

COLLEGE CORNER

By C. Van Dam



Notes of appreciation


Once again on behalf of the Theological College, I would like to publically acknowledge with great gratitude the receipt of a number of important gifts.

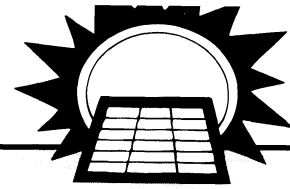
Let me start with a present that has made itself heard ever since it arrived! The gift I am thinking of is a large 80 year old grandfather clock, donated by Br. R. Winkel of Edmonton. He personally transported this six foot Kienzle time piece all the way from Alberta in his boat behind his motor home and it now keeps perfect time immediately outside the library. It is of interest to note that this clock was originally purchased in Kampen, the Netherlands. Its deep sonorous chimes have certainly brought some of the old world atmosphere into the College. Many thanks!

We are also very appreciative of books that were given for our library. Mrs. G. A. Scholten, widow of our first

lecturer in Church History and Church Polity has gladdened our hearts with the donation of a number of valuable old books. I would like to make special mention of a rare three volume commentary on John by Fredrik Adolph Lampe published in Rotterdam in 1741-1743. Dr. K. Deddens, who has taught the ecclesiological and diaconological disciplines here for six years, was recently in Hamilton and donated his *Fulfil Your Ministry*, a published collection of articles he had written while in Canada. I would also like to mention with great appreciation that through student John Van Popta we received a substantial number of volumes from the library of Dr. S. Van Popta, who used to be professor of Economics at the Free University in Amsterdam but has since resided for about fourteen years in Calgary. Dr. Van Popta is the older brother of the late Rev.

J. T. van Popta whom Synod Orangeville appointed as the first Professor of Dogmatology in 1968 when the Theological College was founded. Many books of historical and philosophical interest were in his donation. Special mention should be made of the fact that as a result of this gift we now have all the volumes of *Philosophia Reformata*, an important journal because it is the official organ of the Society for Calvinist Philosophy founded by Dooyeweerd and others over sixty years ago.

Finally, I would like to note with gratitude that an anonymous donation has been made to the Faber-Holwerda Bursary Fund. The purpose of this fund is to provide students who have sudden or special financial needs with some additional support. Good use has been made of this fund and donations are always welcome. 



By Mrs. R. Ravensbergen

May you be strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

Colossians 1:11,12

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In the beginning God created heaven and earth and all that is in it. In the centre of the earth stood Adam, God's son, who was placed in control of all the world. But Adam lost his position. He became unfaithful, and as a result everything went wrong, not only on the earth but also in heaven. The harmony disappeared, the curse on the fall into sin influenced the whole nature, the history, and every aspect of life. Even the heavens were affected because of the disobedient angel, Satan. The world was in shambles.

And still today there is war and destruction, illnesses and handicaps, hurting relationships in church communities and families, there is pain and sorrow. Often there seems to be so little hope for improvement. There are those who are old; their strength diminishes; there is little left to do, and the days are long. There are those, too, who have handicaps, and a daily struggle to build up their self esteem, because they feel so often that they are not really needed, and not really counted for full. There are the parents who take care of their handicapped child; they live from day to day and deal with disappointments as they come – and ask: what about the future? There are those who work in group homes, hospitals, institutions, or old age homes. Very few people seem to recognize the mental stress that comes along with this work, so little appreciation is shown; the work seems so senseless at times.

There seems nothing left of the beauty and happiness of Paradise. Everywhere we face ruin and chaos. And yet... God the Father looked at us in mercy. He had made His plan of salvation already before He created the world. The Lord is faithful, He will not forsake us. He elected us in Christ to be His people, to become, sanctified by the blood shed on the cross, a multitude of priests who are fully equipped to His service. God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to the world, as He had promised to Adam. In this Christ, the Messiah, all the torn and destroyed relationships were restored again.

The Messiah received the new centre position, the liaison between God and His world. Because of Christ also the relationship between God and His people could be restored again. Although it is not complete yet, we have the promise that it will be finalized on the day of Christ's return.

Until then we experience the world as it is still so much in the grip of Satan. But it is not dark and hopeless. There is hope, because Christ conquered Satan. Now He renews everything. He gives a new meaning to everything – for those who believe. His work of restoration covers the whole world and all that is in it receives a new look, because His light shines all around us.

Suffering becomes bearable, we don't do it alone. Our prayers are heard, and through the Holy Spirit He gives hope in our hearts. Our lives are not meaningless because we are old or handicapped. Even though some people may not have much use for us, God has given us the task to be old or handicapped. While fulfilling that task, we also may serve

Him, and witness about Him to all those with whom we are in contact.

When we are depressed because there is so little improvement in those we care for, there is still that light of the renewed world through Christ's resurrection. There is hope, there is comfort, for what we do for one of God's children we do for Him.

How great is the comfort that there is a future full of promises: "And the world passes away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever" (1 John 2:17). Until then we may work and pray. It is work and prayer in happy anticipation. God's promised future is just around the corner. Everything will be new and perfect and beautiful. When we look forward to that we can take the difficulties now with much more ease. We are filled with thankfulness that God chose us to be participants in and witnesses of that everlasting bliss.

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, you heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

From the mailbox

Trevor Hofsink and his parents want to say thank you to all those who sent Trevor a card for his birthday. He had 50 cards from all over Canada and the U.S.A. Trevor had to travel twice from Smithers to Vancouver, because of his epilepsy.

It is difficult for the doctors to get his seizures under control.

Trevor and his parents know that the Lord is with them, also in difficult times.

Birthdays for September

Mary VanderBurgt

32553 Willingdon Crescent
Clearbrook, BC V2T 1S2

On September 11th Mary hopes to celebrate her 35th birthday.

Jerry Bontekoe

"ANCHOR" Home, 30 Road, RR 2
Beamsville, ON LOR 1B0

On September 14th Jerry will be 27.

Paul Dieleman

307 Connaught Ave.
Willowdale, ON M2R 2M1

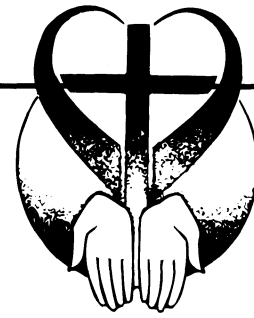
It will be Paul's 22nd birthday on September 29th.

Congratulations to all of you. I hope you will see lots of mail and lots of happy faces.

Until next month,

Mrs. R. Ravensbergen
7462 Highway #20, RR 1
Smithville, ON LOR 2A0

Kodich Children's Home West Pokot, Kenya



Delays in relief and development work are an inevitable part of the process when working from a distance with people in other cultures. So, our plans for a new children's home are being realized several months later than anticipated. However, all has gone well, and we are happy to inform you that after more than a year of planning and deliberating, and of course some waiting, our new children's home at West Pokot, Kenya, is now operating.

Twenty-seven children between the ages of four and ten have been admitted and we have received their pictures and case histories. Other children will soon follow, bringing the anticipated total to approximately forty. Facilities have been constructed to permit expansion, if necessary, in the future so that up to seventy children may eventually be cared for at Kodich.

Our commitment is to cover the day-to-day costs of running the home. The land on which the facility is located was allocated by an area chief for the benefit of the African Inland Church (A.I.C.).



Part of an overview of the site for the Kodich Children's Home



The simple 4-room schoolhouse constructed nearby. (Helpers in foreground)

Church members were interested enough to clear fifty acres (mostly of scrub bush) and get the project off the ground. Water is available from a borehole and a dispensary, run by the government is situated nearby. Construction costs and details have been managed by the Dutch Organization "Save a Child" which together with the A.I.C. will provide supervision for West Pokot on our behalf. A similar arrangement has worked very well for Acheho Children's Home since 1979 when this home first opened its doors. "Save a Child" makes regular supervisory visits and day-to-day management is provided by the A.I.C.

One stipulation "Save a Child" made for proceeding with planning for the home was that the children there be given an alternative to the local Catholic primary school. Therefore, construction on a simple four-room school building has recently been completed so that the Christian upbringing the children re-

ceive in the home can be reinforced in the school.

Managed by Pastor Joel Bergen, the home comprises a dining hall, a kitchen, boys and girls' dormitories, bathrooms and a staff house. It is situated on the Ugandan border in an area considered the poorest in all of Kenya. The roads are very rough, at times non-existent, a fact which has caused delays in the construction of the home as well as in the visiting of children's former homes to determine need and write case histories. This may also hinder supervisory visits by Kees Rookmaaker of "Save a Child" from time to time.

However, the need in West Pokot is great. A barren, impoverished area, drought in recent years has accentuated the problem, making traditional farming difficult and unproductive. Very little grows here.... "Save a Child" workers reported that in their travels to determine need, they found one ramshackle hut with a six-year-old left alone to care for a baby. A two-year-old was tethered in front so he would not run away. The parents were out searching for food.... Many families in this part of the country simply cannot afford to feed all of their own children – and Kodich will provide a temporary or, if need be, more long-term solution. Other children admitted are orphans, living until now in an untenable situation with, for example, an elderly relative.

Monthly costs for Kodich (as for Achego) are \$30.00 per child, an amount which covers food, clothing, educational materials, etc. In addition, we pay an initial one-time "start-up" fee of \$60.00 for each child to cover the cost of blankets, linens, dishes and clothing. The start-up fees alone for 40 children add up to a substantial amount, and of course, our commitment is for ongoing support. We

Sponsoring children

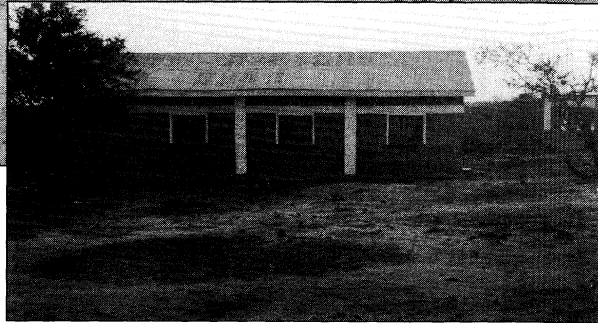
Beneta Simon is nine years old. Her mother died when she was born and her father deserted the family. If you would like to sponsor Beneta or any other child at Kodich Children's Home, please contact CRWRF (address below, Attention: Mrs. Annette Smeding.

count on your faithful giving to make this possible. Thankfully, part of the monthly support cheque is being covered by the interest from a trust fund allocated for homeless children, making our load substantially lighter.

In addition, we would welcome *sponsorships* of children in this home. Sponsors would be asked to pay the monthly



The Manager's house



The boys' dormitory (pit latrine in background)



Benenda Musitsa

fee of \$30.00 and would receive a profile of "their" child as well as occasional letters. This would make a wonderful project, we feel, for a family (or extended family) or for a study or school group (as is presently the case for some of the children in Achego), enabling all involved, but especially perhaps the chil-

dren, to more fully realize that their gifts do in fact assist a "real" person. It would be wonderful if all of the children at Kodich could be sponsored, permitting us to free up funds for more work of this nature.

Providing a comfortable home, nourishing food, compassionate care, and a Christ-centred upbringing to children who would otherwise do without all of these is very rewarding work. How thankful we are to be able to make it possible! May the Lord guide the staff and children at West Pokot so that hearts and hands may be turned towards Him, and so that in and through this home, many lives will be blessed.



Gifts for the work of CRWRF may be directed to:



Canadian Reformed World Relief Fund
P.O. Box 85225
Burlington, ON L7R 4K4

All gifts are gladly received. Donors of \$10.00 or more will be issued a receipt for tax deduction.

The story of Anchor

The alarm rings. It's time to get up. There is a flurry of activity and before long each member of the household is ready for breakfast, thereafter to leave for work or school, or stay home to take care of household chores. Does it sound familiar? It is the normal routine in every home, you may think. This is true. Yet, we give special thanks to God that this is possible in this particular home, Anchor Home.

Anchor Home tends to be well-known to the brothers and sisters in Ontario. However, in the last few years the pages of *Clarion* have not carried extensive information about Anchor Home or the activities of the Canadian Reformed Association for the Handicapped, which also bears the name *Anchor*. That's why we'd like to tell you the story of Anchor.

The Lord, in His wisdom, has created some of us with disabilities, either physical or mental, which make it very difficult or impossible to carry on normal life activities without some assistance. In years gone by, this help was given by immediate family and friends or sought from community or government groups established for that purpose.

There was, however, a growing realization that seeking help from secular sources for these very vulnerable brothers and sisters was far from ideal. May we give them up to the care of people who cannot give them spiritual encouragement and support, who possibly do not acknowledge Christ and therefore can neither show nor foster Christ's love in their charges? Has not the Lord given us, His covenant community, the task to help and support one another? We are all members of one body and the stronger must care for the weaker members.

These discussions led to a meeting called by the deacons of several neighbouring churches. "Together we can help," they decided. A steering committee was appointed, a constitution drafted and an association was founded.

Much work lay ahead of this fledgling organization. What must we do? What

can we do? How can we do it? These were only a few of the questions begging an answer.

Short and long term relief and assistance for families of handicapped members of the congregations became the goal. Though it seemed a large undertaking, the members agreed to work towards a home. Staffed with competent counsellors, this home could provide a loving Christian environment for those unable to stay in their parental home for longer or shorter periods.

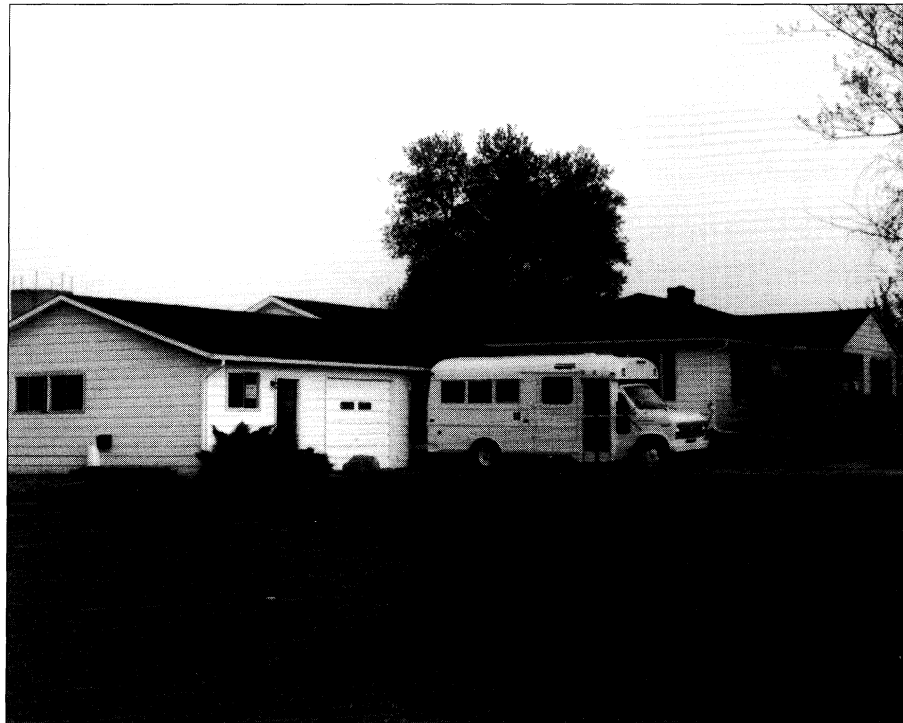
This decision generated much discussion, planning and activity. There were many things to learn, many decisions to be made.

Although the road seemed long, disappointments and frustrations encountered and mistakes made, God did in-

deed bless this work so that within a decade the plan to establish a home could become a reality.

Attempts to purchase property were not successful for various reasons. Then, in 1985, the Canadian Reformed Association for a Home for the Aged bought property which included a house. This house, formerly used as a starter nursing home, could be used as a group home. Anchor Association gladly agreed to rent this house.

Finding a director for a home had also not been an easy task and the board had met with several disappointments in the past. Renewed efforts to find a director, now that a home had been acquired, found Mr. Darryl Kooiman willing to leave his home in Lynden, Washington to establish and organize the new home.



Anchor Home – including the new van. The new addition at rear is not readily visible

Another flurry of activity began. The house needed some renovation, furniture and other household items. With a combined effort put forth by many Anchor supporters, the home was able to open its doors to its first two residents on February 3, 1986. Mr. and Mrs. D. Kooiman would act as house-parents.

At about this same time, the board of Anchor Association decided to publish a bi-monthly newsletter to keep the interested supporting brothers and sisters informed about the affairs of Anchor Home.

Meanwhile, the building committee continued its difficult task of finding a suitable permanent home. Many aspects such as location, availability of community services, work opportunities, and zoning regulations all had to be taken into account.

During 1986 a one-acre property including a 3 bedroom home, large garage and swimming pool was found in West Lincoln. This house would meet the needs of Anchor Home for the present and could easily be expanded to accommodate additional residents. The home was purchased and prepared to receive its new family by November, 1986. After some consideration, the board decided to hire an additional counsellor to assist Darryl Kooiman who would no longer be living in Anchor Home with his family. Shortly after the move, a third resident joined the group. All three residents were employed at nearby West Lincoln ARC industries, a rehabilitational and vocational training program for mentally handicapped adults who require support and supervision in the development of vocational and social skills.

After two years and a great deal of effort to get Anchor Home running, determining the needs of residents and potential residents, setting up programs, locating community resources, getting acquainted with many of our handicapped brothers and sisters in this area, Darryl Kooiman decided, for personal reasons, to resign and return to the west coast.

Miss B. Hoogland, who became the new director of Anchor Home, could stay only a short while because of her impending marriage. Mr. N. VanderHeiden, the present director, was then appointed to fill the position.

Anchor Home had become a loving, joyful home to three handicapped members of the communion of saints. The director, a full-time counsellor, several part-time counsellors, volunteers and many fellow church members had combined their efforts and resources to provide this truly Christian home, a home where residents and counsellors could

together serve and worship the Lord and live busy, useful and joyful lives to His glory. No matter what their mental capacity, the knowledge and love of God their Saviour is of utmost importance to our handicapped brothers and sisters.

But these three were not the only ones in need of a helping hand to live. Anchor Association was not formed only to establish a home. Assistance for the handicapped church members is needed in various ways and the association's mandate is to help wherever it can. You will understand that not everything can be done at the same time. Resources and opportunity must be favourable for each new undertaking.

In the fall of 1988 the Anchor Association appointed another counsellor to supervise and assist a non-resident during working hours. At the same time the board and committees were making plans for expansion of the home to accommodate 6 full-time and 2 part-time residents.

Each of Anchor Home's existing years has been busy, progressive and important, and 1989 proved to be no different. This was the year the home would be enlarged. In January Anchor Home welcomed its fourth resident, another young man. In the spring construction crews moved in to begin work on the new addition. This caused quite an upheaval in the daily lives of the residents and counsellors. Though they watched the proceedings with great interest, they also heaved a sign of relief and joy when the beautiful new addition was ready for occupancy in early September, 1989.

Two new residents immediately filled the existing spaces. Anchor Home is, however, able to offer temporary accommodation and relief help to other handicapped members of our community and their families.

The years 1990 and 1991 have seen no major changes in Anchor Home or the Anchor Association. Additional staff members have been appointed to take care of the growing number of residents. Necessary programs are devised, counselling sessions held and activities planned by the counsellors who also attempt to further their own knowledge and expertise in helping them care for these handicapped brothers and sisters. A new van had to be purchased to replace the old one which was no longer dependable nor large enough to accommodate all the residents.

The board has concentrated its attention on continued regular operation of the home. Besides this a study was commissioned and eventually plans made to

initiate a Supervised Independent Living Program. This program would see some of our more capable handicapped brothers and sisters live in their own apartments and handle their daily affairs with minimum guidance from one of the counsellors. This program has not yet been instituted, though several of our brothers and sisters would greatly benefit from it. The reason? – a lack of funds!

Buying, running and expanding Anchor Home all cost a lot of money. This money has, over the years, been provided by the members of the association and donors. Government funds are not available to the Anchor Association because we have striven to make Anchor Home a home for brothers and sisters in the Lord, a home where the Lord can be served and glorified by residents and staff together. We are not able to accept the exactions which would accompany government funding. Repeated efforts to find financial help for special projects have also failed.

Presently the annual membership fee is \$300.00. Many of our members and others have also been very generous when large sums of money were needed to build the addition, furnish the home and purchase a specially equipped van. These necessary funds come largely from people already heavily burdened by costly school fees in a province which allows no funding for our Christian schools.

Members of the Anchor Association rarely talk about present accomplishments, though we are very grateful that the Lord has made so much possible already! We are, however, very much aware of the many others who will need some help in the years to come. There is so much that must be done if we are to fully accept God's mandate to love and care for our brothers and sisters in His covenant communion.

If you feel moved to help out in any way, Anchor Association would be most happy to hear from you. Even a small donation can put you on the mailing list for our bi-monthly newsletter. We'd also be happy to receive any suggestions or answer any questions you may have. Please write to: Anchor Association

Mrs. N. Hart
RR 2, Lynden, ON
L0R 1T0
(Phone: [416] 627-3972)

For the Anchor P.R. Committee
Martha DeGelder



Report of the Annual Women's League Day for Alberta

By Mrs. Kim Kampen

The Annual Women's League Day for Alberta was held Wed. June 5, 1991 in the Immanuel Canadian Reformed Church in Edmonton. The Immanuel Women's Society "Search the Scriptures" hosted the day, which was attended by 94 ladies from the congregations of Coaldale, Calgary, Barrhead, Neerlandia, Edmonton-Providence and Edmonton-Immanuel. Registration began at 9:15 a.m. and the ladies helped themselves to a variety of refreshments. Mrs. Grace Noot, president of "Search the Scriptures" officially opened the morning session at 10:00 a.m. The day began with the singing of Psalm 89:1,3. Scripture reading included 1 Cor. 10:14-21, 1 Cor.12:12-26, and 1 John 3: 11-24. Mrs. Noot then led in prayer. After words of welcome, roll call was taken. Psalm 133: 1,2 was sung, then Rev. Wieske, minister from Neerlandia, was invited to give his speech on "The Com-

munion of Saints." Rev. Wieske dealt with his topic under four headings: 1) The origin and history of our confession about the communion of saints, 2) The meaning of this confession, 3) The extent of this confession, and 4) The obligation because of this confession. After an interesting and informative speech, a discussion was held, followed by the singing of Hymn 24: 6,7. Rev. Wieske then led in prayer before lunch. A delicious lunch, prepared by the ladies of Edmonton-Immanuel, was served in the foyer of the church.

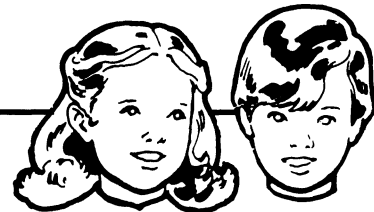
The afternoon session was opened about 1:45 p.m. by Mrs. Noot, beginning with the singing of the League Song. Psalm 104 was then read and Dr. M. Helder was given the opportunity to present her speech on "Teaching Children About Nature." Dr. Helder pointed out that parents have the opportunity over the years to foster an appreciation of the

design of God's creation. Every detail of the universe functions in such a marvelous way that the creative work of the Lord is unmistakable. Dr. Helder also gave information on resources parents can turn to help them in their task of teaching their children about nature. After a brief discussion, the ladies sang "All Things Bright and Beautiful." General question period was then held and the next hosting society was appointed. By 3:00 p.m. the day was officially closed. *O Canada* was sung and Mrs. Kim Kampen concluded the day with prayer. After the official closing, the ladies had the opportunity to look over the resource materials brought by Dr. Helder and refreshments were served.

On behalf of "Search the Scriptures" we thank our two speakers, Rev. Wieske and Dr. Helder, and we also thank all the ladies who took the time and trouble to join us for the day. ©

OUR LITTLE MAGAZINE

By Aunt Betty



Very best wishes, Busy Beavers, for the Lord's blessing on your

Hello Busy Beavers,

Do you get a new teacher when you go back to school?
Do you have new markers, new pencil crayons, a new pencil case?

Maybe you are one of those Busy Beavers going to a new SCHOOL?!

New, new, new. A new school year.

How do you feel about that?

Will you be glad to be with your friends again?

Are you a little bit glad, a little bit sad about getting used to a new teacher (or school)?

Maybe you are hoping, hoping for a new FRIEND?

Look around you! Bet there's someone else looking for a friend too!

Be a friend, have a friend, right?





OUR CLASS TRIP

By Busy Beaver *Jessica Linde*

This year we went on a class trip...to Buffalo Zoo. It was fun! We saw mountain sheep. We saw kangaroos and things like that. We went there on a bus. We got a popsicle. We didn't get to do anything but look. But that's all I wanted to do.... It is a very big zoo. We walked around for a long time. We had to hold on to a skipping rope so we wouldn't get lost. We also saw lions and polar bears and brown bears. The brown bear would swim in a little pool. He would go under water and you could not see him. I enjoyed seeing all the animals. It was so much fun! I walked with my group all over the place, in buildings, out of buildings. When we saw the lion there was a big, long and deep hole so that he could not get us and hurt us. It was the same with some of the other animals. All the animals were in cages. The bears were outside, and so were the lions, kangaroos and mountain sheep. Of course there were lots of other animals there like buffalos. They were outside, too. There were birds in a little house there. And there were donkeys, too.

It was very, very fun.

Now it's time to wish *all Busy Beavers* celebrating a September birthday a very happy day and the Lord's blessing and guidance in the year ahead of you. Here's hoping you have one excellent day celebrating with your family and friends!

September

Jane Schulenberg	2	Cheryl Schouten	12
Alisa Schouten	3	Gerald Bartels	20
Shelley VanderHorst	5	Nellie Beukema	22
Michael Hummel	6	Sophie Witten	23
Karrie Eelhart	8	Deanna VanderWoerd	25
Joanne Jans	11	Geraldine Feenstra	30
Mary Vandeburgt	11		

Quiz Time!

FOODS

Can you match the food with the person who ate it?

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| 1. Samson found this in a carcass | a raisins |
| 2. Gideon brought it to an angel | b butter |
| 3. Jesus ate it after He arose | c honey |
| 4. Esau sold his birthright for it | d pottage |
| 5. The Israelites remembered | e milk |
| 6. Pharaoh's baker dreamed | f. bakemeats |
| he carried in a basket | g. broth |
| 7. David gave an Egyptian | h. grapes |
| 8. Abraham brought to heavenly visitors | i. fish |
| 9. Jael brought to the enemy | j. melons |
| 10. Fruit brought out of the land of Canaan | |
- (See answers)

SECRET SENTENCE

By Busy Beaver *Rachel Wierenga*

CODE

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SCRAMBLED VEGGIES

By Busy Beaver *Michelle Hordyk*

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. rocn = | 8. tmoateas = |
| 2. ucumerbc = | 9. psiachn = |
| 3. wiss cahrd = | 10. rubssel srpotus = |
| 4. akle = | 11. noions = |
| 5. iomran tteucell = | 12. crorats = |
| 6. neabs = | 13. bbacage = |
| 7. sppeepr = | |

MAZE

By Busy Beaver *Cheryl Schouten*





From the Mailbox

Welcome to the Busy Beaver Club, *Russell Werkman*. We are happy to have you join us. Have you been busy on the farm this summer? And what about going back to school?

Welcome to the Busy Beaver Club, *Timothy Hordyk*. I see you have a helpful sister. You help her, too, Tim? Bye for now.

Welcome to the Club, *Aaron Hordyk*. And thank you for the picture. I do hope you find a pen pal soon, Aaron. Let me know, all right?

And a big welcome to you, too, *Nelena Bergsma*. Please join in all our Busy Beaver activities. How did you enjoy going to your brother's wedding? Will you share the story with us?

Welcome to the Club, *Jessica Linde*. And thank you for your story. I think the Busy Beavers will really enjoy it! Write again soon, Jessica.

Sounds to me as if you really enjoyed your class trip, too, *Tracy Malda*. Did you have a good summer? Will you be happy to be with your friends at school again?

What a present you got, *Rachel Wierenga*! And what a lovely name your horse has! When will you be able to ride it, Rachel? Thanks for all the "goodies" you sent!

Thanks for your story, *Trina Jelsma*. It sounds like a very interesting trip you made. Have you sent in your entry to the *Summer Quiz Contest* already, Trina?

Hello, *Cheryl Jelsma*. It's good to hear from you again. Have you enjoyed the summer, Cheryl? Thank you for the puzzle!

How was your camping trip *Krista Werkman*? Did you have good weather? Have you enjoyed the summer and sent

in your answers for the quiz contest? Bye for now, Krista. Write again soon.

I enjoyed reading your story, *Esther Hordyk*. Did you take some pictures, too? What did you enjoy most this summer, Esther? I hope you have a great school year!

Thank you for your story too, *Michelle Hordyk*, and the puzzle. Did you do the *Summer Quiz* contest, Michelle? And how do you feel about going back to school?

I see you are a good puzzler *Anna Hordyk*. And you enjoyed your school trip, too. Did you get to go for a boat ride this summer, Anna?

How did your church picnic turn out, *Henrietta Breukelman*? Did you win any races? How was your summer? Will you be glad to be in school again, Henrietta?

Have you been doing lots of swimming this year *Francine Vanwoudenberg*? Do your goats need a lot of looking after? Have you tried our *Summer Quiz Contest*, Francine? Bye for now!

Answers

FOODS 1.c. 2.g. 3.i. 4.d. 5.j. 6.f. 7.a. 8.b. 9.e. 10.h.
SCRAMBLED VEGGIES
1. Corn 2. Cucumber 3. Swiss chard 4. Kale 5. Romaine lettuce 6. Beans 7. Peppers 8. Tomatoes 9. Spinach 10. Brussels sprouts 11. Onions 12. Carrots 13. Cabbage

Bye for now, Busy Beavers.
I'll be looking for your letters!

Love to you all,
Aunt Betty

We thank and praise the Lord for blessing us with a child
KAYLA JEANELLE
Born June 20, 1991
Jim and Esther Veurink
1816 10th Street
Coaldale, AB T0K 0L0

With thankfulness to the Lord, the Creator of life, we announce the birth of our third child, a son
JUSTIN MARK
Born July 17, 1991
A brother for *John and Jolene*
Alan and Kathy Taylor
(nee VanVeldhuizen)
PO Box 2906
Smithers, BC V0J 2N0

The Lord has again blessed our family with the gift of a covenant child
JOEL DAVID
Born June 21, 1991
Rick and Liz VanderGriendt
(nee Oosterhoff)
A brother for *Eric, Colleen Anne Marie*
21341 87B Avenue
Langley, BC V1M 2A1

I praise Thee, for Thou art fearful and wonderful. Wonderful are Thy works. Psalm 139:14
With joy and great thankfulness to our covenant God, who again made all things well, we announce the birth of
ROSEANNE MARIE
Born June 28, 1991
A sister for *Jonathan and Brian*
Arthur and Wilma de Leeuw
(nee VanWoudenberg)
8732-180th Street
Edmonton, AB T5T 0Y2

With thankfulness to the Lord who has entrusted us with another of His covenant children, we announce the birth of our son
NICHOLAS TIMOTHY
Born July 12, 1991
A brother for *Liane*
Nick and Theresa Mans
(nee Terpstra)
Box 4580
Smithers, BC V0J 2N0

With joy and thankfulness, we announce that the Lord has blessed us with the birth of a son
DARREN ROBERT
Born on July 1, 1991
A brother for *Bryan, Andrea and David*
James and Cathy Feenstra
(nee Jelsma)
RR 1
Grassie, ON L0R 1M0