



GOD IN OUR MIDST



## ***Welcome to worship at Christ Church!***

*Our aim is to enjoy the goodness of our triune God in fellowship within the community he has formed, lifting our hearts as an offering to the Lord using the varied and unique gifts of this local congregation. We await his transformative word in our lives.*

*We are glad that you have joined us.*

*Small children are part of our community as well, wiggles and whispers and all. We are very happy to be part of this very important stage in their lives — learning to worship together in the community of believers. If you would like a quiet space to care for your baby, you are welcome to use the nursery or room 102.*

## Prelude

### *Steadfast*

by Sandra McCracken, Leslie Jordan, Josh Silverberg

I will build my house  
Whether storm or drought  
On the rock that does not move  
I will set my hope  
In Your love O Lord  
And Your faithfulness will prove  
You are steadfast  
By the word You spoke  
All the starry host  
Are called out by name each night  
In Your watchful care  
I will rest secure  
As you lead us with Your light

I will not trust in the strength of kings  
On Your promise I will stand  
I will shout for joy I will raise my voice  
Hallelujah to the Lamb  
In the moment of emptiness all was fulfilled  
In the hour of darkness Your light was revealed  
In the presence of death Your life was affirmed  
In the absence of holiness You are still God

## Welcome & Announcements

Pastor Andrew Vander Maas

## Moment of silent meditation *We Come, O Christ, to You*

hymn text by Margaret Clarkson

We come, O Christ, to you,  
true Son of God and man,  
by whom all things consist,  
in whom all life began:  
in you alone we live and move,  
and have our being in your love.

You are the Way to God,  
your blood our ransom paid;  
in you we face our Judge  
and Maker unafraid.  
Before the throne absolved we stand,  
your love has met your law's demand.

We worship you, Lord Christ,  
our Savior and our King,  
to you our youth and strength  
adoringly we bring:  
so fill our hearts, that all may view  
your life in us, and turn to you!

# GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP



## Call to worship

Isaiah 55:8-12

Elder David deJong

“...my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord.  
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven  
and do not return there but water the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,  
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,  
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;  
it shall not return to me empty,  
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,  
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

“For you shall go out in joy  
and be led forth in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you  
shall break forth into singing,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.”



## \* How Great Is Our God

### Verses

Chris Tomlin



1. The splen - dor of a King,  
2. Age to age He stands, and



clothed in maj - es - ty: let all the earth re -  
time is in His hands, Be - gin - ning and the



joyce, 7 all the earth re-joyce.  
End, Be-gin-ning and the End.

He wraps Him-self in Light,  
The God - head, Three in One:



and dark - ness tries to hide, and trem - bles at His  
Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son: the Li - on and the

### Chorus



voice, trem - bles at His voice.  
Lamb, Li - on and the Lamb.

How great is our



God, sing with me, how great is our God, and all will see how great, how great



### Bridge

is our God.

Name a-bove all names,

Wor-thy of all praise,



My heart will sing, How great is our God!



\* Prayer of adoration

# GOD CALLS US TO RENEWAL

## Call to confession

Romans 8:26-27

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

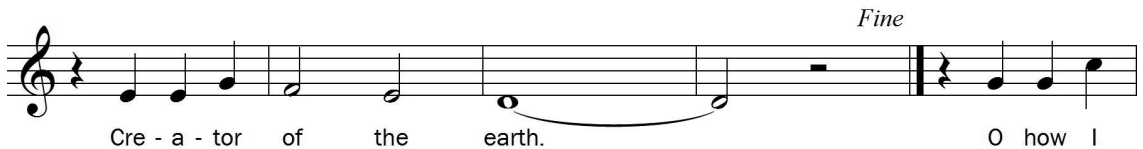
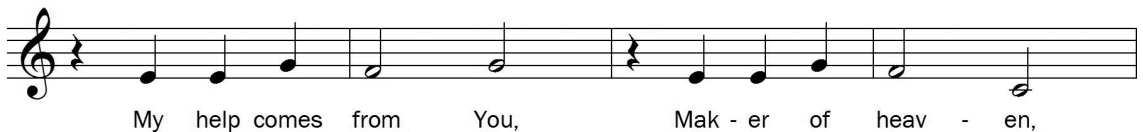
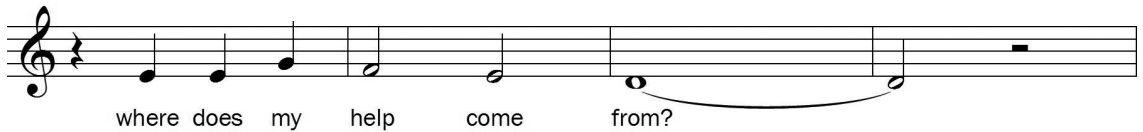
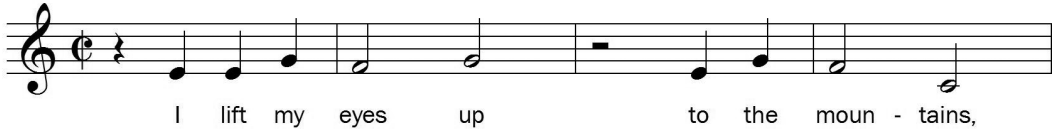


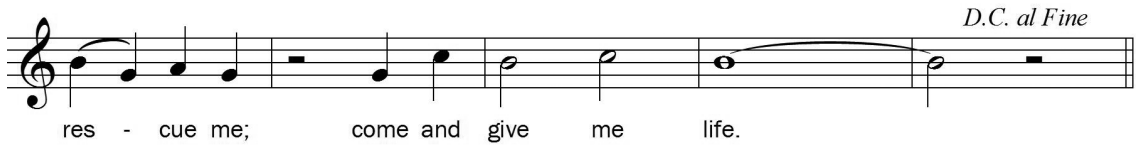
## *Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove*

Trinity Hymnal 332



## *Psalm 121: I Lift My Eyes Up*





## Prayer of confession

followed by a time of silent confession

## Declaration of forgiveness

Psalms 145:8-13

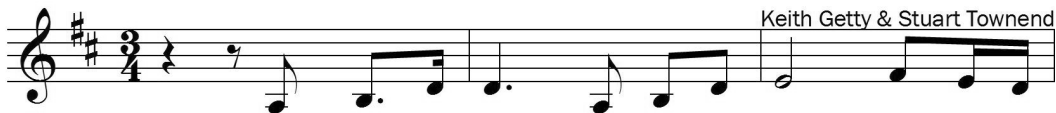
The Lord is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.  
The Lord is good to all,  
and his mercy is over all that he has made.

All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord,  
and all your saints shall bless you!  
They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom  
and tell of your power,  
to make known to the children of man your mighty deeds,  
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.  
Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,  
and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

*During the second song below, 4- to 6-year-olds are dismissed to the foyer for Christ Kids Worship and will return following the sermon.*



## \* In Christ Alone



Keith Getty & Stuart Townend

1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found. He is my
2. In Christ a - lone, who took my flesh, full - ness of
3. There in the ground His bo - dy lay, Light of the
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death: This is the



Light, my strength, my song. This Cor - ner-stone, this sol - id  
God in help - less Babe. This gift of love and right-eous -  
world by dark - ness slain. Then burst - ing forth in glo - rious  
pow'r of Christ in me. From life's first cry to fin - al




ground firm through the fier - est draughts and storm. What heights of  
ness scorned by the ones He came to save till on that  
day, up from the grave He rose a - gain. And as He  
breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny. No - pow'r of



love! What depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings  
cross as Je - sus died the wrath of God was sat - is -  
stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on  
hell, no scheme of man can ev - er pluck me from His



cease. My Com - fort - er, my all in all, here in the  
fied, for ev - 'ry sin on Him was laid. Here in the  
me. For I am His and He is mine, bought with the  
hand till He re - turns, or calls me home; here in the



love of Christ I stand.  
death of Christ I stand.  
pre - cious blood of Christ.  
pow'r of Christ I'll stand.



# \* *Speak, O Lord*

## Verse 1

Keith Getty & Stuart Townend



1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to re-ceive the food of Your
2. Teach us, Lord, full o - be - di - ence, ho - ly re - ver-ence, true hu -
3. Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds; help us grasp the heights of Your



Ho - ly Word. Take Your Truth, plant it deep in us; shape and  
mil - i - ty. Test our thoughts and our at - ti - tudes in the  
plans for us. Truths un - changed from the dawn of time, that will



fash - ion us in Your like - ness; that the light of Christ might be  
ra - di - ance of Your pur - i - ty. Cause our faith to rise, cause our  
e - cho down through e - ter - ni - ty. And by grace we'll stand on Your



seen to - day in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.  
eyes to see Your ma - jes - tic love and au - tho - ri - ty.  
pro - mis-es; And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.



Speak, O Lord and ful - fill in us all Your pur - pos-es for Your glo - ry.  
Words of pow'r that can nev - er fail; let their truth pre-vail o - ver un - be-lief.  
Speak, O Lord, 'til Your church is built, and the earth is filled with Your glo - ry.

## GOD'S WORD GIVEN TO US



### \* Scripture reading Exodus 33:18-23, 34:4b-9, 29-35, 2 Cor 3:18

<sup>33:13</sup> Now therefore, if I have found favor in your sight, please show me now your ways, that I may know you in order to find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.” <sup>14</sup> And he said, “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.” <sup>15</sup> And he said to him, “If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here. <sup>16</sup> For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people? Is it not in your going with us, so that we are distinct, I and your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?”

<sup>17</sup> And the Lord said to Moses, “This very thing that you have spoken I will do, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.” <sup>18</sup> Moses said, “Please show me your glory.” <sup>19</sup> And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name ‘The Lord.’ And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. <sup>20</sup> But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live.” <sup>21</sup> And the Lord said, “Behold, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock, <sup>22</sup> and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. <sup>23</sup> Then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen.”

(Exodus 34:4b-9, 29-35)

<sup>4b</sup> And he rose early in the morning and went up on Mount Sinai, as the Lord had commanded him, and took in his hand two tablets of stone. <sup>5</sup> The Lord descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord. <sup>6</sup> The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, “The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, <sup>7</sup> keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children’s children, to the third and the fourth generation.” <sup>8</sup> And Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped. <sup>9</sup> And he said, “If now I have found favor in your sight, O Lord, please let the Lord go in the midst of us, for it is a stiff-necked people, and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for your inheritance.”

<sup>29</sup> When Moses came down from Mount Sinai, with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand as he came down from the mountain, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. <sup>30</sup> Aaron and all the people of Israel saw Moses, and behold, the skin of his face shone, and they were afraid to come

near him. <sup>31</sup> But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses talked with them. <sup>32</sup> Afterward all the people of Israel came near, and he commanded them all that the Lord had spoken with him in Mount Sinai. <sup>33</sup> And when Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil over his face.

<sup>34</sup> Whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would remove the veil, until he came out. And when he came out and told the people of Israel what he was commanded, <sup>35</sup> the

people of Israel would see the face of Moses, that the skin of Moses' face was shining. And Moses would put the veil over his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

(2 Cor 3:18)

<sup>8</sup> And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God!**



\* Prayer



**Sermon**

Abounding Mercy

Pastor Andrew VanderMaas

God's Glory

Our Radiance

Further discussion/questions? [andrewvandermaas@christchurchgr.org](mailto:andrewvandermaas@christchurchgr.org)  
Sermons are available online at [www.christchurchgr.org](http://www.christchurchgr.org)

## DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD



### \* *Speak, O Lord*

Verses 2-3



### Prayers of the People



### Offertory *You Are with Me*

by Leslie Jordan and Sandra McCracken

*Give online at [christchurchgr.org](http://christchurchgr.org) or by texting (616) 208-2820.*

My heart is heavy and tired in this valley  
Mountains grow higher and higher  
But I can't find You--I'll keep lifting my eyes  
I know You're with me

I hear Your voice when You cry "Comfort, comfort"  
Sorrow may last for a night but in the morning  
Your joy breaks in with the light  
I know You're with me

I know You're with me and You are for me  
You've been behind me You go before  
You walk beside me through darkest valleys  
I know You are with me

You led me here where it's dry out in the desert  
You bring these bones back to life You put together  
You sing a song of delight  
I know You're with me

You will be praised  
I will oh I will wait

I know You are with me



## \* **Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him, all creatures here below  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.



## \* **Benediction**

Numbers 6:24–26

The LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;  
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

## \* **Postlude**

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### WORSHIP MUSICIANS

#### Onsite & Online

Amara Butler and Salome Neele, song leader  
Marguerite Duemler, flute  
Rich Mason, song leader & guitar  
Susan Guerra, piano

#### Online additional musicians

Sarah Griffioen & Susan Guerra, organ (*We Come, O Christ, to You*)  
Buwalda family (*How Great Is Our God*)  
Bray family (*Psalms 121*)  
Carly Harris, Orchestra (*In Christ Alone*)  
Guerra family (*Speak, O Lord*)  
Scofield family (*Doxology*)



# What meals are included?

**The All Church Retreat on October 1-3 at CranHill Ranch includes fellowship, fun, and FOOD!** Snacks Friday and four group meals over the weekend are included with registration.

Friday—We'll enjoy S'mores at a bonfire!

Saturday—We'll dine together for breakfast, lunch, and dinner in the dining hall.

Sunday—We'll eat breakfast together in the dining hall.

The registration form gives you the opportunity to list medically relevant food allergies so that alternative food options can be provided for you.

***Register today!  
Come to the Welcome Area  
or use this QR code.***



## **What is the All Church Retreat?**

A weekend of fellowship, rest, worship, and equipping for the continuance of God's story in our community. The All Church Retreat is for everyone. Plan to join your church family at Cranhill Ranch as together we focus on *Extending & Enabling: God's Growing Kingdom*. God continues to be at work in our community.

## **Where is the Retreat?**

CranHill Ranch, near Big Rapids, is a fun Christian camp offering an unforgettable experience for young and old. Lodging will be available in a variety of formats, including camping!

## **What will we do?**

We'll use the weekend to connect and grow as we look to the future as a church family. We'll gather for meals and three large group sessions led by Pastor Andrew. Saturday afternoon from 1-5pm we'll have fun with group activities as well as free time for hiking, canoeing and kayaking, sports courts, crafts, horses and ponies, rock climbing, zip lining, and more! We'll even have live music by the *Band of Breton* featuring some of our fellow Christ Church members.

## **How do I register?**

Register with the QR code above or at the welcome center on ipads or with paper and pay with a check. If you have concerns about cost or have a special need, email the committee at [allchurchretreat@christchurchgr.org](mailto:allchurchretreat@christchurchgr.org).

## Life of the church

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**Due to the increase in positive Covid tests in our area, we will move our 10:30 service outside for the next 3 weeks.** Please set up chairs in the grass facing the church building. The service will also be broadcast over 90.1 to be heard in your car radio.

**Dedication of the Atrium will be Sunday, August 29 at 10:00am.** We'll offer prayers and songs to consecrate the space together. Plan to attend!

### Opportunities to Serve!

Thank you to all who have used the Volunteer form to commit to serving at Christ Church. Highlighted below are some of the pressing needs that remain. We also still need more volunteers for the nursery. Thank you.

Ushers - 10 more

Sunday school *Not all of these are weekly commitments; see the schedule on the form.*

2nd-4th - 4 teachers & 4 assistants

5th-6th - 3 teachers

7th-8th - 1 teacher

9th-10th - 1 teacher

11th-12th - 1 teacher

**Together in Prayer: Wednesdays 6-7pm.** In person or via Zoom (get link from praying hands slide on our website)

**Choir meets again this Wednesday, 7-8:15pm.** This week we plan to go out together afterwards.

**Interested in learning more about Christ Church?** Currently you can participate in the First Things class online and then either meet with an elder or pastor or wait for the in person offering coming this fall in our Adult Institutes. Participating in this class doesn't in any way obligate you to become a member of Christ Church, but hopefully will help prepare those who do wish to become members. If you'd like to sign up, contact the office at [office@christ-churchgr.org](mailto:office@christ-churchgr.org).

## FAITHFULLY WORKING

**Workplace 2.0**, Friday, August 27th from 11:30-1:00pm (lunch provided) - COVID transformed many of our working lives, presenting us with new challenges and opportunities. Dan Churchwell along with Caroline Kelly (*Manager, WorkForce Futures at Steelcase*), Cassaundra Wolf (*Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor, MI Rehabilitation Services*), David Hopson (*Detective, Wyoming Police Department*) will talk about this new era of work, the value of human connection, and how we can pursue the flourishing of our peers. Sign up at <https://christchurchgr.breezechms.com/form/fwlunch>

**We are hosting Daniel Doriani, MDiv, PhD, on Saturday, Sept 11 from 9am-Noon**, for a presentation and discussion of his newly published book, *Work That Makes A Difference*. The Faithfully Working team is hosting group discussions of the book on August 19 and 26 (7pm) or August 22 and 29 (noon / after second service). Purchase a book (\$5 for congregants) and sign up at <https://christchurchgr.breezechms.com/form/fwbook>

## COLLEGE AGE

### River Tubing

Float down the river on Sunday, August 29th from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm. We'll leave together after the second service and return to church in the afternoon. You won't need your own tube, but you'll want to pack a lunch. Cost is \$5 per person, and sign up details are coming soon. Hope to see you there!

## YOUTH

### Jr High

Set aside Sep. 10-12 for our annual start up Fall Retreat at Cran-Hill

### Sr High

Our year starts off with our annual Fall Retreat at Cran-Hill, Sep. 17-19

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**Families with children**, please take a few minutes to fill out our Sunday Morning Children and Youth Ministries Registration page. This will help us plan for nurseries as well as Sunday School which starts with our toddlers and goes up through high school. <https://christchurchgr.breezechms.com/form/e2e121>

**Parents**, if you are joining us for worship onsite, your infants (6 mos and older) and toddlers up to age 3 are welcome each week in our nursery during the 8:30 and 10:30 services. Please continue to RSVP by Friday each week. Contact Debbie with questions about current protocols. [debbiebuko@christchurchgr.org](mailto:debbiebuko@christchurchgr.org)

Praise God for miraculous improvement in my health. A PET scan showed dramatic reduction in signs of cancer. **Thank you** to friends and family who have prayed & cared for me during the last 8 months. ~Sharon Denk

Master Arts Theatre presents ***Smoke on the Mountain*** Saturday 28 at 1:00 & 4:00pm. Cost to attend is a donation toward the purchase of Central Christian Church. Get tickets at <https://ticketpeak.co/masterarts/events> or call (616) 455-1001.

## Financial Report

	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Jan - July Receipts	\$591,317	\$ 605,246
Jan - July Expenses	\$574,688	\$ 601,743
Jan - July Over (Under)	\$ 16,629	\$ 3,502
Tithes and Offerings		
August 1	\$ 19,858	
August 8	\$ 20,393	
August Total Tithes & Offerings	\$ 40,251	\$ 82,125
EXTENDING COMMUNITY ENABLING MISSION CAMPAIGN		
Total Commitments	\$1,721,987	
Campaign Funds Received	\$1,166,059	

**In Depth Theological Study.** Are you interested in diving deeper into God's word and growing in your understanding of it? Pastor Andrew and Shinji Yasugi are exploring a Bible study to start this fall using curriculum from Third Millennium and running for 16 weeks. First class is scheduled on Monday, September 30 at 6:30pm at church. For more information on the class sign up at <https://christchurchgr.breezechms.com/form/study>.

## MEN'S MINISTRY

### Bible Studies

Mondays at 7:00pm, starting Sept 13  
Jerry Stutzman will lead a study of Leviticus. We will meet at church, with an option to participation via Zoom.  
Contact Greg: [gregmeibeyer@christchurchgr.org](mailto:gregmeibeyer@christchurchgr.org)

Wed, 6:30am - Gospel of John  
contact Bob at [lafleur1@comcast.net](mailto:lafleur1@comcast.net)  
or 616-988-9285

### Fellowship Breakfasts

Tuesdays, 8:30 am  
Russ' Restaurant, 2750 28th St  
Contact Linn Peterson

Wednesdays, 8:00 am  
Rainbow Grill, 4158 Chicago Dr  
Contact Dick Malone

**Join the Golf League!** 5pm Thursdays at Indian Trails. Contact John at 919-451-8123 or [brattj@live.com](mailto:brattj@live.com).

## WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP

**10-11:30am Tuesday Bible study on the Holy Spirit.** Join us from 10-11:30 at church. contact Anthoinette Bom.

**Book Club Tuesday, August 24 at 7pm** at church. Come discuss *War and Turpentine* by Stefan Hertmans.

### Fall Bible Studies

– **Tuesday Morning Study of Acts**  
begins September 20.

– **7 Feasts** by Erin Davis.

**Mondays** at 6:45pm *over Zoom*  
*beginning September 13*

**Wednesdays at 9:00-10:45am**  
beginning September 8

*in person with childcare for newborns to pre-schooler*

Signup at <https://christchurchgr.breezechms.com/form/7feasts> or with QR code on postcards and pick up your book (\$10) available in the welcome area. Questions?  
Contact [women@christchurchgr.org](mailto:women@christchurchgr.org)



2500 Breton Rd SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546 • 616-949-9630  
[www.christchurchgr.org](http://www.christchurchgr.org) • [office@christchurchgr.org](mailto:office@christchurchgr.org)  
Worship Sunday mornings at 8:30 and 10:30 am in the sanctuary.

Summer office hours: Wednesdays & Fridays 9:00-3:00pm

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** please submit by 7:30pm Tuesday to [prayer@christchurchgr.org](mailto:prayer@christchurchgr.org)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** please submit by 7:30pm Wednesday to [announcements@christchurchgr.org](mailto:announcements@christchurchgr.org)

#### STAFF

**Betsy Bray**  
Administrative Assistant

**Debbie Bukovietski**  
Director of Children's Ministry

**Jerry & Nina Gortmaker**  
Visitation Coordinators

**Scott Gritter**  
Director Youth Ministries

**Rick Groggel**  
Treasurer

**Susan Guerra**  
Director of Music & Arts

**Addison Hawkins**  
Associate Pastor

**Greg Meibeyer**  
Operations Director

**Ben Seneker**  
Pastor of Gracehill Church

**Andrew VanderMaas**  
Lead Pastor

**Morgan VanderMaas**  
Youth Discipleship

**Jim Visser**  
Executive Director

**Kimberly Visser**  
Office & Communications Manager

#### ELDERS *with fold zip codes*

**Bryan Burke & Jim Visser**  
49301, 49341, 49503, 49504,  
49505, 49525, 49538

**Mike Buwalda & Bob LaFleur**  
49506, 49507

**David deJong & Jerry Stutzman**  
49302, 49331, 49546

**Dick Friedrich & John Streefkerk**  
49007, 49508, 49512, 49315,  
49323, 49316, 49058

**Jerry Gortmaker**  
49418, 49423, 49426,  
49428, 49464, 49509,  
49519, 49534, 49535,  
49548

**Ken Morse**  
Gracehill

#### DEACONS

Randy Bosma  
Ray Chamberlain  
Jon Deur  
George Dykstra  
Jon Eldersveld  
Paul Lammers  
Chris Peterson  
Greg Stawicki