

ACCEPTANCE  
+  
GRACE  
+  
WISDOM  
+  
LOVE

STUFF TO KNOW...  
**kids & youth**  
MINISTRIES

# Where does my kid go?

LL=Lower Level Rooms; UL=Upper Level Rooms

### Primary Grade Sunday School

PreK to Kinder LL Room 112  
1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> LL Room 101  
3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> LL Room 105

### Mid-Grade Sunday School

5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> UL Room 201  
7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> LL Room 109

### High School Sunday School

9<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> LL Room 107

PARENT-TEACHER  
MEET & GREET  
OPEN HOUSE

TODAY!

go to your child's classroom - 10:35-10:50AM

**Dates to Know**

**TODAY, September 9**  
 During Worship Children & Worship STARTS  
 10:35–10:50AM Sunday School Open House  
 10:45–11:30AM Sunday School STARTS  
 5:30–7:00PM Meet Ben. Eat Smores. (MSYG)\*  
 @ 700 Lincoln Ave SE–Pastors' Backyard  
 6:30–8:30PM Hi. School Youth Group STARTS (HSGY)

**Wednesday, September 12**  
 5:30 – 6:15PM Family Meal Night  
 6:15 – 7:30PM Fuel For Faith STARTS (F3)  
 6:15 – 7:30PM Mid-Grade Youth Group (MCGY) STARTS

At ARC children are invited to fully participate in worship, and all ages and stages are welcome in the service.

These ministries are also available to families during worship:

**Worship Bags** Year Round  
All Children pick up & drop off by elevator

**Nursery** Year Round  
Birth–3YO Upper Level: #203 9:15–10:45 AM\*

\*Sept. 9 hours extend to 11:30AM for parents/guardians who teach or attend an adult class.

**Children & Worship** Sept. 9 – May 5  
3YO–1st Grade after children's message\*

\*Leaders take children to their Sunday school room after C&W music time. They may be picked up @ 11:30AM from their Sunday school room. Children may also be picked up earlier when C&W music time ends @ 10:50AM (LL Room 111).

## Participating in Worship

The Congregation Serving the Lord in Worship  
 Sharon Bartlett Organist  
 Jacob Gabel, Elizabeth Kensak, Katie Kensak, Praise Team  
 Wanda Korthals, Teresa Sampson, Angela Kroeze Visser  
 Pastors Mike & Elizabeth Hardeman Leading in Worship

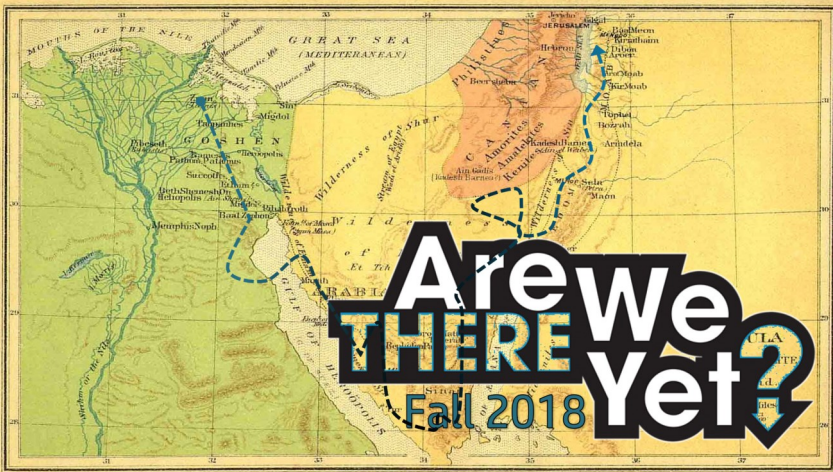
### ◆ BUILDING & OFFICE HOURS DURING PROGRAMMING YEAR

Unless otherwise noted, regular building and office hours from the second week in September through the second week in May are as posted below. The church office and building are closed for regularly observed holidays.

DAY	BUILDING HOURS	OFFICE HOURS
Sunday	7:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Closed
Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday	8:30 AM - 5:00 PM*	8:30 AM - 12:00 PM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
*From 3:00 - 5:00 PM only upper level door is open		
Wednesday	8:30 AM - 8:00 PM	8:30 AM - 12:00 PM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Friday	8:30 AM - 5:00 PM**	8:30 AM - 12:00 PM Closed Friday Afternoon
**From 12:00 - 5:00 PM only upper level door is open		
Saturday	Closed	Closed



Sixteenth Sunday  
after Pentecost  
September 9, 2018



Are we  
THERE  
Yet?  
Fall 2018



**american**  
REFORMED CHURCH

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TRANSFORMED BY JESUS TO TRANSFORM THE WORLD

ACCEPTANCE + GRACE + WISDOM + LOVE



**american**  
REFORMED CHURCH

# THE APPROACH TO GOD

*The congregation is invited to read the bold font.  
\*Indicates you may stand if you wish.*

PRELUDE "O My Soul, Be Glad and Joyful" - Bohm  
"God Gave to Us This Glorious Day" - Day Walther

CALL TO WORSHIP

\*SONG OF WORSHIP "All Praise"

\*GOD'S GREETING

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST  
The peace of Christ be with you.  
And also with you.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God who speaks:  
**we live in a wordy world,  
a world where promises made are rarely promises kept.  
We know we are culpable, too, often failing to keep our word  
through our own forgetfulness or lack of follow through.  
All of this makes us cynical and disbelieving of promises—  
our own promises as well as the promises made by others—  
and especially so of the promises you make to us.  
Forgive us, O God, for our inability to keep our word,  
and forgive us for our disbelief that you will keep your word, too.**

*(Please use this time of silence for personal confession.)*

God who keeps on speaking:  
**empower us by your Holy Spirit to continue to hear your  
promise-making, promise-keeping voice.  
Remind us that in Jesus Christ,  
every one of your promises is a "yes." Amen.**

\*SONG OF ASSURANCE "What the Lord Has Done"

# THE WORD OF GOD

COMMISSIONING OF 2018-2019 DISCIPLESHIP LEADERS Insert

*Children ages 3–1st grade may exit out the sanctuary doors  
to meet Children & Worship leaders. Children are also welcome to  
remain in worship. Worship bags are by the elevator.*

\*SONG OF PREPARATION "Speak O Lord"

SCRIPTURE Joshua 21:43-45

SERMON "Are we there yet? Beginning with the end in mind..."

# THE RESPONSE TO GOD

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS  
*Please pass the fellowship pad found at the end of the pew.*

OFFERTORY "In Thee Lord Have I Put My Trust" - J. C. Bach

\*DOXOLOGY #809  
*Please stand and sing when the organ begins playing.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER  
**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom  
come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today  
our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who  
sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us  
from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are  
yours, now and forever. Amen.**

\*SONG OF RESPONSE #634 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"  
w. 1 & 2

\*BENEDICTION

\*SENDING SONG #634 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"  
v. 3

\*POSTLUDE "God the Father Be Our Stay" - Scheidt

*All music & lyrics used by permission - CCLI #374890*

## Who belongs at American Reformed Church?

Everyone is welcome here. **Everyone belongs.** Whether you walked in the doors for the first time or the 321<sup>st</sup> time this morning . . . you belong. There are no special requirements to be a part of this church.

Our denominational tradition does invite people to become members of a local church like American. **But this isn't a club; it's a community.** Becoming a member is simply a sign of mutual commitment between a person and the entire ARC community. If you are interested in learning more about what it means to become a member, please contact Pastor Elizabeth and Pastor Mike (elizabetharcoc@gmail.com and mikearcoc@gmail.com).

But . . . remember . . . you belong beyond membership.

# PRAYING FOR GOD'S PEOPLE

\*We offer prayers of thanksgiving that **Don Guthmiller** was able to return to his home at Landsmeer Ridge following a stay for a blockage at the Orange City Area Health System. Please continue to pray for his continuing health and strength.

\*Pray for **Fulton Breen** (husband of Betty Breen) who has moved to Happy Siesta Care Center in Remsen. Pray for Fulton as he continues to adjust to his new home. Pray for Betty, too, as she continues to support Fulton.

\*Please be in prayer for **Lisa Schwarz** who will be having surgery on Monday to address chronic back and shoulder pain.

\*Pray for military service personnel **Dwaine Tiedeman**, son-in-law of **Al & Sandy Nibbelink**, deployed to Kabul, Afghanistan.

# EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

## Monday, September 10

**10:00-11:00 AM Women's Prayer** at Prairie Ridge Care Center (Grandview Cottage 3 Dining Room) Questions? Contact Arlene Punt (707-4600).

**6:30 PM Deacons, Elders, Consistory Meetings** (Rooms 201 & 204)

## Wednesday, September 12

*Note: For Kids & Youth Ministries, see back of bulletin!*

**5:30 PM Family Meal Night Menu:**  
Hot Dogs and Taverns  
Cole Slaw and Potato Chips  
Cookies (some of Diane Kamstra's best!)  
Peanut butter and jelly sandwiches  
Milk or water

## Calling and Commissioning Litany

**Pastor:** In baptism God promises by grace alone:  
to forgive our sins,  
to adopt us into the Body of Christ, the Church,  
to send the Holy Spirit daily to renew and cleanse us,  
and to resurrect us to eternal life.

**People:** In baptism we promise to love, encourage,  
and support each other  
by modeling the gospel of God's love,  
and by journeying together  
in discipleship, prayer, and service.

**Pastor:** Whether our call is to rock babies in the nursery,  
teach an adult discipleship class,  
lead a station during F3,  
guide children during Children & Worship,  
serve as a middle school youth leader or  
pray for a senior high student,  
we are all called and equipped by the Spirit of God.

**Volunteers:** As people called and equipped by the Spirit of God,  
we remember these baptismal promises  
as we begin another program year of loving,  
encouraging, and supporting children, youth, and adults.

**Pastor:** Teachers, leaders, and all volunteers,  
will you join the journey of transformation  
that is happening in the lives of children, youth and  
adults here at ARC as you model the values  
of acceptance, grace, wisdom and love?  
Furthermore, as we face a year of transition with the  
*Flourish* building renovation project,  
will you do so with flexibility and grace,  
open and receptive to learning through the  
challenges and opportunities God provides?

**Volunteers:** We will.

**Pastor:** People of American Reformed Church,  
will you pray for and stand alongside those called  
to teach, lead, and volunteer in our discipleship minis-  
tries? Will you pray for them especially in this year of dem-  
olition and renovation, of transition and transformation, of  
chaos and mess? Will you covenant to pray that all will  
continue to embody acceptance, grace, wisdom, and love  
through the challenges and opportunities God provides?

**People:** We will.



# Adult Discipleship

## OPPORTUNITIES

FALL SESSION  
SEPTEMBER 16—OCTOBER 21, 2018  
10:45 – 11:30AM

### ◆ SURPRISED BY HOPE - Video Series

**Facilitator:** Julie Elliott

**Location:** Fireside Room (202)

Many Christians believe our future in heaven is all that really mat-  
ter. But that's not what the Bible teaches. This is a six-session small  
group DVD study, by premier Bible scholar N. T. Wright.

### ◆ BIBLE STUDY: 1 THESSALONIANS

**Facilitator:** Paul Bartlett

**Location:** Genesis Room (#204)

This letter to the Thessalonians is one of the Apostle Paul's earliest  
letters. Paul spent a short period of time in Thessalonica during his  
second mission trip.

FLEXIBLE BOOK STUDY OPTIONS  
SIGN UP AT THE WELCOME CENTER

Not always available Sunday morning? Then consider the Flexible  
Book Study Options! The facilitator of each discussion group will  
contact those who sign up to determine the best time to meet,  
number of sessions, and location. These groups are a great engage  
deeper conversations and relationships with others.

#### *ESCAPE THE COMING NIGHT*

- by David Jeremiah

**Facilitator:** Keith Hoskins

#### *RESPECTFUL LGBT CONVERSATIONS:*

*SEEKING TRUTH, GIVING LOVE, AND MODELING CHRISTIAN UNITY*

- by Harold Heie

**Facilitator:** Harold Heie

#### *THE SIN OF CERTAINTY:*

*WHY GOD DESIRES OUR TRUST MORE THAN OUR "CORRECT BELIEFS"*

- by Peter Enns

**Facilitator:** Steve Mahr

#### *STRONG & WEAK: EMBRACING A LIFE OF LOVE, RISK, & TRUE FLOURISHING*

by Andy Crouch

**Facilitator:** Kevin McMahan

Note: An ARC Adult Discipleship brochure with further details of  
each class is in each family mailbox and at the Welcome Center.