

Sabbath - rest  
Matthew 11:28-12:8



**FROM THE DEACONS**

Thank You to the congregation for the gifts received Dec 23-29:

Received for General Ministries:	\$ 8,231.08
Received for Christian Education:	\$ 405.00
Community Offering:	DMS \$ 400.00
	Desert Streams-Lont's \$ 100.00
	Love Your Neighbor \$ 55.51
	Benevolence \$ 25.00

**From the Treasurer:**

**Year to Date Receipts:** \$251,128.76 **Year to Date Expenses:** \$ 264,303.92  
(through 11/30/2024)

**Community Offerings**

**TODAY: Denominational Ministry Shares**

The Christian Reformed Church uses ministry shares to fund a variety of ministry programs that start new churches, train servant leaders, support chaplains, resource congregations, and reach out to our neighbors through media and evangelism.

<https://www.crcna.org/MinistryShares>

When you give to the ministry shares program you help spread the Gospel around the world. You also support churches within the denomination that need help or are looking to grow their ministry.

Some of the Ministries that receive shares are: Thrive (formerly Congregational Ministries), Resonate Global Mission, ReFrame Ministries, Calvin University, and Calvin Theological Seminary.

**Jan 19, 26:** Guiding Light  
**Feb 2:** Mission French Africa *Mpindi's*

**THIS WEEK**

**Monday, Jan 13**  
7pm Exec

**Tuesday, Jan 14**  
6pm Life Skills

**Wednesday, Jan 15**

**Thursday, Jan 16**

**Friday, Jan 17**

**Saturday, Jan 18**

**Sunday, Jan 19**  
9:30am Worship  
*After Worship* Budget Vote  
10:45am Church School  
11 am Adult Bible Study

**COMING UP**

**Jan 27** Elders  
Deacons

**Feb 2** Youth Group

**Feb 10** Exec

**Jan 16** Youth Group

**Feb 19** Blood Drive

**STAFF**

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

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

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

January 12, 2025



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:** Jesus frames the sabbath as a time in which our God-centered focus brings renewal and restoration. Sabbath rest is part of what forms us to be more complete disciples of Jesus.

**NEXT WEEK:** Pastor Ben DeBoer preaching

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

### Call to Worship

*Fill This Place*  
*Everlasting God*  
*Battle Belongs*

### Prayers of the People

### Scripture *Matthew 11:28-12:8*

<sup>28</sup>“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

### Jesus Is Lord of the Sabbath

<sup>12</sup>At that time Jesus went through the grainfields on the Sabbath. His disciples were hungry and began to pick some heads of grain and eat them. <sup>2</sup>When the Pharisees saw this, they said to him, “Look! Your disciples are doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath.”

<sup>3</sup>He answered, “Haven’t you read what David did when he and his companions were hungry? <sup>4</sup>He entered the house of God, and he and his companions ate the consecrated bread—which was not lawful for them to do, but only for the priests. <sup>5</sup>Or haven’t you read in the Law that the priests on Sabbath duty in the temple desecrate the Sabbath and yet are innocent? <sup>6</sup>I tell you that something greater than the temple is here. <sup>7</sup>If you had known what these words mean, ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice,’ you would not have condemned the innocent. <sup>8</sup>For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.”

### Message “Sabbath – rest”

*Lord I Need You*

### God’s Parting Blessing

#### TODAY

9:30am Worship  
*After Worship* Budget Q&A Meeting  
10:45am Church School  
11am Adult Bible study

## CHURCH LIFE

### Upcoming dates for the proposed 2025 budget:

TODAY — Q&A meeting after service  
January 19 — congregational vote  
\*absentee ballots are available online through the link in the midweek and at the information center; they will be accepted until the congregational vote on January 19.

**ELDER/DEACON NOMINATIONS** We are requesting nominations for the office of Elder and Deacon for terms beginning in May 2025. **Nomination forms are available at the information desk, as well as electronically, through the links in the Midweek.** Continuing Elders and Deacons are not eligible for nomination. Please place completed nomination forms in the appropriate slot at the information desk, fill out the online form, or email nominations to **Dave Cook** at [dcook0104@gmail.com](mailto:dcook0104@gmail.com). **Please submit your nominations by TODAY, January 12.**

**SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY** The class is in Room 10, and it will begin around 15 minutes after the end of worship and will end 45 minutes later. All are welcome to attend. Questions? Contact **Mike Philo** ([LMPHILO@aol.com](mailto:LMPHILO@aol.com)) or **Dave Cook** ([dcook0104@gmail.com](mailto:dcook0104@gmail.com)).

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** Happy Birthday to **Jean Cisler** who will celebrate her birthday on January 18. We give thanks for her life and may she know the gift of God’s faithful presence with each new day.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** Happy Birthday to **Ann Aardema** who will celebrate her birthday on January 24. We give thanks for her life and may she know the gift of God’s faithful presence with each new day.

**PRAYER EMAIL UPDATE** As **Pastor Barb Sanders** has retired as of December 31, 2024, plans are being made for the prayer email as she has been the main contact person for prayer email requests. Following is an overview of adjustments in this time of transition regarding the prayer email ministry.

- An item in the elder mandate is to "develop an effective support ministry of prayer." In this transition time, a team of elder prayer email coordinators is being created to encourage the ministry of prayer. The prayer email coordinators are elders **Mary Bouma** and **Mary Wood-Agents**.
- As we continue to encourage the ministry of prayer, one is encouraged to contact a member of your district care team if you have a prayer request you would like communicated to the congregation.
- Care team members will also reach out to you when they learn of a need and ask if you would like a prayer email sent.
- Current plans are to continue to send prayer emails on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.
- When there is an urgent prayer request, it will be sent as soon as possible.

As with any new process, there will be new learnings along the way. Thank you for your participation in the ministry of prayer. “And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.” Ephesians 6:18.

In Christ, **The Elders of Fellowship Church**

## PRAYER FOCUS

- We extend our sympathy and prayers to **Dan and Barb Sanders**. Their brother-in-law, Paul Sausser, passed away on January 8. May this family know Christ’s comfort, peace, and presence with them.
- Pray for **Gary and Sue Roode**. Gary fell last a few days ago and fractured his back. He is currently hospitalized and has a back brace. Pray for the medical team as they help provide care for Gary, and that Gary & Sue will know God’s presence with them during this time.
- Pray for **Steve and Linda Westra** who are working with a 26 member DRS (Disaster Response Services) team in Sarasota, Florida, January 2-24. Pray for safety for team members as they work; and that they will stay healthy. Pray also for the people they work with in Florida. Pray that the clients will experience Christ’s compassion and care through the presence and work of this team.
- **Linda Philo** had hip replacement surgery last week. Give thanks that surgery went well. Continue to pray for a good recovery process.
- Continue to pray for **Jerry and Diane Ronda** and their family. Jerry had surgery on December 12 for bladder cancer and continues to be in the hospital. Give thanks for healing of the leakage in the small intestine. Pray for continued healing, and that God will bless Jerry and Diane with patience during this long hospital stay.
- Pray for the work of **Denominational Ministries** and the many facets of the Christian Reformed Church that they support. Pray for the missionaries, pastors, chaplains, and congregations who are supported through their work. Pray for Thrive, Resonate Global Mission, ReFrame Ministries, Calvin University, and Calvin Theological Seminary; all who receive ministry shares.
- Continue to pray for those with ongoing health needs and concerns: Rick Aardema, **Jean Cisler**, **Randy & Cathy Kraker**, **Rog & Mary Visser**.
- For the **LOVE Food Pantry** and the families that receive support through this ministry.

## MISSIONS AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

### BACKPACK BUDDIES

Thank you for remembering the Backpack Buddies in your prayers and year end giving!!

Thank you also to the youth group for choosing BPB as the recipient of their Christmas collection project.

January/February food items needed for the 30 children in the program include:

- Canned Chicken
- Canned Chunky Soups
- Fruit Cups, applesauce cups
- Oatmeal (boxes of individual envelopes)

**Thank you for your support of this ministry.**  
**Sandy Campo (616)889-3134**