

THIRD CHURCH NEWS

THE SEASON OF LENT 2023



March 30, 2023

Volume IV No. 13

THIS COMING SUNDAY,
April 2:

Palm Sunday

*Dr. Madison Pierce on
Hebrews 7:23-29*

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Holy Week Schedule

We have a full Holy Week schedule coming up.

- April 2, 2023, at 10:00 AM Palm Sunday Worship in the sanctuary.
- April 2, 2023, at 11:30 AM El Encuentro Worship in the Fellowship Hall.
- April 6, 2023, at 5:30 PM Maundy Thursday All-Church dinner of soup and salad followed by a worship service in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 PM.

Need To Take an RMD?

—Dave Vanderwel, Assistant Treasurer

Those of us who are 73 years of age or older have received a letter from our fiduciary in the past month indicating that we need to take a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from our IRA or retirement account during this calendar year and how much we are required to take. Because there were no taxes paid on the contributions made to our IRAs over the years, we will be required to pay taxes on these RMDs when we take it as income.

You may, however, make a charitable contribution instead of taking that amount as income and not have to pay taxes on the amount you choose to donate. That's known as a direct contribution to charity or a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). That can be done in any amount up to \$100,000 when you have your fiduciary organization send the check directly to the charity. If that direct contribution is less than your RMD, you will still pay taxes on the remaining portion that you take as income; if the amount is more than your RMD, there is no tax due on that distribution. You may also make QCDs to multiple organizations to fulfill your RMD.

During the past year, Third Reformed Church received 60 gifts totaling over \$200,000 from 34 of our members who used this option as a way to support the ministry of TRC. If you would like more information about using this possibility as a way to make a contribution to TRC or have questions, talk to Dave Vanderwel or your fiduciary about how this might work for you.

- April 7, 2023, at 12:10 PM Good Friday Ecumenical Worship service in the sanctuary.
- April 9, 2023, at 7:00 AM Easter Sunrise service beginning outside (weather permitting)
- April 9, 2023, at 10:00 AM Bilingual Easter Sunday Worship in the sanctuary. Children will receive an Easter Gift Bag to take home with them. No Sunday School or Adult Education this week.



Yes, we tried this before.

Yes, we were snowed out.

However!

→ We are hopeful the weather will cooperate.

→ We will have hot coffee, hot tea, and hot chocolate along with *donuts for everyone!*

→ And we are adding on some indoor clean up activities as well.

All in all it will be a fun, productive, and satisfying morning. We hope you can join us!

There is NO LIFT Next Week, April 5

Instead, please join us Thursday night for our All-Church Maundy Thursday Soup Dinner and Worship Service. LIFT will resume on Wednesday, April 12.

New Hebrews Bible Study

Please join us during LIFT for a three-week study on the priestly work of Jesus in Hebrews! This study will be led by Dr. Madison Pierce, and it will offer some additional opportunities to engagement with Hebrews. Each week we will focus on Hebrews 4-10 and answer a question (or two) related to atonement: Who? (April 12); where and when? (April 19); and why? (April 26). Dinner is at 5:30, and the study begins at 6:15.

Announcements

More Dishes Needed for Maundy Thursday Meal

Based on the attendance we had last year, we've amended our Signup Genius form to reflect the fact that we think we'll need more dishes. Please sign up by calling the church office to bring either Soup, Salad, or Bread for our Maundy Thursday meal.

Please Update Your Information...

We are coming up on traditional spring cleaning time, and one area we could all "dust off" and clean up is our contact information in ShelbyNext. We want to make sure our church directory is up to date, so please take some time and look at the directory and make sure all of your contact information, birth dates, anniversary dates, etc. are correct. This would also be a good time to update your individual and family pictures too. If there is incorrect information please inform Kristen in the church office so that the directory can be updated. If you need assistance accessing the directory please contact Kristen in the church office.

Upcoming Mosaic Classes

April 2

Islam 101: Learning the Basics for Better Understanding and Relationships

John Hubers

Rev. Dr. Hubers currently serves as a professor and consultant for the Christian-Muslim relations program at the Mekane Yesus Seminary in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. John and his wife Lynne have also served as RCA missionaries in Bahrai, and John was a member of the religion faculty at Northwestern College. John and Lynne are members of Third Reformed Church.

John will be giving a basic overview of the roots, beliefs and practices of the world's second largest religious community - Islam - the members of whom are our neighbors both in the biblical and literal sense.

April 9, 2023: Easter Sunday, no Adult Education classes

April 16, 2023

Rev. Dr. Don Bruggink: A Biographical Interview Conducted by Nella Kennedy

Nella Kennedy will sit down with Don and facilitate a discussion around his years of experience in teaching and preaching. Reverend Dr. Donald J. Bruggink received his A.B. from Central College, Pella, Iowa, in 1951 and his B.D. from Western Theological Seminary, Holland, Michigan, in 1954, and Ph.D. at the University of Edinburgh in 1956. He was licensed and ordained by the RCA Classis of Wisconsin in 1954 and served as pastor of the Fordham Manor Reformed Church, Bronx, New York, from 1957-1962, after which he joined the faculty of Western Seminary in 1962.

Don's books and publications include *Guilt, Grace and Gratitude: A Commentary on the Heidelberg Catechism* (1963), *Christ and Architecture: Building Presbyterian/ Reformed Churches* (1965), *When Faith Takes Form: Contemporary Churches of Architectural Integrity in America* (1971) and *Worship the Lord* (1987).

Sunday Morning Bible Study *ROOM CHANGE*

The Corinthian Correspondence: The Cross Changes Everything.

A study with Rev. Dr. George Hunsberger.

This study will take place in the Chapel this Sunday.

Third Church

Family News

Happy Birthday

To Ruby Steketee who will turn 103 on April 4. Ruby's address is 288 Marquette Ave. Holland, MI 49424, if you would like to send her a card.

Prayer Requests

Condolences:

- Leigh and Nathan Klay on the death of Leigh's grandmother.

Pray for the following:

- Etta Hesselink who has returned her apartment from the hospital.
- Grayson Sievert who has returned home from the hospital.
- Linda and Elmer Parchert as they adjust to Elmer's move to the memory unit at FV
- Dennis De Witt who has returned to his apartment from hospital and is now under the care of Hospice.
- Continue to pray for Arshad Amiri (17 yo). This week Arshad Amiri (17 years) was diagnosed with a rare genetic immunodeficiency. There are only about 200 known cases of this type in the world. Arshad will need weekly, "long-term" immunoglobulin replacement therapy as soon as they have prior approval from the insurance company. An infusion nurse will come to the Amiris' home to teach Shafiqah how to give the weekly injections. Please pray that this therapy will be helpful for Arshad and that

the whole process will go well.

- For those in the high school youth group and parents who are traveling to Mexico: Aspen Boes, Jack Bolt, Miriam Lopez-Koolhaas, Eleanor McMullen, Remi Van Farowe, Anya Wolters, Dan Bolt, Baily Brumels, Hunter Brumels, Angel Lopez.
- For those families traveling during Spring break
- For the church services leading up to Easter.

Remember in our prayers: Reno Lamania, Joanne and Jack Kuiper, Larry Loss, Dennis and Nancy Gebben, Mary and Harry Boersen, Margaret Doorenbos, Bob and Elle Kuiper, Tom Norman, Lucille Schroeder.

Prayer Spotlight: Home - Bill Charlton, Barb Mummert, Ruby Steketee; Out of Town - Lucille Schroeder, Ellen Rieck.

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