

Blind from Birth

John 9:1-41



DEACONS REPORT

Thanks to the congregation for the gifts received on Mar 21:

Received for General Ministries: \$4,296.00
Avg. weekly collection should be: \$6,445.00
Received for Christian Education: \$766.00
Avg. weekly collection should be: \$629.20

Community Offering:

Backpack Buddies \$546.00

Upcoming Community Offerings

TODAY: Bethany Christian Services is a global nonprofit that supports children and families with world-class social services, all designed to help families thrive. Their mission is to love God and love people. They support vulnerable kids in the United States, global families, and refugees and immigrants.

Apr 4: Resonate Global Mission – Jesse & Jari Rodriguez

Apr 11: World Renew – Growing Hope Globally

Apr 18: 70X7 Life Recovery

Apr 25: Friendship Ministries (now part of All Belong)

May 2: Mission French Africa – Paul & Charlotte Mpindi

THIS WEEK

Monday, Mar 29

9am Food Pantry

Tuesday, Mar 30

9:15am Tuesday Small Group

Wednesday, Mar 31

7pm Women’s Bible Study (online)

Thursday, Apr 1

Sacrament of Communion

7pm Maundy Thursday Service

Sunday, April 4

Easter Sunday

9:30am Worship

COMING UP

ADMIN BOARD, Apr 13

STAFF

Tom VanderPloeg (Pastor)

Barb Sanders (Pastor)

Andrew Lenhart (Worship)

Sherri DeVries (Custodian)

Liz Boerman (Admin Assistant)

TODAY: Jesus gives sight to a man who has been blind his whole life. Jesus continues to shine light into lives that have been lost in darkness.

NEXT WEEK: Lazarus.

4375 Ivanrest SW, Grandville MI 49418. 616-532-2350

www.fellowshipcrc.com



March 28, 2021

Welcome!
We are glad you are here!

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME in our service

Also available during worship

- Nursery for infants & toddlers
- “Busy Boxes” with kid’s bulletin & activities
- Puzzle & sermon notes written by Pastor Tom for students Grades 3 & up (found by weekly bulletins)

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS & SONGSHEETS are available at the sound booth

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Call to Worship

Confession of Sin and Assurance of Grace

Children's Message *(Sarah Lenhart)*

Children age 3yrs - 5th grade are invited to come forward and choose a hoop to sit in as they hear a special message.

Ministry in Music *(string ensemble)*

Prayers of the People

Scripture *John 9:1-41 (selections)*

9 ¹ *As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"*

³ *"Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴ As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."*

⁶ *After saying this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. ⁷ "Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool of Siloam" (this word means "Sent"). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.*

Message "Blind from Birth"

Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

This Is Amazing Grace

Hosanna (Praise Is Rising)

God's Parting Blessing

TODAY:

9:30am Worship

10:30am Church School

5:30pm Middle School Youth Group

6:30pm High School Youth Group

CHURCH LIFE

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Join us in person or online for a Maundy Thursday service this Thursday, April 1 at 7pm. During this service, we will partake of Communion together.

HOLY WEEK BOXES

We have several extra Holy Week devotionals and boxes for kids. If you want to have an extra for your home, or one for a child in your life, please do take one from the Welcome Center.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ASSISTANCE

Applications for the Christian Education Assistance Program and an explanation of the program are available at the Welcome Desk and also are linked in the mid-week e-mail. If you would like to receive level 1 financial assistance for the 2021-22 school year, please fill out the form and place it in the slot at the Welcome Desk by April 11. If you are considering level 2 or 3 assistance, please contact your district Deacon. Members of the Christian Ed. Committee are eager to answer questions you may have. They are **Ron Scholten, Tom Bouma, Jon Meengs** and **Bruce Morren**.

PRAYER FOCUS

Jesus, you died by violence. We are so weary, so afraid, and so oversaturated with the violence that permeates our culture.

Help us to see violence clearly: in ourselves, in our communities. Bring new energy to those who can meaningfully address the epidemic of gun violence in the United States. Give us the courage to face the truth of this unique and devastating problem, to root out its cause, and to definitively put a stop to what fuels it.

We are grieved to know that the Atlanta shooter used what he learned in church to explain his motives. We pray that we, the church, would have the courage to move forward in humility -- willing to honestly examine our theology of gender and sexuality, our investment in white supremacy, our glorification of violence which may lead to violence and suffering.

We pray, God, for those of us who are Asian Americans whose anger, fear, and oppression are so real, and so often silenced. We pray that those of us who are witnesses to this anger would have the grace to listen, to learn, and to change. We pray for Asian women, who have been sexualized, silenced, and objectified for too long. Change our ways, Lord.

We pray for the families and communities of every victim who are now immersed in grief. We pray for pastors in Atlanta, in Boulder, in every community suffering in the wake of violence -- old and new.

May we be unsatisfied with simple prayers and empathy. We pray that our urge to comfort them would include a willingness to make change, to hold leaders accountable to legislate change, to hold the church accountable to stand for change.

<https://dojustice.crcna.org/article/justice-prayers-march-24-2021>

PROJECT SHOEBOX

Today is the last day to write your note for the post high members. Thank you for showing your love and care to our post-high students in this way!

THANK YOU!

Paul and **Charlotte Mpindi** have expressed their appreciation for our ongoing support for their work with Mission French Africa Ministries through our community offering and our prayers.

BIRTHDAYS

For a list of upcoming birthdays, please see the mid-week for a link, or pick up a paper copy at the Welcome Desk.

CHURCH SCHOOL

Due to the Easter and Spring break schedule, there will be no Church School on April 4 or 11. Classes will resume meeting on April 18.

PRAYER UPDATE

Tom Smalligan is scheduled to have surgery on Thursday, April 1 to repair a torn rotator cuff muscle. Pray that surgery will go well and be successful.

OUTREACH/VOLUNTEER

LIFESKILLS

The Grandville Life Skills Program is gearing up to bring in new families from our neighborhood. If you are willing to volunteer on Tuesday evenings as a Budget Teacher, in childcare, to provide a meal, teach an 8-week class or mentor please contact **Laura VanderPloeg**.

BACKPACK BUDDIES

THANK YOU for your support for this ministry through food and the special offering last Sunday. We were able to purchase 200lbs of food this week for our pantry through Feeding America...for just **\$31**. We purchased canned chicken, tuna, tuna skillet dinners, beef ravioli, beef stew, spaghetti sauce, and Mac n Cheese to get us through 2-3 months!! Food items we frequently use have been very inexpensive for us to purchase through FA making cash donations a huge benefit right now, rather than having church members purchase the items themselves.

Food items we are need of that have not been available lately are; *single serve cereals, Nutrigrain Bars, Fruit cups (no applesauce needed currently)*, and any snacks such as *granola bars, fruit snacks, pretzels*, etc. If you wish to donate, food items can be placed in the wooden box in the narthex and cash can be donated anytime through the deacons.

LOVE INC FOOD PANTRY

We are open on Mondays from 9am-3pm. Thanks to your ongoing support of donations. We are currently in need of paper towels and laundry soap. Please continue to drop your *Family Fare receipts* into the slot at the Welcome desk - these are added up each week as we work toward our goal!