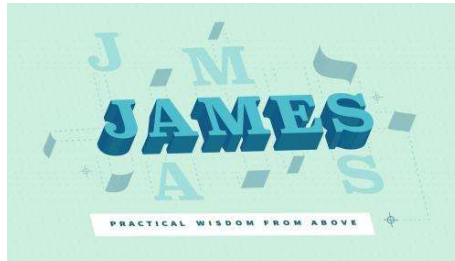


# Upward Wisdom

James 2:1-13



## FROM THE DEACONS

Thank You to the congregation for the gifts received Aug 5-25:

Received for General Ministries:	\$ 7,678.36
Received for Christian Education:	\$ 510.00
Community Offering:	DMS \$ 193.51
	Guiding Light \$ 133.51
	Backpack Buddies \$ 100.00
	Desert Streams-Lont \$ 40.00

## Community Offerings

### TODAY: World Renew

The Compelled by God's passion for justice and mercy, World Renew join communities in 30 countries around the world to renew hope, reconcile lives, and restore creation. They work to address major community development and social justice issues like illiteracy, hunger, malnutrition, unemployment, HIV/AIDS, child mortality, and injustice. They are also active in responding to disasters by clearing debris, assessing needs, training local leaders, repairing and rebuilding damaged homes, and providing and distributing emergency food, water, shelter, and other supplies. World Renew does not receive denominational ministry shares and depends on the regular financial support of God's people.

<https://worldrenew.net/>

Sep 22, 29: World Renew

Oct 6: Resonate Global Mission (Rodriguez)

## THIS WEEK

Monday, Sep 16

Tuesday, Sep 17  
6p Life Skills

Wednesday, Sep 18  
10:30am Prayer Practice Group, Rm. 10

Thursday, Sep 19  
7pm Prayer Practice Group

Friday, Sep 20

Saturday, Sep 21

Sunday, Sep 22  
9:30am Worship  
10:45am Church School  
11am Adult Education

## COMING UP

Sep 23 Elders  
Deacons

Sep 28 Youth Group Movie Night

Sep 29 Prayer Service

Oct 6 50<sup>th</sup> Celebration  
Youth Group

## STAFF

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

# September 15, 2024



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 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:** James tells us our attitudes and actions are both able to be shaped by a wisdom which looks upward to the example of Christ.  
**NEXT WEEK:** James — practical wisdom

4375 Ivanrest SW, Grandville MI 49418. 616-532-2350  
[www.fellowshipcrc.com](http://www.fellowshipcrc.com)

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### Call to Worship

*Great Things*

*Our God*

*Everlasting God*

### Commissioning

### Prayers of the People

### Scripture *James 2:1-13*

#### Favoritism Forbidden

<sup>2</sup> My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. <sup>2</sup> Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. <sup>3</sup> If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," <sup>4</sup> have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

<sup>5</sup> Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? <sup>6</sup> But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? <sup>7</sup> Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

<sup>8</sup> If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. <sup>9</sup> But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. <sup>10</sup> For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. <sup>11</sup> For he who said, "You shall not commit adultery," also said, "You shall not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.

<sup>12</sup> Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, <sup>13</sup> because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

### Message "Upward Wisdom"

*The Compassion Hymn*

### God's Parting Blessing

## CHURCH LIFE

### *21 days and counting until our 50<sup>th</sup> Celebration.*

Go to <https://bit.ly/FCRC50years> to RSVP for October 6.

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of Fellowship Christian Reformed Church is coming soon. Do you have any photos or items of interest that you have saved throughout the years? It would be special to be able to use them for our celebration. Please contact **Terry VanHaitsma** (616-901-2944), **Elaine Vlietstra** (616-617-4095) or **Carol Nyenhuis**. (616-534-3792) Thank you.

**Read the book of James along with us! A bookmark of weekly readings is available at the Welcome Center.**

**CARE DISTRICTS** The Council recently approved a reorganized system of congregational care districts. Church members can find a list of the new care districts on the board by the church office. Every member is also receiving a postcard listing the names of their care district team.

**ADULT EDUCATION** There are changes happening in the Christian Reformed Church which the Council has been discussing. You have an opportunity to learn more about these changes in the coming weeks following the worship service.

September 15 – what changes have happened in the CRC

September 22 – what these changes mean for CRC congregations

September 29 – listening circle feedback groups

**SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY** Due to all the special events at church, Adult Bible Study is cancelled from Sept 8 through Oct 6. Class will resume Oct 13.

#### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to **Mark & Marcia Behrens** who will celebrate their 29<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary today, September 15! We give thanks for their lives and their marriage. May they continue to know God's faithful presence with them. Congratulations to **Gary & Pam Meengs** who will celebrate their 52<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary on September 21! We give thanks for their lives and their marriage. May they continue to know God's faithful presence with them. Congratulations to **Tom & Elaine Vlietstra** who will celebrate their 42<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary on September 25! We give thanks for their lives and their marriage. May they continue to know God's faithful presence with them.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** Happy Birthday to **Bonnie Houtstra** who will celebrate her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on September 23. We give thanks for her life and may she know the gift of God's faithful presence with each new day.

*We thank you for your cards, prayers and words of sympathy in the recent loss of Tom's brother, Alvin. We are thankful for the time we were able to spend with his children. Thankful for safe travels as well. **Tom & Elaine Vlietstra***

★ Keep up to date with all the activity of the Church Renewal Lab at [www.fellowshipcrc.com/crl](http://www.fellowshipcrc.com/crl).

## PRAYER FOCUS

- Continue to pray for those with ongoing health needs and concerns: Rick Aardema, **Jean Cisler**, **Randy & Kathy Kraker**, **Jo Postema**, **Rachel Tjoelker**, **Rog & Mary Visser**.
- Pray for the work of **World Renew** as they address needs around the world; from disaster relief to social justice issues – renewing hope, reconciling lives, and helping to restore creation.
- For the **LOVE Food Pantry** and the families that receive support through this ministry.

## MISSIONS AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

**FOOD PANTRY** We are once again in need of a few items!

**Our Needs Are:** crackers (graham & saltine), hearty soups, strawberry jam, gravy, juice, tea, SPAM, beef stew, pop tarts , coffee, honey, laundry detergent

\*monetary donations can be made through the deacons.

**Thank you** to everyone who has donated to the pantry!

#### BACKPACK BUDDIES

We are back to school and back to packing weekend food bags for the kids at Central Elementary.

Here are some items that we are collecting for September and October.

Canned Chicken

Canned Pasta

Chunky soups

Fruit Cups

Nutrigrain bars

\*monetary donations can be given through the deacons and will be used to purchase food items through Feeding America West Michigan and at local grocery stores.

Thank you for your support of this ministry. If you missed my Ministry Highlights at church on Aug 11th, please feel free to send me a note or call with any questions you may have. **Sandy Campo** (616)889-3134

#### TODAY

9:30am Worship

10:45am Church School

11am Adult Education

4:30pm Youth Group-9<sup>th</sup> Grade

6pm Youth Group-11/12<sup>th</sup> Grade