

# THIRD CHURCH NEWS

CONNECTING AND INFORMING THE THIRD CHURCH COMMUNITY

June 6, 2022

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## Congregational Meeting Update

Dear Siblings in Christ at TRC,

Yesterday we had our yearly congregational meeting as part of our Lord's Day morning. We celebrated with Word and Sacrament, worshiped and prayed together, and shared a meal. We were also able to have a vision update, select new members of the consistory and approve our year's budget for 2022. The budget passed with no discussion.

The new members of Consistory are Doug Walvoord and Scott Remenschneider to the office of governing elder and Kent and Maggie Franken to the office of care elder. There are still a few vacancies for care elder and deacon and leadership continues work on filling those slots as well as addressing the larger picture of our trouble with filling recent vacancies. The slate of elders was approved unanimously. Thanks to those who are serving.

We also recognized those consistory members whose terms were completed: Scott Millen, Dan Callam, Ben Lichtenwalner, Kim DeJongh, and Lucille Schroeder. We thanked them for their work and prayed for them as well as all of our Consistory as they continue to serve at TRC.

We also took some time to hear about the past year here at TRC. In a lot of ways, it marked a continued return of in-person programming. We celebrated the ways we were able to gather again and be with one another. We celebrated amazing growth in our El Encuentro ministry that has grown to over fifty people! We spoke about what we heard at the "Staytreat" about what God is asking us to do in this next season of ministry. We presented two big aims over the next few years: First, that TRC will live the Third Way—we will be able to hold the tension of our disagreements and show the world how it is that we can live with difference as a community. Second, that we can continue to grow into a place of belonging for all people who come here. Can we be such a place of welcome and enfolding that we are known for our hospitality? More will come on these things as Consistory approves a one and three year strategy for accomplishing these goals. If you have any questions about these topics, please feel free to reach out to me, Pastor Ryan.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Ryan

# Living Green

—Mark Faga, Lead Custodian and Green Team Member

Last month we talked about DITCHING THE PLASTIC. How is that going? Have you made any progress? Remember it does not have to be all at once. Start simple by eliminating one plastic use and when that becomes natural ask yourself what plastic can I ditch next. Although if you go gangbuster and ditch it all, kudos to you. Just don't give up, an all at once approach can be tough.

So what's next on the baby steps to going green list you ask?

SAVE WATER!!! This one is probably easier than you think. Start small. Turn the water off when you are brushing your teeth. Or how about a low flow shower head (if you don't already have one). And if you're a regular bath taker you may want to consider transitioning into taking showers. Don't get me wrong, soaking in the tub after a long day can be glorious, let's just try not to do it too often. And even now that the warm weather is upon us make sure you are not overwatering your lawn. Remember that 1-2 long soaks per week is all your lawn typically needs to be strong and healthy. Overwatering tends to allow your lawn roots to stay shallow and not reach down for the moisture it needs.

This month's book is for our 3-6 year old readers, "ABC Earth-Friendly Me: From Action to Zero Waste" by Christiane Engel. This book pairs aspects of eco-friendly living with each letter of the alphabet teaching young children their ABC's while encouraging them to be aware of their environment and the impact they can have on it. Engaging illustrations, fun rhyming, and simple concepts will introduce your child to an eco-friendly way to care for the earth.

And finally to leave you with this...

"Trees are Poems  
That the Earth  
Writes upon the sky"  
Khalil Gibran

## Announcements

### Women's Ministries Year-End Tea Party

Ladies, you are invited to an English Tea on Saturday, June 25, at 2:00 p.m. here at church. You are also welcomed to participate in a plant exchange. You can bring extras from your garden or home and take something new (plants or bulbs). Please label what you bring.

Al Osman will be talking to us about dividing and pruning our plants to make them healthier and prettier. Please reserve your spot with Ruth Sill, [ruthesill@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ruthesill@sbcglobal.net) or 616-566-6394 or by calling the church office by June 15.

## Summer Volunteer Opportunities

### I AM Academy STEM Camp

Summer is just around the corner! If you'd like to help with the STEM camp at Meadowlanes, please take a minute to sign up for some sessions [here](#). Parents, your elementary-aged children are welcome to come along and participate in the STEM camp. Middle-school and high-school age kids will be working alongside I AM Academy MS and HS youth to serve the younger kids. The STEM camp is geared towards elementary-aged kids. Please let us know if you need transportation for your MS/HS youth.

We also hope many of you can come to the two remaining movie nights and the evening with Henry Cherry. The dates are as follows:

- **Wednesday June 8**, 7-8:30pm STEM Camp orientation night with Henry Cherry, and ice-cream!
- **Wednesday Jun 22**, 6-8:30pm in the TRC Youth Room. Screening of **Just Mercy**, discussion moderated by Henry Cherry and Dean Miedema. Pizza will be served.

The movies are both rated PG-13. Parents, please use your discretion in deciding if the movie is suitable for your child. For families with younger children, we recommend reading children's books that deal with themes of racial injustice (check out Herrick or the TRC library), and watching a film such as [Ruby Bridges](#) with your kids.

Please call the church office to sign up so we know how much pizza to get.

### Summer Lift

We still have plenty of opportunities to participate in Summer LIFT, which will run on Wednesdays from 5:30-7:30 from June 26-Aug 3. Specifically, we are still in need of volunteers for meal teams to prepare and serve simple, "cook out" style meals to be served outdoors (with instructions from a lead cook or staff person), as well as leaders for children and youth activities (with instructions and materials provided by staff). Anyone 9th Grade and up is encouraged to sign up to volunteer! Email us at [office@trcholland.org](mailto:office@trcholland.org) to sign up. These sign up forms are also available on the church website.

Last year was a wonderful experience of Summer LIFT for gathering and growing together! We truly rely on volunteers to make this possible, and look forward to many from our church family offering their time for a night or two, or weekly, this summer, so that we can offer this program to our church and community!

## Third Church Family News

### New Address

Dennis & Mary DeWitt  
212 S. River Ave.  
Apt. 404  
Holland, MI 49423

# The *micro*Pantry

at Third Reformed Church



## Micro Pantry Food Items Needed

### Food Items:

- Macaroni & Cheese
- Spaghetti
- Canned Spaghetti Sauce
- Canned meats - tuna, beef, chicken
- Canned fruits
- Canned vegetables
- Soups
- Baby formula
- Powdered milk
- Powdered eggs
- Dry cereal
- Ketchup\*
- Mustard\*
- Peanut butter\*

- Bread
- Snacks
- Chips
- Cookies
- Health bars
- Crackers

### Hygiene Items

- Toothpaste
- Feminine products
- Bar soap
- Deodorant
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Diapers
- Handy wipes

\*Avoid starred items in winter.

## Prayer Requests

Please pray for the following:

- Pray for RCA General Synod meeting in Pella, Iowa, beginning on Thursday. Pray for Linda Jacobs who will be a delegate from Holland Classis.
- Pray for guidance in our ongoing search for a new Director of Children's Ministry.
- Pray for the summer activities at TRC, including the STEM program that begins with orientation this week.
- Pray for all children who begin their summer break this week.
- Prayers for healing of Dennis and Mary De Witt.
- Pray for Doug and Kay Walvoord's son and daughter-in-law (Derek and Cynthia); Cynthia will have a C-section on Thursday, June 9 for the birth of their baby. This has been a difficult pregnancy that included breast cancer and surgery for Cynthia.

For those under Hospice care:

- Sue Pettinga
- Margaret Doorenbos
- P.J. Booi and Duane (caregiver)
- 

**Prayer Spotlight:** Home—Bill Charlton, Don Maatman, Barb Mummert, Ruby Steketee.

**Missionaries:** Jaime & Martha Amaro (Mexico), Albino & Sandy Rodriguez (Peru).

**People to remember:** Dennis Gebben and Nancy (caregiver); Mary and Harry Boersen; Reno Lamania; Donna Prins; Pastor Angel and Pastor Janelle in their ministry with Spanish speaking families.