

Events for this Week

Monday, February 27

9:30-10:30 AM Young Family Nursery Play Dates

Need a change of scenery? Tired of playing with the same toys every day? Come to the ARC Nursery on Monday mornings for an informal play-time and fellowship with parents and young children. Questions? Please contact Laura Genade, Coordinator (lgenade@gmail.com)

10:00-11:00 AM Women's Prayer Group

(Prairie Ridge Care Center, Grandview Cottage Dining Room, located in the southwest part of the building.) Questions? Contact Arlene Punt at 707-4600.

1:30 PM Women's Faith Sharing (Room 201)

Contact: Lynne Grossmann (737-4202)

Wednesday, March 1

5:30-6:20 PM F3 & MSYG Family Meal Night (Fellowship Hall)

A free dinner for F3 & MSYG students and their families

****Note:** All students will be invited to stay after the meal for a brief presentation and activity led by our guest from Inspiration Hills Camp before we dismiss for the Ash Wednesday Service (*starting at 6:30 PM in the sanctuary*).

Menu: Lasagna, salad, french bread & dessert

*PB&J sandwich station will be available for those with other food preferences.

Help: Kitchen Help Needed from 4-7 PM -- Contact Pam if you can come for all or part of the time: pamboonstr@gmail.com or 712-548-7148

6:30 PM Ash Wednesday Service (Sanctuary)

All are welcome!

(*Note: Middle School students will remain after the service for Youth Sunday practice.)

Announcements

•Expressions of Thanks

"Thank you for your thoughts and prayers during Brent's medical emergency. Thank you to Pastors Mike and Elizabeth for their visits at the hospitals and when we returned home. Also, thanks to each of you for remembering us with cards, visits, phone calls, words of encouragement and food! Most of all, we thank you for your prayers. We are witnesses to the power of prayer. Praise God!"

...*Brent & Teresa Sampson and girls*

"Thank you ARC Family. I have been overwhelmed with the love sent from all of you through your prayers, visits, cards, food (Valentine Cookies) and drivers to physical therapy. May God continue to use us all in this ministry! Love you back!"

...*Betty Ferrell*

•Kitchen Help is needed from 4:00-7:00 PM on Family Meal Night, Wednesday, March 1. Please contact Pam if you can come for all or part of the time: pamboonstr@gmail.com or 712-548-7148. Thank You!!!

•ARC Members: Check your ARC mailbox for important information regarding nominations for Elder and Deacons! Please return the completed nomination form to the nomination box at the Welcome Center or the church office no later than noon on Sunday, March 12, 2017.

•Sign Up for Talk and Taste

Gather with an inter-generational dinner group of 3-4 families from ARC once a month to share a meal and conversation in each others' homes. This is a great way to get to know new people, try new dishes and spend time with the ARC family outside of worship! All ages and life stages are encouraged to join. Participants will be divided into groups and then set up their own schedules for future dinner gatherings. Sign up at the Welcome Center with Don and Mary Lou Vander Wel TODAY!

•If you enjoy cooking or baking, would you be willing to provide a meal (or part of a meal) for ARC families and members in time of loss, illness or arrival of new baby? Sign up at the Welcome Center or contact Pam Boonstra if you'd like to be added to the contact list.



•ARC has been asked to provide 54 sack lunches for the Northwestern College Band Tour, including some of our own college students, departing Saturday March 4. The congregation is invited to provide some of the items for the lunches and to assemble the lunches on *Friday, March 3 at 5:00 PM in the church kitchen*. Information on items needed, as well as sign up sheets, are available on the table in the coffee gathering area. ARC members are also invited to write a brief note of encouragement or a blessing to the band members and those traveling with them. Note cards are also provided on the same table in the coffee area.



•Coming Soon! Community Family Pool Party in Sioux Center

When: March 8th, 6-7 PM

Who: All families with children aged 0-5th grade from OC area churches. All children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

What: Open swim and family fun!
Bring your suit and towel.

Where: All Seasons Center in Sioux Center, IA

Questions? Contact Laura Jonker, arckidsmin@gmail.com

•Wee Blessings Preschool is welcoming donations to help run this non-profit preschool. Your donations allow us to keep tuition costs lower for each child wishing to attend. If you would be willing to bless our preschool in this way, please take a laminated tag from the Blessings Donation display. Please return the purchased item and the laminated tag to the donation box on or before Monday, March 13. If you have any questions or would like additional information about Wee Blessings Preschool, please feel free to contact Amanda Haverdink at [712-360-0054](tel:712-360-0054). Thank you for your generosity in supporting our community's wee blessings!

Staff

Rev. Elizabeth Brown-Hardeman, Co-Pastor

elizabetharcoc@gmail.com

Rev. Michael Hardeman, Co-Pastor

mikearcoc@gmail.com

Mary Abels, Admin. Assist.

Rosalyn De Koster, Dir. of Youth Ministries

Laura Jonker, Dir. of Children's Ministries

Rusty Marincovich, Facility Coord.

Meagan Wallinga, Media Specialist

Philip De Koster, Choir Director

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American Reformed Church is a community that gathers together to be transformed by Jesus to transform the world through acceptance, grace, wisdom, and love. As followers of Jesus Christ, we have been called by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit to *welcome, worship, know, serve, and share*.

ARC

American Reformed Church

Transfiguration Sunday
February 26, 2017



The Approach to God

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

PRELUDE "All Glory Be to God on High" Decius

CALL TO WORSHIP

*SONG OF WORSHIP "Let Us Adore"

*GOD'S GREETING

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of glory and love,
**we hear your words spoken on the mountaintop,
"This is my Son, the Beloved . . . listen to him!"
And we confess our failure to listen to him
and our tendency to conceal
rather than reveal your glory and your love.**

When we diminish your glory
by reflecting our self-centeredness,
forgive us, Lord.

When we conceal your love
because of prejudice and judgment,
forgive us, Lord.

When we obscure your mercy
through our unforgiving attitudes,
forgive us, Lord.

When we limit your compassion
with indifference to those in need,
forgive us, Lord.

Transform us, O God,
**so that we reveal your glory in and through
all we do and say. In Jesus name, we pray . . . amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS "Stronger"
Hands of Praise

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Ariella Ann Genade

*Children ages 3-1st grade are invited to attend
Children & Worship located on the lower level:
3-4 year olds — Room 103; 5-6 year olds — Room 104*

The Word of God

*SONG OF PREPARATION "Ancient Words"

SCRIPTURE Matthew 17:1-9

SERMON "The Transfiguration"

The Response to God

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

OFFERTORY "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" Choir

*DOXOLOGY p. 809

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 #311 "God Has Spoken..."
vs. 1 & 2

*BENEDICTION

*SENDING SONG #311 "God Has Spoken..."
v. 3

*POSTLUDE "From Thy Throne So High" Gluck

All music & lyrics used by permission - CCLI #374890

Participating in Worship

The Congregation Serving the Lord in Worship
Sharon Bartlett Organist
Cindy Cleveringa, Jenn Lambert, Praise Team
Teresa Sampson, Jeff Tolsma,
Tom Truesdell, Angela Kroeze Visser
Pastors Elizabeth & Mike Hardeman Leading in Worship
Rosalyn De Koster, Seminary Intern Preaching
Sanctuary Choir Offertory
Philip De Koster, Director
Mikayla Vos, Accompanist

Interested in what it means to be a member at American? Sign up for our discovery class.

If you are interested in discovering more about American Reformed Church and our denomination, The Reformed Church in America, we invite you to attend a three-week discovery class on March 19, 26 and April 2 from 10:45-11:30 AM. Adults interested in joining ARC through profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith or transfer of membership are asked to take this class before becoming a member. Please sign up by February 26 via sign-up sheet on the Welcome Center or email (elizabetharcoc@gmail.com). Please contact Elizabeth or Mike with any questions.

Praying for God's People

Hospitalized:

***April Buysman** (Orange City) recovering from surgery on her ankle.

Those receiving on-going care for cancer:

***Don Hop**

Those who are grieving:

***John & Norene Vande Weerd** in the death of John's step-sister, Bonnie Kooima, on Thursday, February 16. Please pray for Christ's comfort and peace to be with John and Noreen and their family after the loss of two siblings in a short time.

Those taking up a new residence:

***Lucille Wierda** (Royale Meadows Care Center, Sioux Center, IA)

Those scheduled for surgery:

***Don Guthmiller**, who will be undergoing extensive surgery at Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, Nebraska at the beginning of March. Don will travel to Omaha on Monday, March 6 to meet with doctors, and will follow up with surgery on Wednesday, March 8. Pray for good health and encouragement for Don in the days leading up to surgery.

We offer prayers of gratitude for a successful surgery for:

***Allie Helmink**, Northwestern College student, who underwent surgery in her hometown of Spencer on Friday, February 17. Pray for her healing and recovery.

Events for Today

♦ **10:30-10:45 AM Coffee Fellowship** (Gathering Area behind the sanctuary) Everyone is invited to stay for coffee or tea and cookies.

♦ **10:30-10:45 AM NO Hands of Praise**

♦ **10:30-10:45 AM Children & Worship Music Time** (age 3—1st grade)
Location: Room 111

♦ **10:45-11:30 AM Discipleship Classes for ALL Ages!**
Adult Discipleship Offerings include:

♦ **THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK** (through March 5)
Facilitator: Eric Elder

Location: International Room (201)

This class will be a discussion based study of the gospel of Mark, the shortest of all the four gospels that presents a vivid, vigorous, straightforward account of the public ministry of Jesus.

♦ **HELPING ALL ARC FAMILIES TO FLOURISH**

Location: Fireside Room (202)

No two families are alike and families face a wide diversity of challenges to human flourishing. The purposes of this Adult Discipleship series are: To gain a better understanding of the unique joys and challenges facing different family arrangements as revealed by personal stories told by selected ARC families. Based on such understanding, to explore ways in which ARC members, individually and collectively, can better support those ARC families facing unique challenges.

♦ **#3: Families That Include LGBT Individuals**

(Feb 26 & Mar 5)

Facilitator: Tamara Fynaardt

♦ **6:30 PM High School Youth Group** at the Lamberts.