

Helpful information

1. **Please join us for a time of coffee and fellowship after the service.** Coffee is served in the Elevator Room.
2. **Nursery is available for children up to three years of age.** The Nursery Room can be found in the basement of the church.
3. **C.D.s are available for all sermons through the church office.**

Bad Weather Policy

A reminder that if there is a winter storm warning, blizzard warning, tornado watch or warning 1 hour before a scheduled event that event will be cancelled. If the schools have cancelled, all activities at church will be cancelled. In all other cases, check **WOODTV 8, woodtv.com, jq99.com**, or the church's website **firstzeeland.org** for information.

COUNCIL OF THE CHURCH

Elders

Bruce Sturing (18)- President

David Wierda (19)- Clerk

Howard Blacquiere (20)

Jerry Hoeksema (20)

Pastor

Pastor Tom Pettinga

Deacons

Ed Wolters (18)- Clerk

Josh Wolters (18)

Ross Harris (19)- Vice President

Bentley Kollen (20)

Bill Machiele (20)- President



To Contact us:
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Fax:616.772.2620
E-Mail: office@firstzeeland.org
Website: www.firstzeeland.org
Mailing Address: 15 South Church Street,
Zeeland, MI 49464

The Bridge Ministry Center
Telephone: 616.772.3843
Website: www.bymczeeland.org

Prayer Line: 616.395.1527 or 1.800.654.5795



Sunday, May 13, 2018

Welcome to First Church!

We believe God intends First Christian Reformed Church to be a Bible-based, Spirit-empowered church which nurtures and equips all members in order to reach out to the world and draw in our neighbors.

Join us for worship!
Morning Worship Service: 10:00 AM
Evening Worship Service: 5:30 PM



Pastor of Visitation: Rev. Bernie Mulder
Specialized Transitional Minister: Rev. Tom Pettinga

<u>Morning Service</u>	<u>Evening Service</u>
Call to Worship	Call to Worship
*Songs of Praise: <i>Be Exalted</i> <i>Better is One Day</i>	*Songs: <i>Come All You People Praise Our God</i> <i>Lord Our Lord Your Glorious Name</i>
*God's Greeting & Mutual Greeting	*God's Greeting
*Song: <i>How Deep the Father's Love</i>	Song: <i>When Peace Like a River</i>
The Law of God	Congregational Prayer
Moment for Children	Offering: World Renew
Congregational Prayer	*Song: <i>Breathe On Me Breath of God</i>
Offering: Building Fund	Scripture: John 21:15-25
*Song: <i>Holy Spirit Thou Art Welcome</i>	Message: What Is That To You?
*Scripture: Matthew 15:21-28	Prayer of Response
Message: A Mother in Distress	*Song: <i>Lead Me Guide Me</i>
Prayer of Commitment	*Benediction
*Song: <i>What a Friend We Have in Jesus</i>	*Song: <i>Lord Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing</i>
*God's Blessing as We Depart	
*Song: <i>Go My Children With My Blessing</i>	
<i>Accompanist: Kris De Koster</i>	

Welcome to First CRC, we are glad you're here!

Today we welcome **Pastor Robert Timmer**, retired CRC pastor, to lead us in both our morning and evening worship services.

Next Sunday, May 20 **Pastor Tom Pettinga** will lead us in both our morning and evening worship services.

On Sunday, May 27 our evening worship service will be a combined service at North Street CRC beginning at 5:30 PM.

Sunday

10:00 AM Morning Service
11:15 AM Sunday School
5:30 PM Evening Service

Monday

7:00 PM Properties Team

Tuesday

9:00 AM Helping Hands
6:30PM Council Meeting
(Elder & Deacon Meetings to follow)

Wednesday

5:30 PM Transition Team

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Ministry Schedule

Nursery-

Today: Marcia Hoeksema, Bentley Kollen, Ethan Kollen
May 20: Laura Taylor, Elisa Machiele, Brandon Taylor

Welcome Center-

Today: Bill & Sally Gruppen
May 20: Bruce Sturing

Offerings

This Week:

AM- Building Fund: Monies for future improvements and repairs to the church and Bridge facilities.

PM- World Renew: Joins communities around the world to renew hope, reconcile lives, and restore creation through community development, disaster response & rehabilitation and peace & justice.

Next Week:

AM- Ministry Shares: Monies to help with missionaries, training, starting new churches, denominational services, as well as synodical and fundraising expenses.

PM- Back to God Hour: Shares the gospel in communities worldwide using the radio, internet and other technologies.

Care and Prayer

Lindsay Van Den Bosch had hernia surgery on Thursday, May 10. Continue to pray for him as he recovers.

From the Bridge...

Prayers of Thanks & Praise:

- There have been a few students who have come back to the Bridge after prolonged absences: Marissa and Jonathan. We're thankful for the chance to re-connect with these students and for the positive ways that they impact others when they are here.
- A few students have recently demonstrated some positive growth with regard to their academics after struggling for much of this year: Jade, Ray, and Nathan. We're thankful that they are beginning to recognize the importance of their schooling and want to make a commitment to try harder and also help others as they are able.
- After expressing some difficulties recently, Cora has been more positive and engaged with her mentors again over the past few days.
- In the midst of a difficult situation with an ill family member, Emma has expressed that the Bridge is a place where she feels that people will listen to her and genuinely engage with her, while she struggles to find other places to express these difficult feelings.

Prayers of Need & Concern:

- Please pray for the family of our staff member **Fred** as they are mourning the unexpected loss of his son-in-law.
- A few students mentioned health concerns to pray for:
 - ◇ Chloe's grandma has been facing increasing difficulties recently and asked for prayers for her and the family as they make decisions on how to best care for her. She also has been dealing with some issues recently as a result of having difficulty sleeping.
 - ◇ Corbin's dad was able to return home from the hospital after going in with an infection.
 - ◇ Skyler's mom recently had a feeding tube put in. She has struggled with health issues for much of this year, so continue to pray for her as she faces unexpected complications and challenges.
 - ◇ Jonathan asked for prayers for a friend from church who was recently diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer.
- A number of students mentioned needing prayer surrounding some difficult social situations with friends: Silvia, Skyler, Desiree, Jordan, Nathan, Addison, Jayelynn, Destinee, Emma, Zach, and Alex. Please pray for the students engaged in conflict with one another and for those who are struggling to cope with some previously difficult situations. Please pray for wisdom & patience for each of these students as well.
- Please pray for the following students in need prayers for difficulties they are currently facing at home: Steffie, Katie, Cora, Silvia, Jade, Izzy, Chloe, Brett, Bethany, and Alexander.

Pastor Tom will be on vacation through Tuesday of this week. He will be in the office Wednesday from 8:00 AM-12:00 noon and Thursday and Friday from 9:00 AM-12:00 noon. If Pastor Tom is not in the office those days and you would like to get ahold of him, feel free to call his cell phone at 641.660.2230 or email him at tdpettinga4@gmail.com.

The **Calling Elder** for the month of May is Howard Blacquiere, his phone number is 772.9913.

Elisa will be working in the office this week Monday and Thursday. She will be working from home on Tuesday and Wednesday and can be reached at 616.298.5039.

Ed Wolters has been hired for the janitor's position, the church is looking for a part-time person with flexible hours to job share with Ed. For any facility questions call or text Ed at 616.644.7643.

At our **Congregational Meeting** on Sunday, May 6 the congregation voted to approve the slate and then one name was drawn for elder and one for deacon. All nominees were approved with a count of 87 ballots. The drawing by lot for elder resulted in the choice of Roger Brower. The drawing by lot for deacon resulted in the choice of Pearl Huizenga. They will be installed as elder and deacon on Sunday, June 3 during the morning worship service.

As a blessing from the First family, we are hosting a **Recipe and Grocery Shower** for Ross and Katelyn Harris on Monday, May 21, 2018 beginning at 7:00 PM in the church fellowship room. ALL (everyone, men, women, children...everyone!) members of the First family are invited! We will have light refreshments and a time of fellowship followed by a time of gift giving to fill the newlywed's pantry and recipe book. Feel free to write your favorite recipe(s) down and give the dry goods for that recipe, or any non-perishable food items/gift cards. If you cannot attend the shower but have a gift you'd like to give to Ross and Katelyn, there will be a grocery cart in the back of the Sanctuary for gifts on Sunday, May 20. Please let us know if you can attend by signing up on the sheet in the back of the Sanctuary, or contact Loie Brower (616.772.4868) or Elisa Machiele (616.298.5039).

CORRECTION to the Fun Night flyer in the First Focus. The dates will be Friday, June 22, Monday, July 16 and Friday, August 10.

The family of **Jerry & Bernice De Koster** would like to congratulate them on their 55th wedding anniversary. They were married here at First CRC on May 15, 1963 and have been blessed with a beautiful life together. Congratulations, Mom & Daddy!

And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. Colossians 3:14

Calendar Notes

Join us for a time of coffee and cookies after the morning service today.

Sunday School will meet from 11:15-11:45 AM today.

The **Properties Team** will meet on Monday at 7:00 PM.

Helping Hands will meet on Tuesday, March 15, beginning at 9:00 AM.

There will be a **Council Meeting** on Tuesday beginning at 6:30 PM. The Elders and Deacons will meet following the conclusion of the Council Meeting.

The **Transition Team** will meet on Wednesday at 5:30 PM.

There will be a **Prayer Meeting** next Sunday, May 20 at 4:45 PM. All are welcome!

Wednesday, May 23, the **Nifty Sixties** will provide breakfast here at church at 9:00 AM with a hymn sing afterwards. Please come and join us!

Thank You

Dennis Vanden Heuvel gives thanks to the Lord for an increase in strength after his illness of Bronchitis and other issues since February. Thanks for the prayers from our church family and also the cards and kind thoughts that he received. He is gradually improving.

Community Announcements

Parkview Adult Foster Care Home provides Christian residential care for 12 amazing adults. We offer very competitive wages, and a VERY fun and rewarding work environment!

Relief Family/Relief Houseparents: This family or couple would provide weekend relief. This would be a great opportunity for a couple who would like to make some extra money while having a lot of fun, and making a difference in the lives of the Parkview residents.

Driver: This individual(s) would work from 2:30-5pm (Mon, Tues, Fri). Please apply even if you may be able to cover only 1-2 afternoons a week. You would pick up the residents from their programs, bring them home to Parkview, and pass medications to several of the residents.

If interested, please call Parkview Home at: 616-772-4424, or e-mail Jenn at: admin@parkviewafchome.org.

The **Evergreen Chorale** will present their spring concert on Saturday, May 19 at 7:30 PM at Evergreen Commons. They will be singing a variety of music. A freewill offering will be received.

Prayer Request from Neighborhood Connections...

Please pray for a disabled women who needs housing that will accommodate her power wheel chair. Pray for her as well, as she is grieving the lost of her husband.

Prayer Request from the PIER...

The PIER has been given the opportunity to adopt a young lady and her 4 children. Caitlin is 22 years old and she has 4 children who are 4 years old and younger. She was raised in an abusive home. At the age of 9 dad hung himself in their home and mom, who was having adulterous relationships, basically left with the family to go to Florida with a lover. Caitlin has had no familial example of how to be a woman or a mom and she has looked in all the wrong areas for love. Within the last months she has come to realize her sin and her great need for Jesus! She prayed to receive Jesus as Savior and Lord and is currently being discipled by a woman in our church. Our prayer is that God would open the door to a place for Caitlin to live, to get a job, find affordable child-care, and to begin to build a life as a single mother. She will need and get support from the PIER and we are praying that God will help us to build a healthy adoption so that we will be able to apply that adoption structure to others that God brings our way. With 46% single parents in our neighborhood and the current housing epidemic that we have going on in Michigan, this will be a great test to see if the church can, in faith, stand up and be the hands and feet of Jesus. We covet your prayers, as we move forward to follow our great God who is able to do all things. We place ourselves in the impossible so that the God of the impossible can show himself to be able to do all things and prove "What is impossible for man is possible for God!"

Brief Update & Prayer Requests from Ruth Lemmen...

After I arrived in China with my work visa, the school had to do more paperwork that eventually led to applying for a residence permit for me—I was very happy when I finally got it back about 2 weeks ago and don't have to worry about visa paperwork for a few months!

Prayer Points

Enjoying: After an exhausting first month, I've had some time to enjoy living in Beijing, like visiting a couple of local parks (check out my social media for photos of this sort of thing)!

Students: I'm thankful that a couple of recent lessons engaged my students and am trying to find more interesting activities.

Core: I will deepen the relationships I already have and know which other relationships to pursue to develop the core of people I'll invest in.

Community: I will develop deeper international community in Beijing.

China: Many people (like my students) are easily left out in China's competitive society. Pray that more opportunities will be available for a variety of people and that the country's leaders consider every person, not just the best and brightest, when they make decisions.