

WORSHIP SERVICE

Join us in the worship center or online via the following link: <https://covenantchurchgrandrapids.online.church/>

Sunday, August 20, 9:30am Pastor Jeff Vanderhooft will continue the "Lectionary" series.

This week's message is titled "God's Mercy" and the texts are from Genesis 45:1-15, Psalm 133, Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 and Matthew 15: 21-28

A lectionary is a series of readings of scripture over a three-year period that can be used by individuals daily and by the church weekly. After three years the church would hear almost the entire Bible being read in church. We are going to journey through a portion of the lectionary and allow the scriptures to guide us for the next few weeks. We will be using the Sunday readings for our worship services. If you would like to learn more, you can follow along on <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/devotion/revised-common-lectionary/>

Volunteers this morning

Nursery – Brenda VanAller, Daylia Bulthuis

Little Lambs – Melanie Riek, Ainsley Vander Molen

Coffee – John & Marilyn Admiraal, Tom & Pearl Diephouse

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Please have announcements and updates in by noon on Wednesdays (info@covenant-crc.org).

Office Hours Monday, closed; Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, 8:30 – 2:30; Wednesday, 10:00 – 12:30
Starting the week of August 28, regular office hours will be Tuesday thru Friday, 8:30-2:30.

Things happening this week (August 20-26)

Sunday Worship (9:30 am)
Monday Higher Ground (7:15 pm)
Thursday Worship Team (6:30 pm)

Things Coming Up

August 27 – Church Picnic
September 8 – Bible League conference
September 12 – The Well begins
September 15 – 17 – Church campout

Birthday Blessings – August! Let's celebrate with our Covenant friends as they celebrate another year of God's faithfulness and love.

Marie Kamp	3rd	Bev Berghorst	19 th	Vivian Waite	26th
Marilyn Zuiderveen	3rd	Sue Drenth	19 th	Betty Grasman	27th
Alieda De Graaf	5th	Alyce Huizenga	22 nd	Madelon Gelder	29th
Joe Smidstra	10th	Millie Scheltema	24 th	Ruth Vander Wal	31st
Virginia Huizenga	11th				

Bible League Join us Friday September 8 for the Growing Inward-Reaching Outward conference. Best-selling author, Carol Kent's life turned upside down when their only child was sentenced for murder. Carol shares from God's Word and her family's life experience in grown an enduring faith and impacting the world for Christ. The cost is \$40 for the event and includes lunch. Please sign up at the Information Center or contact Ann Storteboom if you have any questions.

Children & Student Registration Each ministry year we need parents/guardians to complete the Children and Student Registration form for each child who will be involved in the children and student ministries at Covenant Church. The 2023-2024 Children and Student Registration Form can be found on the sign up tab of the Covenant Church center app or at this link: <https://covenant-crc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1893245> Thank you for completing this form!

Church Campout is scheduled for September 15-17 at the Conference Grounds. Reservation forms are available at the Information Center. Cost for the weekend is \$50. If you are interested in camping, please fill out the form and return with a check made out to CRCG to Amy Rottman. Questions? Talk to Amy. Hope you can join us for a weekend of camping, fun, and fellowship!



Church Picnic The church picnic will be on Sunday, August 27 at Creekside Park. We plan to eat lunch together at 11:30. Please sign up to bring a salad or dessert if you are able. Sign-ups are available at the Information Center or the Church Center App. Hot dogs, buns, condiments, and paper products will be provided.

Coffee Servers We are looking for 2-4 people who would be willing to serve coffee after church on Sunday mornings. If you would like to help or have any questions, please contact Tanya Quist (tanya.quist@covenant-crc.org)

Director of Worship position A search team consisting of David Niewiek, Becky Snippe, Don Drenth, Lori Bolt, and Joel Theule has been formed and is actively working to attract qualified candidates for the Director of Worship position. The job description can be found on our website and selecting open positions: <https://covenant-crc.org/open-positions/>. If you know of someone that would fit well at Covenant, please pass that name along to our team or have them email their resume to search@covenant-crc.org. Your prayers for God's leading are greatly appreciated as we seek to fill this important position.

Nursery Thank you to those who have signed up to help downstairs! Dates are still available. Please consider signing up and helping support these children and their families. Please sign up using this link: (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c44a9a622a4ffc07-june>) or contact Amy Rottman if you have any questions. Thank you!

FINANCIAL

Total Offering Received
August 13: \$7,861

Special Offering for August: Furniture Ministry
Total Received: \$1,047

\$6,472.00	ministry-fund
\$690.00	missions
\$619.00	furniture-ministry
\$80.00	benevolence

Weekly Offering Contributions			
	8/13/2023	Budget	O/(U)
Ministry Fund:	6,472.00	13,132.51	(6,660.51)
Missions Fund:	690.00	1,132.08	(442.08)
Budgeted Funds Subtotal	7,162.00	14,264.58	(7,102.58)

Year to Date Offering Contributions				Annual (July 1 - June 30, 2024)	
Includes monies contributed through weekly offering and Church Center	Received	Budget	O/(U)	Budget	O/(U)
Ministry Fund:	60,116.91	91,927.57	(31,810.66)	696,023.00	(635,906.09)
Missions Fund:	7,245.00	7,924.53	(679.53)	60,000.00	(52,755.00)
Budgeted Funds Subtotal	67,361.91	99,852.09	(32,490.18)	756,023.00	(688,661.09)

ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

Higher Ground – Men's Bible study - Monday evenings at 7:15 pm. Season 2 started August 7. Please contact Brad Patterson if you have any questions.

The Well – Join us at The Well this September! We will begin a new 6-week study on the book of Esther. We'll work through a Bible study based on the teaching of Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth. We will be starting Tuesday, September 12, at 9:30am. The books are \$10 each and can be paid via cash or check to Laura Geldersma. Sign up at the Information Center!

Women's Bible Study – Thursday evenings at 7:00 pm. The Women's Bible Study will be off until September.

YOUTH DISCIPLESHIP

Pastor Henry Schenkel (616) 745-0006 henry.schenkel@covenant-crc.org

Have you and your family signed up for the church picnic at Creekside Park on August 27 yet? If not, sign up today on the Covenant Church App sign up tab or at this link: <https://covenant-crc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1880793>

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FURNITURE MINISTRY

Bob Storteboom (616) 706-7854 robert.storteboom@covenant-crc.org

Can you help us with these needs?

Nightstand
Area Rugs *
Toaster *

Bed pillows
End tables *
Bookcase

Towel sets
Kitchen rugs

*indicates these items are needed the most

We also really need plastic grocery bags and small boxes. Thank you for your gifts!

HAND2HAND

Heidi Westra (616) 437-1270 heidi.westra@covenant-crc.org
Melanie Riek (616) 262-2907 melanie.riek@covenant-crc.org



As the new school year begins, we will be providing backpacks of food to our H2H kids again. We are beginning to stock our H2H shelves with food items we will be using throughout the year. Please remember when donating food to check the expiration dates on the packages. We are not allowed to use any expired food when packing the backpacks for our kids with H2H.

For the next couple of weeks, we are looking for these food items:

Individual Cereal Boxes
Microwave Popcorn

Peanut Butter Sandwich Crackers
Individual Cookie Pouches

Please place your any donations on the black H2H cart in the narthex at church by Tuesday, August 29, 2023.

Any questions? Ask Heidi Westra.

KIDS HOPE

Amy Rottman (616) 455-5120 amy.rottman@covenant-crc.org

Please be in prayer for the students and staff at Southwood Elementary School as school begins this week!



Mentors for the Kids Hope program are still needed! Please talk to Amy if this is something you could do!

STREAMS

Dave Warsen (616) 541-7286 dwarsen52@gmail.com

If you would like to help provide shelf stable food items for the food center, please see requested items below and drop off any food donations in the "Streams" boxes at the collection center in the narthex:

Low-sugar cereals
Instant Rice

Pasta
Rice or Pasta sides

Cereal Bars (Nutri-grain bars)
Applesauce or fruit cups

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Partners In Learning – Invitation to Host an International Student attending South Christian. There are a number of hosting opportunities for the 2023-2024 school year. International students come with their own spending money and health insurance. A \$800 monthly stipend is provided to host families to help offset any costs that are incurred while hosting. Please consider inviting one of these students into your home for a semester or full school year:

Alice – 9th grade from China

Joshua – 10th grade from China

Eric – 12th grade from China

If you would like more information about this opportunity, please contact Rod DeJager rod@partnersinlearning.org or call 562.243.1020.

South Christian High School Night of Worship, Sunday, August 27, 6:30 PM

As a community, let's praise God and ask His blessing on the new school year. The Madrigals will join us in worship and Pastor Chuck Swanson will speak briefly. All are welcome to join us in the SCHS Amphitheater. (7979 Kalamazoo Ave SE, Byron Center, MI 49315) Please bring a blanket or chair to sit on. Followed by refreshments.

Dorr Christian Reformed Church - Annual Labor Day Pancake Breakfast, September 4, 2023, 7:00-10:30am.

The Guatemala Mission Team will be serving pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, fresh fruit, muffins, orange juice and coffee. Take out is available. All donations will go toward the 2024 Guatemala Mission Team Trip.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Do you have a prayer request or a praise / thank you? Call your Pastoral Elder, Pastoral Care Assistant, leave a message on the church office phone at (616) 455-5120 or send an email to prayer@covenant-crc.org.

PRAISE / THANK YOU

John & Alieda De Graaf would like to thank the congregation for the cards and notes sent to celebrate Alieda's birthday and our anniversary. They were very much appreciated.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Warren De Jong does have cancer of the bladder and will be meeting with his oncologist to determine treatment. Please pray for healing and relief from the discomfort of the last surgery. (Elder: Doorn)

Hussein Hasan continues to receive tube feeding and wound care since his wounds are still infected. Please pray for comfort and for full healing. (Elder: Storteboom)

Al Vander Molen had a heart catheterization procedure Friday and it went well. He is being referred to a pulmonary doctor. Please pray that the appointment with the pulmonary doctor goes well. (Elder: Agar)

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR

Marj Alberda continues to receive hospice care in her home. Please pray for comfort and peace for Marj. Please also pray for Diane Hall, Marj's daughter, as she cares for her. (Elder: DeGood)

Tena Docter remains in hospice care at Rest Haven in Holland. Please pray for comfort for Tena and her family. (Elder: Padding)

Dan Huisman has been diagnosed with metastatic prostate cancer. He has started hormone therapy. Please pray for continued relief from the pain and that the therapy is effective. (Elder: Agar)

Virginia Huizinga is experiencing significant pain in her hips and legs. After seeing some doctors, it has been determined that there are no more treatments that can be provided to help relieve her from the pain and discomfort. Please pray for relief from the pain, comfort, and peace. (Elder: Padding)

Karrie Noble had ankle surgery and it went well. She is home and has limited driving and activity as needed. Her follow up appointment is August 21. Please pray for continued healing. (Elder: DeGood)

Randy Van Dyke continues to receive hospice care due to stomach cancer. Please pray for comfort and peace for Randy, Tricia, and the rest of the family.

Joan Van Der Weele continues to struggle with neuropathy in her feet and worsening arthritis in her knees and there is not much more that can be done at this time. Please pray for relief from the discomfort. (Elder: DeGood)

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES

Stay up to date by visiting <https://covenant-crc.org/missionsupdates/>