

**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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www.classisalbertanorth.ca/nadc

NEXT NADC Full Board Meeting: 2019
Feb 12 @ Red Deer 1st & Feb 13 @ Ebenezer, Leduc.

Every Brilliant Thing: At our last Classis meeting, an important topic was raised by Pastor Tony Mann and the St. Albert CRC. They want to raise awareness about the struggles of our congregants and communities around the issues of mental health concerns. They asked the appropriate questions of what are we doing to deal with mental health challenges, what resources do we have available to us, what are we doing to learn more about the issues and ways we can contribute to healing. Not only did they want to bring the issue to light, they were actively exploring ways to work together to gain collective wisdom, experience and share in each others walks towards being stronger communities that can support the mental health challenges we all face. Certainly some people and situations are at the extreme ends of the scale but if we become educated and empathetic about what is happening around us, we are better equip to deal with our own situation and be in supportive relationship with others. I look forward to more information and collaboration to come and if you know of a resource that would help, please contact Pastor Tony in St. Albert. The title above is one of a spoken word theatre play that covers difficult topics of mental health and suicide. It is a powerfully moving, soul searching and gut wrenching play that I would recommend to all adults. You can find it online but an awesome way to see it, if you like live theatre, would be to check it out at the Citadel in Edmonton. It will be running from Feb 1-23, 2020 and more info is available at www.citadeltheatre.com

- ⇒ **Want to connect with other ministries?** There are many opportunities to connect with DMC, World Renew, Resonate Global Mission, Cuba Connection and many more. Currently Cuba Connection is working on finding Alberta churches to join them in a church to church partnership with 7 different Cuban churches. They have a plan that involves mutual relationship, improving internet connection correspondence and a small monetary commitment that most churches would be able to accommodate. Want to reach out and care for others globally? Here is your chance today, yournadc@gmail.com
- ⇒ **Turning Down the Heat:** Did you catch the first of the Bethel Edmonton speaker series? It was a great evening of learning about climate change from Chris Ooms and Gerda Kits. Thankfully, there will be three more follow up evenings featuring more great speakers. The next one will take place on **Feb.9** and will feature John Hiemstra and Harry Spaling. Come out and hear about Canada's response, nationally and globally. 7-9PM. Also mark your calendars for **March 15th** and **April 19th** to catch the final two talks of the series.
- ⇒ **The Classis sub committee** that is helping to facilitate discussion and learning about LGBTQ+ matters is holding two evenings meetings in early February. **Feb.2** will be held at Edmonton Covenant CRC at 7 PM and will feature Pastor Peter Rockhold. **Feb.9** at West End CRC, 7 PM, and will feature a panel of people with lived experience.
- ⇒ NADC regional meetings are coming in February and **Christian Stewardship Services (CSS) will be making a presentation about a new pilot project** that they are looking for churches to come along side them. The **Executive Director, Maynard Wiersma** is going to be in Alberta to give those presentations, along with our **area rep, Paul Stehelin**. This is a joint pilot project developed by CSS, DMC and our denomination. This opportunity for deacons and churches to focus on areas of stewardship will include deacons and the whole church in a big picture way. You can bring multiple people, invite others from your churches who are interested in stewardship initiatives or who work with finances on your deacon and admin teams. **The dates and places are as follows: Wednesday February 12 - Red Deer First @ 8PM OR Thursday February 13 - Leduc Ebenezer @ 7:15 PM**
- ⇒ **Terracycle:** There are many ways we can be stewards of our time, money, energy and resources and one of those direct links can be using the 3 R's. Remember those, as a child learning about reduce, reuse and recycle? There is an interesting coffee pod product by Terracycle that could be an option in offices and churches alike. Check out www.staples.ca/search?q=terracycle

EYE ON IT

Current events in Classis AB North:

CRCNA and CAN - March 13 & 14 - Classis meetings will be held in Lacombe.

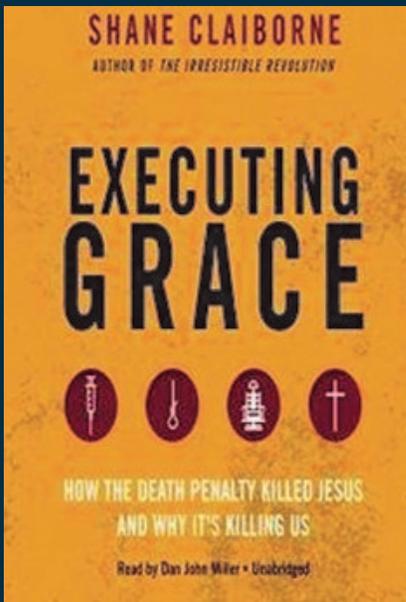
Creators Sacrifice: Contact yournadc@gmail.com for details. This art exhibit resource is one way for your community to continue to respond to the TRC calls to action.

Links: www.prisonfellowship.org
Caring for the outcasts and forgotten.

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: Claiborne's writing is down to earth and easy to read. While this book clearly comes from the USA context, it has much to teach us and to inspire our hearts about grace and love. Claiborne's unique life story of working with Mother Teresa, living in an intentional Simple Way and being an advocate for ending the death penalty in the USA is a model of hope. He tells troubled stories of history, broken systems, broken lives, but balances it out with the powerful truth of God's grace for us in the life giving act of our savior, Jesus, being executed on the cross.



- ⇒ **The Honduras Water Project is 25 years young!** March 7 come and join in the celebration of this special anniversary event. NADC and the Classis Alberta North churches have been supporting this connection with World Renew, The King's University and the communities of Honduras faithfully for a quarter of a century. 10 AM at The King's University, RSVP madison.holzmann@kingsu.ca
- ⇒ **The Canadian Food Grains Bank** is celebrating 25 years of Growing Projects in Alberta. They will be hosting a Friday evening celebration event on April 3, 2020. Details and hopefully a poster for the event will follow in the months to come. It will be held at 5:30 PM, Lincoln Hall near Gull Lake.
- ⇒ **Did you know? Habitat for Humanity** has building projects happening in Rocky Mountain House, Grand Prairie and Edmonton's Northeast community of Hollick Kenyon? These are all places that are home to CRC churches, or are not too far from them. If you have willing hands, builders and creators in your congregation, you can encourage them to check it out and contribute their gifts in that way. www.habitat.ca
- ⇒ Last fall we celebrated the 40th anniversary of Refugee sponsorship with World Renew. It was a great DOE full of stories, inspiring speakers and Karen worship. If you and your church want to follow up with more resources and learning, check out www.crcna.org/canada/social-justice-canada/refugees or email NADC

Haiku #3

Oh God please save me!
My mind screams at random times.
It is still praying.
~ Heidi Hanson

Your NADC pick for this editions "Artist Feature" is **Peter Merts**. Peter is a photographer and art exhibitor living in the San Francisco area. His work began in the film and dark room era of photography but has moved to the digital arena of today. He does his own fine art work but also documents the work of other art based NGO and non-profit organizations. He offers a platform for art that may not have the same opportunity afforded to most. One example would be the art of Gregory A. Coglianese. Check it out now at www.petermerts.com

You can find the art he shares of Gregory by going to the following link and scrolling to the bottom of the page. www.petermerts.com/backlight/search/?

