

First Netherlands Reformed Congregation



*“Do good in Thy good pleasure unto Zion:
build Thou the walls of Jerusalem.”
Psalm 51:18*

Pastor - Rev. H. Hofman

**Sunday Worship Services
9:15 AM 2:15 PM 6:00 PM**

Located at 1261 Beckwith N.E. Grand Rapids, MI

Bulletin for April 26, 2026

All the following information is “The Lord Willing.”

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Today, Rev. Hofman will preach at our morning and afternoon services. He will be in Kalamazoo this evening for public confession of faith, and we will have a reading service.
- Next Sunday, Rev. Hofman will preach at our morning and evening services, and we will have a reading service in the afternoon.
- Bible Truth Books will be open this Saturday from 3:00 to 5:00 PM.
- The following individuals have completed the Confession of Faith class, and the consistory is presenting their names for approbation. They hope to make Public Confession of Faith at the evening service on Sunday, May 10. Any legal objections must be brought to the consistory’s attention in writing. This is the first notice.

Constance Ella Boluyt	Madelyn Ruth Hoefakker
Felicia Rose DeVisser	Autumn Marie Kegel
Treston James Engelsma	Robert Gayl Lytle
Mikalya Paige Fritz	Isaiah Joel March
Seth Allen GeBuys	Mallory Ann Rozema
Joshua Mark Hoefakker	Annelise Barbara VanDyke

PRAYERS OFFERED

- For Mr. and Mrs. Nate Engelsma, who were blessed with the birth of a baby girl, Brynn Elisa, last Friday. Both mother and baby are doing well.
- For Richard DeRuiter, who is in the hospital due to heart issues.
- For Ava Kamp, who was hospitalized and is recovering after her surgery.
- We extend our condolences to Mr. and Mrs. Randy (Nancy) VanderBoon and their family on the loss of a dear mother, mother-in-law, and grandmother. Mrs. John VanderBoon passed away last Sunday at the age of 98.

ADVANCED

- Lydia Guild invites all women of the congregation to the last meeting of the season on Tuesday, May 5, which will include a potluck. The dinner will start at 6:00 PM. Please bring a dish to share.
- We will have a combined service with the Covell congregation for the National Day of Prayer on May 7, at 7:00 PM.
- We will have an Ascension Day service on Thursday, May 14, at 7:00 PM.

OFFERINGS

Today:	1 st Building 2 nd School Tuition
May 3:	1 st General 2 nd School Tuition
May 7:	1 st ESSP 2 nd Rosthern Church Building*

*The Picture Butte congregation has a small branch in Rosthern, Saskatchewan. They have been renting a building but were recently able to purchase an existing church building. The Picture Butte consistory received permission from the classis to ask for financial assistance from other congregations. They kindly request that you consider helping the Rosthern members with their financial burden. May the Lord bless you and your gifts.

APPRECIATION

We would like to express a heartfelt thank you to everyone in the congregation for the help, kind words, care, meals, cards, and other tokens of love shown to us before and after Kimberly's birth. Above all, we acknowledge the Lord for making all things well so far. *Mr. and Mrs. Trent Knibbe*

I would like to thank everyone for all the cards, visits, well wishes, and prayers during my hospital stay, birthday, and move to Rest Haven. *Esther Dykstra*

NURSERY SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 3, 2026

Infants AM

Mrs. Nicole Verhoef
*Cora Knibbe
Courtney Bleeker
Tizita Engelsma

Infants PM

Mrs. Paulina Rosendall
*Emily Bazen
Kaelynn Fluit
Taylor Kamp

Toddlers AM

Mrs. Karalyn Weeda
Lindsey Fluit
Tessa Stegenga
Lucy Kamp *if needed

Toddlers PM

Mrs. Rebecca Bleeker
Jodi Flokstra
Ariana Klaasen
Elaina Knibbe

INFORMATIONAL MEETING

An informational meeting for the School Expansion and Senior Living project will be this Wednesday at 7:00 PM at PCS. All members of the Beckwith, Covell, and Kalamazoo congregations are invited to attend. Please make every effort to attend this meeting. The committees will present significant information regarding the school expansion projects, the Senior Living Home, and the Beckwith School property. This information will prepare you for the multiple proposals that will be put before the male members at our congregational meeting in May.

ADDRESS UPDATE

Benjamin and Kristen Knibbe
1553 Garfield St. - Marne, MI 49435
Ben 616-485-9014 - Kristen 862-254-3557

GOD'S JUDGEMENTS

Shall I not visit for these things? saith the LORD; shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this? Jeremiah 5:29.

THREE times the Lord God repeats, by his prophet, this alarming question. Their ingratitude and obstinacy were so notorious, their sins so enormous and aggravated, the sentence denounced against them, however severe, was so undeniably just, that partial as they were to themselves, God is pleased to appeal to their own consciences, and to make them judges in their own cause; inviting, or rather challenging, them, to offer any plea why his forbearance and patience, which they had so long despised, should be still afforded them. But the form of the question will not permit us to continue the application to Israel or Judah.

The words are not on this nation particularly, but 'On such a nation as this.' The Lord, the Governor of the earth, has provided, in the history of one nation, a lesson of instruction and warning to every nation under the sun; and the nearer the state and spirit of any people resemble the state and character of Judah when Jeremiah prophesied among them, the more reason they have to tremble under the apprehension of the same or similar judgments. God brought Israel out of Egypt with an outstretched arm, divided the Red Sea before them, led them in the wilderness by a pillar of cloud and fire, fed them with manna, and gave them water from the rock. He planted them in a good land, and though they often sinned and were often punished, they were distinguished by many tokens of his presence and effects of his goodness above any other nation.

We likewise are a highly favoured people, and have long enjoyed privileges which excite the admiration and envy of surrounding nations: and we are a sinful, ungrateful people; so that, when we compare the blessings and mercies we have received from the Lord, with our conduct towards him, it is to be feared we are no less concerned with the question in my text than Israel of old.

John Newton

Church Directory

CATECHISM AND ADULT BIBLE CLASSES

Classes meet after the Sunday morning service.

COLLECTIONS

Offerings are used to fund church operations and to support various charitable causes, as published regularly in the bulletin. While it is intended to use collected amounts as announced, pursuant to IRS guidelines, discretion and control of these contributed funds remain with the Consistory.

CONSISTORY

The Consistory meets on the first Tuesday of each month.

LYDIA GUILD

The Lydia Guild meets on alternate weeks at 7:30 p.m.

LISTENING EAR SUPPORT COMMITTEE

Website ListeningEar.FirstNRC.org or email NRCListeningEar@gmail.com

NURSERY SCHEDULE

Nursery is provided for morning and evening services. Email nursery@firstnrc.org

RECORDINGS

An online sermon library is available at recordings.firstnrc.org. To request access to the online system, please email recordings@firstnrc.org or contact Tom Engelsma at 616-292-8741.

PRINTED MATERIAL INFORMATION

The Banner of Truth	973-809-2112
Paul (mission periodical)	226-321-4260
Insight Into (young peoples' periodical)	604-794-5887
Treasured Meditations	616-822-6367
Learning and living	403-320-7992

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Plymouth Christian School 965 Plymouth Ave. NE 616-454-9481
www.plymouthchristianschools.org

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please send announcements to Elder John Spaans/Tom Engelsma by email at bulletin@firstnrc.org or call Tom at 616-292-8741 **by 8:00 PM on Thursday.**

CHURCH DIRECTORY; MODERN MEDIA MATTERS, BULLETINS, PERIODICALS

Email your home address or phone number changes to directory@firstnrc.org. In the interest of saving mailing costs, please provide us with your email address. Modern Media information, NRC periodicals, and bulletins are accessible at firstnrc.org/. Church services are live-streamed at listen.firstnrc.org/

MAILING ADDRESS

P.O. Box 152163 Grand Rapids, MI 49515-2163

FNRC PARSONAGE

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