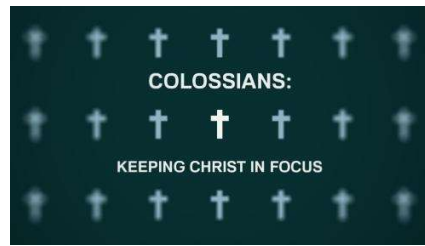


# Clearing Out Distractions

Colossians 2:6-23



## FROM THE DEACONS

Thank You to the congregation for the gifts received Oct 24-Nov 6:

Received for general ministries:	\$ 6,467.00
Received for Christian Education:	\$ 1,350.00
Community Offering:	
Starlight Ministries	\$ 25.00
Resonate-Rodriguez	\$ 500.00
70x7	\$ 20.51
Desert Streams-Lonts	\$ 500.00
Backpack Buddies	\$ 30.00
World Renew (World Hunger Sunday)	\$ 1,288.00

### Upcoming Community Offerings

#### **TODAY: ReFrame Ministries**

The vision of ReFrame Ministries is that the lives and worldviews of all people around the globe will be transformed by God's gospel message. Relying on the guidance of the Holy Spirit, they create contextual media resources that proclaim the gospel, disciple believers, and strengthen the church throughout the world in 10 major languages.

**November 20:** Desert Streams Ministries (Lont's)

**November 24:** Love Your Neighbor (Fellowship Food Pantry)

**November 27:** The Luke Society

### THIS WEEK

#### **Monday, Nov 14**

7pm Exec

#### **Tuesday, Nov 15**

9:15am Tuesday Small Group

6pm Life Skills

#### **Wednesday, Nov 16**

#### **Thursday, Nov 17**

#### **Friday, Nov 18**

#### **Saturday, Nov 19**

#### **Sunday, Nov 20**

9:30am Worship

10:30am Church School

10:45am Adult Bible Study

5pm Youth Group-Middle School

6pm Youth Group-High School

### COMING UP

#### **Nov 28** Full Council

Elders

Deacons

#### **Dec 4** Youth Group Christmas

### STAFF

Tom VanderPloeg (Pastor)

Barb Sanders (Pastor)

Andrew Lenhart (Worship)

Laura Williams (Admin Assistant)

Katherine Sneller (Custodian)

Barb Van Ryn (Youth Group)

# November 13, 2022



## Welcome!

## We are glad you are here!

### **CHILDREN ARE WELCOME in our service**

Also available during worship

- Nursery for infants & toddlers
- "Busy Bags" 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

**TODAY:** Keeping Christ in Focus – Having a faith that is focused on Christ can be complicated. The Bible tells us that sometimes religion itself can become a distraction from faith in Jesus; how can we clear out everything that distracts our faith from being focused on Christ?

**NEXT WEEK:** Keeping Christ in Focus

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

[www.fellowshipcrc.com](http://www.fellowshipcrc.com)

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### Call to Worship

*Praise to The Lord The Almighty*

*Here I Am to Worship*

*Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee*

### Prayers of the People

**Scripture** *Colossians 2:6-23*

#### Freedom from Rules and New Life in Christ

<sup>6</sup> And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. <sup>7</sup> Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.

<sup>8</sup> Don't let anyone capture you with empty philosophies and high-sounding nonsense that come from human thinking and from the spiritual powers of this world, rather than from Christ. <sup>9</sup> For in Christ lives all the fullness of God in a human body. <sup>10</sup> So you also are complete through your union with Christ, who is the head over every ruler and authority.

<sup>11</sup> When you came to Christ, you were "circumcised," but not by a physical procedure. Christ performed a spiritual circumcision—the cutting away of your sinful nature. <sup>12</sup> For you were buried with Christ when you were baptized. And with him you were raised to new life because you trusted the mighty power of God, who raised Christ from the dead.

<sup>13</sup> You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins. <sup>14</sup> He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup> In this way, he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross.

<sup>16</sup> So don't let anyone condemn you for what you eat or drink, or for not celebrating certain holy days or new moon ceremonies or Sabbaths. <sup>17</sup> For these rules are only shadows of the reality yet to come. And Christ himself is that reality. <sup>18</sup> Don't let anyone condemn you by insisting on pious self-denial or the worship of angels, saying they have had visions about these things. Their sinful minds have made them proud, <sup>19</sup> and they are not connected to Christ, the head of the body. For he holds the whole body together with its joints and ligaments, and it grows as God nourishes it.

<sup>20</sup> You have died with Christ, and he has set you free from the spiritual powers of this world. So why do you keep on following the rules of the world, such as, <sup>21</sup> "Don't handle! Don't taste! Don't touch!"? <sup>22</sup> Such rules are mere human teachings about things that deteriorate as we use them. <sup>23</sup> These rules may seem wise because they require strong devotion, pious self-denial, and severe bodily discipline. But they provide no help in conquering a person's evil desires.

**Message** "Clearing Out Distractions"

*What Can I Do*

**God's Parting Blessing**

## CHURCH LIFE

**SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY** The class time will begin around 15 minutes after the end worship and will end 45 minutes later. All are welcome to attend. Questions contact **Mike Philo** (LMPHILO@aol.com) or **Dave Cook** (dcook@calvin.edu).

**POP CANS** Youth Group's Pop Can Drive is BACK! Please drop off your cans here at church in the special boxes located in either the Fellowship room or the Youth room. Funds raised will go to off-set the cost of the Youth room renovation. The drive will run through the end of December.

**LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR** Love Your Neighbor Community Christmas Event is scheduled for Dec. 9 & 10. This year Fellowship has chosen the opportunity to help provide Stocking Stuffers and Gift Wrapping Supplies. Stocking stuffer idea cards and a donation box are on the table in the narthex. Collection begins this week and continues through November 20. If you would like to volunteer to help Love Your Neighbor on Dec 9 or 10 at Hudsonville Reformed Church, please sign up via the link in the midweek email.

**MULTIGENERATIONAL CHRISTMAS CHOIR** will sing on Sunday, December 18. Anyone middle school age or older is welcome to join. Rehearsals will be on Wednesdays 11/30, 12/7 & 12/14 at 6:15pm-7pm. Attend at least 2 rehearsals. Please let **Andrew Lenhart** know if you are planning on singing.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to **Ann Nieuwstraten** who will celebrate her birthday on November 21. We give thanks for her life and wish her God's continued blessings.

## PRAYER FOCUS

- Continue to pray for **Tom and Donna Westra** as Donna receives hospice care for an incurable cancer.
- For **ReFrame Ministries** as they reach people around the world with the gospel message and as they strengthen the church around the world.
- For the **LOVE Food Pantry** and the families that receive support through this ministry.
- Remember in prayer those who are not able to worship with us on Sundays: **Gloria DeWitte, Lois Oom, and Rachel Tjoelker.**
- Remember in prayer those healing from surgery and those who have ongoing health needs and concerns: **Valerie Fleming, Jo Hanenburg, Len and Lois Koetje.**

## TODAY

9:30am Worship

10:30am Church School

10:45am Adult Bible Study

11:30am All Church Potluck

## OUTREACH/VOLUNTEER

**FOOD PANTRY** THANK YOU to the Faith & Blue Community Food Drive, in association with the Grandville Police Department, who has filled our food pantry here at Fellowship! Because of this donation, there are no food items that are needed for the pantry at this time.

**BACKPACK BUDDIES** We are collecting for our November and December weekends.

Food needs include:

- canned pasta (ravioli, spaghetti, etc – with meat)
- beef or chicken chunky soup styles
- fruit cups
- Nutrigrain bars
- snacks – such as granola bars, fruit snacks, rice Krispie treats, pretzels
- \$25 Meijer gift cards to include with Christmas food baskets for each family so they can purchase turkey and/or other meat for their Christmas dinner.

**Thank you for your generous support of this neighborhood mission.**  
**Sandy Campo** 616-889-3134