

# 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@crsjs.org    | Tu-Fri           |
| Administrative Asst.                         | Carol Bly        | office@crsjs.org      | Tu-Wed           |
| Secretary                                    | Beth Wolf        | office@crsjs.org      | Th-Fri           |
| Director of Youth Ministries                 | Lesleigh Wingate | lwingate@crsjs.org    |                  |
| Director of Education &<br>Shared Ministries | Erin Beran       | eberan@crsjs.org      |                  |
| Director of Worship                          | Will Burrows     | wburrows@crsjs.org    |                  |

## COUNCIL

Pastor John DeVries  
Keith Lubbers (2021-23) - Chair, Worship Liaison  
Kurt Beran (2021-23) - Vice-Chair  
Paul Toman (2022-24) - Education Liaison,  
Men's Liaison  
John Welch (2022-24) - Youth Liaison  
Josh Wingate (2020-22) - Classis Delegate  
John Burtchett (2020-22) - Classis Delegate  
Jane Grotevant (2021-23) - Hospitality  
Sally Larm (2022-24) - Women's Liaison  
Rob Schripsema (2021-23)  
Michelle Sykora (2020-22) - Clerk, Cultural Engagement  
Liaison, & Alternate Classis Delegate

## DEACONS

John Burtchett - Chair  
Rob Schripsema - Vice-Chair, Pantry,  
Benevolence  
Jane Grotevant - Soup Kitchen  
Sally Larm - Pantry, Benevolence  
Michelle Sykora - Clerk

Contact any of the deacons  
regarding benevolence requests

## ELDERS

Pastor John DeVries - Chair  
Keith Lubbers - Vice-Chair  
Kurt Beran  
Paul Toman  
John Welch - Clerk  
Josh Wingate

## ELDER DISTRICTS

A - C: Kurt Beran  
D - J: John Welch  
K - N: Josh Wingate  
O - S: Paul Toman  
T - Z: Keith Lubbers

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Kurt Beran - Chair  
Pastor John DeVries - Vice-Chair (Elder Chair)  
John Welch (Finance)  
John Burtchett (Deacon Chair)  
Jane Grotevant (Deacon)  
Carol Bly (Admin)



# CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH OF ST. JOSEPH



“Certainty”

Rev. John R. DeVries

November 27, 2022

**Christian Reformed Church of St. Joseph**

3275 Washington Ave St. Joseph MI 49085

Rev. John R. DeVries - *Pastor*

269-429-5541

office@crsj.org

www.crcstjoseph.com

**Worship services are streamed live at:**

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdi\\_1FAaWeR4r\\_MKyxaShCA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdi_1FAaWeR4r_MKyxaShCA)



**\* Indicates to please  
stand if able**

Prelude & Welcome

Call to Worship

Prayer of Invocation

\* *"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"*

\* God's Greeting / Mutual Greeting

\* *"Christ Our Hope in Life and Death"*

Scripture of Confession

*"Psalm 32: How Blest is He Whose Trespass"*

Prayer of Confession and Assurance

Offering: 1) General Fund 2) Faith Promise

Offering of Music

Please Sign and Pass the Friendship Pads

Children's Message

Lighting of Advent Candle of Hope

Children ages 3 1/2 through 2nd grade are invited  
to Children & Worship

Congregational Prayer

Scripture: Luke 1:1-4

Message: *"Certainty"*

Prayer of Response

\* *"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"*

\* Benediction

\* *"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"*

Postlude

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

## Worship

### Worship Schedule

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| Dec 4  | Pastor John DeVries<br>Special: Week Two of Advent<br>Offering: 1) General Fund 2) Benevolence Fund                      |
| Dec 11 | Pastor John DeVries<br>Special: Week Three of Advent; Communion<br>Offering: 1) General Fund 2) Forgotten Man Ministries |
| Dec 18 | Pastor John DeVries<br>Special: Week Four of Advent<br>Offering: 1) General Fund   |
| Dec 24 | Pastor John DeVries<br>Christmas Eve Service 5:00 PM   |
| Dec 25 | Pastor John DeVries<br>Christmas Day<br>Offering: 1) General Fund 2) Faith Promise                                       |

**All are invited to Corporate Prayer** on Thursdays at 6:30am in the library, with the option to participate online via Zoom (watch for the weekly email with the invitation link).

## Youth

**Roots is going rock climbing in Kalamazoo!** Saturday, Dec 3 from 4:30 - 10:00pm. All high schoolers are welcome (at all comfort levels with climbing). Meet at church and we'll drive together to Climb Kalamazoo. Cost is \$15. A late dinner at Chik-fil-a will be provided after we finish climbing, so eat a late lunch.

**We welcome you to our multi-generational congregation** with multi-generational worship. While we do invite children 3 1/2 through 2nd grade to attend their own special time of worship 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 - Bethany Schultz, Kim Klunder, Micah Johnson

Children & Worship - Jo Nicholson (leader), Jodi Ballard

Check-In Teachers - Patti Boersen, Kelsey VonKoenig

### BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

**Tuesday:** Jeff Wolf

### ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

**Today:** JR & Donna McCanse '71

**Monday:** John & Debbie Kamer '75

**Events, Scripture Encouragements, Family Worship Guide Updates, and More on**

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/crcsj>

**Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/crcstjoseph/>

**Worship Service Live Streaming & Recordings on**

**YouTube:** [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdi\\_1FAaWeR4r\\_MKyxShCA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdi_1FAaWeR4r_MKyxShCA)

**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 together 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.

We would love the opportunity to get to know you!

**Today is Faith Promise Sunday** when we bring forward during the offering time our previously pledged contributions in support of our missionaries, and we redistribute the missionary prayer cards.

If you took home a missionary prayer card last month, please return it to the communion table in the sanctuary prior to today's worship service.

Then during the offering, all are invited to pick up a prayer card from the communion table to use during this month.

**Sunday School is NOT** taking place this morning and will resume Dec 4.

**Serving of coffee and tea IS** taking place today in the library after the worship service. Come have a cup and visit a while!

**1Family is NOT** taking place this evening and will resume Dec 4.

### Activities Today

|          |                         |
|----------|-------------------------|
| 7:45 AM  | Worship Team            |
| 9:00 AM  | Worship Service         |
| 10:30 AM | Coffee & Tea in Library |
| 4:15 PM  | Bell Choir Practice     |

## Our Church Going Forward

**Come to the annual Christmas Program** on Sunday, Dec 11 at 5:30pm! Adult choir included. Cookie & cocoa reception following.

If you can help in any of the following ways, please sign up at the Info Center.

- Set up for cookies/cocoa reception
- Donate 2 dozen homemade cookies
- Make the cocoa
- Clean up after reception

**An Adult Choir** will be included in our **Christmas Program** on Dec 11. Choir rehearsals will be on Sunday afternoons beginning Nov 27, with the last rehearsal just before the Dec 11 program. Interested in joining us for this special time of singing? Please sign up at the Info Center. Questions can be directed to Will Burrows.

**We're still looking for 1 Sunday school teacher** for the Little Lambs class that meets in the nursery. The first 10-15 minutes of class is teaching the youngest kiddos a short Bible story and leading them in a simple song and prayer. The final 45-50 minutes is leading the adults in a few select questions from the week's Family Worship Guide. Contact Erin Beran asap if you'd like to know more about this opportunity to serve our congregation.

### Activities This Week

|                  |          |                                 |
|------------------|----------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Wednesday</b> | 9:30 AM  | Connections Women's Bible Study |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | 6:30 AM  | Corporate Prayer                |
| <b>Friday</b>    | 6:00 PM  | Adult Christmas Dinner          |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | 10:00 AM | Pantry Open                     |
|                  | 4:30 PM  | Roots to Climbing Wall          |

## From Our Deacons

**Our church pantry** will be open this Saturday, Dec 3, 10:00am - Noon (the 1st Saturday of every month). If you know of anyone who could use a pantry visit, feel free to pass this information on to them.

## From Our Executive Committee

As we continue the search for a **second 1Family nursery attendant** to hire, the Executive Committee invites the congregation to let the office or Erin Beran know if you have anyone (friend, community member...) to recommend for this position.