

THIRD CHURCH NEWS

CONNECTING AND INFORMING THE THIRD CHURCH COMMUNITY

November 8, 2022

Volume III No. 44

In this issue:

- LIFT Tomorrow •
- Congregational Meeting on November 13 •
 - Rietberg Concert November 21 •
 - Advent 2022: Echoes •
 - Living Green •
 - Disability Concerns •
 - Announcements •
 - Third Church Family News •

Upcoming Congregational Meeting

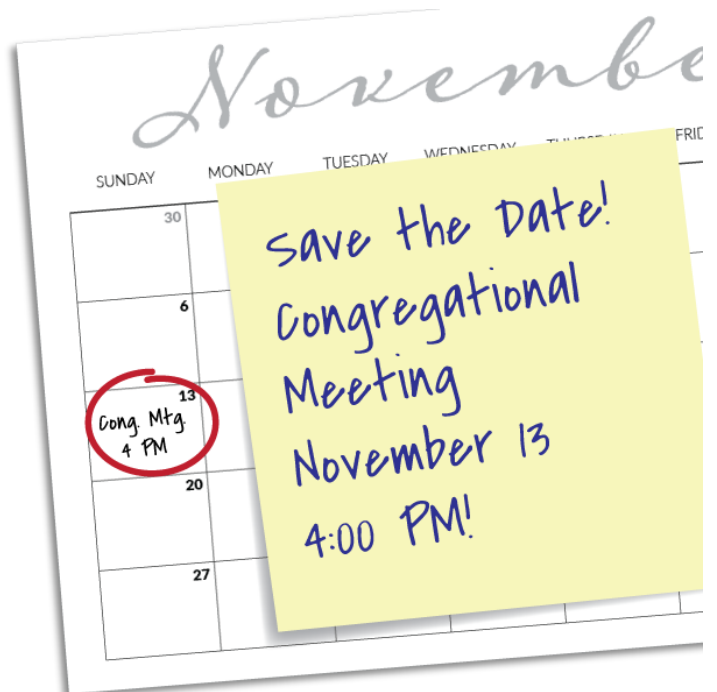
Friends in Christ,

We will be having a congregational meeting on Sunday, November 13th at 4 p.m. in the sanctuary. The goal of the congregational meeting will be to address a few things:

1. To give the congregation a chance to interact with the vision document that went out a few weeks ago and to ask questions.
2. To receive an update on the HVAC project and where we are in the process.
3. To give an advisory vote to consistory on a six month budget that will take us to June 30th, 2023.
4. To share some thoughts about the long term financial picture of TRC.

We invite you to join us in person or, if you need to join the meeting by Zoom, please email office@trcholland.org and an invitation link to the meeting will be sent to you on the 12th of November. ***The Sunday Worship link will not work for this meeting.***

Grace and Peace to you.



ECHOES

ADVENT 2022

THIRD
Reformed Church

What if those writing the stories down were still just as awestruck as we were when we first heard it?

Did you hear what the shepherds said?
Is the promised Messiah really here?
Could it really be true?

When the early church was looking for words about what was happening in their midst, they leaned into the prophets. They turned back to the scriptures to remind themselves of the hope God gave them when they were in their darkest moments of exile. When things were still being formed, the faithful found the echoes of those that had gone before to ground them in what God was doing in their midst.

Do we still hear the echoes of the scripture in what God is doing among us?

Are we still open enough to hear it?
Are we willing to unplug from all the other distractions and listen to the echoes of the prophets again as they call to us to remember the promise of Emmanuel?

Join us this Advent and Christmas as the prophets speak to us again of the promise of the Messiah.

Living Green

—Mark Faga, Lead Custodian and Green Team Member

Oh boy, did you all get enough candy for Halloween? I sure did. I made sure to buy all of my favorites then I turned off the lights, put on a great movie and enjoyed. Don't be a hater, I typically never get any trick-or-treaters due to where I live. But Halloween is over and the Christmas commercials, music and movies have started. Don't you just love it? But I digress. I told you last month that we'd talk this month about 3 impactful steps to reduce your carbon footprint. And being a man of my word, here you go...

1. **EAT YOUR VEGGIES.** This doesn't mean go vegetarian if you don't want to but it does suggest that you back the meat off to dinner and try to eat it only twice a week at most.
2. **REDUCE FOOD WASTE.** We talked about this last month, remember? Only buy what you need. Remember, we as a society waste 40% of our food.



THE 23RD ANNUAL
RIETBERG CONCERT
featuring
DR. JULIA BROWN
NOVEMBER 21, 6:30 PM
WITH THE MUSIC OF
BUXTEHUDE, SWEELINCK,
SCHEIDEMANN, BACH,
OSTERLAND, AND COUPERIN

(we'll talk more about that next month)

3. MINIMIZE DRIVING. Try biking, walking or using public transportation. Better yet, buy an EV and use green energy.

So there they are. Did you know these ahead of time? I'm sure there are others, but these are big. So, pick one or try all three—it's up to you, but do try, remembering to not overdo it. Just do your best knowing that you are doing something and teaching our next generation to do that much and more.

For this month I will leave you with a quote...

"To me a lush carpet of pine needles or spongy grass is more welcome than the most luxurious Persian rug."—Helen Keller

Disability Concerns

—Phil Coray, Advocate and Congregational Member

In August CRC & RCA Disability Concerns held a conference on Ableism, which is defined as "Discrimination in favor of non-disabled people".

Often people with disabilities are not asked to participate in activities because we don't get to know them well enough to know what they are able to do and their interests. Forming such relationships is important. Their involvement is limited to their being prayed for. For some people they are thought about mainly for their disability.

For some of them what is considered their disability is so much a part of their character they wish others would not assume they want their disability to be the object of prayer. Amy Kenny has written the book *My Body is Not a Prayer Request* about those who feel that way. Some congregations are forming groups of people who would be interested in reading and discussing the book. I would encourage anyone, including church officers, to contact me to participate in a group. Copies will be supplied by the Disability Concerns office. Recordings of both sessions "What is Ableism?" and the second session "How Can Churches Overcome Ableism" are available for viewing and discussion [online](#).



Announcements

Sunday Morning Education Series

NOVEMBER 6, 13, & 20, 2022

WE THREE KINGS

Rev. Dr. Steve Stam, Current Member and Former Pastor of Third Reformed Church (Retired)

This three-week series will focus on the lives and times of Saul, David, and Solomon whose reigns are often referred to as Israel's golden age. These were the years of the united Hebrew kingdom, before it was split into two nations: Israel to the north and Judah to the south. Our study will be informed both by Scripture and the archaeological record and will seek to offer a deeper understanding of the historical background and the politics of the time.

Sunday Morning Bible Study

The Corinthian Correspondence: The Cross Changes Everything. A study with Rev. Dr. George Hunsberger.

This study takes place in room 22 on the lower level.

Mitten Tree

Women's Ministries will again put up a "mitten tree" in December but want you to be thinking ahead of what you may like to make or donate for this cause. Some of your gifts will go to Third Reformed Church people, the rest will be distributed by Community Action House free to those in need.

Micro-Pantry Needs

The Micro-Pantry continues to be in great need of the following items:

Canned spaghetti sauce, Canned stews, Soups, Canned fruits, Canned Potatoes, Cereal, Toilet paper, Paper towel, Soap, Shampoo, Deodorant, Hand wipes, Snack items

Third Church Family News

Congratulations

To Zack Honeycutt and Jacob Van Duinen, who both made profession of faith in our 10 a.m. service on Sunday, November 6.

To Jose, who joined our church via baptism, and Lucia, Francisco, Jesus, Pablo, and Yasser who joined by way of Confession of Faith on Sunday, October 30, in our 11:30 El Encuentro service.

Sympathy

To Anne Bakker and Tom Davelaar in the death of Anne's father, Jerry Bakker, in Grand Haven on Monday.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for the following:

- For Jacob Van Duinen and Zack Honeycutt who made their profession of faith on Sunday Nov. 6
- For Marcia Callicoat who is in Holland Hospital.
 - Those recuperating:
- Kelley Pasatta
- Ed and Jane Westerbeke who have moved to the American House.
- Lucille Schroeder who has moved to Beacon Hill in Grand Rapids. (address and phone number remain the same)
- Ellen Rieck who has moved to Appledorn
-
- Those in Hospice Care: Margaret Doorenbos and Lois Jalving.
- For volunteers to drive to immigration appointments.
- Those traveling to Mexico: Pastor Angel, Pastor Ryan, Jim (Santiago) Padilla DeBorst, Laura Baer, and Joel Schoon Tanis and others from Fellowship Church and Lighthouse immigration who are going to visit the border and Frontera de Gracia.

Remember in our prayers: Reno Lamania, Joanne and Jack Kuiper, Don Maatman, Larry Loss, Lucille Schroeder, Dennis and Nancy Gebben, Mary and Harry Boersen, Betty Van Wyngarden, Bob and Elle Kuiper, Tom Norman, and Alan Beagley.

Prayer Spotlight: Appledorn - Bob Kuiper, Donna Prins, Ellen Rieck.

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