

February 26, 2023
Lent

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

by Douglas Wagner

Prelude

WE APPROACH OUR GOD

Welcome, Call to Worship, Prayer

*Song of Worship

His Mercy is More

*Greeting

The Prayer of Confession & Words of Assurance

Leader: God holds this world in sovereign love. He kept his promise, sending Jesus into the world.

People: We rejoice in the goodness of God, renounce the works of darkness, and dedicate ourselves to holy living.

Leader: He poured out his Spirit and broadcast the good news that sinners who repent and believe in Jesus are already saved by grace.

People: As a redeemed people, called to faithful obedience, and set free for joyful praise, we offer our hearts and lives to do God's work in his world.

Leader: Hear the good news: "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

*Songs of Worship

All Creatures of our God and King

Lenten Candles & Reading

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Prayer

Scripture - John 6:25-35

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Message

"The Bread of Life"

Prayer

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GOODNESS

Communion

Song

How Beautiful

by Twila Paris

Offering of Our Tithes, Gifts & Prayers
Song

Is He Worthy?

*Final Song:

Jesus Messiah

Needs of the Congregation

Announcements

*Benediction

Postlude

*All who are able, please stand

Worship Leaders: Pastors – Pastors Jeff Watson, Melanie Kilgore, Matt Cook; Liturgists – Kathy Carpenter; Worship Leader – Pastor Melanie Kilgore; Praise Team; Bells of Joy; Chancel Choir, Choir Director – Rick Gossett, Choir Accompanist – Rhonda Talsma.

Stewardship Update:

Feb. 19 Collection Plate	\$ 8667.00
Online Giving:	\$ 4,761.00
Total Offering:	\$ 13,428.00

Average weekly offering needed

to make 2023 budget \$ 17,493.00

2023 Annual budget \$909,683.00

Text to Give - 616-208-4301

Please follow our church social media pages:

Facebook: First Reformed Church

WELCOME to 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. 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.

FOR KIDS - Kid's Worship bags and Sweet Reward papers are available as you enter the Sanctuary. We invite children to use these to engage with our worship service. Completed Sweet Reward papers can be turned in at the Welcome Desk for a sweet reward.

THIS WEEK - Pastor Jeff Watson will be beginning the I AM's series and his message will be from John 6:35-40 titled "The Bread of Life".

NEXT WEEK – Pastor Jeff Watson will be continuing with the I AM series and his message will be from John 8:12-20 titled "The Light of the World."

TODAY at FRC

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 downstairs 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

Meet & Greet - If you are new to our church, or have been visiting for awhile and would like a chance to get to know the FRC staff (and for us to get to know you), please join us Sunday, February 26, following worship in the Parlor for coffee and donuts.

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

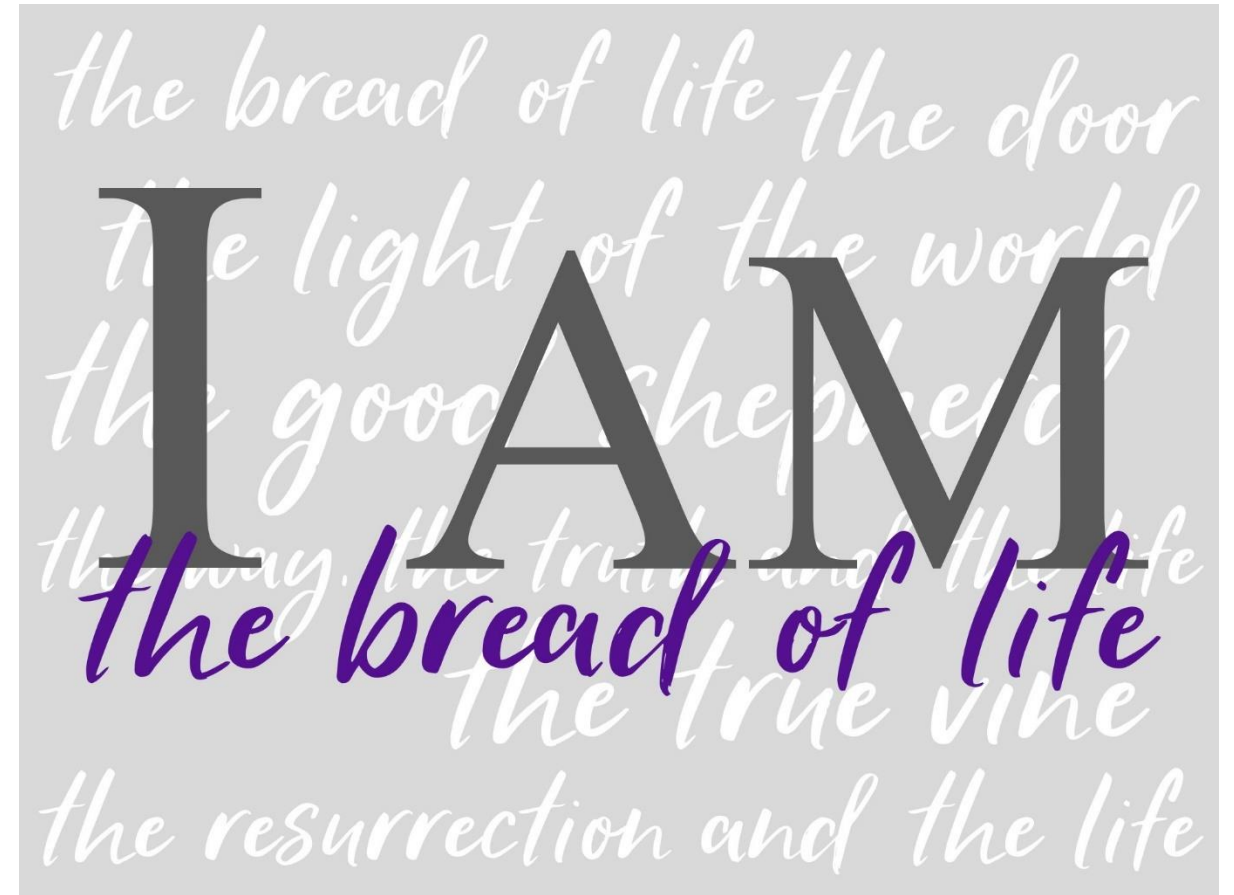
Middle School Youth Group (6th-8th grades) from 4:00-5:30pm in the Youth Gym. Snacks provided. Contact Jon Hull - jon@firstgrandville.org or 517-803-5686 for further information.

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.

In case of an emergency and no one is at church you may call Pastors Jeff Watson - 616-250-7148, Matt Cook - 616-893-4189, Melanie Kilgore - 269-330-0155 or consistory Vice President Bob Stelma – 616-822-3859, or any of the other elders.

Phone: 534-5465
Prayer Line: 534-0113

Email: mail@firstgrandville.org
Fax: 534-1185



FIRST REFORMED CHURCH

GRANDVILLE, MICHIGAN

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:

- **Ev Lindhout** is under the care of hospice.
- **Helen Huizenga** is rehabbing from a broken femur.
- **Linda Timmerman** is having eye surgery March 2.
- **Brian Kehr's** back surgery is scheduled for March 8.
- **Fred Henderson** has been diagnosed with cancer and is under the care of hospice.
- **Dan Cole** is at home under the care of hospice after a 12 year battle with cancer.
- **Beverly VanDuinen** (Jeff's mom) is under the care of hospice.
- **Pray for the people of Turkey and Syria** who were involved in the earthquake.
- Pray for the people of **Ukraine**.
- Pray for anyone affected by the different illnesses this season.
- **Continued prayers for: Maria Oskam, Roy DeJonge, Joyce VanderMarkt, Lois Morehouse, Don Alderink, Karin Dykstra, Ellie Hollen, Bob Waters, Kathy VanRiper.**

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, Dorothy Cook, Helen Dertien, Marilyn DeVree, Karin Dykstra, Arlene Jacobitz, Ev Lindhout, Pat Marcusse, Kay Mekkes, Bob & Lois Morehouse, Bob Verburg, Trudie Wierda, Mary Zomerlei

We have received word from our missionaries in Turkey, Haluk and Wendy Bilgen, that they are safe after the powerful earthquake on February 6.

As the death toll is rising and rescue efforts continue, Haluk and Wendy share, "Thank you for your prayers! May God have mercy on the people who are in great distress right now in the earthquake zone! I found out this morning from one of the pastors of our church in Antalya that there are some Turkish Christians that died in the earthquake and some are injured. Please pray for them and their families!"

THANK YOU...

...for the prayers and cards from the congregation and a special thanks to Pastor Matt. **Don & Jan Scovel**

THIS WEEK

MONDAY

7:27pm

Young Life

7:30pm

Consistory

TUESDAY

5:15pm

Bells of Joy

7:27pm

WyldLife

WEDNESDAY

6:00am

MegaMen Bible Study

9:30am

Women in the Word

5:30pm

FOCUS dinner (Chicken Carbonera) followed by children's programming

5:30pm

Praise Team

6:30

Chancel Choir

THURSDAY

9:00am

Zumba

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Grandville High School Young Life (9th-12th grades) – Monday, February 27, at 7:27pm. Contact Jon Hull - jon@firstgrandville.org or 517-803-5686 for further information.

Grandville Middle School WyldLife (7th & 8th grades)- February 28, 7:27pm, in the Youth Gym.

Youth Mission Trip fundraisers

Pop Can Drive - There is a labeled trash can in the Youth Lounge all year for you to drop off your empty cans. We have a lot of pop cans that need to be recycled. If you would like to return cans to put money in your student's youth account for future trips, contact Jon Hull - jon@firstgrandville.org or 517-803-5686.

THANK YOU to all who came to the Taco Fiesta last week! We raised \$1825.00 for our mission trip!

College Scholarships: Scholarship forms are available in the office or online. These are for anyone who is a member of church and going to college in Fall 2023. They are due in the office no later than **Friday, April 14, at noon.**

LOOKING AHEAD

Inquirer's class - An Inquirer's Class is planned for March 12 and 19 (two weeks) taught by Pastor Jeff for those interested in considering First Reformed Church as their potential church home. (Class held on Sundays at 11:00am in Pastor Jeff's office). Please email deb@firstgrandville.org if you would like to attend.

Ultimate Date Night - The *Ultimate Date Night* with Jay and Laura Laffoon is coming to our church on Saturday, March 11, from 6- 7:30pm. At The *Ultimate Date Night*, not only will couples engage with their spouse through laughter and music, they will be energized and inspired by thought-provoking content and practical tools they can use immediately in their relationship.

So why not take this opportunity? Family and friends are welcome too.

There are 3 ways to purchase tickets (\$30 per couple):

- After the service in the Activity Center.
- Purchase tickets online: go to firstgrandville.org- click Giving- see UDN on the list to purchase tickets.
- Use the QR Code



Volunteers NEEDED - The planning committee for *Ultimate Date Night* is looking for 10-12 volunteer couples to promote and help at the event. Volunteers will receive complimentary tickets to attend the event too! Please sign up outside the Fellowship Room. Questions? Email heidi_smitley@hotmail.com or steph.holleman@gmail.com.

New Directory Coming!

In your mailslots, you have received a slip of paper with your current directory listing (complete with the picture we have on file for you, if there is a picture). Please check the information on that slip of paper and make corrections for the new directory. If you are pleased with the picture we have on file, we can use that picture again. If you would like a different picture, you have two options: submit a new picture OR stop at the Welcome Desk to take a new picture of you BEFORE OR AFTER the worship service. Once you have updated the information, please put the slips of paper in the basket at the Welcome Desk labelled New Directory. Submitted pictures should be emailed to deb@firstgrandville.org, and should be horizontal close up shots. If you are a new member since 2019, we will need your picture and contact information.

Women in the Word - meets on Wednesday mornings from 9:30 -11:00am in the upstairs Adult Ed Room. This winter, we will be studying the book Adventurous Prayer. Books will be available in the church office for \$8. If anyone needs an alternative form of the book, we would be happy to assist. Marilyn Stelma – 616-450-6008.

Esther Circle - will be meeting Tuesday, March 7, at 9:30am in the upstairs Adult Ed Room. A warm welcome awaits you for a time of fellowship and an informal Bible study. We are studying Women and Identity. Books will be available if you do not have one. Contact Karen Diekema - 616-644-0820 - with any questions you may have.

MegaMen Bible Study - meets every Wednesday at 6:00am in the Youth Lounge. Come enjoy fellowship with other men and dig into the Word, come join us. Contact Dave Lidgard - davidlidgard@hpseagles.net or Bob Stelma - mstelmaw78@yahoo.com if you have questions.

Men's Bible Study - meet every 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 2:30pm 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.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE OR SERVE

Hand2hand - Each week we deliver food for 43 kids to Century Park Learning Center so the kids will have food to eat for the weekend. We are receiving non-expired, non-perishable food donations. Items needed are:
popcorn packets, trail mix, pudding snack packs, granola bars, fruit snacks, applesauce/fruit cups, crackers, raisins, any bagged snack, instant oatmeal, cereal, instant mac 'n cheese.

These items need to be in individual packets. Please place your donations in the box in the narthex. Thank you!

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.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Larry DeVries	82 on the 1 st	Carol Verburg	84 on the 10 th
Elaine Hart	80 on the 1 st	Bobbi VanKuiken	84 on the 16 th
Nancy Matthews	82 on the 4 th	Eloise Anderson	91 on the 17 th
Bruce Averill	80 on the 5 th	Pat Stegehuis	84 on the 18 th
Elaine Hudson	84 on the 9 th	Betty Isenga	88 on the 18 th