

Deacons' Report

FINANCIALS through 11/30/19

	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
offerings - General fund	\$306,180.53	\$339,646.00
spending - General fund	\$310,142.55	\$340,666.37
offerings - Missions	\$ 15,509.00	\$ 18,356.25

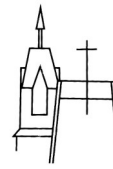
Month by month comparison of general offerings to budget:

	Actual	Budgeted	Difference
January	\$ 23,178.45	\$ 30,876.88	\$ -7,698.43
February	30,714.86	30,876.88	- 162.02
March	28,145.75	30,876.88	-2,731.13
April	25,428.01	30,876.88	-5,448.87
May	25,881.54	30,876.88	-4,995.34
June	32,470.31	30,876.87	+1,593.44
July	24,832.05	30,876.87	-6,044.82
August	22,504.50	30,876.87	-8,372.37
September	36,105.97	30,876.87	+5,229.10
October	22,715.61	30,876.88	-8,161.27
November	34,203.48	30,877.24	+3,326.24

A complete financial picture & analysis will be presented soon.

This is the last update I will be preparing for the year and my term of office is now complete. I would like to thank you for the opportunity to have served as treasurer. Gary and I discussed how we felt about being deacons for the first time and how that impacted us as people. Our consensus was that our experience was very positive and the growth in knowing who we are and how we work in a group setting is invaluable. For myself goals were set and met, transparency was maintained and we always take our serious roles as deacons to heart when making decisions for the financial picture of the church. It has been my pleasure to use my skill set. It is my hope the transition for the new treasurer will be a positive one. Again thank you all for allowing me to serve. Bonnie Gouine

As Deacons it is our responsibility to keep the congregation informed and to be transparent in our actions. We are trusting God to guide us and you to help us in our mission. Please feel free to ask questions about our processes.



FERRY LOG

January 2020

Ferry Memorial Reformed Church, Reformed Church in America



Overworking and Recharging



I know we have just come through what we call a holiday season. Part of that season is intended for us to relax, unwind and get energized. But I don't find that that is always the case. Instead we often fill the time with obligations, trying to maintain work, family, and charity. If you're a person that has a hard time saying no, you no doubt couldn't wait to have things return to normal.

If on the other hand, you are rested and recharged as we start the new year, great, you can just keep reading for fun. For the rest of us, I have a thought I'd like to have us explore. Mark 2:27 - Then he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath."

I know Jesus is talking about one particular day out of the week and not a holiday season, but I believe the idea which underlies the Sabbath is true of all holidays or holy-days. Each day we set apart as a holy-day should have the same intent and implementation as the first one in which God rested from all His work. He did this as both a pattern for us to follow and as Jesus says it's intended to be a blessing to us not another task or obligation.

Which brings me to a larger idea, beyond just the holiday season. Are you getting the rest you need? Now as I ask that question, I know the reality that many have little control over work schedules, and that many people don't receive sufficient time to rest. But, I also know many people, including pastors, who don't take time to rest. They go years without taking a day off work. They work 60-80 hour weeks, for months on end. I even know a person who the only days he

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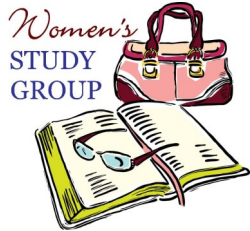
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didn't go to work were when he was so sick he ended up in the hospital. He would even say, "Well I guess God needed me to take a week off." Then he would do it all again until he ended up in the hospital the next time.

I have to admit, when I was younger I had little appreciation for resting. I would skip breaks at work, not take a lunch, punch in early and stay late, and I was always ready to take an extra shift when someone was sick. But, I've learned we weren't designed to do that. We were designed to rest. In fact, I find myself inefficient in getting things done when I work too long without proper rest. And instead, I see that when I have had rest that allows me to recharge fully, I work much more efficiently and creatively.

So, as you begin a new year, I just want to encourage you to seek and plan to include rest. Daily moments of rest, weekly designated rest, and yearly planned rest. I'm not going to suggest to you what type of rest. That may be different for everyone. But find small ways and big ways to plan and protect the rest you need to recharge and rejuvenate.

Pastor Leighton



Women's Bible Study begins January 16, 10-11 am

The weather is grey outside, a perfect time to have a cup of tea or coffee, dive into God's word, and grow deeper in Christian friendship with other women. We gather every Thursday from 10-11 am at the church building. You don't have to know anything about the Bible to come, friends and neighbors are welcome to join our group of 10-15 women. Come as you are able, or just try it out! Pastor Amy guides.

January BIRTHDAYS

- 02 Seth Cherry
- 07 Ava Crow
- 07 Amy Pecott
- 07 Laura Ritchie
- 08 Doris Wolting
- 10 Daryl Hoeksema
- 11 Ron Aulerich
- 13 Janice Proctor
- 14 Rachel Houtteman



- 14 Dave Vermeulen
- 16 Marilyn McCoy
- 18 Casey Lownds
- 18 Bea Vanderstelt
- 18 Mary Vermeulen
- 19 Morgan DeRose
- 23 Carmen Huttenga
- 24 Ashley Pecott
- 27 Jeanne Near
- 28 Shirley Dahl
- 29 Sharon Ransom
- 30 Lois Brinks

January ANNIVERSARIES

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

January Volunteers

NURSERY

- 12 Stephy Grotenhuis, Margaret Amstutz
- 19 Julie Knoester, Kim Springer
- 26 Lyndsey Near, Molly Smit



CHILDREN'S CHURCH

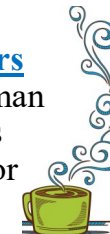
- 12 Gina Houtteman
- 19 Barb Poel
- 26 Gayle Strasser



Fellowship Time

coffee preparers/servers

- 12 Roger & Joan Grasman
- 19 Tony & Sue Moulds
- 26 Dan & Janice Proctor



cookies/snacks providers

- 12 Brad & Susan Tate
- 19 Margaret Amstutz
- 26 Katie Bultema & Donna Rypma

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Sunday School each week after worship, 10:45-11:15 am. It is a great opportunity to grow deeper in God’s word, and grow in relationship with others. Classes are offered for all ages.

SOS and Sr. High meet each Wednesday 6-7:30 pm. We tackle tough topics relevant to middle school and high school life, and dive deep into God’s Word. Leader Amy Pecott often makes tasty snacks!

GENESIS (for Sr. High) March 13-15 in Traverse City. Two thousand high school kids come for awesome youth gathering-worship, serving, playing, and fun!

Sr. High SERVE mission trip to London, Ontario July 11-18. Serve God and our Canadian neighbors! Cost to go \$300 if you sign up before March 31, \$350 after April 1.

Pastor Amy

Super Bowl subs return Feb. 1! These are no ordinary fundraising subs! You will be proud to offer these to the guests at your Super Bowl party! Pre-order your fresh, delicious subs made with high quality cheese and meat in January. All the proceeds go to the sr. high group for GENESIS and SERVE. Questions? Talk to the Bowlings!

Orders are due January 20!!

Super Bowl Subs



January Volunteers

SOUND BOARD

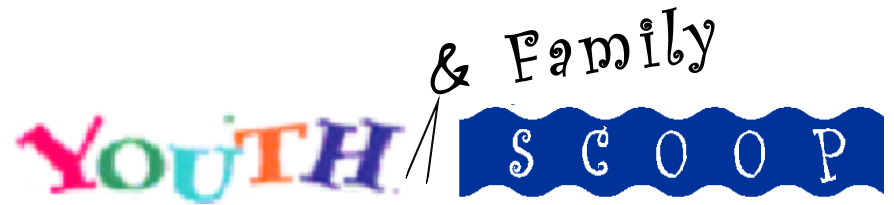
12 Brian Normandin
19 Mark Grotenhuis
26 Jeff Cherry

VIDEO

12 Tony Moulds
19 Griffin Lownds
26 Emma Weesies

POWERPOINT

12 Ann Jeffries
19 Owen Weesies
26 Owen Weesies



New Year! Beginning a new year is a great time to reflect on who God is calling us to be, and what God is calling us to do. At the beginning of January, we celebrate Epiphany, when the magi from the East followed the star that led them to Jesus. They risked a long journey, yet were so sure of finding a king they carried (and guarded) precious treasures for that king, with them all those miles. Not of Jewish origin, not of God’s “chosen people”, God revealed the coming of Christ to the Magi, God beckoned them to meet the One who would change the world. And the Magi followed! They paid attention to God’s work in the world, got up, and followed where God led them.

"These days, we celebrate Epiphany because it reminds us of who we are called to be as followers of Jesus. We are formed as people who see, recognize and point to God’s saving presence in this world. We strive to give ourselves and our lives to God in joy, just as the Magi did." (Pastor Michelle Bartel, PCA mission Facebook page)

Where is God at work in our world? Where is he calling us to join him? Who is God shaping us to be?

Some opportunities to consider in the New Year:

February 5 Church Family Dinner and Activity, 6-7 pm
Beat the winter blues with a some good “comfort food” and good conversation! All ages are welcome to relax, enjoy a meal prepared for you, chat with other folks around the table, and interact with a Bible story. Spend time with your family! Spend time with your church family! Good food, good conversation! Optional family craft, too. Thank you to the Pecotts for cooking, Rachel Weesies for the crafts, and Lindsay DeRose for the Bible story-we are grateful!

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January

Mission of the Month

 New Era Christian School

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Happy New Year!	2 7 pm Men at Peace	3	4
5 9:30 am Worship	6	7	8 6-7:30 pm: SOS Sr. High	9	10	11
12 9:30 am Worship Ordination/ installation newly elected Consistory members 10:45 am classes	13 12 noon Sr. Citizen Luncheon 7 pm Fresh Hope meeting	14 10 am Bible Study 1 pm Prayer Shawl 6:30 pm Stephen Ministry	15 6-7:30 pm: SOS Sr. High	16 10 am Women's Bible Study 6:15 pm Hand bell Choir practice 7 pm Men at Peace	17	18
19 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am classes	20  <i>Ferry Log deadline</i>	21 10 am Bible Study 1 pm Prayer Shawl 7 pm Elders 7 pm Deacons 8 pm Consistory	22 6-7:30 pm: SOS Sr. High	23 10 am Women's Bible Study 6:15 pm Hand bell Choir practice	24	25
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