

Willoughby Windows



HIGHLIGHTS OF SPRING 2023



FEBRUARY 2023

WOMENS RECONNECT SOCIAL

On February 25th we had a fun community day with the Women in the church gathering for refreshments and crafts. It was a great chance to enjoy each other's company and reconnect. Thanks to Evelyn Groeneveld, Marlene Derover, Nancy Ryvers & Kim Purdy for organizing the event.



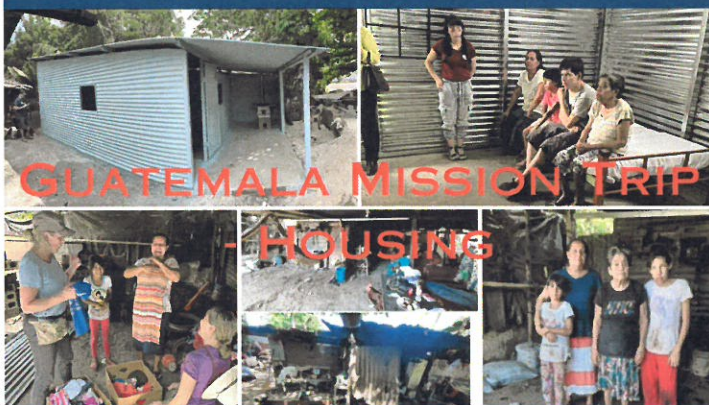
APRIL 2023

WORSHIP TEAM

JAM SESSION

On April 22nd the Worship Team hosted a Jam Session at the church. It was a great way to recruit new singers, instrumentalists, tech volunteers and practice together. Thank you to the Worship Leaders, Will Ravensbergen, Jason Versluis & Pat Storteboom for organizing the day!





GUATEMALA MISSION TRIP FEBRUARY 2023

Thank you to all that donated in January towards the Mission Trip. It was a huge success!! The team went down and successfully built two houses for Mildred & Magdalena. Handed out 50 wheelchairs and did many visits throughout the community, giving away food/vitamin care packages and medicine distribution. The last part of the trip was spent building solar panels for the community center that supports the area.

STEWARDSHIP MINUTE JANUARY-APRIL 2023

We have raised the following amounts for our Special Offerings to help support these worthy programs:

- January - Guatemala Mission Trip - \$17,612
- February - ABBA Canada - \$5,057
- March - Canada Foodgrains - \$42,042
- April - Willoughby Refugee Team - \$11,162.60

Thank you for your generosity!!!



COUNCIL NOTES

FROM THE MAY 2023 COUNCIL MEETING

Council discussed:

- chapter eleven and twelve of Pursuing God's Will Together by Ruth Haley Barton.
- church visiting. We welcomed Pastor Chris DeWinter of Immanuel CRC, Langley to speak to us about the why and how of church visiting. Classis BCSE has appointed Immanuel CRC to be our church visitor and we look forward to how they will use their gifts to serve us in this role.
- We did not receive the Federal Summer Student Grant. We are continuing to explore options.
- an upcoming council orientation and training conference that is planned by five CRC churches, including Willoughby. The training date is set for September 16, 2023.
- the summer preaching schedule. We noted that May 28 will be the last Sunday that Bert Slofstra will preach, and a potluck lunch is planned so that congregants can thank him for his work with us.
- The Annual General Meeting will be scheduled for Monday June 19, 2023.

Council approved/accepted/appointed:

- the reports submitted by the Daycare Committee, Staff, Worship Team, Finance Team, Building & Grounds, Pastoral Elders, and Deacons.
- the request by the deacons to change their term of service from 3 to 4 years, to keep in line with the council and pastoral elders.
- the request by the Finance Committee to fund Ladies Reconnect for \$1600 to cover the cost of 4 events per year.
- the request by staff to ask Rev. Ray Aldred to preach on October 1, 2023, the Sunday following Truth and Reconciliation Day.
- The request by Building and Grounds to remove some pews in the sanctuary to provide more leg room.
- The request by Rhys MacCarthy to withdraw his membership for Willoughby CRC.

Council is thankful for:

- The detailed planning by Rose Scholtens of the "Guess Who's Coming to Lunch?"
- A good introduction to and visit with Pastor Chris DeWinter.
- The close relationship that is forming among council elders.