

"You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem ... and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8



The Growing Season
September 11, 2022

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

Consecration Hymn (Take My Life and Let It Be)

arr. John F. Wilson

The Prelude

WE APPROACH OUR GOD

The Welcome

*The Hymn of Praise

Come, Christians Join to Sing

Christian H. Bateman, MADRID
Spanish melody arr. David Evans
from Psalm 51

*The Call to Worship

Leader: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;

People: According to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

Leader: You desire truth in the inward being;

People: Therefore, teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

Leader: Hide Your face from my sins,

People: And blot out my iniquities.

Leader: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

People: And put a new and right Spirit within me.

Leader: Let us continue to worship God in this right Spirit.

People: Amen.

*The Song of Praise

Way Maker

Osinachi Kalu Okoro Egbu

*The Greeting

The Confession of Our Sins

Leader: Too often we act like the Scribes and Pharisees

People: Being critical of others for not being as righteous as we are.

Leader: We are certain that God loves us and our kind over all other people who call themselves 'Christian'.

People: We are quick to point out others who need to repent of their sins, while we resist repentance.

Leader: We say that we are 'Saved by Grace'

People: But we know that those 'other people' need that grace much more than we do.

The Words of Forgiveness

Leader: Let us be able to say, with Paul, in his letter to Timothy;

People: I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because He judged me faithful and appointed me to His service.

Leader: And the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus

People: The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners of whom I am the foremost.

Leader: But for that very reason, I received mercy, so that in me, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in Him for eternal life.

People: To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

*The Song of Assurance

Salvation Belongs to Our God

Adrian Howard, Pat Turner

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

The Prayer for Illumination

The Scripture Lesson

Luke 15:1-7

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Message

"Lost and Found"

The Prayer of Thanksgiving, Intercession and the Lord's Prayer

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GOODNESS

The Offering of Our Tithes and Gifts

The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory Song

Good, Good Father

Pat Barrett, Anthony Brown

(Please sign and pass the friendship registers.)

The News of the Church Alive

*The Closing Song

Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)

John Newton, John P. Rees
Edwin Othello Excell, arr. Chris Tomlin, Louie Giglio

*The Benediction

*The Postlude

Postlude for Full Organ

Roger C. Wilson

*All who are able, please stand

Worship Leaders: Preaching – Pastor Jeff Watson; Liturgist – Pastor Matt Cook; Organist – Barb VanderHeide; Praise Team

Please follow our church social media pages:

Instagram: frcgrandville

Facebook: First Reformed Church

Stewardship Update:

Sept. 4 Collection Plate \$ 14,101.00

Online Giving: \$ 4,296.00

Total Offering: \$ 18,397.00

Average weekly offering needed

to make 2022 budget \$ 18,258.00

2022 Annual budget \$949,429.00

Text to Give - 616-208-4301

TODAY at FRC

Welcome to First Reformed Church in Grandville. If you are visiting, a warm welcome to you. Our prayer is that this worship service will usher you to the throne of grace. Pastor Jeff brings the morning message. If you are searching for a church home and would like more information about First Reformed Church, please stop at the Welcome Desk near the main entrance. We would love to meet you. Please join us for coffee time following the service in the room to your left.

Join us for the **Fall Kick Off luncheon** in the Activity Center following the worship service. We will be serving pulled pork, Jello, coleslaw, chips and cookies. Please plan to join us! Sunday programming will begin next week except for Youth Groups will begin tonight!

Nursery is available. Children can be dropped off in the nursery when you arrive & picked up after the worship service.

LOOKING AHEAD

Praise Team – Wednesday, 5:30pm

Chancel Choir – will not meet this week, September 14

Staff page –We've had a lot of staff changes in the last 6 months so we put a page with our current staff in your mailslots.

Adult Sunday school – Jeff Watson will be teaching adult Sunday school this fall. He will teach about his time in Israel. The dates will vary. Here are the first 4 dates: September 25, October 2, 23, 30. Class will be from 11:00 - 11:45am.

Save the Date! **Fall Festival** on Wednesday, September 21, 6:00 – 8:00pm. All ages are welcome to come and enjoy the fun as we celebrate the beginning of our fall Wednesday night programming. More details to come. Contact madelyn@firstgrandville.org with questions.

FOCUS begins September 28. FOCUS begins at 5:30 pm with dinner and programming to follow.

Inquirer's class - An Inquirer's Class is planned for October 2 - 23 (four weeks) taught by Pastor Bud for those interested in considering First Reformed Church as their potential church home. (Class held on Sundays at 11:00 in Pastor Bud's office). Please email mail@firstgrandville.org if you would like to attend.

Esther Circle - meets the first Tuesday of the month at 9:30am in the adult ed classroom. All women are welcome to meet for a time of coffee, fellowship, mission interests and an informal Bible study. We are discussing the Twenty Third Psalm, lesson 7. Copies of the lesson will be available. Looking forward to meeting you. Contact Karen Diekema – 616-644-0820 if you have any questions.

Women in the Word - meets on Wednesday mornings from 9:30 - 11:00am in the upstairs adult education room. This fall we turn our attention to the book of Hebrews. Join us for a time of fellowship, coffee and an introduction to our study on September 14th. Books will be available for \$10. If anyone needs an alternative form of the book we would be happy to assist. Marilyn Stelma – 616-450-6008.

Men's Bible Study - will meet every second and fourth Thursday of each month at 2:30pm. We will meet at Marge's Donut Den at 1751 28th. St. SW. David Bast will discuss the book which he authored on the Psalms. Mark Davis will lead the discussion on some of the Psalms not covered in David Bast's book.

MegaMen Bible study - meets every Wednesday at 6:00am in the Youth Lounge. If you would enjoy fellowship with other men that dig into the Word, come join us. Contact Dave Lidgard – dldlgard@hpseagles.net or Bob Stelma - mstelmau78@yahoo.com if you have questions.

The **Grandville Senior Neighbors** are hosting a bus trip to the U of M stadium for a tour of the Big House with a lunch stop at Bob Evans on the way home on Thursday, September 15. Cost is \$25.00 plus your lunch costs. The Church bus (Pastor Bud driving) will leave at 7:30 AM from the Senior Center at 3380 Division, Grandville. Only 10 spots are still available. First come, first served. Sign up at the sign-up counter today! (No age restrictions!!)

Urbana 2022 - Urbana Missions Conference is happening this December 28-31 in Indianapolis, Indiana. For high school seniors, college students, and grad students. Cost is \$615 for students and \$715 for non-students. Support is available from Missions Endowment Fund for students. Contact Kin Ma (makinm67@gmail.com), Jon Hull (jon@firstgrandville.org), or Jeff Watson (jeffw@firstgrandville.org) for more information.

Bible League Power of the Word Conference – The conference for men and women is Friday, September 16 at Friendship CRC in Byron Center. Bible League's daylong conference begins at 9:00 and includes multiple sessions with author, recording artist, and keynote speaker Sarah Schieber. Get more information or register online at bibleleague.org/tickets.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Middle School Youth Group (6th-8thgrades) starts tonight – we will meet at Wedgwood Park from 4:00-5:30pm. Pizza will be provided. Please drop and pick up your kids there. Questions? Jon Hull – jon@firstgrandville.org or 517-803-5686.

High School Youth Group (9th-12th grades) starts tonight - we will meet in the gym from 6:30-8:00pm. Food will be provided. Questions? Jon Hull – jon@firstgrandville.org or 517-803-5686.

Grandville High School Young Life starts September 12 at 7:27pm. We will be meeting at the Connelly's house – 376 Normandy Ct., SW.

Grandville Middle School WyldLife starts September 27 at 7:27pm. They meet in the Youth gym.

Youth Mission Trip fundraiser:

Pop can drive - There will be a labeled trash can in the Youth Lounge all year for you to drop off your empty cans.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE OR SERVE

Children's ministry volunteers needed! Thank you to all who have already signed up to volunteer in KidMin! We are looking for two Children in Worship leaders, two Sunday School nursery adults, and 2 preschool Sunday school teachers. Contact Madelyn for more information: madelyn@firstgrandville.org

Youth group leaders – We are in need of female leaders for the middle and high school youth groups. We are also looking for adults who would be willing to help lead Sunday school, along with Jon following the worship service until 11:30. Contact Jon at Jon@firstgrandville.org or 517-803-5686.

Meal Train for Melanie Vlietstra-Kilgore – If you would like to make a meal for the Kilgore family here is the link to sign up – <https://mealtrain.com/vl2zmw>. If you are unable to sign up online you can sign up at the sign-up center.

Hand2hand - Many school kids rely on free breakfast and lunch programs but do not have food during the weekend. Our Mission Council is partnering with hand 2hand to help meet this need for students at Godwin Middle School and Potters House. We are taking non-perishable food donations for hand2hand. These items need to be in individual packets. Items needed are: popcorn packets, trail mix, pudding snack packs, granola bars, fruit snacks, applesauce/fruit cups, crackers, pretzels, goldfish crackers, any bagged snack, meat sticks, instant cereal, instant mac 'n cheese, soup. There is a box in the narthex to place your donations. Thank you! For more information about Hand 2 Hand, please visit h2hkids.org. Look for more volunteer opportunities in the future!

Grand Rapids SouthWest Young Life Banquet – We'd love for you to join us on Monday, October 17, at South Harbor Church. We'll have a variety of Food Trucks providing dinner for guests from 6:00-6:45, and then will start our program at 7:00pm. God has been faithful! We can't wait to share stories and updates with you! Please RSVP so we plan the number of Food Trucks accordingly!

Greeters – We are looking for two families every Sunday to greet at the north and south ends of the narthex. If you would be willing to sign up for 1 or more Sundays please sign up at the sign up center.

Hospitality Council - seeking those with the gift of Hospitality. For all you Martha's out there! If you enjoy creating spaces for fellowship and fun we would love you to join our Hospitality team. See Deb Lidgard at the Information Desk or email her at delidgar@hpseagles.net for more details.

70 x 7 Recovery Life Recovery - 70 x 7 cards for prisoners needs 200+ pen pals for men and women on the waiting list. To learn more about this check out this website - <https://conta.cc/3QTSjd3> or talk to Sandy Bajema – sbajema@sbcglobal.net.

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH PRAYERS & CONCERNS

For prayer updates during the week, please call the **Prayer Line** – 534-0113

We extend prayers of healing & comfort for:

- **Wayne Veneklasen**, having open heart surgery September 27.
- **Terry Jolink**, having back surgery September 29.
- **Jeff Muller**, at home continuing to receive antibiotics.
- **Joyce VanderMarkt**, at Butterworth Hospital.
- **Bob Waters**, has metastatic melanoma and began immunotherapy.
- **Morey Cook** (Brian Cook's dad), is at Trillium Woods under the care of hospice.
- Pray for the people of **Ukraine**.
- Pray for anyone affected in any way by **the Corona virus**.
- **Continued prayers for: Ev Loux, Doug Hunderman, Curt Stoel, Don Ferris, Lois Morehouse, Roy DeJonge, Don Alderink, Karin Dykstra, Luna Grace, Kathy VanRiper, Arvin Bleyenbergh.**

Congratulations to:

- **Pastor Melanie Kilgore and family**, at the birth of a baby girl, Etta Joy, on September 4.

Please keep all our military troops in your prayers, especially:

- **Jeremy Stegehuis, Jeff Shuck & Tony Shuck** (Betty Isenga's grandsons), **Edward Peter Tolhurst** (Pat Bird's nephew), **Ben Westrick, Ben DeRuyter** (Jack and Jackie's grandson)

Please keep in your hearts and minds:

- Our **Family at Home members** – Eloise Anderson, Crystal Baum, Mary Lou Besteman, Norma Boss, Dorothy Cook, Helen Dertien, Marilyn DeVree, Karin Dykstra, Arlene Jacobitz, Ev Lindhout, Pat Marcusse, Kay Mekkes, Bob & Lois Morehouse, Janet Pofahl, Bob Verburg, Trudie Wierda, Mary Zomerlei
FAH birthday – September 28 - Marilyn DeVree, Freedom Village, 145 Columbia Ave., Suite 2, Rm. 225, Holland, 49423

In case of an emergency and no one is at church you may call Pastors Bud Pratt - 708-302-5645, Jeff Watson – 616-250-7148, Matt Cook - 616-893-4189 or consistory vice president Bob Stelma - 616-822-3859, or any of the other elders.