



FIRST REFORMED CHURCH

Grandville, Michigan

Welcome to Worship at First Reformed Church
October 1, 2023

Prelude *Largo/There is a Redeemer*

Welcome, Call to Worship, Prayer

Song of Worship *Open Up the Heavens*

*Greeting

Songs of Worship *O Come to the Altar
Agnus Dei*

Prayer of the People

Leader: Jesus said to his disciples: As the Father has sent me, so I send you." Jesus sends us out, but sometimes we wonder why something that sounds so simple, can be so difficult. We remember that Jesus also said to his followers:

Congregation: "Peace be with you, as the Father has sent me, so I send you."

Leader: And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them,

Congregation: "Receive the Holy Spirit."

Leader: The world comes to know God, the Father, by his people, being sent, living our lives through His Son, Jesus Christ as we are guided by the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: PRAISE BE TO GOD!

Song of Response *So Send I You*

Ukulele Band *He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*

Message "Send"

Scripture – John 20:19-22

Communion

Communion Song *One Bread One Body*

Offering of Our Tithes, Gifts & Prayer
Song *Amazing Grace/My Chains are Gone*

Announcements

Mission Moment

*Sending Song *This I Believe*

*Blessing

Postlude *For the Beauty of the Earth*

**All who are able, please stand*

Worship Leaders: Pastors – Jeff Watson, Melanie Kilgore, Matt Cook; Liturgists – Kathy Carpenter; Organist – Nancy Ryskamp; Chancel Choir Director – Rick Gossett; Chancel Choir Accompanist – Rhonda Talsma; Worship Leader – Ricardo Alfaro

WELCOME to First Reformed Church

We're so glad you're here! May you experience the presence of the Living God. If you are visiting, welcome! There are guest cards in the pews you can complete and put in the offering plate. Feel free to stop by our Welcome Desk near the main entrance – we'd love to connect with you! Please join us for coffee, cookies, and fellowship in the Activity Center following the service.

FOR KIDS – Kid's Worship bags and Sweet Reward papers are available as you enter the Sanctuary. Completed Sweet Reward papers can be turned in at the Welcome Desk for a sweet treat.

Mothers' Room – The "Mothers' Room" is located across from the Nursery and is a comfortable, private space to tend to the needs of infants and watch the live service.

Hearing devices are available for those who need it. Inquire at the Welcome Desk.

TODAY at First

Community Sunday – the first Sunday of every month. This is a way to connect with people in our community, especially someone you might not know. Name tags are available on the tables in the Narthex and cookies will be available after the service.

New Member Class – following the service in Pastor Jeff's office.

Sunday Kids Connect Schedule:

Nursery (birth – 3 year olds) – available during the worship service.

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

Sunday Connect (Nursery – 5th Grade) – 10:45-11:45am

- Birth – 3 year olds meet in the Nursery
- 3 year olds – PreK meet in room #113 South (downstairs)
- Kindergarten – 3rd grade meet in the downstairs assembly room
- 4th & 5th grades meet in room #113 North (downstairs)

Middle & High School Sunday Connect in the Youth Lounge from 10:45-11:30am.

Middle School Youth Group (6th-8th grades) from 4:00-5:30pm in the Youth Gym.

High School Youth Group (9th-12th grades) from 6:30-8:00pm in the Youth Gym.

THIS WEEK – Pastor Melanie Kilgore will continue with the sermon series called “**Surprise the World.**” The message will come from John 20:19-22.

NEXT WEEK is Mission Sunday. JP Sundararajan will bring the message. Join us after the service for "Muffins with Missionaries" to celebrate the important work our missionaries do and learn more about them in a new and fun way! This will be a family friendly event for all ages. Nursery will also be offered for children 5 and under.

Stewardship Update:

Offerings received September 24, 2023

Offering plate: \$ 11,374.00

Online: \$ 6,445.00

Text to Give - 616-208-4301

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Joyce Browneye	83 on the 7 th	Shirley Schuitman	81 on the 15 th
Don Scovel	84 on the 9 th	David Krombeen	82 on the 26 th
Crystal Baum	96 on the 10 th	Maria Oskam	86 on the 31 st
Arlene Jacobitz	81 on the 10 th		

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:

- **Nancy Matthews** is at The Oaks of Byron Center for rehab.
- **Hans Dulimarta** is recovering from cornea replacement surgery.
- **Don Scovel's** initial scan was inconclusive and he is being referred to a specialist..
- **Maria Oskam** is dealing with health concerns.
- **Esther Dawdy** (Jon Hull's grandma) is under the care of hospice.
- **Continued prayers for: Carol Hoffman, Alice Karsten, Maria Oskam, Joyce VanderMarkt, Randy Kehr, Helen Huizenga, Roy DeJonge, Lois Morehouse, Bob Waters, Jeremy Ross, Mary Hollen, Steve Jackman**

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

- **Jeremy Stegehuis, Jeff Shuck & Tony Shuck** (Betty Isenga's grandsons), **Ben Westrick, Ben DeRuyter** (Jack and Jackie's grandson), **AJ Frens** (Duane & Gail's grandson), **Abram Swart** (Jack & Myrt Manders grandson)

Please keep in your hearts, minds, and prayers:

Our **Family at Home members** - Eloise Anderson, Crystal Baum, Mary Lou Besteman, Dorothy Cook, Helen Dertien, Marilyn DeVree, Arlene Jacobitz, Pat Marcusse, Kay Mekkes, Bob & Lois Morehouse, Bob Verburg, Trudie Wierda, Mary Zomerlei

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 Lee Cook – 616-446-7880, or any of the other elders.

THIS WEEK

MONDAY

7:27pm Young Life

TUESDAY

9:30am Esther Circle

5:15pm Bells of Joy

WEDNESDAY

6:00am MegaMen Bible Study

9:30am Women in the Word

5:30pm Praise Team

5:30pm MidWeek Connect – Chicken Enchiladas for dinner.

6:00-7:45pm K-5 Connect

6:30-7:30pm Preschool Connect

6:30pm Chancel Choir

6:30pm Guitar Group

6:30om Book Study

THURSDAY

9:00am Zumba

THANK YOU...

...for the prayers, cards, calls and Pastor Matt's care. **Don & Lois Alderink**

...so much for all the prayers', cards, texts, calls, and visits with my recent surgery and hospitalization.

The support of our church family is greatly appreciated! **Jan Hodges**

...your cards, calls, and prayers have been deeply appreciated following my knee surgery. I am recovering nicely and hope to be worshipping with all of you soon. **Carol Hoffman**

ONGOING MINISTRIES

MegaMen Bible Study meets Wednesdays at 6:00am in the Youth Lounge. Come enjoy fellowship with other men and dig into the Word. Contact: Dave Lidgard - dlidgard@hpseagles.net or Bob Stelma - mstelmau78@yahoo.com.

Women in the Word – Wednesdays 9:30 - 11:00am in the upstairs Adult Education classroom. We will be studying the book of Philippians. Books will be available for \$8, or you can pick one up in the office. If anyone needs an alternative form of the book, we would be happy to assist. Contact: Marilyn Stelma – 616-450-6008.

The Esther Circle meets this Tuesday at 9:30am in the Adult Ed Classroom. George Werkema, founding minister of Matthews House, will talk about the tiny houses they are involved with. Also Sheri Wolenta, who manages Lydia House, will be informing us of a new women's and children's home. Our study will be postponed for this month. Contact Karen Diekema – 616-644-0820.

Men's Bible Study meets at Marge's Donut Den on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month at 2:30pm. Mark Davis and David Bast are the discussion leaders. Our topic for study is The Parables. You are encouraged to bring a friend! Contact Chuck Porte - 616-261-4402

LOOKING AHEAD

Trunk or Treat – Wednesday, October 25 from 6:30-7:30PM! Sign up to host a trunk in the Sign-Up Center. Candy donations can be placed in the bin in the Fellowship Room.

Prime Timers' Kaffee Klatsch – Thursday, October 19, at 9:30am in the Activity Center. Coffee – goodies – conversation. Watch for details.

First Grandville T-Shirts – If you ordered a First Grandville T-Shirt, your shirt is available for pick up today and next week in the Narthex. Please pay for your shirt before you take it.

Adult Sunday Connect – October 22, 29, November 5, 12, & 19. taught by Pastor Jeff in the upstairs Adult Ed Room.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE OR SERVE

Young Life Banquet for the Grand Rapids SouthWest Young Life Banquet on Monday, October 16, 2023 at South Harbor Church in Byron Center from 6:00-8:00pm. To attend this event, please complete the form at this link: <http://grswyl.org/banquet23>.

Hand2hand starts at the end of September. We will be delivering food weekly to kids at Century Park Learning Center so they will have food to eat for the weekend. We are receiving non-breakable, non-expired, non-perishable food donations. Items needed are:

mac and cheese, canned soup (kid friendly), bagged chips, breakfast bars, rice krispie treats, microwave popcorn, fruit cups, cookies, trail mix, pouch yogurt (non-refrigerated)

These items need to be in individual packets. Your financial gifts are also welcome. Please place your donations in the hand2hand box in the Narthex. Thank you!

Meal Train for the Kallemeyn's Congratulations to Zach and Rachel who had a baby boy, Matthew Harold, on September 13. If you would like to bring them a meal, sign up here: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/od1zel?>

Greeters We are looking for families, couples, or individuals to greet this Fall. There are two slots every Sunday. Sign-up at the Sign-Up Center.

Food Pantry Needs applesauce, peanut butter, jelly, canned fruit, Jello, pudding, rice, pancake mix and syrup, crackers. Please leave food in the cart located in the Activity Center.

Faith & Blue Food Drive – Saturday, October 7, 1:00-3:00pm at Wedgwood Park. The Grandville Police Department is partnering with area churches to collect food and basic needs. You can donate non-perishable food and toiletries at Wedgwood Park on October 7.

Interested in Learning More About Mission Work in Ecuador?

Priscilla Saltos, our missionary in Ecuador, is looking for volunteers from the church to help with bookkeeping needs or to assist in writing and sending newsletters. If you're interested contact Brian Clark at 616-916-6890 or Steve Watson at 616-309-6676. Priscilla will also be here on October 8 for Mission Sunday!

YOUTH MINISTRIES Contact person: Jon Hull – jon@firstgrandville.org/517-803-5686

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

Middle School Youth Group (6th-8th grades) meets Sunday's from 4:00-5:30pm in the Youth Lounge. Snacks provided.

High School Youth Group (9th-12th grades) meets Sunday's from 6:30-8:00pm in the Youth Lounge. Food provided.

Young Life (9th-12th grades) – meets Monday, October 2 at 7:27pm in the Youth Gym.

WyldLife (7th & 8th grades) – starts Tuesday, September 26 at 7:27pm in the Youth Gym.

Youth Pop Can Drive – You can drop off your empty cans in the Youth Lounge. If you would like to return cans to put money in your student's youth account for future trips, contact Jon Hull.