

COUNCIL UPDATE – December 2025

What an eventful summer and fall we have had!

We welcomed Pastor Marno, Benita, and their children, who arrived safely in September. Thanks to Ray Schepstra and Gerald Kamminga for driving to Emo to help with the move, and to those who helped unload the truck in Georgetown. The move-in went well!

The church took possession of the parsonage on August 29. We thank the small army of willing volunteers who prepared the parsonage for the arrival of the Retief family. Duties included landscaping, purchasing appliances, purchasing and installing blinds, cleaning and renovating. It was wonderful to present such a welcoming and beautiful home to the Retiefs.

The Retief family is continuing to settle in; the children are attending a new school and getting involved in various sports and activities in town.

Pastor Marno officially started his work as Pastor of GCRC on Oct 1, and preached his first sermon on Oct 5. He has visited the sick and shut-in members, ministries and leaders, as well as families. Pastor Marno's installation service was held on Nov 1; thanks to Pastor Mike for leading the service. It was wonderful to see pastors from local churches attending.

Commissioning Sunday was held on Sept 7, and the Ministry Gallery Walk and community BBQ was on Oct 5. We thank the Deacons for organizing the BBQ and distributing pamphlets to the local community, inviting them to the BBQ. The Deacons are continuing to seek new ways to reach our community, including arranging meals for those in need. If you are interested in getting involved in this ministry, please speak with one of the Deacons.

We are truly grateful for the generosity shown by GCRC for the Thanksgiving Food Drive. The Georgetown Food Bank warmly appreciated our donation.

The Community Unity Fall cleanup was held on Saturday Nov 8. Thanks to everyone who participated in this event. 34 yards were cleaned up as we served to be the hands and feet of Jesus in our community.

As part of the planned Trafalgar Road widening, the Region of Halton exercised a temporary easement to access our driveway entrances. As a result of the expropriation, the town compensated GCRC \$93,000. While there will be some temporary disruptions, the Region will ensure we can access the parking lot.

This Advent Season theme is “Coming Home for Christmas”. We distributed 1000 door hangers to invite our local community to the services. We thank Allison for arranging the hangers and all those involved in the distribution.

Thank you to the worship planners for the wonderful decorations at the front of the church. It is definitely a sight to behold and beautifully reflects a heart for worship. Thank you also to the team of volunteers who baked cookies and served refreshments after our first Advent service.

We continue to look for ways to reach our neighbours to share Christ’s love and bring the message of salvation. Pastor Marno and church members will host a service at the Bennett Centre on the third Sunday of each month, and at Extencicare on the fourth Sunday. These services are great opportunities to become involved in our community and we encourage everyone to take the time to participate. The time for the services will be posted in the bulletin.

Our church subscribes to Right-Now Media and several of our ministries and small groups utilize this resource. Right-Now Media is a great resource for bible study and can be used by the whole congregation. If you are not familiar with Right-Now Media and would like to get access, please contact the church office.

We are pleased that Mike and Melissa Glockner are our new custodians. Thank you for your leadership and dedicated work to keep our church building safe, organized and clean.

Safe Church: anyone involved in ministry at GCRC must have an updated Police Check. If you are 18 years or older and don’t have a police check or have one that is over three years old, please complete one as soon as possible. This is critical for our insurance.

At our recent congregational meeting, Thomas Heming presented the financial statements for 2025 and the proposed Budget for 2026. The Budget was unanimously approved. We thank Thomas and the Finance committee for ensuring we are following CRA guidelines.

Our Elders continue to make home visits. We encourage you to make time to meet with your Elder when they reach out. Or feel free to contact your elder. These visits provide a meaningful opportunity to share any concerns, joys, or family needs.

Gift wrapping will be held again this year at the mall. It is always a great opportunity to meet new people from the community. We thank Aviva for again organizing. If you have not yet signed up to take a shift or two, please do so. The funds this year will go to the Halton Hills Women Shelter, Food 4 Kids, our church’s Refugee Fund, and GCRC youth.

In His Service, GCRC Council