

Ferry Log

Newsletter of Ferry Memorial Reformed Church ♦ January 2015

Search Update

Dick and Kriste Klaver ended their time with us at the end of December. We shall miss Dick's kind and caring style, Kriste's honesty, and the way they have served Ferry for 15 ½ years.

As we move into 2015 and look toward Ferry's future, what is happening with our search for a new pastor?

First, we trust God. The Spirit is at work in our process and as we think about these questions-Who is Christ calling us to be? What does it mean to be a disciple of Christ, and how are we as a church helping people to meet and know Christ? Where as a church do we want to be in 5 to 10 years?

The search committee began in September, with Classis supervisor Randy Bremmer. The search committee is following the RCA's process of finding a new pastor, which usually takes 9-12 months from beginning to when a new pastor is called. A large part of the process is putting together a "Church Profile" (potential pastors also put together a similar "Pastor Profile"). The Church Profile has many questions that help a church think through who they are, and what their mission is. Potential pastors and churches can use these completed Profiles to see if they might be a good fit.

Why 9-12 months? Churches first need to do work to evaluate who they are and who they want to be. They also need to be able to grieve the loss of their last pastor. It takes time to do these things well so that the next pastor and church can have a good start.

This fall, as the search committee began work on the Church Profile, they interviewed leaders of Ferry's ministries to get a better understanding of what Ferry does and how the church serves the community.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

In January, **everyone** will be invited to share their ideas through a church survey. This survey is an important part of thinking through who we are, what our strengths and weaknesses are as a church, and what direction we think Christ is leading us. **So fill out the survey! Your voice is important! Surveys are due February 1.**

The search committee will prayerfully review all the surveys, and use them to assemble parts of Ferry's Church Profile.

How will calling a new pastor work?

After Ferry's Church Profile has been completed, and submitted to the RCA, the committee will interview applicants, and then present to the congregation 1 or more candidates they think will be a good fit for Ferry. The congregation then will have a chance to meet the candidate(s). A congregational vote is necessary to extend a call to the next sr. pastor.

The search committee is diverse-like Ferry! Members are: Dan Lownds (chair), Gary Ransom, Margo Fredenburg, Rachelle Johnson, Dan Proctor, Renee Cherry, Jeanne Flanders, Jim Franks, Bern Bolema, Leigh Johnson, Bill McClain, Joan Grasman, Shirley Dahl, Bonnie Gouine and Lynn Ramthun.

They would appreciate your prayers as they work through this process.

Who will be preaching for us?

Nick and Amy will lead worship each week, and Nick **or** Amy will preach once a month. We will have guest preachers the other 3 Sundays a month. Guest preachers will be Muskegon Classis pastors, retired pastors, seminary students, and other preachers who will share God's Word with us. The search committee is months away from considering applicants, so no one who preaches for us is candidating for the sr. pastor position.

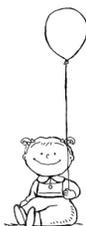
Christ is the head of the Church, and we belong to Christ. We trust God to care for us and lead us through this process.

Pastor Amy with Dan Lownds

January Volunteers!

NURSERY

- 04 Ann Beishuizen, Jan Proctor, Lizzy Cherry
- 11 Kevin & Lynn Ramthun family
- 18 Randy & Carissa Biggs, Amanda Johnson
- 25 Nick & Katie Bultema family



SOUND BOARD

- 04 Mark Grotenhuis
- 11 Jeff Cherry
- 18 Jeff Auch
- 25 Roger Grasman



POWERPOINT

- 04 Ryan Springer
- 11 Elizabeth Cherry
- 18 Casey Lownds
- 25 Ann Jeffries



CHILDREN'S CHURCH

- 04 NO Children's Church
- 11 Gina & Rachel Houtteman, Braley Johnson
- 18 Diane Levandowski, Shelley Berson
- 25 Mandie & Braley Johnson, Rachel Houtteman



COFFEE FELLOWSHIP TIME -

coffee preparers/servers

- 11 Tony & Sue Moulds
- 18 Carol Witzke
- 25 Gary & Sharon Ransom

cookies/snacks providers

- 11 Karen Bolema
- 18 Renée Cherry, Chris DeRose
- 25 Bonnie Gouine, Phyllis Zatzke



Rained out? Snowed in?

If **SEVERE** weather causes us to cancel activities at Ferry Memorial, we will contact WZZM13 and WOOD-TV8 to list the cancellation on the air.



Happy January Birthday!

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 02 Seth Cherry | 16 Marilyn McCoy |
| 07 Ava Crow | 18 Casey Lownds |
| 07 Brittany McGee | 18 Mary Vermeulen |
| 07 Amy Pecott | 19 Sally Babinec-Busscher |
| 07 Laura Ritchie | 19 Morgan DeRose |
| 08 Doris Wolting | 19 Dolly Wantuch |
| 10 Mike Busscher | 21 Braley Johnson |
| 10 Daryl Hoeksema | 24 Ashley Pecott |
| 11 Ron Aulerich | 27 Jeanne Near |
| 13 Janice Proctor | 28 Shirley Dahl |
| 14 Rachel Houtteman | 29 Sharon Ransom |
| 14 Dave Vermeulen | 30 Lois Brinks |

Happy January Anniversary!

- 05 Steve & Jen Weesies
- 10 Larry & Holly VanderPlaats
- 21 Josh & Rachael Fredenburg
- 21 Kevin & Lynn Ramthun



Do you want to volunteer? Contact:

Greeters: Shelley Berson (893-6902)
 Coffee Fellowship: Gloria R. (894-9415)
 Nursery: Katie Bultema (894-0068) &
 Lynn Ramthun (557-2942)

Sound: Jeff Cherry (894-2163)

PowerPoint: Gloria R. or Pastor Nick (894-9415)

Kids' Klostet: Gayle Strasser (760-9842)

Children's Church: Gina Houtteman (894-4766) &
 Mandie Johnson (231-828-5655)

Sunday School: Pastor Amy (894-9415)



SOS

Last year we had two major themes running through our Jr High lessons. We spent half of our lessons discussing **things that Jesus said about living out our faith.** The rest of our lessons focused us on the Belgic Confession. It may not have been terribly obvious that Pastor Nick was taking you through the Belgic Confession, but here are the topics we discussed: general revelation, special revelation, God's Word, and the attributes of God. Wait a minute! Those are the beginning articles of the Belgic Confession. Pastor Nick thinks he's tricky. To review...General revelation is how God reveals himself to us in a general way through history, nature, and conscience. Special revelation is how God reveals himself more openly and fully through scripture. We talked about how the Bible was put together and how it has authority. When we talked about the attributes of God, I stressed how some of God's attributes are shared with us (communicable attributes) and how some attributes belong only to God (incommunicable attributes). I'm proud of our students for hanging in there through some of the more challenging topics this past year. In January we will consider the psalms—learning how they are both old, yet very relevant to us. Psalm 1 will focus us on godliness. Psalm 5 will help us think about lying. When we look at Psalm 8 we will ask questions about our self-worth as people. Thanks for your energy and enthusiasm SOS students.

Sr. High

January 23-25. Join us for a winter retreat to Cran-Hill Ranch! We will play broomball, tubing, cross country skiing, and climb their man-made ice wall. There will be a guest speaker and the Adam Locker Band. The weekend may sell out so contact Pastor Amy or Nick soon.

January 31. Super Bowl Subs is a fundraiser that we are proud of at Ferry. Not only do we raise money for our summer mission trip, but we provide tasty subs at a good price. High school



(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

students, we need your help to build the subs on Saturday, January 31. We will meet at church at 9am and work until we get them done (around 1pm). Oh, and you can build your own monster sub for lunch!!

Summer Mission Trip. We will partner again with SERVE. Last year we went to Washington D.C. Where do you want to go this year? Let us know, as we are still looking at locations.



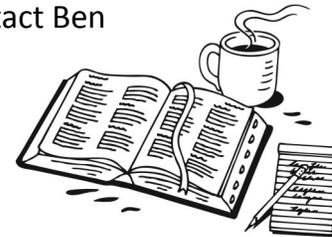
Tuesday Morning Bible Study

- For whom: Everyone!
When: each Tuesday, 10:00 am—11:30 am
Where: Fellowship Hall
What: Concluding the study of Mark (Jan 13 & 20)
Beginning a new study (to be determined) Jan 27

Ben Jeffries is the facilitator.

If you have questions, please contact Ben at 894-5043.

Please come!



Rev. Amy de Groot Bowling, family and youth pastor

Rev. Nick Bowling, family and youth pastor

Gloria Rademaker, editor / deadline for next issue - January 19
