

*****Announcements*****

•Orange City BBX (Backyard Bible eXplore (BBX) "Children of the Light"

When: July 17, 18, 19 (20th Pool Party, OC Pool)

Time: 6:30-8:00 PM

Where: Derrick & Josie Moss—508 Zuider Zee SE

Kristin Brouwer—1102 Denver Place

Leroy & Jasey Van Kekerix—101 Kentucky Ave NW

Marlin & Diane Vollink—902 Arizona Ave NE

Mike & Amanda De Koster—211 Florida Ave SW

Wayne & Sue Dykstra—210 Iowa Ave SW

Children ages 4-having completed grade 4 are welcome to join a backyard in your neighborhood. FREE!

•Help Clothe-a-Child for School

It may not seem like it now, but the school year will be here before you know it! For many children in this area, this means wondering where those much needed new school clothes will come from.

Love INC (In the Name of Christ) is sponsoring the Clothe-A-Child drive, where clothes may be purchased for local children for the upcoming school year. The American Reformed Church congregation has been given the opportunity to help!

There is a clothes drying rack by the church mailboxes with slips providing the information needed to purchase these items. On each slip, you will find the age, gender, clothing item and size (i.e.: shoes, shirt, socks, underwear, etc.) of what needs to be purchased (one item per slip). You can take one slip or many, whatever you can do is a great help! When the item is purchased, please place it in a bag and return it (WITH A GIFT RECEIPT for easy exchange), to the basket by the drying rack **on or before Sunday, August 6**. If you still want to help but don't want to shop, you may contact Amber Altena (712) 360-0134 or Lesley Tjaden (712) 360-2874, and they will be happy to help you! Thank you for all your help with this great ministry! Let's make it a great school year for all children in our community!

•Children's Discipleship Volunteers Needed!

Transformation is happening. Could you be part of it in children's lives here at ARC? Here are some ways you can get involved in the 2017-2018 year:

1. Pre-K/TK Lead Sunday School Teacher (every other Sunday, Sept-May)
2. Children & Worship Music Time Leader (commitment TBA)
3. Nursery Volunteer (approx. once a month)
4. F3 Workshop Leader (once a month, Sept-Mar)
5. F3 Small Group Leader (every Wednesday, Sept-Mar)

Contact Laura Jonker (arckidsmin@gmail.com) for details. Thanks for being a faithful church family who cares about our children.

(Announcements continued.)

•The RCA'S Mission in Israel/Palestine: What you Need to Know and How to Get Involved

The Regional Synod of the Heartland and RCA Missional Mosaic are sponsoring an event about the RCA's mission in Israel/Palestine on Thursday, July 20, 2017 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM at New Life Reformed Church, 232 16th Street SE in Sioux Center. At this event, you will learn about the historical and current conflicts in the Holy Land, the RCA's mission in Israel/Palestine and our partnership with Churches for Middle East Peace, and how you can get involved (including through upcoming Holy Land study tours). Featured presenters are Joshua Vis, RCA facilitator for church engagement in Israel/Palestine; Mae Cannon, Executive Director of Churches for Middle East Peace; and Earl James, RCA Coordinator of Missional Mosaic and Advocacy. Register to attend at www.rca.org/israel-palestine-event.

Participating in Worship

The Congregation
Pam Anderson
Tara Woodward
Benjamin Langton

Serving the Lord in Worship
Organist
Preaching
Leading in Worship



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TRANSFORMED BY JESUS TO TRANSFORM THE WORLD

ACCEPTANCE + GRACE + WISDOM + LOVE



THE APPROACH TO GOD

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

PRELUDE "This is My Father's World"

CALL TO WORSHIP based on Rev. 15
Great and marvelous are your deeds.
You are Lord of all.
Just and true are your ways.
You are Lord of all.
You alone, O Lord, are holy.
**We come with every tribe
and every tongue to worship you, Lord of all.**

*SONG OF WORSHIP #95 "All Hail the Power..."
vs. 1, 2, 4, 5

*GOD'S GREETING

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace-
**We confess that we have elevated
the things of this world above you.
We have made idols of possessions and people
and used your name for causes
that are not consistent with you or your purposes.
We have permitted our schedules to come first
and neglected worship, fellowship, and service.
We have participated in systems that harm all your creation.
We have been unfaithful in relationships.
We have yearned for more than we need.**

(Please use the silence for personal confession.)

Forgive us, O God,
**for the ways we've fallen short of your image and honor.
Help us learn in light of your mercy and grace
how to live anew engaging your reconciling
and redeeming work in the world.
In the name of Jesus, we pray . . . amen.**

SONG OF FORGIVENESS #514 "Blessed Assurance"

THE WORD OF GOD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*All children will remain with us in worship today.
Worship bags are available by the elevator for children to use during
worship. Please return the bags following the service.*

*SONG OF PREPARATION #306 "Standing on the Promises"

SCRIPTURE Matthew 13:1-9

SERMON "Parable of the Seeds: The Unexpected Kingdom of God"

THE RESPONSE TO GOD

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

OFFERTORY "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

*DOXOLOGY #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 #635 "He Leadeth Me"

*BENEDICTION

*SENDING SONG #635 "He Leadeth Me"
Refrain only

*POSTLUDE "Psalm XX"

All music & lyrics used by permission - CCLI #374890

Join us at Fellowship Café today immediately following worship
in the fellowship hall!

Welcome to our Guest Preacher

This morning, we welcome Western Theological Seminary student
Tara Woodward as our guest preacher. Tara is Director of Annual
Giving at Northwestern College, is a member of Trinity Reformed
Church in Orange City, and is enrolled in the distance learning Master
of Divinity program.

*****Pastors' Vacation*****

Elizabeth and Mike are on vacation through today, Sunday, July 16.
If you have a pastoral need today, please contact the elder on call:
Sara Tolsma (712.737.8734 or stolsma@nwciowa.edu).

*****Praying for God's People*****

Be in prayer for:

***Russ Krull**, who was dismissed from the Orange City Area Health
System Hospital on Saturday, July 1, after being treated for an infection
in his jaw. Russ underwent another medical procedure in Sioux Falls
on Thursday, July 6. Pray for healing, peace, and comfort.

***Amy Cleveringa**, who will be having shoulder surgery at the Orange
City Area Health System Hospital on Tuesday, July 18

***The high school youth heading to Rocky Mountain High** late Friday
night, July 21st. Please pray for Tessa Burg, Gideon Fynaardt,
Kitrick Fynaardt, Heather Gabel, Jacob Gabel, Maggie Kensak,
Patrick Muilenburg, Natalie Sampson, Noelle Sampson, and Rosalyn
and Philip De Koster as they head to Colorado. There are picture
prayer cards at Fellowship Café TODAY for these 9 students and
2 leaders with individual prayer requests. Please pick up one or two
cards and pray for those individuals.

*****ARC Events for the Week*****

Monday, July 17

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? Please contact Arlene
Punt (707-4600 or arlenepunt8@gmail.com).

Wednesday, July 19

11:30 AM ARC Seniors Buffet at the OC Pizza Ranch. Questions?
Contact Marilyn Jiskoot (737-4041 mjskoot@gmail.com).

Sunday, July 23

5:00 PM Worship (Sanctuary)

Please note time! We WILL NOT have a 9:30 AM service.

This will be a service of scripture, stories, and songs. Consistory
members will be sharing a song/hymn that is meaningful to them
along with a scripture and/or story followed by the congregation
singing. Please plan to join us!