

ON Broadway

Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church Newsletter

June 2016

Coffee Break

Katrina Brehob



We praise God for a wonderful year in Coffee Break! Coffee Break met most Tuesdays from September 2015 through the beginning of May 2016. We had three women's Bible study groups that met in the morning and two in

the afternoon. One group in each part of the day was dedicated to women who were either new to the Bible or new to English or, most often, new to both. Meanwhile, the children of Coffee Break were well loved by our morning and afternoon children's staff. Very small children were cared for in the nursery, while older children learned songs and Bible stories in either Little Lambs or Story Hour classes.

The theme for Coffee Break this year was "Cultivating Kingdom Community—Growing relationships that shine with God's love." We were guided by 1 Thessalonians 2:8:

"... Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well."

As one way to share our lives with each other, this year we started "Lunch Break." Lunch Break met six times throughout the year, between the morning and afternoon meetings. It was a lovely, informal time for everyone (women and children, staff and class

members) to relax, eat lunch and get to know each other better. We were blessed and plan to continue it next year!

We also worked on growing relationships during a large-group meeting this spring that explored how to support people who are experiencing tough times. Three women graciously shared their experiences of times of hardship in their lives. We learned a great deal from them, including beginning to understand how to approach, love, and offer help in ways that would be uplifting to everyone involved.

Both morning and afternoon women's groups started their weekly Coffee Break time as a large group with fellowship followed by worshiping together through song. We then continued sharing our lives and the gospel in our smaller groups by praying and studying together. Our time was spent fruitfully in the study of introducing God and Jesus, Acts, Jonah, Nehemiah, Gideon, John, and women of the Bible.

We thank God for our time together this year and at the same time ask for his blessing and guidance as we prepare for next year! In fact, pre-registration has already started for September. Both morning and afternoon women's groups will be offered, but formal children's classes (Nursery, Little Lambs and Story Hour) will only be offered in the morning session. You and your children can sign up for next year's Coffee Break at: www.aacr.org/CoffeeBreak.

Loving God, Serving People

Building a community loved and changed by Jesus,
loving and changing the world for him.

Smartphone Apps Inspired by the Friendship Ministry

Il (Will) Yeo

Dear AACRC congregation, greetings from Seattle.

It's been six years since we have moved to the west coast, but AACRC always feels like a home to my family. I was a Ph.D. student in engineering from Korea between 2004 and 2009 in Ann Arbor. I met my wife, Yeon Soo Kim, in the BESEL ministry in the church, and through the ministry, she received Jesus and was baptized—what a grace! (Later our son was baptized by Pastor John.) We're always grateful for the hospitality that we received there, and having such a great faith community was such a tremendous help for the students like us.

Now, I'm working as a software engineer at Microsoft, and my wife is a social worker in the area helping senior citizens in Seattle. The dedication and commitment that we saw at AACRC made us now serve our local church in many different ways. I recently taught a seven-week computer coding class for a church youth group making a computer game around the Joseph story together, and my wife served as a table leader for a program for seekers and new believers. We really thank you all for your great service, and we're part of the testimonies that your dedication really expands the kingdom of God.

AACRC isn't a big church in size, but I was always impressed by how the church served different groups in the community. Among many, the Friendship Ministry moved me quite a lot, and let me tell you what has happened from it 6 years later! One of their events actually has become an inspiration for my latest mobile apps.

How did it happen? In their beautiful handbell choir play, I remember the conductor used card board with different colors to signal a certain bell to play. Didn't ask who come up with that idea (now I feel like I should have), but it's such a wonderful idea where people without special musical talent could play together to praise the Lord and share grace with the people.

Lately, I turned that idea into mobile apps so that anyone can play the handbells (with minimal or even no training) using smartphones. "Handbell Solo Lite" is one for a solo play, and "Handbell Choir" is to help multiple people play together. Both are free apps. If you have a smartphone (either Android phones or iPhones), you can download it and try from <http://facebook.com/HandbellSolo>. The site has demos and details. I'd be really glad if many ministries like Friendship Ministry find this useful. Huge thanks to the AACRC community for this inspiration.

Habitat for Humanity 2016 House of Faith

Tim Johnson

Ann Arbor CRC worked on the Habitat for Humanity house of faith project again in 2016. This year we provided labor and financial support for a home for the Riggs Family. LaKeisha Riggs works at Varsity Ford in Ann Arbor and is a mother of two daughters, La'Kya, 13 years old and La'Naysha, eight years old. The family is very excited to have a place to call home.

Our congregation provided labor volunteers for four days. We worked with volunteers from First Presbyterian on April 1, 15 and 16 and from Westminster on April 2. The weather ranged from snowy on April 2 to 70 degrees on April 16. A special thank you to the hardy volunteers on April 2. April 1 and 2 were the begin dates for the project so there was tear-down work and a lot of clean up to get the project started. By April 15 and 16 the house was looking quite different and our volunteers worked on blueboard, siding, and drywall among other tasks. We provided lunches for the volunteers as well which was very much appreciated.

Our congregation also provided financial support for the project. We exceeded our pledge amount and donated over \$3,000. A sincere thank you to all who contributed financially, provided labor and provided lunches. The project supervisor, Paul was particularly impressed with our hard work. There are links to pictures of the project on the church website. The dedication for the home is scheduled for June 19th.



Joel and Jeannie Huyser Christian Reformed World Missions

Joel and Jeannie Huyser will be visiting us on July 17, 2016. Please note this in your calendar so you can meet them and learn more about their ministry

International Students, Inc.

From Ginny Champoux: A letter of appreciation for our support of the ISI mission.

Dear Friends,

Our team and outreach continues to grow here at International Students, Inc. With 1.2 million international students currently studying in the US and 4.5 million studying worldwide, we're excited for this expansion and pray it will help us reach more students than ever before!

The vital role you play in our partnership together is greatly appreciated and truly makes a difference in the lives of international students for eternity! Through you, God continues to manifest His faithfulness and provision. We sincerely thank you for your most recent gift in support of Ginny Champoux. The donations you make are going toward furthering the fulfillment of the Great Commission worldwide!

Partnering in the Great Commission,

Dr. Douglas Shaw
President/CEO, ISI

.Madelyn Belz, Wycliffe Bible Translators

A prayer letter from Madelyn.

May 12 is the date when I start assembling the next Vernacular Media Newsletter. This one will have news of a power system for running tablet computers and other devices. There is also an article about a volunteer in Virginia who will help create audio and video productions. The department is excited about finally getting the rights to be able to dub the Gospel of John.

Praise: Mike and Rebecca have completed their recording work in Brazil. There were a lot of challenges—especially with a relative of some of the speakers being perhaps unjustly put in jail.

Thank you for praying for the recording of the Genesis video. Word is they got a good recording from their time there.

Pray: That the Lord will give me wisdom for when to get a dental bridge and to choose a good person to do it.

Pray: That the Vernacular Media Newsletter will come together smoothly.

Please continue to pray as I sort and try to downsize at home. Pray the Lord will guide me in prioritizing and give me a spirit of contentment as I think about not having things on hand that I might use in the future.

In Christ,

Madelyn

Mission Team Looking for New Members

The Missions Team is looking for a few new members to help us connect our congregation to the missions we support. We meet once a month and share writing duties for the Missions page in *On Broadway* and the weekly Mission Focus in the bulletin. We work directly with the missionaries—to keep them informed about our congregation and our congregation informed about their work. We work with our congregation to enable them to follow the Great Commission found in Matthew 28 - “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.”

For more information contact a member of the missions team: Teressa Streng, Jim Steenstra, Sean Newman, Jenelle Newman, Barb Fichtenburg, or Marilyn Cummins.

2016 College & University Graduate

Jacob Vander Meulen
Calvin College
Major: History; Minor Business

June Special Offering

June 12—Detroit Nardin Park VBS

2016 School Supply Rescue and Recycling Project

Barb Okonkwo



It's hard to believe that Faith school in Kanpon, N. Ghana is already nine years old! This congregation was the force (and funds) behind the building of this school and continues to support it in various ways. A couple years ago we found out that the school had little to no school supplies for the children. Then the Lord led us to a local project called "School Supply Rescue and Recycle." The SSRR annual project collects school supplies and books that are still valuable but no longer used by Washtenaw and Livingston County schools and donates these to eager students and teachers in the Philippines, Ghana, Romania, Burundi, Hamtramak, Michigan and hopefully this year to Detroit area schools.

For the past two years we have sent about 30 boxes of supplies and books to the school in Ghana and they are very grateful. The headmaster says that

this year they could use spiral notebooks and paper but have enough books. So we will pack for Faith school but also for local organizations and Detroit or area schools in need.

If you can count and sort crayons, pencils, and pens, if you can sort text books and spiral notebooks and paper, if you can fill shipping boxes with assorted supplies or put tape on boxes, we need your help.

We will meet at 1050 Elmwood Drive in Ann Arbor on Thursday, June 23, Friday, June 24, and Saturday, June 25, 9:00-5:00 for a day of service in the school supply rescue and recycle project. Come for as many hours or days as you can and work as long as you want.

Please contact Godwin or Barb Okonkwo for questions or additional information.

Please send to:

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