

NEWS

YOU CAN USE

 **Rochester**
Christian Reformed Church
We Welcome In, Build Up, and Reach Out

April 11, 2024



Worship Service

Sunday at 9:30 AM
"The Journey to Emmaus"
Luke 24:13-35
Pastor Anthony Selvaggio

Let's Study 1 John Together

Please consider committing to an intensive five-week adult Sunday School study of 1 John **beginning on April 21** and concluding on May 19. We will cover one of 1 John's five chapters each week. The class will meet in the lounge during the Sunday school period (11:15 - 12:00 PM). You can start now by making 1 John part of your daily devotional reading plan! Pastor Anthony will lead the first session on 4/21 with the subsequent sessions being led by a team of others.

All members of our teaching team will be using the same resources to prepare for the sessions in an effort to maintain consistency throughout the sessions. If you are interested in preparation beyond reading 1 John regularly, the primary resource, "1-3 John, A 12-week Study", is available for purchase at [Westminster Books' website](#).

Sunday School Class

What is the Covenant for Officebearers? How does it impact our denomination, congregation, and leaders? On **April 14 at 11:15 AM**, Pastor Anthony will teach a class on the Covenant for Officebearers in the sanctuary. This class will be recorded.

School #33 Collections

There's still time to bring in your mugs and some treats for teachers!

Children's Ministries

Children & Worship and Children's Church are still in need of volunteers this spring. **Please help!**

Koinonia Dinner

Join us for bacon-wrapped meatloaf on **Wed., April 17 at 6 PM**. Please sign up in the Narthex or contact the church office. Suggested donation: \$5/person, \$20 family of 4 or more.



Jiae's Preview Organ Recital

Our organist, Jiae Kwak, is preparing for her Eastman recital in early May and is offering a preview recital for her church family **at Rochester CRC on Friday, April 26 at 7 PM**. This recital will provide us with an opportunity to listen to beautiful music and provide Jiae with an opportunity to practice in front of an audience. The recital is free, but there will be an opportunity to make a free will offering toward Jiae's educational expenses.



Mark Your Calendars

- May 15:** Cadets & GEMS Fundraiser
- June 1:** Women's Retreat (Sign up in the narthex!)
- June 2:** Last Day of Sunday School
- June 9:** Worship time changes to 10 AM
- June 9:** Church Picnic after worship
- July 22 - Aug. 2:** [Summer's Best Two Weeks](#)
- Aug. 12 - 15:** [Kids' Camp](#)

Pastor Anthony's Schedule April 18-May 5

Pastor Anthony currently serves as a member of the Council of Delegates and as a guest to the Calvin University board. Pastor Anthony will be travelling on April 30th to Grand Rapids, MI to attend the Council of Delegates meetings which begin on Wednesday, May 1 and conclude on Friday, May 3. Pastor Anthony is planning to return to Rochester late Friday evening. He will be preaching on Sunday, May 5.

From April 18-30, Pastor Anthony will also be attending a series of virtual committee meetings and reviewing documents related to his service to both the Council of Delegates and Calvin University. He will not be preaching on Sunday, April 28 due to these other denominational responsibilities.

One Day Volunteer Opportunity!

School #33 is looking for people who love kids to help out with their field day—either working with the kids directly, or assisting with the cooking. This is an easy way to help out the school for a half day, or even a few hours. The field days are Thursday, June 20 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and Friday, June 21 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. All volunteer names must be submitted to Mary Steensma by May 10. You can contact Mary by email: mxs45@mac.com.

Sunday Volunteers

Nursery

Peg Chambery
Josh Collins

Ushers

Jan Huussen
Brook Chambery

Children and Worship

Any Volunteers???

Children's Church

Reba Veenje

Coffee Service & Cleanup

Dave & Jackie Fenton
Lisa & Jay Falvo

Worship Coordinator

Council appointed a Search Team to find a new Worship Coordinator. Members include Kathrine Page, Elder Sue Frelier, Council Clerk Amy Cline, and Council President Gary Harris, who will chair the committee. Please reach out to any of our Search Team members to give input or let us know of your interest in the position.

Men's Softball Team

Play softball with some Rochester CRC men on Monday evenings. The season begins in May, and practices will begin in April. Contact [Jeff Kuryla](#) for more information.

Music Opportunity

Come see Aaron Tan's 2nd Doctoral Organ Recital, "Northern Masters Past and Present," on **Tuesday, April 16 at 7:30 PM** at Christ Church (141 East Avenue).

ROCHESTER HYMN FESTIVAL

Sunday, April 28, 4 pm

Church of St. Luke & St. Simon Cyrene
17 S Fitzhugh St, Rochester

A special opportunity to sing favorite hymns
alongside hundreds of voices led by choirs and
organists from six Rochester churches.

- Incarnate Word Lutheran -
 - Rochester Christian Reformed -
 - St. Luke & St. Simon Cyrene (Episcopal) -
 - Church of the Ascension (Episcopal) -
 - St. Thomas More Catholic -
 - St. Alban's Catholic -
- with Jeff Harp, narrator

FREE ADMISSION. ALL ARE WELCOME!

Rochester Ridgemen Informational Meeting

The Rochester Ridgemen Baseball Team is a ministry effort of Athletes in Rochester, <https://goridgemen.com>. Potential 2024 host families, previous host families, and supporters of the Rochester Ridgemen are invited to an informational meeting on **Sunday, April 28 at 4:00 PM** at Browncroft Community Church. For more information about hosting or the ministry itself contact [Reba](#) or [Danny Veenje](#).

That the City Might See Jesus

Flower City Work Camp has been serving the Rochester area for 39 years. That's a testament to the blessings God has on this work ministry. The motto for FCWC is, "That the city might see Jesus."

But how can that be? Is Jesus really going to come to Rochester during work camp? Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John all record Jesus appearing to Mary Magdalene in the garden at the tomb. Jesus was also seen by the two men on the road to Emmaus, by his Apostles, as well as by the 500 people as mentioned in 1 Corinthians 15:6. All in all, he showed himself for 40 days before ascending into heaven to be at the right hand of the Father.

What about today? Are there going to be sightings of Jesus around the worksites? There have been many sightings of Elvis Presley since his death over the years, but really no sightings of Jesus that I'm aware of.

But that is okay, for Jesus is present in his Saints by the indwelling Holy Spirit given to all believers who accept Christ into their lives. The Holy Spirit enables us to serve one another as Jesus served during his ministry. It is this helper, counselor, who enabled the apostles on the day of Pentecost. We are God's ambassadors, his fellow workers (2 Corinthians 5:20, 6:1). We are equipped to do the work of God, just as the twelve disciples and the seventy-two were equipped when they were sent out (Matthew 10, Luke 9, Luke 10).

Jesus spoke about his service (Matthew 20:28, Mark 10:45, 1 Corinthians 15:58, John 13). He healed the sick, the blind, the infirm. He cast out demons, brought some back to life, and washed his disciples' feet as a humble act of servitude. We are told that we cannot have faith without works (James 2:14-20). If we are one with him, then we should have a desire to serve and to help others. It is Christ who shines through us as we serve those who are in need.

In her Flower City report, Anna Rose spoke of a homeowner who did not have a closet or a door to her bedroom. I have seen homes that have had double doors into the bedroom and homes with large walk-in closets. This woman had nothing. The love of Christ enabled the work crew to give this woman a closet and a door.

A few work camps back, there was a homeowner who was mostly blind. He lived in his home with the shades pulled down and the deadbolts locked. The neighborhood kids used to break in and steal from him, knowing that he was blind. An aide came in to help him with chores. The worksite leaders noticed that he had only a mattress on the floor on which to sleep. City Mattress graciously donated a box spring and a mattress. One of the leaders bought a bedframe; and Darleen and I went out and bought pillows, sheets, bedspread and a bed skirt (Darleen's touch)! No FCWC funds were used.

On the last day, as we were saying our goodbyes, we asked the homeowner to sit down. Thinking he was going to sit on the floor mattress, he was quite astonished when his hand and bottom touched the bed. For the first time in years, this blind man no longer had to sleep on the floor. He was blind, but saw the love of Jesus through Christ's fellow workers. The city did indeed see Jesus.

Ray Croucher