

Welcome to Worship at First Reformed Church
October 8, 2023
Mission Sunday

Prelude

Welcome, Call to Worship, Prayer

Missionary List

Songs of Worship

Sound of the Saints
Oh When the Saints Go Marching In

*Greeting

Prayer of Confession & Words of Assurance

Leader 1: Joining the mission of God, the church is sent with the gospel of the kingdom.

Leader 2: Lord, you invite us to know and follow Christ and to proclaim to all that in Christ there is life and grace abounding.

People: Lord, help us to embrace Your mission in our neighborhoods, in our communities, and in the world.

Leader 1: You call us to feed the hungry, bring water to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, care for the sick, and free the prisoner.

People: Forgive us for leaving this work to a few, for this mission is central to our being.

Leader 2: Send us out, Lord, to love our neighbors, and bring your kingdom to this earth.

People: May we be faithful to the calling you have given us. Amen.

Mission Moment #1

Songs of Worship

Revelation Song
How Great Thou Art

Mission Moment #2

Scripture – Acts 1:8

Message

“A Mission Mythbuster”

Offering of Our Tithes, Gifts & Prayer

Song

Sow What You'll Grow

Announcements

*Sending Song

Hear Our Praises

*Blessing

Postlude

**All who are able, please stand*

Worship Leaders: Pastors – Jeff Watson, Melanie Kilgore, Matt Cook; Guest Preacher – JP Sundararajan; Liturgists – Jane & Rowland Van Es; Youth Choir Director – Barb Nienhuis, Youth Choir Pianist – Barbara Gossett

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!

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

Today is Mission Sunday. JP Sundararajan will be giving the message.

This morning our kids/youth choir will be singing a special song titled "Sow What You'll Grow". This anthem is inspired by Galatians 6:7-10 and was composed by Barbara Boertje DeVries (our former Director of Music) several years ago. It is dedicated to Barb Nienhuis and the kids/youth choirs of our church. Many thanks to "BBDV" - we are privileged to sing this today!

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. There will be no Sunday Connect today, but all are encouraged to attend "Muffins with Missionaries." There will be kid friendly activities.

No Middle & High School Sunday Connect today. You are welcome to join the "Muffins with Missionaries" in the Activity Center.

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.

NEXT WEEK. Pastor Jeff will be starting a new sermon series on the book of James. The message will come from James 1:1-18.

Stewardship Update:

Offerings received October 1, 2023

Offering plate: \$ 8,485.00

Online: \$ 2,984.00

Communion: \$ 1,484.00

Text to Give - 616-208-4301

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH PRAYERS & CONCERNSFor prayer updates during the week, please call the **Prayer Line** – 534-0113**We extend prayers of healing & comfort for:**

- **Bob Schuitman** is recovering from knee replacement.
- **Nancy Matthews** is at The Oaks of Byron Center for rehab.
- **Hans Dulimarta** is recovering from cornea replacement surgery.
- **Don Scovel** had a procedure on October 5 to further diagnose the cyst on his pancreas.
- **Fran Rinkus** was recently hospitalized and continues to recover at Freedom Inn.
- **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**

We extend condolences to:

- **Todd Hollen & family** in the death of Todd's mom, Mary Hollen, on September 27.

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**

6:30pm Facilities Council
 7:00pm Worship Council
 7:27pm Young Life

TUESDAY

5:15pm Bells of Joy
 7:27pm WyldLife

WEDNESDAY

6:00am MegaMen Bible Study
 9:30am Women in the Word
 5:30pm Praise Team
 5:30pm MidWeek Connect – Ham dinner
 6:00-7:45pm K-5 Connect
 6:30-7:30pm Preschool Connect
 6:30pm Chancel Choir
 6:30pm Podcast Group
 6:30pm Pickleball

THURSDAY

9:00am Zumba

ONGOING MINISTRIES

MegaMen Bible Study – 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 Philipians. 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.

Esther Circle – the first Tuesday of every month at 9:30am in the Adult Education classroom. All women are welcome to meet for a time of coffee, fellowship, mission interests, and informal Bible study. Our study is “Women and Identity.” Contact Karen Diekema – 616-644-0820.

Men's Bible Study – 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 is The Parables. You are encouraged to bring a friend! Contact Chuck Porte - 616-261-4402

LOOKING AHEAD

Rake & Run – Wednesday, October 18 at 6:15pm- An opportunity to bless our neighbors living behind the church. Bring a rake and help us care for our neighbors. Questions? Contact: Pastor Melanie

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. We'll visit about what Prime Timers can be, bring ideas!

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

Adult Sunday Connect – October 22, 29, November 5, 12, & 19. Pastor Jeff will be teaching 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 is 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 to celebrate Zach and Rachel's baby boy, Matthew Harold, born on September 13. If you would like to bring them a meal, sign up here: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/od1zel?>

Greeters needed! 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.

Matthew's House Ministry is in need of laundry detergent, paper towels, and toilet paper. Leave donations in marked bins under the mailslots in the Activity Center.

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.

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. **No Connect today.**

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 9 at 7:27pm at the Lauka's house – 219 Regal Ct.

WyldLife (7th & 8th grades) – meets Tuesday, October 10 at 7:27pm at Kleinheksel's house, 3590 Apache Ct.

Youth Pop Can Drive – your empty cans can be dropped off 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.

THANK YOU...

...for all the cards and phone calls from our church members while I was recovering from my eye surgery.

Hans Dulimarta

...so much for running the Cookie Walk at Fall Fest. It was such a fun addition to the line-up. I love partnering with you all. **Theresa**

Meendering (Grandville DDA Event Coordinator)