

Christian Reformed Church of St. Joseph

OUR MISSION

We are a Great Commission congregation:
Reaching the lost and teaching the found on our journey to maturity in Christ.

OUR VISION

We are an Equipping Church: guiding people of all ages and circumstances to answer God's call and use their gifts to make a difference in the world as disciples of Christ.

STAFF

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>E-mail Address</u>	<u>In Office</u>
Pastor	John DeVries	jdevries@crcsj.org	Tu-Fri
Administrative Asst.	Carol Bly	office@crcsj.org	Tu-Wed
Secretary	Beth Wolf	office@crcsj.org	Th-Fri
Director of Youth Ministries	Lesleigh Wingate	lwingate@crcsj.org	
Director of Education & Shared Ministries	Erin Beran	eberan@crcsj.org	
Director of Worship	Will Burrows	wburrows@crcsj.org	

COUNCIL

Pastor John DeVries
Keith Lubbers (2021-23) - Chair
Kurt Beran (2021-23) - Vice-Chair & Missions Liaison
Aaron Mead (2019-21) - Clerk, Education Liaison, & Youth Liaison
Josh Wingate (2020-22) - Classis Delegate
John Burtchett (2020-22) - Classis Delegate
Jane Grotevant (2021-23) - Congregational Life Liaison
Karen Killian (2019-21)
Rob Schripsema (2021-23)
Michelle Sykora (2020-22) - Cultural Engagement Liaison & Alternate Classis Delegate

ELDERS

Pastor John DeVries - Chair
Keith Lubbers - Vice-Chair
Kurt Beran
Aaron Mead - Clerk
Josh Wingate

DEACONS

Karen Killian - Chair, Benevolence, & Pantry
John Burtchett - Vice-Chair & Finance
Jane Grotevant - Soup Kitchen
Rob Schripsema - Pantry
Michelle Sykora - Clerk

Contact any of the deacons regarding benevolence requests

ELDER DISTRICTS

A - D: Kurt Beran
E - L: Josh Wingate
M - Sto: Aaron Mead
Sty - Z: Keith Lubbers

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Kurt Beran - Chair
Pastor John DeVries - Vice-Chair (Elder Chair)
Keith Lubbers (Council Chair)
Karen Killian (Deacon Chair)
John Burtchett (Finance Deacon)
Carol Bly (Admin)



CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF ST. JOSEPH




“Peace, Be Still”

Rev. John R. DeVries

November 28, 2021

Christian Reformed Church of St. Joseph
 3275 Washington Ave St. Joseph MI 49085
 Rev. John R. DeVries - *Pastor*
Worship services are streamed live at:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdi_1FAaWeR4r_MKyxaShCA

269-429-5541
 office@crcsj.org
 www.crcstjoseph.com



From Our Church Council

A Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, Dec 12 at 10:30am in the sanctuary, right after the worship service, for selection of elders and deacons and for review and approval of the 2022 budget. Information packets are in mailboxes today (extras at Info Center) for your review prior to the meeting. Sunday School classes will not take place that morning - For Children & Youth a special movie event is planned, and Nursery will be provided.

Absentee Ballot Process - Absentee ballots with envelopes are available at the Information Center. Place your completed ballots, including your signature, in a sealed envelope and place in the designated envelope in Keith Lubbers' mailbox by 10:00am on Sunday, December 12. For those members who are out of the area, please send your ballot via U.S. mail to the church office prior to Dec 12.

Completing their 3 year terms on council this spring are Elder Aaron Mead and Deacon Karen Killian.

Youth

Impact (middle school youth group) is not meeting today due to the Thanksgiving weekend. Our next meeting is Sunday, Dec 5.

Roots (high school youth group) is not meeting today due to the Thanksgiving weekend. Our next meeting is Sunday, Dec 5.

Children

Treasure Hiders (ages 3 1/2 thru 5th Grade) meet this Wednesday from 6:15 - 7:30pm. Bring a friend, and let's hide God's Word in our hearts together! Dinner provided for the whole family 5:30 - 6:15pm.

*** Indicates to please stand if able**

Prelude
 Welcome / Call to Worship
 Opening Prayer
 * *"How Long, O Lord"*
 * God's Greeting/Mutual Greeting
 * *"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"*
 Scripture of Confession
 "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"
 Prayer of Confession and Assurance
 Offering: 1) General Fund 2) Faith Promise
 Offering of Music
 Please Sign and Pass the Friendship Pads
 Children ages 3 1/2 through 2nd grade are invited
 to Children & Worship
 Prayer for Church and World
 Lighting of Advent Candle of Peace
 Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25
 Message: "Peace, Be Still"
 Prayer of Surrender and Joy
 * *"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"*
 * Benediction
 * *"Savior, Again"*
 Postlude

Giant Print Bibles are near the sound board for use during the service. Ask an usher for one.

Worship

Worship Schedule

- Dec 5 Pastor John DeVries
 Special: 2nd Sunday of Advent
 Offering: 1) General Fund 2) Benevolence Fund
- Dec 12 Seminarian Aaron Mead
 Special: 3rd Sunday of Advent
 Offering: 1) General Fund 2) Forgotten Man Ministries
- Dec 19 Pastor John DeVries
 Special: 4th Sunday of Advent; Communion
 Offering: 1) General Fund
- Dec 24 Pastor John DeVries
 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 5:00pm
- Dec 26 Pastor John DeVries
 Offering: 1) General Fund 2) Faith Promise

Corporate Prayer continues on Thursdays at 6:30am at church, with the continued option to attend online via Zoom (watch for email with link for joining.) We'd love to have you join us!

Missions

Faith Promise Update: In this thanksgiving season, we praise the Lord for the support the congregation has given monetarily and in prayer for our missionaries through the many years! The total for our pledges so far this year is \$38,400. We rejoice that our church has stepped out in faith by adding three additional missionary families to support, so we are trusting for additional funds. As part of your life of thankfulness, would you consider committing to support the missionaries through a pledge card (if you have not already done so). The total of our pledges becomes the basis for our monthly financial support to them. Pledge cards can be found at the Faith Promise table in the lobby. Please stop by and talk with a mission committee member if you have questions.

We are a multi-generational congregation with multi-generational worship. While we do invite children 3 1/2 through 2nd grade to attend Children's Story Time at the mid-point of the service, our ultimate goal is for the full family of God to worship together as much as possible. This adds richness and depth to our worship but sometimes also minor distractions as parents train their children to take their place in the corporate worship of God. If you are currently training your children for this goal, we understand and strongly support you. Be at ease. If you are not in that position in life, please respond to any minor distractions with patience and grace.

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS

Nursery - Barb Stoub, Kim Klunder

Children & Worship - Shiloh Pawelski (leader), Ben Nicholson, Judi Johnson

Birthdays This Week

Monday: Jeff Wolf

Anniversaries This Week

Today: John & Debbie Kamer '75

From Our Deacons

	October	Year To Date
Budget	\$28,236	\$282,360
Giving	\$38,696	\$239,688
Expenses	\$24,140	\$273,974
Surplus/Deficit	\$14,556	-\$34,287

Weather Related Cancellation Policy - If we are experiencing adverse weather conditions such as freezing rain, heavy snow, high wind with blowing snow, etc., the congregation is advised to use good judgment regarding driving conditions and putting themselves at risk. If 2 hours prior to any scheduled church activity there is a Blizzard Warning in effect within 1 hour of the start of that activity, the activity will be cancelled automatically. Cancellations will be communicated by church email and Remind.com text.

Our Church Today

Welcome to the Christian Reformed Church of St. Joseph!

It is with great joy that we gather to worship our Lord Jesus Christ!

For those joining us by live stream, we welcome you in that same joy.

If you are visiting this morning, please stay for a cup of coffee or tea in the library after the worship service, and for our education classes. We would love the opportunity to get to know you!

Sunday School and 1Family are NOT taking place today. Both will resume next Sunday, Dec 5.

Coffee and tea IS being served today after the worship service. Grab a cup and visit a while!

Visit the Faith Promise / Missions table in the lobby this morning. See Missions section of this bulletin for details.

Activities Today:

7:45 AM Worship Team
9:00 AM Worship Service
4:30 PM Choir Rehearsal

Our Church Going Forward

At 1Family this Wednesday, Dec 1:

5:30 - 6:15pm - Dinner Provided

6:15 - 7:30pm - Ministries for All Ages

Marriage Study - Kingdom Marriage

Adult Bible Study - 1 John - **(Join at any time)**

9th - 12th Grade - Service & Fellowship

6th - 8th Grade - Catechism

3 1/2 - 5th Grade - Treasure Hiders

Newborn - 3 1/2 - Nursery

At 1Family next Sunday, Dec 5:

5:30 - 7:00pm - Ministries for All Ages

Adults - Men's Discipleship; Women's Bible Study

Roots - Topical Study

Impact - Middle School Youth Group

3 1/2 years old - 5th grade - Treasure Hunters

Newborn - 3 1/2 years old - Nursery

7:00 - 7:30pm - Whole Family Worship

Two Nursery Volunteers are needed during each of the following:

- Congregational Meeting on Sunday, Dec 12 at 10:30am
- Christmas Eve Service on Friday, Dec 24 at 5:00pm

Please contact Deb Bodine if you are willing to serve. Text or call 269-369-2908 or email d-dbodine@sbcglobal.net.

Ongoing need in Children's ministries:

Youth Safety Policy approved adult helpers needed in:

- 1Family Nurseries - Sunday & Wednesday nights
- Treasure Hunters - Sunday nights
- Treasure Hiders - 1st & 3rd Wednesday nights

Sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex OR using the online sign-up link on the 1Family page of our website. Contact the office asap if you need to start your Youth Safety Policy approval process. Thank you!

Our Christmas Program is in two weeks - Sunday, Dec 12, 5:30pm! This special evening will include portions for which the children are hard at work preparing, pieces performed by the adult choir, opportunity for the whole congregation singing together, and a hot chocolate station and treats afterward!

An Adult Choir will be part of **our 1Family Christmas Program** on Dec 12! Choir rehearsals will be Sunday afternoons beginning today, Nov 28, with the last one just before the Dec 12 program. Want to join this special time of singing? Sign up at the Info Center. Questions can be directed to Will Burrows.

Our Church Library - Prepare your heart and mind during this season by checking out the **Christmas and Advent books on the shelf in the narthex**. We have something for all ages. Items can be checked out on the clipboard and returned to the wrapped box next to the shelf.

Activities This Week

Wednesday	9:30 AM	Connections Women's Bible Study
	12:00 PM	Staff Meeting
	5:30 PM	1Family
	7:30 PM	Deacons Meeting
Thursday	6:30 AM	Corporate Prayer
Saturday	6:30 AM	BSF Leaders Meeting
	6:00 PM	Impact & Roots Christmas Caroling