



# FIRST REFORMED CHURCH

Grandville, Michigan

Welcome to Worship at First Reformed Church  
January 14, 2024

Prelude

Welcome

\*Song of Worship

*The Lord's Prayer*

\*Greeting

Prayer of Confession & Words of Assurance

Bob: Come to me all who labor and are heavy laden

**All: and I will give you rest.**

Bob: For God so loved the World that he gave his only begotten Son,

**All: that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.**

Bob: Jesus Christ came into this world to save us and bring us new life.

**All: We are loved, forgiven, and made whole through Jesus Christ. Thanks be to God.**

\*Songs of Worship

*Give Me Jesus*

*Just a Closer Walk with Thee*

Sermon

"What Possessions Will Never Produce"

Scripture – Ecclesiastes 2:1-11

Communion

Offering of Our Tithes, Gifts & Prayer

Chancel Choir

*Feed Us, Lord*

Announcements

\*Sending Song

*Be Thou My Vision*

\*Blessing

Postlude

*\*All who are able, please stand.*

**Worship Leaders:** Pastors – Jeff Watson, Matt Cook, Melanie Kilgore; Liturgist – Bob Stelma; Pianist – Barbara Gossett; Choir Director – Rick Gossett; Choir Accompanist & Organist – Rhonda Talsma

## 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 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.

**Mother's Room** – The "Mothers' Room" is now located and accessible off the Fellowship Room. It is a comfortable, private space to tend to the needs of infants.

**Children's Library** – The Children's Library is now located in Room 108.

## TODAY at First

Pastor Jeff will continue the sermon series: Life Lessons from Ecclesiastes. The message will come from Ecclesiastes 2:1-11. We will also be celebrating communion.

## Sunday Kids Connect Schedule:

**Nursery** (birth – 3 year olds) can be dropped off in the nursery when you arrive and picked up after the worship service.

**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 Connect** (3 years-5th Grade) 10:45-11:45am

- 3 years – PreK meet in room #113 South (downstairs)
- 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 (downstairs)

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

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

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

**NEXT WEEK** – Pastor Melanie Kilgore will continue the sermon series “Life Lessons from Ecclesiastes.” The message will come from Ecclesiastes 3:1-15.

**Stewardship Update:**

Offerings received January 7, 2024

Offering plate: \$ 6,921.00

Online: \$ 6,919.00

**Text to Give** - 616-208-4301

**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:**

- **Bob Schuitman's** knee surgery was postponed.
- **Shirley Ghysels** remains hospitalized. She is recovering from surgery for colon cancer and is awaiting biopsy results.
- **Cathy Tuinstra** has moved to American House Wyoming.
- **Bob Verburg** is under the care of hospice.
- **Don Scovel** continues with chemo.
- **Esther Dawdy** (Jon Hull's grandma) is under the care of hospice.
- **Pray for peace in Israel and Ukraine.**
- **Continued prayers for: Doug Hunderman, Jan Hodges, Casey Dutmer, Joyce VanderMarkt, Helen Huizenga, Roy DeJonge, Lois Morehouse, and Jeremy Ross.**

**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, Helen Dertien, Marilyn DeVree, Pat Marcusse, Kay Mekkes, Bob & Lois Morehouse, Kay TenHaken, Bob Verburg, Trudie Wierda, and 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 elder.

**THIS WEEK**

**MONDAY**

6:30pm Elders/Deacons Meetings

7:30pm Consistory

**TUESDAY**

5:15pm Bells of Joy

**WEDNESDAY**

6:00am MegaMen Bible Study

5:30pm Praise Team

5:30pm MidWeek Connect (Chicken Tenders)

6:00-7:00pm K – 5 MidWeek Connect

7:00-7:45pm K – 5 Kids Choir

6:30-7:30pm Preschool MidWeek Connect

6:30pm Chancel Choir

6:30-7:30pm Book Study

**THURSDAY**

9:00am Zumba

**OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE OR SERVE**

**Care and Connection** – The Care and Connection Council has identified a growing need for transportation assistance for those in our church family who are not able to drive. This includes driving them to and from church functions and to and from scheduled medical appointments. We are looking for volunteers who can provide this type of service. See Harold Ludema or Bob Stelma for further details.

**Stamps for Wycliffe** – Please continue to save your stamps for Wycliffe Associates. WA has a team that trims, sorts, and sells stamps for mission projects. Save your canceled and uncanceled stamps, as well as any stamp collections that you no longer want, to donate. There is a box under the mailboxes in the Fellowship Room for your donations. If you have questions or would like something picked up, contact Doris (616 531-8335).

**Hand2hand** – Each week we deliver food for 51 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.

**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.

## ONGOING MINISTRIES

**Esther Circle** – the first Tuesday of every month at 9:30am in the Adult Education Room. 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.

**MegaMen Bible Study** – Wednesdays at 6:00am in the Youth Lounge. Come for Bible study and fellowship. Contact: Dave Lidgard (dlidgard@hpseagles.net) or Bob Stelma (mstelmau78@yahoo.com).

**Women in the Word** – Resumes January 24. Wednesdays 9:30 – 11:00am in the Youth Lounge. We will be studying Douglas Connelly’s *Angels Standing Guard*. Books are available for \$10 and can be picked up in the office. Contact: Marilyn Stelma – 616-450-6008.

**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

**Connect with Eight Sign-Ups** – Sign-ups are open! This is a time for families, couples, and singles to connect with others in the congregation over a meal. Sign up again or for the first time. New groups will meet in February, March, and April. Contact: Ashley VanDyk (ashleysuevandyk@gmail.com) for families and Lynne Rosema (trosema@sbcglobal.net) for adults.

**Maple Tree Preschool's 2024/2025 registration is now open!** Go to Maple Tree's website for more information and to register online! There will be an Open House on Monday, February 5, 6:00-7:00 pm (limited to two adults and students interested in attending Maple Tree in 2024/2005).

**MidWeek Connect Craft Night** – Wednesday, January 24, 6:30pm. Bring your craft project to church (knit, crochet, color, scrapbook, etc.), and work on it in the company of other crafters. Contact Pastor Melanie.

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

**Middle School Youth Group** (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades) meets Sundays from 4:00-5:30pm in the Youth Lounge.

**High School Youth Group** (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades) meets Sundays from 6:30-8:00pm in the Youth Lounge.

**Young Life** (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades) – All City Club at Calvin University on January 22 at 7pm.

**WyldLife** (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades) – resumes on January 30, at 7:27pm, at church.

**High School Spring Hill Weekend** (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades) – February 2 – 4. Cost is \$200. Contact Jon to sign up.

**Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser Taco Dinner** – Wednesday, February 21, at 5:30pm.

**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, contact Jon Hull.