

COMMENTS & PRAYER REQUESTS

Please indicate the degree of confidentiality you desire:

- ☐ For the Pastor only
- ☐ For the Prayer Team members
- ☐ May be shared with the congregation
- ☐ Please have someone contact me

CONNECT

- ☐ I’m interested in joining a Life Group
- ☐ I’m interested in membership
- ☐ I’m interested in baptism / profession of faith
- ☐ I need to update my contact info (use reverse side)
- ☐ Sign me up for RRC email
- ☐ Other:

This week’s poll (just for fun)

- ☐ Mac
- ☐ PC
- ☐ Other

Last week’s winner: Beach

NOTES FOR THE FRONT OFFICE

(doodles accepted)

SERMON STUDY GUIDE

Questions for family/small group discussions

Isaiah 7:14; 60:1-3; 9:1-6 – *God With Us in the Darkness*

1.

When you consider texts such as Genesis 1:2, Revelation 22:5, and Ephesians 6:12, what do we learn about the world in which we live and where we are going? How much does this cosmic clash between darkness and light work on you and how does it do so?
2.

When you read Isaiah 7:14 and Matthew 1:22-33, what does God’s grand and stunning invasion into the darkness through a baby say about God and how he works? What does it say about how you should work to bring light into the darkness—with your marriage, kids, or at school or your workplace?

We see that God provides the way to hope, joy and peace in the midst of the despair, sadness and chaos through two essential steps:

1. See and _____ the _____

- a.

What do Isaiah 8:21 and Jeremiah 17:9 say about the danger of sin and what it does to us? How have you seen this kind of blindness in your heart and life? What does this blindness say about how desperate we are without an intervention?
- b.

In what part of your life are you saying, “Don’t look at me, God”? Or what are areas of your heart and life where you would hate for the light to be turned on? Ask a friend, family member, or spouse to help you see and name some sin or darkness in your heart and life.
- c.

What does Psalm 32 say about what happens or should happen when you keep sin under the covers of darkness? What does Psalm 32 say about the results of confessing to God? Ask God to reveal sin to you and take time to confess, repent, and give thanks for the joy of forgiveness.

2. Arise and _____!

- a.

What does Isaiah 60:1-2 reveal about our condition apart from God and what is our only hope? How is that hope ultimately fulfilled?
- b.

What do Isaiah 6:1-3 and Matthew 5:14-16 reveal about what is to be our response to receiving “...the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ” (2 Cor. 4:4-6)?
- c.

How is the world different because you have been born and born again? How is your marriage, home, workplace, community, school, and church different because you have shined with the light and presence of Jesus? What step could you take this week to shine with the presence and beauty of Jesus in one of these places?



Sunday, December 15, 2019 - 3rd Sunday of Advent

WORSHIP SERVICE @ 10:00 a.m.

Prelude

Born to Die

Call to Worship

Hark the Herald Angels Sing
O Come O Come Emmanuel
Joy Has Dawned
Angels We Have Heard on High
*** Kids are invited to KidLife*

Offering

We Have a Savior

Prayer & Message

“God With Us in the Darkness”
Isaiah 7:14; 60:1-3; 9:1-6 (572, 619, 573)
Rev. Tim Meendering

Response

Made Alive

SUNDAY SCHOOL @ 11:15

Takes place directly after the worship service and goes until 12:15.

• **Adults** - Fireside Room 253 - “Digging Deeper” sermon discussion.
This week’s leader: Meg DeVries

• **High School** - Room 246

• **Middle School** - Youth Room 153

• **KidLife (thru 5th grade)** - Fellowship Hall 100 check-in

Blood pressure screening available after service in Room 211.

** If you have children, they are welcome to remain with you throughout the service, or you can choose from different options:

- KidLife Worship** (3 years - 3rd grade) - Check-in desk is in the Fellowship Hall, Room 100 (directly below the sanctuary). Kids may start service there, or go after our opening music in the sanctuary.
- KidLife Nursery** (0-3 years) - Room 241 (upper level of gym).
- Parent-Infant Room** - available near the back of the sanctuary for fussy children and nursing mothers.
- Children’s bulletins** and crayons are available near the lobby stairs.

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Sermons available online at RockfordRC.org/sermons-2

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Dec. 15	Dec. 16	Dec. 17	Dec. 18	Dec. 19	Dec. 20	Dec. 21
worship sunday school high school youth group 6:30-8pm		men's prayer breakfast 7-8am, fellowship hall women's bible study 9:30-11am, room 212 nehemiah	family dinner 6pm kidlife club Christmas program 6:45pm middle school yg 6:30pm		REAL men 7am @ arnie's restaurant rockford Christmas celebration 7-9pm	Live Nativity & Petting Zoo in Downtown Rockford
Dec. 22	Dec. 23	Dec. 24	Dec. 25	Dec. 26	Dec. 27	Dec. 28
worship	Note: The Men's Prayer Breakfast and the Women's Tuesday Bible Study will not meet on December 24 or 31.	candlelight services 4pm & 6pm	Merry Christmas!			
Dec. 29	Dec. 30	Dec. 31	Jan. 1	Jan. 2	Jan. 3	Jan. 4
worship			Happy New Year!			

More information on these activities can be found in our weekly **eBeacon** (printouts are available in the lobby and the back of the sanctuary). If you haven't singed up to receive this weekly email, contact the front office at connect@rockfordrc.org and ask to be put on the list.

QUICK INFO

Rockford Reformed Church
4890 11 Mile Road NE, Rockford, MI 49341
616-866-2308 • Office Hours: Mon-Thur 9am–2:30pm
RockfordRC.org • connect@rockfordrc.org

Online bulletin & sign-in: rockfordrc.org/sunday
Online giving: link is on our home page - rockfordrc.org
KidLife email check-in: rrc.check.in@gmail.com

Last week's attendance: 248
Last week's offering: \$11,142

ONLINE
BULLETIN



ONLINE
GIVING



KIDLIFE CLUB CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Wednesday, December 18, 6pm.
Everyone is invited to our annual KidLife Club Christmas Celebration! Christmas dinner in the gym at 6pm, program in the sanctuary at 6:45.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES

Tuesday, December 24, 4 & 6pm.
Childcare available for kids Kindergarten and under (in the nursery). Hot Chocolate Bar in between services!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING RESULTS

All ballot items were passed. We welcome to consistory Kevin Johnson, Stephanie Bergman, Eric Ringnalda, Dan Jenema, and James VandenHeuvel. They will be ordained and installed on January 5 at the 10am service. Thank you to outgoing members Meg DeVries, Dan Uthoff, Perry Pastula, Fred Bazen, and Amanda Gerhardt.

DISCOVERY CLASS

Sunday, January 12 & 19, 5-7pm.
If you are thinking about membership with Rockford Reformed Church, or if you just want to learn more about us, this class is for you! Attending class in no way obligates you to join. Dinner will be provided. Childcare available if needed. Registration required. Please contact the office (connect@rockfordrc.org, 616-866-2308) if you would like to participate.

ORGANIC OUTREACH WORKSHOP

Saturday, February 1, 9am-4pm at RRC.
Come join other Christ-followers from other local churches at the Organic Outreach for Ordinary People Workshop. Together, we'll join hearts and minds for a day of inspiration, fun, collaboration and practical insights. Learn more and register at rockfordrc.org/organic-outreach.

CONNECTION CARD



FOLD and **TEAR** at perforation. Place in the offering plate or in a connection card drop box located at each sanctuary exit.

HELLO!

We're glad you could join us today! Please sign in and let us know who is here (even if they are somewhere else in the building).

Just checking in! Name(s):

NEW?

First of all, welcome! Please tell us a little more about yourself, and make sure to get a welcome bag from the lobby before you leave today. If you need a little added encouragement to leave your information with us, here you go: for every first-time sign-in (with contact info), we donate \$5 to North Kent Connect! Also, the more we know, the better we can help get you connected.

Name:

Address:

His Phone:

Her Phone:

His Email:

Her Email:

Age group: ☐ teens ☐ 20s ☐ 30s ☐ 40s ☐ 50s ☐ 60+

Kids at home (name, birthdate, grade, m/f)

What brings you here today?