

In January, as we begin a new year, I have often written an article reminding our church family why we do youth and family ministry here. By the time our kids graduate, what do we want them to know and be able to do? We change, our culture changes, yet Christ remains the same. As with Christians in every age, we try to live out the gospel in our time. What we hope for our students who graduate from FMRC's programs remains the same.

YOUTH

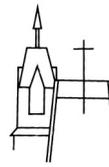
The core of a student's faith is a firm and certain knowledge of Jesus' love for them, and acceptance of Jesus as their personal savior.

By the time students graduate from Ferry, they should be able to:

1. Be familiar with the Bible; Old and New Testaments, the basic format of each one, stories contained in each
2. The meaning of key words and concepts of the Christian faith, such as sin, salvation, grace, providence, incarnation, etc.
3. Have a Christian worldview
4. Make ethical decisions based on Christian principles
5. Have healthy relationships with peers and adults
6. Talk about Jesus and what he means to them
7. Know how to pray and do personal devotions
8. Serve others with the love of Christ
9. Be open to listening for God's call in their lives.

Discipleship, and growing in faith is a lifelong process, it doesn't happen overnight. And as our culture changes (and educational models are changing rapidly!), we change *how* we teach, but not what we teach. Relationships between kids and adults are key in how God 'grows' us in faith. From children's church to Senior High, our volunteers tell Bible stories, pray with kids, build relationships, share their own faith stories, and talk about Jesus. We are grateful for a church family that cares so deeply about all generations! Praise God!

Pastor Amy



FERRY LOG

January 2019

Ferry Memorial Reformed Church, Reformed Church in America



Are You Growing?



I know not everyone likes new years resolutions. They can seem trivial or they simply don't last. So, lets look at this from a different angle. If you look back at last year and then look back five years and even take bigger look back at ten years, how have you grown?

While your think about that, lets acknowledged that if you're 20 and look back ten years it's half your life. So, of course you have grown. But what about when ten years is less than half of the time you have been married. It really isn't that long. Plus, the older we get the less clear it can be that we are growing. Since physically we may be actually shrinking, and work wise we may have reached our peak, and family wise things are strained or just plain complicated, so you can't tell if it's growing or dying.

I'm not saying I have THE answers. But I do think God has some thoughts that help us out. When we look at scripture we have one story of Jesus as a boy and then just three years of ministry. Not much as as far as brevity. But don't over look the depth of insight found in just one single verse in those stories.

"And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man." Luke 2:52

Lets take the stature out, since that is nothing we control and look at the rest of what Luke tells us. Jesus grew in wisdom (sophia). Jesus grew in favor (charis). Jesus grew in relationship to God. Jesus grew in relationship to people.

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Sophia is more than the accumulation of knowledge. It is the application of knowledge and experience put into practice. Charis is most often translated as grace in scripture. (130 times) And I think that adds a new dimension to this verse. And it gives us more insight into how we can seek to apply it.

So, back to my questions, with this verse in mind. How have you grown in wisdom in the last year, five years, and ten years? How have you grown in grace in the last year, five years, and ten years?

Go ahead write them down here:

I know I often ask you questions and then assume you answer them. But I'm working on helping you to follow through and give you space to do what I ask. That's one of my answers to the next question. What are you planning to do in the next year, five years, and ten years to grow in wisdom, to grow in grace and to grow in all your relationships?

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Celebrating January Birthdays!

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 01 Desi Hedrick | 18 Casey Lownds |
| 02 Seth Cherry | 18 Bea Vanderstelt |
| 07 Ava Crow | 18 Mary Vermeulen |
| 07 Amy Pecott | 19 Morgan DeRose |
| 07 Laura Ritchie | 23 Carmen Huttenga |
| 08 Doris Wolting | 24 Ashley Pecott |
| 10 Daryl Hoeksema | 27 Jeanne Near |
| 11 Ron Aulerich | 28 Shirley Dahl |
| 13 Janice Proctor | 29 Sharon Ransom |
| 14 Rachel Houtteman | 30 Lois Brinks |
| 14 Dave Vermeulen | |
| 16 Marilyn McCoy | |



January Wedding Anniversaries



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



FELLOWSHIP TIME VOLUNTEERS FOR JANUARY

coffee preparers/servers

- 06 Gary & Sharon Ransom
- 13 Carol Brand-Twa
- 20 Jeff & Dawn Auch
- 27 Linda Starring & Doris Hartman

cookies/snacks providers

- 06 Dave & Beth Pickard
- 13 Lynn Ramthun & Rachel Weesies
- 20 Gord & Chris Sikkenga
- 27 Brad & Susan Tate

January Volunteers!

NURSERY

- 06 Janice Proctor, Ann Beishuizen
- 13 Kim Springer, Lizzy Cherry
- 20 John & Molly Smit
- 27 Amanda Holman, Stephy Grotenhuis



SOUND BOARD

- 06 Jeff Auch
- 13 Jeff Auch
- 20 Mark Grotenhuis
- 27 Jeff Cherry



VIDEO

- 06 Isabelle Auch
- 13 Tony Moulds
- 20 Griffin Lownds
- 27 Emma Weesies

POWERPOINT

- 06 Ryan Springer
- 13 Ann Jeffries
- 20 Casey Lownds
- 27 Lizzy Cherry



AUDIO VISUAL TEAMS

Children's Church

- 06 Gina Houtteman family
- 13 Shelley Berson & Rachel Houtteman
- 20 Pastor Amy & Rachel Houtteman
- 27 Ann Beishuizen & Joyce Brownell



GREETERS AT THE DOORS

North entrance: Karl DeWitt
 South & East entrances: Ross & Debbie Falkowski

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What great things the father has in store for us that we can not imagine. What a great year we have ahead of us! Yeah God!



Pastor Leighton

December 27~This past week I was able to be a part of YWAM Perth's Christmas. The whole base comes together (400~500 people) where we have lunch together, do some activities, exchange white elephant gifts, and just enjoy each other's presence. I will be leaving for outreach on Dec. 31 to Manila, Philippines first. We are called to 'go and make disciples of all nations.' That's why I am going to the lowest of the low and lay down my own culture to go 'reach the unreached.' I'm sad the lecture phase is done but I'm excited for what God has in store for me as I travel to Asia. I've learned so much, I've grown closer to God, and He has even been speaking to me about my future (TBA). Thank you for all your support! Merry Christmas and have a blessed new year!

Cecelia McGahan

Rev. Leighton Seys, senior pastor

Rev. Amy deGroot Bowling, family and youth pastor

Rev. Nick Bowling, family and youth pastor

Gloria Rademaker, editor / deadline for next issue - January 28

“Pray Muskegon” the 22nd of each month.
Covering the County with prayer!

January

2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
MISSION OF THE MONTH ♥ NEW ERA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL		1 HAPPY NEW YEAR!	2	3 7pm Men at Peace	4	5
6 9:30am Worship with Communion	7	8 1pm Prayer Shawls 6:30pm Stephen Ministry Supervision	9 6-7:30pm: J.U.M.P. S.O.S. Sr. High	10 10am Women’s Study	11	12 Larry Huls Memorial Service 11 am
13 9:30am Worship 10:45am classes	14	15 10am Bible Study 1pm Prayer Shawls 7pm Deacons 7pm Elders 8pm Consistory	16 6-7:30pm: J.U.M.P. S.O.S. Sr. High 7 pm Armchair travel	17 10am Women’s Study 7pm Men at Peace	18	19 9:45am Bell Choir practice
20 9:30am Worship 10:45am classes	21	22 10am Bible Study 1pm Prayer Shawls Pray Muskegon	23 6-7:30pm: J.U.M.P. S.O.S. Sr. High	24 10am Women’s Study	25	26 9:45am Bell Choir practice
27 9:30am Worship 10:45am classes	28	29 10am Bible Study 1pm Prayer Shawls	30 6-7:30pm: J.U.M.P. S.O.S. Sr. High	31 10am Women’s Study		