

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



The Growing Season
October 30, 2022

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

The Prelude

Total Praise

Donnie McClurkin

WE APPROACH OUR GOD

The Welcome

The Call to Worship

*The Song of Praise

You Are Good

Israel Houghton

*The Greeting

The Confession of Sin

Leader: When we remember all the mistakes we have made, the careless words we have spoken, and the contempt we have given to those around us, we have trouble looking God in the eye. Yet, God gazes at us with mercy and love, waiting to forgive us.

All: Gracious God, have mercy on us. Open our eyes to Your kingdom here on earth, so we can discover that Your day of hope and grace has already come in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

The Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Followers of Christ, know that you are always forgiven and free to begin again through God's everlasting mercy and love.

*The Song of Assurance

O Come to the Altar

Steven Furtick, Chris Brown

Who You Say I Am

Wade Joye, Mack Brock

Ben Fielding, Reuben Morgan

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

The Prayer for Illumination

The Scripture Lesson

Luke 19:1-10

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Message

“A Seeking Savior”

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

Worth

Anthony Brown

(Please sign and pass the friendship registers.)

The News of the Church Alive

*The Sending Song Medley

Agnus Dei
How Great Is Our God
How Great Thou Art

Michael W. Smith
Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves, and Ed Cash
Stuart K. Hine

*The Benediction

*The Postlude

The Lord's Prayer

Jubilee Worship

*All who are able, please stand

Worship Leaders: Preaching – Pastor Jeff Watson; Worship Leader – Ricardo Alfaro; Praise Team

Please follow our church social media pages:

Instagram: frcgrandville

Facebook: First Reformed Church

Stewardship Update:

Oct. 9 Collection Plate	\$ 11,962.00
Online Giving:	<u>\$ 8,169.00</u>
Total Offering:	\$ 20,131.00

Budget update through September 30, 2022:

Total Givings:	\$606,447.00
Total Expenses:	<u>\$611,956.00</u>
	- \$ 5,509.00

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

Jeff Watson will be teaching a class about his trip to Israel in the upstairs adult ed room.

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 – 3rd grade meet in the downstairs assembly room
- 4th & 5th 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 School youth group (6th-8th grades) from 4:00-5:30pm in the Youth Gym. Snacks provided. Contact Jon Hull – jon@firstgrandville.org or 517-803-5686 for further information.

High School youth group (9th-12th grades) from 6:30pm - 8:00pm in the Youth Gym. Contact Jon Hull – jon@firstgrandville.org or 517-803-5686 for further information.

LOOKING AHEAD

Handbell choir – Tuesday, 5:15pm

Praise Team – Wednesday, 5:30pm

Chancel Choir – Wednesday at 6:30pm

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.

Senior trip to Shipsewana - Join the Grandville Senior Neighbors and Grandville First Reformed Church Seniors on Tuesday, November 15, for a day in Shipsewana. The day will begin at 8:00am and will be stopping at B & G Discounts, followed by lunch at the Blue Gate. A fine buffet is served before we enjoy "Our Christmas Dinner the musical". After that it's off to E & S Sales, then Forks Country Line. Cost per person is \$85. Payment is due November 4. For more information contact Sherri at 616-531-5250.

Cran Hill Camping Weekend 2023 - Now is the time again to start planning for next summer's church campout at Cran Hill Ranch. The dates are Friday, July 14 – Sunday, July 16, 2023. There is a signup sheet at the signup center for you to sign up or you can email me (Cheryl DeVries) at youravoncheryl@gmail.com to let me know you are interested.

Esther Circle – we will meet this Tuesday, November 1. Our last lesson on Psalm 23, lesson 8. Warm welcome awaits you for coffee, fellowship and informal study. Hope to see you there. Contact Karen Diekema – 616-644-0820 if you have any questions.

FOCUS meets on Wednesdays beginning at 5:30pm with a meal followed by programming for grades Kindergarten – 5th grade. This week they will be serving goulash.

Pig-in-the-blankets - Esther Circle will be making pig-in-the-blankets this year. The cost is \$12 per package of 6. They will be available for pick up Thursday, November 10 from noon – 1:00, and after worship on Sunday, November 13. 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 – dlidgard@hpseagles.net or Bob Stelma - 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), Jon Hull (jon@firstgrandville.org), or Jeff Watson (jeffw@firstgrandville.org) for more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Pastor Melanie Kilgore will be installed on Sunday, November 20 at 3:00pm.
- Help is needed for Christmas decor on Friday, November 25 at 9:30am.
- Advent Festival, November 27, 4:00-6:30pm. More details to come.
- Celebrate with Pastor Bud and Patty on December 18. Details to come.
- Sunday, Christmas Day, we will worship at 10:00am. **Note the time change.**

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Grandville High School Young Life – at Buursma’s barn – 5048 8th Ave., Grandville, at 7:27pm. . Contact Jon Hull – jon@firstgrandville.org or 517-803-5686 for further information.

Grandville Middle School WydLife – November 8 at 7:27pm at the Kleinheksel’s – 3590 Apache Ct.

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

Thanksgiving Food Collection for the Domestic Crisis Center: For the entire month of November, we will be collecting non-perishable foods, toiletries, diapers of every size, and household items for the Domestic Crisis Center in Grand Rapids. As the “month of Thanksgiving” unfolds, our front steps will grow with your generosity. Please place these items on the front steps of the sanctuary beginning November 6 through Thanksgiving Day when we will gather (10:00 AM) to give thanks to God for His abundance in our lives. Consistory members will be available following each service to help you unload your cars if you so desire. We will also hold a drive through food drop-off event on the Friday after Thanksgiving (11-25-22) from 9:00 AM until 10:30 AM where church members will be available to unload your cars and pack the bus for the journey to the DCC.

Venezuelan Trip and Home Visit: Pastor Jose Rivas will be traveling to Venezuela on November 29 for 6 days to visit his family and bring much needed supplies. Jose’s mom has not been in good health, recently diagnosed with high blood pressure in addition to her cancer battle. First Church would like to send some of these things: personal care (hygiene items), shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorants 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. In Venezuela these things are very expensive, (where the basic salary is \$10 per month). There is a box with the Venezuelan flag in the Narthex for these items. Thank you in advance!

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 or phone - 616-450-6429.

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.

Hand2hand - 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 oatmeal, cereal, instant mac ‘n cheese, soup. There is a box in the narthex to place your donations. Thank you!

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.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Joyce Ferris	83 on the 2 nd	Helen Dertien	93 on the 27 th
Chuck Porte	86 on the 11 th	Pat Marcusse	91 on the 29 th
Gerald Brouwer	86 on the 22 nd	Bob Brouwer	80 on the 30 th

THANK YOU...

...for all the prayers, cards, and wonderful things you have done. So glad to be part of a wonderful church family. **Carolyn Cole**
...wonderful friends at my church. Thank you for all the birthday greetings. My children gave me a wonderful family party also. I am so blessed...thank you all. **Crystal Baum**

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:

- **Curt Stoel**, at Butterworth for testing.
- **Mike Longcore**, recovering from back surgery.
- **Bob Verburg**, being treated for an infection at Blodgett.
- **Scott Johnson**, will be starting cardiac rehab.
- **Sheryl See**, home recovering from a stroke.
- **Ron See**, at Mary Free Bed.
- **Janet Pofahl**, has moved to Sunset Manor.
- **Adrian Donze** (Scott Donze's dad), had a major stroke with a brain bleed and is at Metro Hospital.
- **Carmen Rivas** (Jose's mom), is struggling with hypertension and a cancer battle.
- **Beverly VanDuinen** (Jeff's mom), is 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: Jeff Muller, Joelle Smith, Wayne Veneklasen, Maria Oskam, Terry Jolink, Joyce VanderMarkt, Doug Hunderman, Don Ferris, Lois Morehouse, Roy DeJonge, Don Alderink, Karin Dykstra, Sydney & Ellie Hollen, Bob Waters, Kathy VanRiper.**

We extend Christian Sympathy to:

- The family of **Norma Boss**, who passed away October 20.

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, Art Tusch, Bob Verburg, Trudie Wierda, Mary Zomerlei
FAH Birthday – November 27 – Helen Dertien, Sunset Manor, 725 Baldwin St., #2046, Jenison, MI 49428
November 29 – Pat Marcusse - Lakeside Vista, 340 W. 40th St., Holland, MI 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.