

# THIRD CHURCH NEWS

Thursday  
1 February 2024  
Volume V, Issue 5

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CONNECTING AND INFORMING THE THIRD CHURCH COMMUNITY

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## “Have You Not Heard?”

Reghan Harms  
Sunday, February 4  
10:00 AM

## Scripture

Isaiah 40:21-31

**In this edition:** LIFT Next Week | All Church Retreat Information | Lenten Study | Announcements | Prayer Requests | Winter Weather Cancellation Policy

## LIFT Next Week

Dinner is at 5:30, and Feb. 7 it will be fajita tacos (vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free options will be available). Following dinner we have Middle School Youth Group, activities for children 4 - 5th grade, groups for adults, and an intergenerational book club focusing on the classics. We hope to see you there!



## Announcements

### Mosaic Class

February 4

### **BELONGING: THE CHURCH AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**

Janelle Sievert, M.Ed, Third Church Member

## Lenten Bible Study

As we did last year, we plan on having several small-group studies for Lent. Check back next week for further information and to sign up for a group.

Janelle Sievert, Educational Consultant from All Belong Center for Inclusive Education, will guide us in ways to move from inclusion to belonging for individuals with disabilities within the church. By understanding the “Ten Dimensions of Belonging,” developed by Dr. Erik Carter of Vanderbilt University, we will consider ways that we can build belonging within our own TRC community.

(announcements continued on page 3)



**SAVE THE DATE:  
THE ALL-CHURCH  
RETREAT IS  
MARCH 8-10!**

## Cultivating a Culture of Lavish Hospitality: The 2024 All Church Retreat

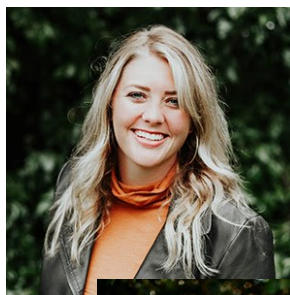
Join us March 8 - 10, 2024, as we work on cultivating a culture of lavish hospitality the third way, practicing wholehearted hospitality or *hospitalidad de todo corazón* in Spanish. Held at the church building,

this will be a weekend full of food, fun, and fellowship!

This year's retreat will feature keynote presentations by the team from the RCA's Office of Diversity and Belonging. The following speakers will be presenting and facilitating over the weekend, as well as participating in leading worship, leading a Women's Ministry coffee time, and participating in youth and student activities.



**Liz Testa**  
Director of Women's Transformation and Leadership



**Annalise Radcliffe**  
Director of Future Church Innovation



**Ruth Langkamp**  
Coordinator for Next Generation Engagement



**Jeremy Simpson**  
Director of Diversity and Belonging

Our weekend will also include great music led by a combined worship team, a Youth AfterParty, Coffee Time for TRC Women's Ministry, break-out activity options for different age groups throughout the weekend, including children's time with Reghan during keynotes, as well as a fun swimming outing to our local pool, and wonderful mealtimes and fellowship.

On Sunday evening at 6:00 PM, TRC will host a region-wide RCA worship service celebrating 50 years of Women's Ordination in the Reformed Church. This is a worship service for men and women, giving thanks and praising God together! For further information, contact Pastor Janelle or Pastor Ryan.

Registration begins Tuesday, February 6. Look for our email with a link to the form!

(continued from page 1)

## New Key System Installed: Your Key Will No Longer Work on Exterior Doors

We recently made a major upgrade in security and accessibility by installing an RFID lock to our main parking lot doors. These doors will now unlock with card access, which we can customize to days, times, and hours for special events or access needs, and also allows us to set open and close hours automatically. As a part of this process, we have rekeyed the rest of our exterior doors for full security. If you currently have a key to the church, please turn it in to the office. If you have a need for church access outside of the regular office or Sunday hours, please contact the office and we can help you.

## Permanent Office Hours Change

Our office will be closed to the public on Friday afternoons going forward. The church is still available for use, and meetings can still be scheduled for that time frame; however, the office will not be open for regular business.

## No Camp Scholarships for 2024

We will not be offering camp scholarships in 2024 as we are looking at ways to best steward our budget and resources.

## Prayer Requests

Pray for the following:

- Nathan and Leigh Klay as they wait for medical test results for Nathan.
- Paula and Gayle Wilson who are experiencing some health issues.
- Bob Kuiper is at Resthaven Rehab.
- Phyllis Brown has returned to Vista Springs
- Marcia Calliccoat medical tests
- Dean Miedema recuperating from surgery for a broken femur.
- Dan Bolt recuperating from surgery for a bro-

ken tibia.

- Jonathan McMullen for healing.
- Kathleen, daughter of Charles Hunt dealing with advanced cancer.
- Steve and Laurie Orlow's son, Jeremy, dealing with cancer.
- Those who have had surgery this week and other medical struggles.
- For all migrants and refugees throughout the world. Pray for the new families that have arrived in Holland this past week.
- Pray for Kids Hope, for the students, those who mentor and those who are prayer partners.
  - For confirmands and their mentors as they go through the profession of faith process:
- Anna Stewart - Kay Stewart
- Lucy Green - Chris Walvoord
- Faith Millen - Anna Beird
- Kimia McMullen - Susan Boes
- Rilla Carpenter - Madison Pierce
- Lucy Carpenter - Laura Baer
- Jana Honeycutt - Jane Dalman
- Remi VanFarowe - Megan Boes
- Miriam Lopez-Koolhaas - Kathy Schoon-Tanis
- Lorena Lopez-Koolhaas - Bethany Bulthuis
- For peace and justice in Gaza and all countries dealing with war. For all children who are in war areas, children who are living in dangerous places and are displaced from their homes.
- Hospice Care: Margaret Doorenbos, Mary Heideman

## Prayer Spotlight

The Inn or Assisted Living at Freedom Village: Esther DePree, Charlotte Garlough, Mary Heideman, Shirley Hoksbergen, A.E. Lacy, Linda Parchert.

## Remember in Our Prayers

Joanne Kuiper, Larry Loss, Dennis and Nancy Gebben, Mary and Harry Boersen, Bob and Elle Kuiper, Barb and Gordon Mummert, Tom Norman, Linda Parchert, Steve Van Grouw and all others who find themselves in difficult and lonely situations.

## Missionaries

Jaime and Martha Amaro (Mexico), Albino and Sandy Rodriguez (Peru).

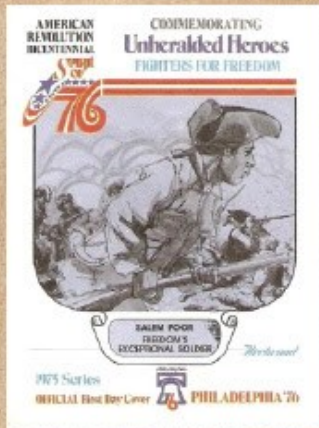
The Justice and Equity Team of Third Reformed Church Presents

# FAITH, FREEDOM AND THE FOUNDERS: THE REVOLUTIONARY ROOTS OF EQUALITY IN AMERICA

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2024 @ 7 PM**  
**THIRD REFORMED CHURCH OF HOLLAND**

**EXTRA!  
EXTRA!**

**A-NOT-TO  
-BE-  
MISSED  
EVENT**



In the current debate around the founding values of this nation, important facts about the founding citizens of this nation and Michigan have been lost, including their actions towards freedom and equality. In this inspiring talk, Dr. Anna-Lisa Cox, award-winning American

historian, will detail new historical discoveries that reveal the ways that people of faith and the churches of the Revolutionary era were involved in moving those values forward, and how we can look to this past to give us hope for the future.

Dr. Cox's recent book, *The Bone and Sinew of the Land*, on the long-denied history of African American pioneers who settled the Midwest before the Civil War, was honored by the Smithsonian Magazine as one of the best history books of 2018. Professor Henry Louis Gates Jr. praised it for being "a revelation of primary historical research that is written with the beauty and empathic powers of a novel," and New York Times best-selling author Professor Ibram Kendi lauded it for being a "ground-breaking work of research."



111 W. 13th Street, Holland, MI 49423 . (616)392-1459



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