



Jamestown Christian Reformed Church

Church Profile | Spring 2023

1653 Riley Street
Hudsonville, Michigan, USA
(616) 896-8461

Lord, you are my God;
I will exalt you and praise your name,
for in perfect faithfulness
you have done wonderful things,
things planned long ago.

Isaiah 25:1

It is with gratitude to God for his generosity and faithfulness that we embark on a search for an individual to pastor Jamestown Christian Reformed Church. We are also grateful to those reading this church profile for the consideration of service to and prayers for our local church.

Jamestown CRC is a medium-sized, theologically conservative congregation in a quickly growing township about 30 minutes southwest of Grand Rapids, Michigan. Our mission is to **reflect Christ in our love for God and people**. As many young families move into the area, we are well situated to serve and welcome our community as we live out our mission with new families and future generations. You can read more about our mission and values in this profile and explore more about our church at <https://jamestowncrc.org>.

As a church, we are praying for the process and outcome of this search, for the candidates who will engage in this process, for our outgoing pastor who is pursuing a call to the mission field, for our congregation and community in this time of transition, and for indifference toward anything other than God's will. We invite you to join us in these prayers.

Thank you for your consideration of the position of Pastor at Jamestown Christian Reformed Church. Do not hesitate to reach out to one of us with questions or interest.

Jeff DeVries & Julia VanderMolen
Co-Chairs of the Pastoral Search Committee

CONNECT

IN-PERSON

Physical Address: 1653 Riley Street, Hudsonville, Michigan, 49426
Telephone Number: 616-896-8461

ONLINE

Internet Address: www.jamestowncrc.org
Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/jamestowncrc
YouTube Page: <https://www.youtube.com/@jamestowncrc1944>

PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

Jeff DeVries (Co-Chair), Deacon
jtdevries@charter.net
(616) 291-4021

Julia VanderMolen (Co-Chair)
vandermolen.jc@gmail.com
(616) 550-3071

Kevin Anderson, Youth Director
Hank Bosma, Elder, Council Liaison
Casey DeYoung
Sue Jeurink
Heather Smith
Shirley TenHarmsel

HOW TO APPLY



Please submit a resume and cover letter to Jeff or Julia (contact information above).

JAMESTOWN CRC

MISSION

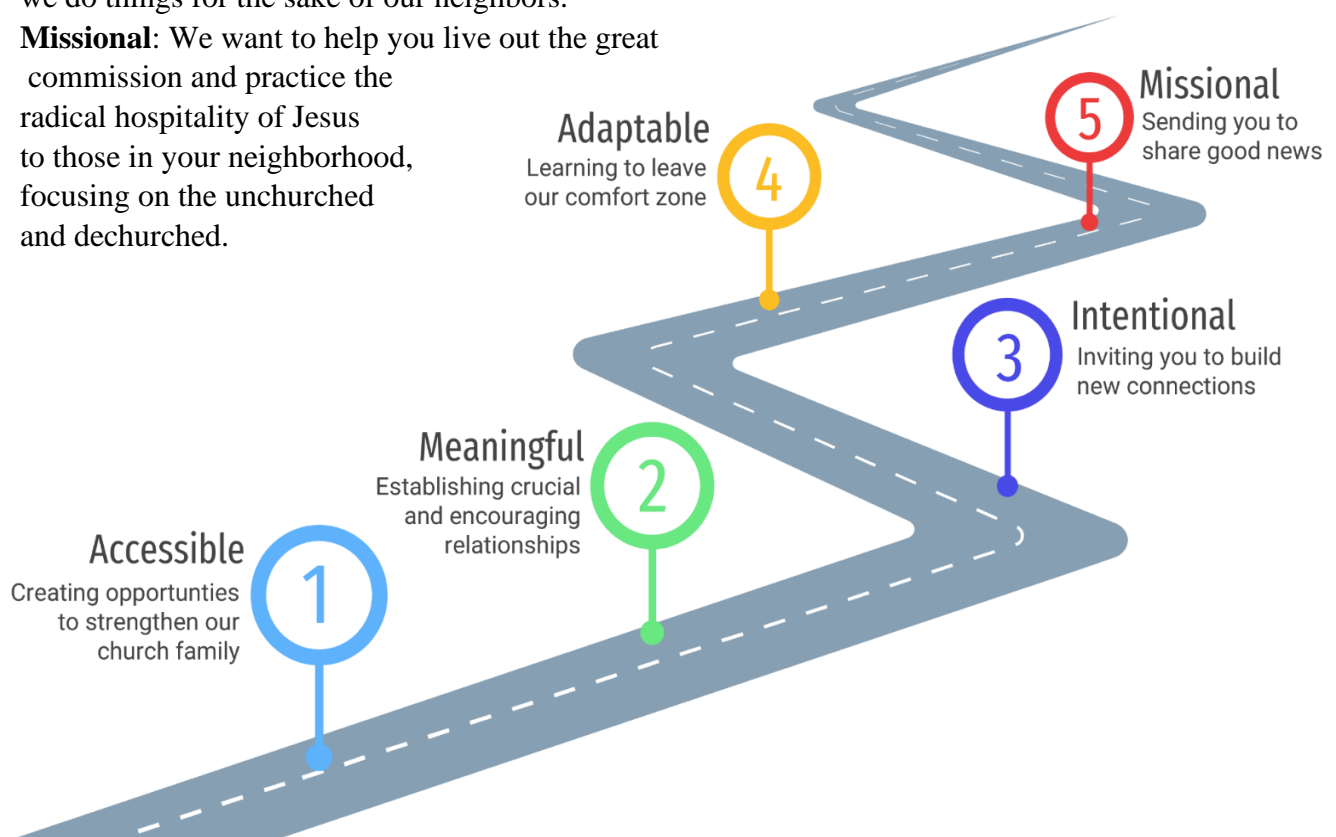
Reflecting Christ in our love for God and people

FIVE-YEAR VISION & VALUES

In 2021, Jamestown CRC's Vision Team conducted a church-wide survey assessing our current status and goals for the coming years, resulting in the following vision:

Our aim over the next five years is to be a church where we and our neighbors find genuine community together by focusing on being accessible, meaningful, intentional, adaptable, and missional.

- **Accessible:** We want to provide everyone with opportunities for engaging in church life and help make it easier for you to find a place where you belong.
- **Meaningful:** We want to help you build foundational relationships that provide real life direction and encouragement for your life.
- **Intentional:** We want to help you discover your God-given gifts and talents so you can find a ministry that you can shine in.
- **Adaptable:** We want to get used to experimenting with church life and changing the way we do things for the sake of our neighbors.
- **Missional:** We want to help you live out the great commission and practice the radical hospitality of Jesus to those in your neighborhood, focusing on the unchurched and dechurched.



A SNAPSHOT

MEMBERSHIP

148 Active Members

CHURCH SERVICE

Like any church, Jamestown has a particular “liturgy” of worship, often including four or five songs (mix of traditional hymns and contemporary praise), announcements, congregational prayer, children’s message (followed by dismissal to Children’s Worship), reading of Scripture, sermon, offering, and benediction. The pastor typically guides the flow of the service with ministry leaders and Council members contributing behind the scenes. A new pastor might mix things up! To catch a glimpse of a recent service, visit our YouTube page: <https://www.youtube.com/@jamestowncncr1944>

FACILITIES

Our main church building consists of a sanctuary (capacity 500), a newly expanded narthex with church staff offices, and a basement with a kitchen, large fellowship room, new nursery suite, and classrooms. Across the parking lot is the “Activity Building,” primarily used for Cadets and youth group. The campus also includes the Shalom House, the former parsonage that, most recently, has provided a home for missionaries transitioning to and from the mission field.

Jamestown Christian Reformed Church
January 15, 2023
9:30 AM


Prelude
Welcome / Announcements / Call to Worship / Prayer / Greet each other
“Cornerstone”
“Living Hope”
Children’s Message: ages 2-10
Children Leave for Children’s Worship (ages 2 through first grade)
Congregational Prayer
“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty” # 249 (PH)
“He Leadeth Me” # 452:1,2,4 (PH)
Scripture: 1 Samuel 16:1-13
Message: “FROM MESS TO MESSAGE #1: A Heart God’s After”
We Go With God’s Blessing
“Who You Say I Am”
Postlude

Offering Baskets: 1. Jamestown Ministry Fund
2. Right to Life Education fund

Participating in Worship:
Minister: Rev. Matthew Slack
Accompanists: Sara DeYoung
Mark Staal
Drums:
Guitar: Jared Lucas

Subscribe to our
YouTube Channel

Fellowship & Coffee
Everyone is invited to gather upstairs
after morning worship for fellowship.



Worship - Page 1



Annual Christmas Program, led by the Sunday School and concluding with singing *Silent Night* by candle light



➤ A BRIEF HISTORY

Jamestown Christian Reformed Church began in 1894 with its first permanent structure erected in 1895. This building served the congregation well until they outgrew its modest confines, and a larger church was built on the same location in 1927 (this structure still stands near the crossroads of Riley Street and 24th Ave). Jamestown CRC thrived, so much so that in 1970, several families left Jamestown CRC (as well as a handful from Zutphen CRC) to form Forest Grove CRC. Despite this amicable exodus, it wasn't long before the need for additional space prompted Jamestown CRC to build a new, much larger sanctuary on five donated acres.

Since that time, Jamestown Christian Reformed Church has been a church like many in the denomination. Numbers have waxed and waned, families have come and gone, we have rejoiced in successes, lamented failures, and fought over silly things. We now find ourselves in a community on the precipice of change, and not just that of calling a new pastor. What, for nearly 130 years, has been a country church in a country setting is increasingly surrounded by suburbia. We've recently completed a \$1.5 million renovation and expansion of our entrance and narthex as we seek to create better space for welcoming and enfolding guests into our church family. Pastor Matt has done a fantastic job of challenging and preparing us to look at how we can change with our community. With his move to the mission field, we eagerly seek a pastor that will continue to help and challenge us as a congregation to be the hands and feet of Christ in our community.

WHERE WE'RE HEADED



Building on the work of several members who participated in the denomination's Renewal Lab prior to the pandemic, in 2021 the Council commissioned a small group from the congregation to form the JCRC Vision Team. The Vision Team worked to identify areas for growth and response as changes in our community's make-up and needs impact our church's context and mission. Ultimately, our goals were to becoming a more missional church committed to the good news and life-giving power of the gospel and filling our church building to capacity in five years.

That fall, the team asked the congregation for their input, discernment, and imagination to help us move in the direction of those goals. The results of that survey revealed several areas of priorities for the next few years of church life:

1. Outreach: More presence and impact in the community, pushing us outside our "comfort zone" and into a missional posture

At our most honest, we can admit that we often default to "the way things have always been," but we acknowledge that this doesn't help us be open to new people in our community. We want outreach to be an expectation, not just an "it would be nice if..."

We are looking for a pastor who will share our commitment to outreach and challenge us to lean into the Great Commission in new ways that respond to our changing context.

2. Hospitality: More genuine welcome and follow-up with guests and new members

Already a Hospitality Team has been assembled to adopt new materials and practices for welcoming and enfolding--not just shaking hands. In the past year we've welcomed as members [a young family, two empty nester couples] and we've also had several more individuals attend regularly.

We will look to our new pastor to join and equip us for this welcoming and Biblical hospitality.

3. Faith Formation: Increased opportunity for and participation in educational opportunities, especially for adults, to deepen faith and understanding

In our frenetic world, devoting time to the church community for common worship and learning is counter-cultural, but something we know is necessary to authentically living out God's calling for his people. We have several active programs for youth (Cadets,

GEMS, and middle and high school youth groups) and small groups for adult and family fellowship.

We invite our new pastor to bring creative ideas for engaging our congregation in opportunities to learn about our church's Biblical principles and tradition, strengthen our faith in the present, and practice disciplines that shape lives of glorifying God.

CHURCH LIFE

More than 30 volunteers provide leadership in ministries for ages 0 to 99.

KIDS

Nursery: Infants and toddlers are welcome in the church service, but families may also take advantage of our nursery staffed with volunteers throughout each worship service.

Children's Worship: During the service, kids two years old to 1st grade are invited downstairs to worship together through prayer, singing, and fun activities.

STUDENTS

Sunday School: After the morning service, Pre-K to 4th graders are invited to the classrooms downstairs to learn more about their faith with a Bible story and fun activities.

Catechism: 5th to 8th graders and high schoolers head to the Activity Building to dive deeper into their faith, ask tough questions, and have engaging discussions.

GEMS (Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior): We participate in the CRC's program for girls in 1st through 7th grades. They meet every other Wednesday night for a time of worship, crafts, and working on badges. And don't forget the fun adventures and service opportunities throughout the year!



Cadets: Boys 3rd through 8th grade meet every Wednesday night for devotions, a Bible lesson, and working on merit badges. Throughout the year they go camping, bowling, and competing in the pinewood derby car races.

SHINE (Sharing His Incredible News Everywhere): This is our ministry for middle schoolers, 6th through 8th grade. They meet monthly for a time of discussion, fellowship, and fun! SHINE also goes on various outings throughout the year.

Young Peoples: Students 9th to 12th grade meet every second and fourth Sunday for a meal, Bible discussion, and fellowship. But that's not all! Throughout the year they also go on many fun adventures together and have been everywhere from Zuni (NM) to Kentucky and Mississippi.

ADULTS

Small Groups: Gather in each other's homes for a time of fellowship and discussion around the Sunday message. Groups are intergenerational and meeting times are very flexible.

Bibles on Tap: A Bible study for men—bring your Bible and come with Pastor Matt to the local pub to talk life and theology.

Applesauce Bible Study: Older women mentoring younger women through sharing and a Bible study. They meet once each month for evening fellowship (and dessert).

Bible Studies: We have a variety of Bible study opportunities throughout the year.



Family Fellowship Nights: Each month a different activity to bring our Church Family in and bring us closer together. We've had a Bunco Night, Trunk-or-Treat, a Sportsman's Dinner, movie nights, and a Chili Cookoff. Our Events Coordinator takes the lead on these opportunities, and volunteers help pull off everything from set-up to tear-down.

MEET THE TEAM

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Six elders and six deacons make up the Jamestown CRC Council. The elders and deacons meet with their teams monthly, and the entire Council meets quarterly. A few elders and deacons make up the administration team, which also includes the pastor and is headed up by an elder serving as President of Council.

Jamestown CRC has several part-time staff in addition to the full-time pastor. These positions include:

SECRETARY

Handles everything from bulletin announcements to the website and social media. Our current secretary, Mary, has 21 years of service at Jamestown and keeps this place running with grace and wisdom!

WORSHIP DIRECTORS

Currently, two worship directors coordinate the aspects of each worship service, focusing specifically on music and technology. Both play double duty as musicians, as well.

YOUTH DIRECTOR

No one is certain how Kevin managed to get himself hired as the Youth Director. He is an eccentric oddity, but we are called to love the likes of even such as these. And for some reason the youth don't hate him.

CUSTODIANS

Another tag-team who work tirelessly to keep the buildings clean and accessible before, during, and after the service and throughout the week.

Jamestown CRC also has three volunteer Coordinators: Nursery, Connections (hospitality & welcome team), and Events.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Shepherding Pastor

Purpose

The Shepherding Pastor of Jamestown CRC must be a devoted disciple of Jesus Christ. He must embody the Good News of the Gospel and be a prophetic voice who listens for God as he leads God's people. To do this faithfully, he must have a passion for God, a deep love for people, and an unquestionable loyalty to Christ's Church. Above all, he must be personally faithful to his Lord, his family and to Christ's Church.

The Shepherding Pastor will be the Spiritual Leader at Jamestown CRC. In partnership with others on the ministry team, he will place particular emphasis in the areas of worship, pastoral care, church leadership, and encouragement and be an example of sharing the Good News with our community and our world. In cooperation with the Youth Director, he will also share in a teaching capacity. Through his ministry he will be a resource that will nurture faith.

Responsibilities

In partnership with Council, ministry teams, and church members, the Shepherding Pastor will

[Church Leadership]

- Build a unified ministry, discerning needs and recommending direction for Jamestown's ministry.
- Clearly communicate the overall mission, vision, and core values of the church.
- Be involved in and facilitate the Pastoral Care of the Congregation.
- Encourage, lead by example, and walk alongside the congregation in the reaching and welcoming of the community.
- Be attentive and encourage effective communication throughout the church.
- Carry out other responsibilities requested by the administrative or shepherding/mercy leaders.

[Teaching & Developing]

- Work with Youth Director and Ministry Team in developing an effective Team Ministry.
- Serve on the general council and as the pastoral advisor to the administrative and shepherding branches of the Council.
- Facilitate Worship Team meetings.
- Facilitate training opportunities for those involved in Shepherding/Mercy care.
- Promote a culture and atmosphere within the life of the church that is warm and welcoming.

[Worship & Discipleship]

- Provide overall direction for our worship ministry.
- Preach at all morning worship services (excluding vacation).
- Plan services with Worship Coordinators and give final approval for service elements.
- Facilitate the Discipleship (learning) goals of the Church.
- Be an encourager to the prayer ministry of the church.
- Represent Jamestown Church at meetings within our community and in Classis Georgetown and serve on classical and denominational committees as appropriate.

Spiritual, Professional, and Personal Qualifications

- Be an ordained pastor of the Christian Reformed Church.
- Exhibit a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and a life submitted to the work of the Holy Spirit.
- Understand and believe the tenets of the Reformed Christian faith.
- Be gifted in the areas of preaching/teaching, leadership, and discipleship.
- Commit to working with the Council and other team members in carrying out the Mission, Vision and Core Values of Jamestown CRC.
- Commit to continued spiritual and professional growth.
- Commit to sharing the Good News in our community and our world.

Accountability

- In the overall performance of ministry, the Shepherding Pastor is accountable to the Council.
- In doctrine and life, the Pastor is accountable to the Elders.
- The Pastor will be reviewed annually by the Administrative Leaders.

Salary and Benefits

- Annual salary: \$50-60,000 (commensurate with experience and education)
- Benefits:
 - Health Insurance: Provide; HSA with JCRC contributions each year
 - Life Insurance: Provided
 - Dental & Vision: Elective with pastor paying
 - Paid Time Off: 3 weeks; no sick time specified
 - Professional Development: 10 days continuing ed/year; \$1,250/year, \$250 of which is for books
 - Housing Allowance: \$1,000-\$1,500/month

OUR COMMUNITY

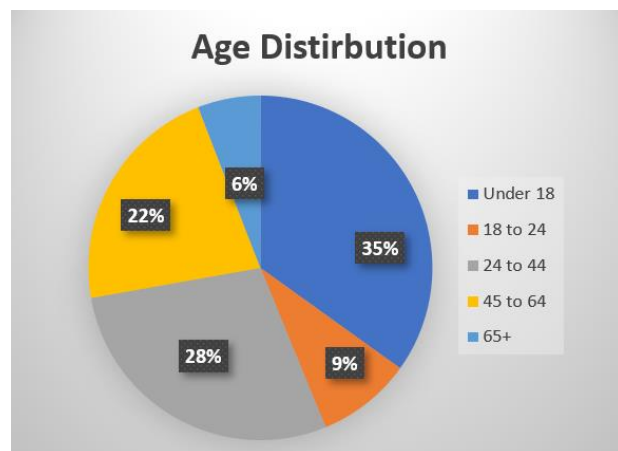
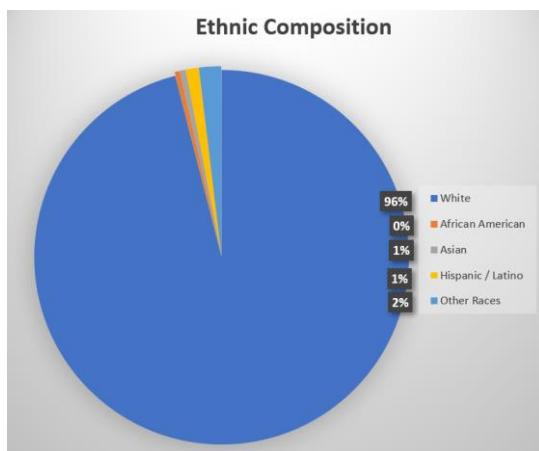
OVERVIEW

Jamestown is a fantastic community that has both a suburban and rural feel. It is located in fast-growing Hudsonville, Michigan. Hudsonville is seeing rapid growth and construction throughout the community, offering more amenities to its residents regularly. It is located 25 minutes from downtown Grand Rapids and only 30 minutes away from the beautiful beaches of Lake Michigan. In West Michigan, you will experience the best of all four seasons with plenty of trails, lakes, and parks for visiting.



DEMOGRAPHICS

As of 2021, Jamestown had an estimated population of 9,923 people (more than 30% growth in the last ten years).



Source: <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/jamestownchartertowsnipottawacountymichigan>

SCHOOL SYSTEMS

The schools in Hudsonville are highly rated with several education opportunities, including public and private K-12 schools, significant homeschooling co-op communities, and easy access to the higher education institutions of Grand Rapids. Hudsonville Public Schools includes several elementary and middle school locations (one just a couple miles up the street from Jamestown CRC) and a recently expanded high school. Hudsonville Christian Elementary and Middle School are a main feeders into the private high school in Hudsonville, Unity Christian.



THINGS TO DO

Hudsonville combines the great hometown hospitality of a small town with the convenience of big city amenities. Here are just a few of the great activities that you can participate in.

Art and Culture: The Hudsonville Arts Council is focused on enhancing and promoting the arts and culture of Hudsonville. Hudsonville also has exciting events that happen throughout the year with opportunities for winning awesome giveaways at the Hudsonville Showcase, rocking out to concerts at our Concerts on the Green event, strolling down Harvey Street for kids activities and date night events at Happenings on Harvey, participating in Urban HayDay where the country meets the city for a fall festival, or attending our Tree Lighting event to kick off the holiday season. There are plenty of events to enjoy throughout the year. In 2021, Jamestown announced its plan to build a new mountain bike trail.

Nature Center: Features 74 acres of natural land, including forests, prairie, and wetland.

Splash Pad: Stop by the splash pad located next to Terra Square. This new addition to our community allows kids the chance to beat the summer heat and cool off with their family and friends.



Terra Square Farmers Market: The Terra Square Farmers Market takes place every Wednesday June-September and select Saturdays. Not only is this a space to support and connect with local farmers and eat nourishing food, but also to spend time together with family and friends. The space will host kids activities, learning opportunities, and entertainment for all.

Action Wake Park: Looking to do something a little more adventurous? Action wake park allows adventure seekers to try out wakeboarding and knee boarding right in Hudsonville. Action Wake Park, Michigan's first full size cable park, allows guests to rent equipment and learn water sports without first needing to buy a boat.

Disc Golf: Looking to practice your disc golf skills? Hudsonville has an 18-hole disc golf course with 9 baskets which can be found at Hughes Park. The course, which was established in 2001, is 3,645 feet in length.

Parks: There are many parks located in our community and include hiking trails, lookouts, picnic areas, playgrounds, tot lots, open shelters, ball diamonds, volleyball courts, pavilions, disc golf and basketball courts.

We are delighted to be a community which revels in its past, plans for the future, and loves to call Jamestown home. Our community has strong family values and friendly people - Jamestown is the perfect small town to call home & raise a family!



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