

**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

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information on
anything in this
newsletter
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www.classisalbertanorth.ca/nadc

**NEXT NADC Full
Board Meeting:**

October 2, 2018 @
Ebenezer CRC in
Leduc.

Summer Light Fades to Fall: Seasons are a wonderful

and marvelous part of the beauty of God's creation. They add variety to our lives, diversity to the plants and animals we see around us and they guide our journey through life in the opportunities each season presents before us. Theologian Oscar Romero not only saw the seasons of our lives playing out in each year, but our own life as a whole, as being a season unto itself. In a prayer where he was reflecting on the work of God's people in his world, Romero reminds us that our lives are "only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work." He points out that this can free us to know that we do not have to do it all, but we can do something, with full confidence that with God's grace, he will enter in and do the rest. As we as deacons, shift into a new ministry season, may we be blessed and encouraged to remember that the work we do, the seeds we plant and the hope we carry, will continue on long after we are no longer directly involved. We may not always see end results, but we do see signs of God's transforming power which gives us the courage to continue as workers with Jesus.

- ⇒ **Summer Ministry:** I was blessed to be a part of some new summer ministry events that I have not done in years past. I was able to partner with a couple of Indigenous groups in the area to help plan two reconciliation walks that were very different from each other but amazing experiences in their own ways. One was big group walk in the downtown of Edmonton where we were able to close off streets and help raise the public profile of the issues facing our Indigenous brothers and sisters. The other was an eighteen kilometer pilgrimage from St. Albert to downtown Edmonton to honor those who lost their lives in the former residential school in St. Albert that closed 50 years ago. The other thing that happened was a one day learning session on "Living the 8th Fire." We took the chance to integrate learning and living as we explored the struggles of the past and looked forward to how we could walk into the future. Contact me for details of either of these events or to learn about opportunities for follow-up. These stories were covered by the CRC Network and the Banner online so I can point you towards those links.
- ⇒ **New Deacon Training with Edmonton/North DMD:** Are you a new deacon? Is this your first time holding office in your church and your wondering what opportunities there are for you in this new role? Lucinda Klapwyk is gathering new deacons from the Edmonton and Northern areas to learn about that and more. They will be meeting on Wednesday September 26 or Thursday Sept.27 @ 7 PM at her home in Edmonton. Pick which of the two nights will work for you and contact her for the address. klapwyk@yahoo.ca
- ⇒ **Deacon Involvement at Classis meetings:** Have you looked at the option of attending the upcoming Classis meeting in October? Classis has committed to a trial of doing a new Friday/Saturday format for two meetings to see if it helps make it easier for deacons and elders to attend. I would encourage any deacons who want more active participation in Classis leadership to make these next two meetings a priority. Check out the agenda on the Classis website and see where you can make a point to speak into it as deacons.
- ⇒ **DOE 2018 - Sacred Spaces:** Have you registered for the DOE yet? I hope you have seen the full brochure of presenters and workshops in your churches or online so you will know that there is going to be another full slate of interesting ministries to learn about. September is early bird registration pricing month so take a look and encourage others to get registered now; www.regonline.ca/doi2018edmonton. There is also an administrators learning track for your church staff and volunteers who serve in that area. We will be treated to music by local musician Clinton Richardson and art work done by friends and family in our very own Classis Alberta North churches. Like and follow us on Facebook or check out the Classis website to learn more, www.classisalbertanorth.ca/nadc.
- ⇒ **YOUR STORY HERE!** I would love to connect with you about your passions or a ministry you are involved with. I can meet over coffee, by phone or on the internet to "interview" you and then write up your story to share, inspire and encourage others.

EYE ON IT

Current events in Classis AB North:

CRCNA and CAN - Classis meetings October 12 & 13 in Leduc.

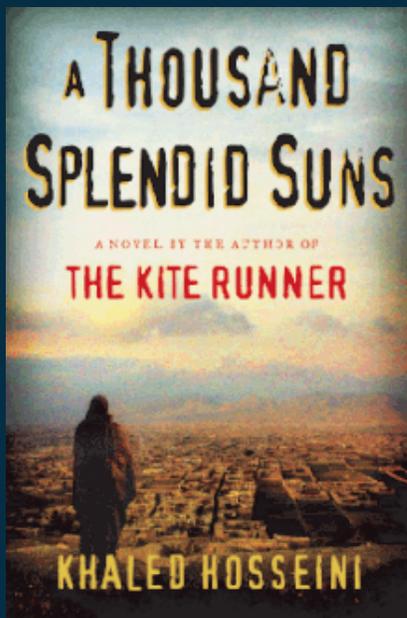
Creators Sacrifice: Open for booking. 2018 is the last year Classis covers travel costs. Contact yournadc@gmail.com for more. This resource was shared with our RCA partners who were blessed to show it to their congregation and community.

Links: www.cpt.org - Learn more about the ministry that will be presented on at the next NADC full board meeting on October 2nd.

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: It is so hard to choose sometimes, but this book takes the reader to a place and perspective that is completely foreign to what we may know in North America and made me question how I interpret certain people and events based solely on my own context. It also challenges us to consider more of the theme of Sacred Spaces for the coming DOE and asking the question of where/when we can connect with God.



Light of the World: Transmitted or Reflected?

Have you ever thought about the sources of light in our world? Am I talking about physical or spiritual? Well lets start with physical, according to author Andy Crouch, there are two types, transmitted or reflected light. Transmitted is from a source that directly produces it, like the sun, or a fire, a light bulb or even a screen. Besides the sun, these source examples are ones we create as humans. What about the moon or a rainbow? Those are examples of reflected light. And even in the case of the sun, it is transmitted but really only visible when reflected. What I mean by that is that we don't look directly at the sun to see its effects of illumination, (in fact, we physically can not do it for long without risking damage to our eyes) but what we see from the sun is the results of objects absorbing the suns rays and reflecting back a different spectrum of colors. While transmitted light holds a lot of power and potential, it also comes with concerns around misuse or even overuse. This is where the physical and spiritual start to blend and where we have the opportunity to consider the implications of the sources of light that we transmit or that we reflect. In our daily lives, are we transmitting light to others that is healthy, warming and will not cause injury? This can be a dangerous task to undertake on our own. Or are we reflecting The Light, that brings life, beauty, diversity and the promise of everlasting love and care for all? This could have implications in everything we do in life from work, worship, family life, community involvement and even the balance of work and Sabbath. The temptation here is to be transmitters, but I believe we are called to be reflectors of the source, modeled and reflected by the example of Jesus Christ, our light and our salvation. Ask yourself, what am I absorbing and what am I therefore reflecting?

NADC meeting, October 2/18.

At our NADC meeting coming up, we want to focus on a part of the meeting that many have shared as being a favorite feature and expand it a bit. We regularly have a time of caring and sharing where those present are given the opportunity to share about something happening in their diaconate or about a particular ministry they are involved in that is exciting to them or even challenging for them. We have used this as a sharing time in the past but want to expand it a little to make it a conversation time as well. Come ready to actively listen and respond with any questions, reflections or encouragement you may be able to offer to others.

- Your NADC pick for this editions "Artist Feature" is **Jacob Banks and Ron Sexsmith**. I love music and one reason is because I believe God reveals himself and his spirit through many, if not all, aspects of life. I make it an intentional practice to listen for God speaking through singer/songwriters in ways that even they may not recognize as him doing so. Jacob Banks has many powerful songs when you give your ear and mind to reflect on God when listening to him and I want to highlight one Ron Sexsmith song and challenge you to listen to it and not hear God speaking to your heart. He does to me when I listen to "Nowadays" from the Long Player Late Bloomer album. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UbSGJpN3IVk>

World Renew: DRS IRM - What is it?

- Wow now that's an acronym! Well this is the branch of World Renew's Disaster Response Services that specifically deals with International Relief Management. Got it, perfect, good. Well maybe not 100% clear yet, which is why Jonathan Self is going to be visiting our area to teach and respond to those who may be interested in this type of work or ministry. He will be at a breakfast session Saturday Sept.29th and an evening gathering Sunday Sept. 30th. For details search Eventbrite, Facebook, or email me. yournadc@gmail.com