

**NADC  
PURPOSE  
STATEMENT:**

To encourage and challenge the growth of justice, compassion, mercy, and stewardship among God's people in the Christian Reformed Churches of Classis Alberta North

**For more information on anything in this newsletter contact:**  
Jesse Edgington

Email:  
yournadc@gmail.com

Phone:  
780-819-7488

**Address:**

5940-159 Ave  
Edmonton, AB  
T5Y 0J5

Find me on Social Media —  
on Facebook as: Ab North  
or like and follow the NADC  
page. [www.facebook.com/yournadc](http://www.facebook.com/yournadc)

[www.classisalbertanorth.ca](http://www.classisalbertanorth.ca)

**NEXT NADC Full  
Board Meeting:**

June 7, 2018 @  
Ebenezer CRC in  
Leduc.

**Season of Lent:** This year for lent I gave up fruit and I decided to add reading theology from a different cultural context than my own. Why did you give up a food group that the Canadian guide tells you that you need each day, you say? Well, as part of my reflections on food justice I have decided to change some purchasing habits. Winter is a time when we can not produce fruit as readily and we may only have access to fruit that has been stored or preserved. I have started to feel uneasy when picking up the bananas, grapes, etc., that on the package say they come from Chile, New Zealand, Ecuador or wherever else half way across the world. My own convictions of eating more locally should line up across the spectrum of the food guide, so I decided I should not be buying this fruit that is transported all around the world. The other thing, as you will see in my book selection, is to read the gospel from a completely different context than my own. I have been studying about justice for the poor, liberation theology, the spirituality of economics and have been reading authors who lived in Central America, the deep south of the USA and who had to deal with extreme poverty, racism and oppression. It has been eye opening, saddening and convicting for me. I pray it continues to form in me a heart of compassion and hands of action for those, in my life and our world, that need providential care to survive and be moved to some hope of seeing their life change and flourish. I also pray for the conviction and conversion of hearts that can allow this to happen all over the world, even in the darkest of situations. My prayer for you is that you will also explore what it means to love your neighbors, love those in need and ask God for a heart of service towards others.

- ⇒ **Deacon Training with Edmonton/North DMD:** In the month of March, Lucinda will host a Deacon's Refresher workshop (because it's a little late for a New Deacons workshop!) on Wed, the 21st AND Thurs the 22nd, 7 pm at her home (10925 - 133rd St). This is NOT a 2 part workshop, the Wed. OR Thurs. are for your convenience. Also in March, she is planning to host a Circle of Chairs on March 28th OR 29th. The specifics for this are yet to be worked out. Lucinda Klapwyk - DMD - [lklapwyk@yahoo.ca](mailto:lklapwyk@yahoo.ca)
- ⇒ **Deacon Training with Central DMD:** Circle Of Chairs@Lacombe Bethel: March 27 To All Central Alberta Deacon Chairs, You are invited to this meeting to meet with the other deacon Chairs to support each other and discuss topics of mutual interest. Some items on the Agenda will be: Mini Workshop on "Leading Deacon Meetings." Reports of activities of your diaconates/churches and discussion. A discussion on being part of NADC: Do we feel a part of it? Should that change? If so how? As Central Alberta Diaconates can we do more together? Can a larger group of deacons/churches do more together than each individually? Generally support each other in our work. Marg Hoogland will be attending as our Central AB NADC executive member. It would be nice if you could reply if you are coming or not. I will follow up with a phone call if I do not hear from you. Looking forward to meeting with you, Harvey Buit - DMD [hdbuit@gmail.com](mailto:hdbuit@gmail.com)
- ⇒ **Habitat Interfaith Works Project:** Habitat for Humanity continues its Interfaith initiatives and is a wonderful way to learn a new skill and get your hands into service. They are looking for volunteers between now and May 31. For more info contact me or check out [www.hfh.org/volunteer/interfaith-works-project](http://www.hfh.org/volunteer/interfaith-works-project)
- ⇒ **DOE early preview:** I am excited to announce this years over arching theme for DOE 2018 to be Sacred Spaces. We will be exploring the many angles of what and where sacred space is, how it relates to our environment, churches, communities and ourselves personally. Dr. Bill McAlpine will be joining us from Ambrose University to present the Keynote address around his research and passions in this area. His most recent book is called "Sacred Space for the Missional Church." Stay tuned for more on other features and presenters as details are formed.

## EYE ON IT

### Current events in Classis AB North:

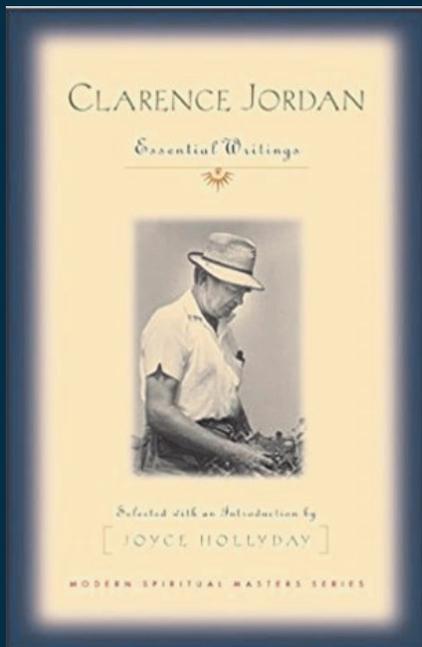
**CRCNA and CAN** - Classis meets March 14 and 15 in Red Deer. March 14 is Annual Day of Prayer. Synod will be held June 7 to 14 at Calvin. Nominations for deacons needed ASAP.

**Creators Sacrifice:** Open for booking. 2018 is the last year Classis covers travel costs. Contact [yournadc@gmail.com](mailto:yournadc@gmail.com) for more. Currently being displayed at New Life Fellowship in Red Deer until March 18 and then moving to Mosaic House Church for March 25 through April 1. Anyone interested in them after that?

### Coffee with DMD:

Every second Thursday of the month at the Carrot Café 10 AM and every third Thursday of the month at Second Cup at 7 PM (101 Ave + 75 St).

**Books:** This book is a summary of an author and his writings during the 1940's to 60's. He is famous for creating Koinonia Farm and writing the Cotton Patch Gospels. An amazing read to see the gospel in a new context and also check out a documentary of his life called [Briars in the Cotton Patch](#).



## Posts on our Website:

Have I told you that Classis Alberta North has updated their website? I have to some of you, but I wanted to remind you that the former .org is out and the new kid on the block is [www.classisalbertanorth.ca](http://www.classisalbertanorth.ca). I have and will be posting longer articles, reflections, material for meetings and more, so make sure you check it out and put your email in the subscribe box on the right. That way at the end of each month you will get one email with all the new submissions and you will not have to always go back to check for new content. Our NADC specific things can be found under the committees & ministries tab on the top of the main page. Here is an excerpt of what you will find: Blog articles about reflecting on the loss of a farmer, information about the Classis Cree paintings, thoughts on my mom and grandmother and more.

## Supportive Housing Ministries:

At our NADC meeting in February, we had a presentation from the Director of the Edmonton Mustard Seed as well as their close friends at the Edmonton Pregnancy Care Centre. They are reaching out to faith groups to explore potential partnerships with them to buy and run housing for young moms facing the decision of keeping a child and how to live in situations of struggling to find affordable housing. I circulated the videos and PowerPoint of that meeting and if you have not seen it and would like to have it to discuss it with your diaconate or church, please let me know and I will get it to you.

Also, we would like feedback as to what your thoughts are on the topic, where your church is at in terms of expanding ministry opportunities and if this is something that would interest your group. It is too big for one church to take on but if there is a group of churches within our Classis, it could be explored. Please put this on your deacon agendas to discuss and initial feedback can be given by email to [yournadc@gmail.com](mailto:yournadc@gmail.com) or by calling me direct. We will also be sending out more info and a feedback form/survey after churches have had the chance to meet and discuss.

If you have experience or expertise in this area, or know someone who does, I would be grateful if you could contact me or point me towards them. I know there are groups in eastern Canada, like Indwell, that do this type of thing on a larger scale and if there is someone in Alberta with similar skills it would be great to learn from them.

- Your NADC pick for this editions "Artist Feature" is **Scott Erickson**. He is an artist, speaker, designer and live painter. Check him out at [www.scottericksonart.com](http://www.scottericksonart.com). There is material there that he offers to churches for a range of themes and topics.

## World Renew:

- A number of churches in our Classis have been involved in Refugee Sponsorship over the years and WR is looking forward to the 40th anniversary of being involved in this work in Canada. If your church was one of the early trailblazers from 1979 through the 1990's, they would love to hear from you. Contact myself or Rebecca Walker to share your stories. [rwalker@worldrenew.net](mailto:rwalker@worldrenew.net).
- Important dates coming up are International Women's Day on March 8, which WR is promoting their *Change 100 Campaign* through Free A Family. Refugee Sunday is April 22 and churches are encouraged to hold collections for the work of refugee support and sponsorship.