

The Kingdom in the Mess
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43,
47-52



FROM THE DEACONS

Thank You to the congregation for the gifts received Sep 11-17:

Received for general ministries:	\$ 9,025.18
Received for Christian Education:	\$ 533.00
Community Offering: Mission French Africa	\$ 35.50
Backpack Buddies	\$ 80.51
Access	\$ 40.00
GEMS	\$ 140.00

Community Offerings

TODAY: Mission India

We are committed to spreading the Gospel in India in three ways: by reaching children, empowering adults, and planting local churches. The Good News of Jesus is at the forefront of all our programs, and Christ uses them to change people from the inside out!

Oct 1: Rehoboth Chr. Schools

Oct 8: Love Your Neighbor

Oct 15: World Renew

THIS WEEK

TODAY, Sunday, Sep 24

9:30am Worship
10:45am Church School
10:45am Adult Bible Study

Monday, Sep 25

6pm Worship Comm. Meets
7pm Elders
7pm Deacons

Tuesday, Sep 26

9:15am Small Group
12pm Faith Practices Group
Session 2 (Room 9,10)
6pm Life Skills

Wednesday, Sep 27

7pm Worship Team Rehearsal

Thursday, Sep 28

Friday, Sep 29

Saturday, Sep 30

Sunday, Oct 1

9:30am Worship
10:45am Church School
10:45am Adult Bible Study
4:30pm Youth Group-Middle School
6pm Youth Group-High School

COMING UP

- Oct 9** Exec
- Oct 11** Gathering Event
- Oct 15** Youth Group
- Oct 25** Elders
Deacons
- Oct 28** Youth Group Corn Maze

STAFF

- Tom Vanderploeg (Pastor)
- Barb Sanders (Care Ministry)
- Andrew Lenhart (Worship)
- Barb Van Ryn (Youth Ministry)
- Laura Williams (Admin Assistant)
- Katherine Sneller (Custodian)

TODAY: *Kingdom* — Jesus tells stories which portrays the kingdom of heaven existing in messy places; how do we find the kingdom in the middle of the mess?

NEXT WEEK: We might like to think of the kingdom of heaven as huge and powerful; but Jesus points to a kingdom that shows up in the smallest places.

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

www.fellowshipcrc.com

September 24, 2023



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 & 4
(found by weekly bulletins)

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS & SONGSHEETS
are available at the sound booth

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Call to Worship

*Come Thou Fount
The Reason
Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me*

Prayers of the People

Scripture *Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43, 47-52*

v. 24-30

The Parable of the Weeds

²⁴ Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵ But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. ²⁶ When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

²⁷ "The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?'

²⁸ "An enemy did this,' he replied.

"The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?'

²⁹ "No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. ³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn."

v. 36-43

The Parable of the Weeds Explained

³⁶ Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field."

³⁷ He answered, "The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸ The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.

⁴⁰ "As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. ⁴² They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.

v. 47-52

The Parable of the Net

⁴⁷ "Once again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake and caught all kinds of fish. ⁴⁸ When it was full, the fishermen pulled it up on the shore.

Then they sat down and collected the good fish in baskets, but threw the bad away. ⁴⁹ This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹ "Have you understood all these things?" Jesus asked.

"Yes," they replied.

⁵² He said to them, "Therefore every teacher of the law who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his storeroom new treasures as well as old."

Message "The Kingdom in the Mess"

The Lord Our God

God's Parting Blessing

CHURCH LIFE

ADULT BIBLE STUDY Today we will conclude our summer series. Next week, October 1, we will begin a new study on 1 Corinthians. The class is in Room 10, and it 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** (dcook0104@gmail.com).

OCTOBER GATHERING EVENT Mark your calendars for Wednesday, October 11, for the first Gathering Event of the year. We will be meeting at church at 10am to tour Guiding Light Mission. We will have the opportunity to learn about the impact that Guiding Light has on the homeless community and we will be served lunch. On the way home there will be an optional stop at Marge's Donuts for dessert for those that are interested. If you would like to come, sign up on the M&CC bulletin board or email **Diane Ronda** (dianeronda@gmail.com) to reserve a spot. ***Note:** All ages are welcome to attend The Gathering events. This year we are meeting on the 2nd WEDNESDAY of the month.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to **Randy and Cathy Kraker** who will celebrate their 52nd wedding anniversary on September 25! We give thanks for their lives and marriage. May they continue to know God's faithful presence with them.

★ Keep up to date with all the activity of the Church Renewal Lab at www.fellowshipcrc.com/crl.

PRAYER FOCUS

- Continue to pray for those with ongoing health needs and concerns: Bob Aardema, Rick Aardema, Jayne Barnhill (**Sandy Campo's** sister), Ellie Klifman, (**Sheryl Offringa's** mother), Kim Mulder (family of **Bonnie Houtstra** and **Tamie DeWitte**), **Lois Oom, Jo Postema**, Katherine Sneller, **Rachel Tjoelker**, Barb Voskuil (**Carole Dykstra's** sister), Susan (**Sharon Walcott's** daughter-in-law).
- For **Mission India** as they build churches in India through reaching children, empowering adults, and planting local churches in India.
- For the **LOVE Food Pantry** and the families that receive support through this ministry.

MISSIONS AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

FOOD PANTRY The Food Pantry is accepting donations.

Food items needed are: hamburger helper, Manwich or sloppy joe sauce, flour tortillas, taco shells, taco sauce, kidney beans, maple syrup, bags of rice, graham crackers, ritz crackers, peanut butter, jelly, hand soap, dishwashing soap, laundry detergent

Thanks for supporting the Fellowship Food Pantry!

BACKPACK BUDDIES It's a new year for our partnership with Central Elementary School in Grandville. We started with 20 returning children and we have added 15 more for a current total of 35 children.

We are collecting the following food items for weekend food bags: Snacks: granola bars, pretzels, fruit snacks etc; Fruit: applesauce and/or fruit cups; Canned chunky soups, Canned Chicken, Canned pasta, Nutrigrain bars, cash donations can be made through the deacons

Please place your donations in the wooden box in the narthex.

Thank you for your continued support! **Sandy Campo**