

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



**The Growing Season**  
**The Sacrament of Baptism and New Member Reception**  
October 16, 2022

**WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP**

The Prelude

*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* Tune: Resignation, W. Walker, arr. Raymond Haan

**WE APPROACH OUR GOD**

The Welcome

\*The Gathering Song

*I Lift My Eyes Up*

Brian Doerksen

\*The Call to Worship

Leader: As the rains pour from heaven, soaking the earth that it may produce good things....

**All: So God pours out His love upon us, that we, too, may produce goodness and peace.**

Leader: We have been blessed with many gifts and talents.

**All: God desires that we use these gifts and talents for healing, peace, and hope.**

Leader: Come, let us worship and celebrate the mighty love and power of God.

**All: Praise be to God who has blessed us in so many ways. AMEN.**

\*The Hymn of Praise

*God's Holy Ways Are Just and True*

Barbara Woollett

LAAST UNS ERFREUEN, arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams

\*The Greeting

The Sacrament of Baptism and New Member Reception

The Scriptural Mandate

The Meaning of the Sacrament

The Vows of the Parents

The Vows of the Congregation

\*The Apostles' Creed

The Baptism

The Blessing

The Congregational Welcome: **The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. Amen.**

\*The Baptism Song

*The Blessing* Kari Jobe Carnes, Cody Carnes, Chris Brown, Steven Furtick

The Prayer of Confession

Leader: Dear Lord, we can get caught up in selfish pursuits and completely overlook the wonders of Your creation,

**All: All around us are majestic reminders of the beauty You offer to us. But we are weak and easily trapped into attitudes of indifference.**

Leader: You have not given this world to us that we should destroy it, but rather that we should cherish it and make sure that all receive from its bounty. Forgive our overwhelming greed and selfishness.

**All: Bring us into a ministry that proclaims Your love and justice for all Your people. These things we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.**

The Words of Assurance

God hears the cries of our hearts, sees our actions, and knows our attitudes. In the midst of our sinfulness, God reaches out to heal and forgive us. Receive the forgiveness which God has offered to you. Live in God's love. AMEN.

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

The Prayer for Illumination

The Scripture Lesson

Luke 18:1-8

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

The Message

**"Persevere, My Friends"**

The Prayer for Blessing on the Word

**WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GOODNESS**

The Offering of Our Tithes and Gifts

The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory Song

***All the Poor and Powerless***

Leslie Jordan, David Leonard

*(Please sign and pass the friendship registers.)*

The Mission Update

hand2hand

The News of the Church Alive

\*The Sending Song

***Go, My Children, with My Blessing*** Jaroslav J. Vajda, AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh melody

\*The Benediction

\*The Postlude

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation*  
based on chorale LOBE DEN HERREN

Gustav Merkel, Max Reger

\*All who are able, please stand

**Worship Leaders:** Preaching – Pastor Bud Pratt; Liturgists – Jon Hull, Pastor Jeff Watson; Organist – Patty Pratt; Praise Team

Today we baptize Caleb Scott and Isla Kristine, children of Randy and Julie Haverkamp, and we receive Randy by transfer of membership.

**Please follow our church social media pages:**

Instagram: frcgrandville

Facebook: First Reformed Church

**Stewardship Update:**

Oct. 9 Collection Plate	\$ 6,641.00
Online Giving:	<u>\$ 6,217.00</u>
Total Offering:	\$ 12,858.00

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 Watson 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.

11:00-11:45am

**Inquirer's class** – in Pastor Bud's office.

**Adult Sunday school** - Jeff Watson will be teaching about his time in Israel in the upstairs adult ed room. The rest of the dates he will be teaching are October 30, November 13 & 20.

### **Sunday Children's Programming Schedule:**

**Nursery** (birth – 3 year olds) - can be dropped off in the nursery when you arrive and picked up after the worship service. Nursery will also be available during adult Sunday school if you plan to attend.

**Children in Worship** (ages 3 years – Kindergarten) can be dropped off in room #113 South when you arrive and picked up after the worship service.

**Sunday school** (Nursery-5th Grade) 10:45-11:45am

- Birth – 3year olds meet in the Nursery
- 3 year olds – PreK meet in room #113 South
- Kindergarten – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade meet in the downstairs assembly room
- 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grades meet in room #113 north

**Middle School** (6th - 8th grades) & **High School** (9th - 12th grades) **Sunday School** meets in the Youth Lounge following worship.

**Middle & High School youth group** (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades) are going to the Fruit Ridge Corn Maze today! Meet at church at 4:15 (bus will leave at 4:30) and return at 7:30pm. Cost is \$12. Contact - Jon Hull – [jon@firstgrandville.org](mailto:jon@firstgrandville.org) or 517-803-5686 to RSVP or for further information.

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

**Handbell choir** – Tuesday, 5:15pm

**Praise Team** – Wednesday, 5:30pm

**Chancel Choir** – will meet this Wednesday at 6:30pm

We will be hosting a **Trunk or Treat** on Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-8:00pm! If you are interested in decorating a trunk, please let Madelyn ([madelyn@firstgrandville.org](mailto:madelyn@firstgrandville.org)) know or sign up at the sign-up center! For those that are interested in helping but are unable to attend, you can bring candy donations and place them in the box in the parlor.

**All Singers Welcome!** The Chancel Choir is preparing Advent and Christmas music. You are invited to sing with us during this holy season. Please attend rehearsals in the Sanctuary on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. We will prepare the cantata, "Joy Has Dawned", to share in worship on December 4 & 18. Full rehearsal is Monday, November 28 at 6:30 p.m.

**FOCUS** meets on Wednesdays beginning at 5:30pm with a meal followed by programming for grades Kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> grade. This week they will be serving pork chops.

The congregation is invited to and open house for **Shirley Schuitman's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday**. This will be held in the Activity Center at church on October 16 from 2:00-4:00pm.

**Pig-in-the-blankets** - Esther Circle will be making pig-in-the-blankets this year. The cost is \$10 per package of 6. They will be available for pick up Friday, November 10 from noon – 1:00, and after worship on Sunday, November 12. Please place your order on the form at the sign up center.

**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. 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 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 – [dldidgard@hpseagles.net](mailto:dldidgard@hpseagles.net) or Bob Stelma - [mstelmau78@yahoo.com](mailto:mstelmau78@yahoo.com) if you have questions.

**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](mailto:makinm67@gmail.com)), Jon Hull ([jon@firstgrandville.org](mailto:jon@firstgrandville.org)), or Jeff Watson ([jeffw@firstgrandville.org](mailto:jeffw@firstgrandville.org)) for more information.

## **YOUTH MINISTRIES**

**Grandville High School Young Life – NO CLUB** this week. Come join us at the Young Life Banquet at South Harbor Church. Students should arrive at 6:45pm

**Grandville Middle School WyldLife** – October 25 at 7:27pm 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**

**Advent Festival** – We are looking for volunteers to help plan the Advent Festival this year. It will take place on November 26. Please contact Madelyn if you would like to help! [Madelyn@firstgrandville.org](mailto:Madelyn@firstgrandville.org)

**FOCUS dinner clean up crew** – we are looking for some people to clean up following the FOCUS dinners on Wednesday night. After being here all day cooking and serving we would like to give the kitchen ladies a break and clean up for them. To volunteer to do this please call the office – 534-5465 or email [mail@firstgrandville.org](mailto:mail@firstgrandville.org).

**Maple Tree Preschool Panera Bread fundraiser** – Tuesday, October 25, from 4:00-8:00pm. You can find a flyer in your mailbox you need to bring with you or for the code to order online.

**A note from Jose to help his family in Venezuela** – This note is to let you know that I will be traveling to Venezuela on November 29. My family is staying here (Michigan) because it is a very short trip, barely 6 days total, and I don't want to risk them. Besides that you guys already know our situation in Venezuela. My mom, she has not been in good health and she has just been diagnosed with high blood pressure (hypertension), added to what she already has. So I am making this trip to bless them with some gifts, so I am sending this note to La Casa Grandville and also to First. I need your help with some of these things: personal care (hygiene items), shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant for men and women, clothing for boys and girls ages 8 to 12, shoes sizes 6,7,8,9 for boys and girls, for adults, 10,11,12. (women and men). In Venezuela you can find some products but they are very expensive, and the basic salary is \$10 per month. You cannot imagine how difficult everything is, including my mother's medications. This week I will put a box with the Venezuelan flag to receive some articles. And with all of that I can have some time to get at least the basics, to bless our families. I JUST WANT TO THANK YOU ALL FOR THIS IN ADVANCE. Let me know if you have questions. Jose - [joseluisrivasduran@gmail.com](mailto:joseluisrivasduran@gmail.com)

**October is disability awareness month** celebrated throughout the month in a variety of ways. The RCA and the CRC are asking churches to have a disability Sunday in October or when it can fit in to the worship schedule. Because we are in transition and the worship schedule is quite full, we will celebrate this event in early 2023. The theme this year for our disability concerns training was: "let's end ableism in the church"! If you need assistance with any additional accommodations, my contact information is: Casey Dutmer: Email - [casedut@gmail.com](mailto:casedut@gmail.com) or phone - 616-450-6429.

Our church is participating in a **coat collection** for Roosevelt Park Ministries through October 20. We will be collecting new and gently used coats. They will make these available to the families they serve through their ministry. All items should be clean and in good condition. There is a box in the parlor for your donations. Boy's, girl's, men's, and women's coats of all sizes are needed, especially children's coats. If you would like to help the days of the event, please contact us at the phone number or email listed below:

Office line: 616-475-5881

Email: [family.worker@rooseveltparkministries.org](mailto:family.worker@rooseveltparkministries.org)

**Food pantry needs** – crackers, cereal/oatmeal, canned meats, Jello, pudding, canned tomatoes, spaghetti sauce, spaghetti noodles, canned beef stew, canned pasta (SpaghettiO's), rice, stuffing, boxed potatoes, hamburger or tuna helper. Please leave donations in the cart in the Activity Center.

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**Pine Ridge Week 2023** - We are planning another First Reformed service week on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation for the summer of 2023! We would like to choose a week that works for the most people who are interested. If you are interested in going or learning what the trip is all about, please contact Mary Cook ([marycook5@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marycook5@sbcglobal.net) or 616-295-8568) or Bob Stelma ([mstelmau78@yahoo.com](mailto:mstelmau78@yahoo.com) or 616-822-3859). Reaching out to us is NOT a commitment to go, we are just looking to choose the best week for the most people who are interested. The weeks we are looking at are: June 17-23 or July 15-21. If you have a preference on the week, please contact Mary or Bob by Friday, October 21.

**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](mailto:Jon@firstgrandville.org) or 517-803-5686.

**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 hand2hand to help meet this need for students at Century Park Learning Center in Grandville. 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 hand2hand, please visit [h2hkids.org](http://h2hkids.org). Look for more volunteer opportunities in the future!

**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.

### **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:**

- **Jeff Muller**, his second liver transplant was successful. He is home recovering.
- **Joelle Smith**, had successful back surgery.
- **Janet Pofahl**, hospitalized with an infection.
- **Etta Kilgore**, dealing with RSV.
- **Becca Hollen**, hospitalized at St. Mary's and recovering from thyroid surgery.
- **Carolyn Cole**, hospitalized at Blodgett with digestive concerns.
- **Wayne Veneklasen**, had successful triple bypass surgery and is recovering at Mary Free Bed.
- **Maria Oskam**, dealing with ongoing health concerns.
- **Terry Jolink**, recovering from back surgery at home.
- **Trent Balley** (22 year old former youth group attendee), has been diagnosed with hodgkin's lymphoma, and began chemotherapy.
- **Carmen Rivas** (Jose's mom), is struggling with hypertension and a cancer battle.
- **Beverly VanDuinen** (Jeff's mom), hospitalized with 3 broken ribs and ongoing health concerns.
- Todd & Becca Hollen's nieces, **Sydney (17)** and **Ellie (19)**, both diagnosed with different types of cancer and receiving treatment.
- Pray for the people of **Ukraine**.
- Pray for anyone affected in any way by **the Corona virus**.
- **Continued prayers for: Joyce VanderMarkt, Doug Hunderman, Curt Stoel, Don Ferris, Lois Morehouse, Roy DeJonge, Don Alderink, Karin Dykstra, Bob Waters, Luna Grace VacaGuzman, Kathy VanRiper, Arvin Bleyenbergh.**

#### **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** – October 10 – Crystal Baum – 2205 Mapleton NE, Grand Rapids, 49505

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.