

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 October 25, 2026

All the following information is "the Lord willing."

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Today, Rev. Hofman will preach at our morning and evening services. He will preach a preparatory sermon this morning; we will have a reading service this afternoon. Censura Morem was held at the last consistory meeting.
- Next Sunday, Rev. Hofman will administer the Lord's Supper in the morning and preach a reflection sermon in the evening. He will be in Kalamazoo in the afternoon, and we will have a reading service. There will be no catechism or adult Bible classes next Sunday.
- Due to the Lord's Supper administration in the morning and Baptism taking place in Kalamazoo in the afternoon, the consistory has decided to start our evening service at **6:30 PM** next Sunday.
- The choir will meet on Monday at 7:15 PM.
- The school board will meet on Tuesday at 7:00 PM.
- We will have a service for Reformation Day and regarding the Lord's Supper this Wednesday at 7:00 PM.
- The confession class will meet on Thursday at 7:00 PM.
- Student Rozeboom will speak in Covell for a Reformation Day service this Friday at **7:00 PM**.
- This week's puzzle is available on the narthex table or via this [link](#).
- The Lydia Guild would like to remind everyone about its current members' birthday calendar project. If you do not wish to be listed, or if you notice any errors or changes since the Joshua Group printed the last edition, please email 1stnrcguildCalendar@gmail.com.

PRAYERS OFFERED

- Our condolences to Mrs. Jackie van't Zelfde and her family on the loss of a dear sister-in-law and aunt, Mrs. Anna Stryd, and a dear brother-in-law and uncle, Mr. Paul DeVries. Both passed away in the same week.

NURSERY SCHEDULE

Wednesday, October 28, 2026

Infants PM

Mrs. Aimee Boluyt
Felicia DeVisser
Emily Bazen

Toddlers PM

Mrs. Karleen Klaasen
Audrey Kamp
Jillion Rozeboom

Sunday, November 1, 2026

Infants AM

Mrs. Christina Engelsma
Mrs. Miranda DeMeester
Kaelynn Fluit
Sophia Kegel

Infants PM

Mrs. Rachel Knibbe
Courtney Bleeker
Bereket Engelsma
Kylie DeVisser

Toddlers AM

Mrs. Maria Kamp
Jessica Van'tZelfde
Ariana Klaasen
Kenzlei Rogell

Toddlers PM

Mrs. Rebecca Bleeker
Madison Engelsma
Courtney Van't Zelfde
Melanie Sporte

ADVANCED

- The evening guild will meet on Tuesday, November 3 at 7:00 PM.
- Holy Baptism is scheduled for Sunday, November 22, with registration on Saturday, November 14 at 4:00 PM.

OFFERINGS

Today:	1 st Emeritus 2 nd School Capital Fund
October 28:	1 st Treasured Meditations 2 nd ESSP
November 1:	1 st Building 2 nd School Tuition

APPRECIATION

A sincere thank you for all the visits, meals, phone calls, cards, gifts, and other tokens of support after our accident. May the Lord add His blessing. *Tim and Sharon VanDyke, and family*

QUOTES

Grace cannot reign where ignorance reigns. Ignorance is Satan's stronghold. *Thomas Watson*

PREPARATORY

"Gather my saints together unto me; those that have made a covenant with me by sacrifice." Psalm 50:5

The Lord's Supper is not an institution of man, but a commandment of the Lord of lords, for it was this blessed Mediator of the Covenant who instituted this sacrament in the night in which He was betrayed. At the breaking of bread and drinking of the cup, the Lord Jesus assured His disciples of His eternal love toward them, seeing His body would be broken and His blood would be shed not only to satisfy Divine justice, but also to manifest to His people that His flesh is food indeed, and His blood is drink indeed. It is only in Christ that God's chosen people can appear before God, and, similarly, it is only His perfect righteousness which can give satisfaction unto eternal life. Of this Holy Supper Christ declared not only to His disciples, but also to His entire Church throughout all times and ages: "This do in remembrance of Me."

We may not treat this command, which Christ enjoined in love, as though it were a light matter, nor may we view it merely in accordance with our own notions on the matter. Indeed not; we must agree to this Divine command unconditionally. A day should be set aside at regular intervals on which the Lord's Table, the Table of the Covenant, is to be prepared in the presence of the congregation. Those are times when the devil is afoot to distress the souls of God's children. Times when the power of indwelling corruption manifests itself so fearfully, and the desolations of their soul are multiplied. So much is at times permitted to take place in the providence of God. Sometimes deep calls to deep, and the darkness which pervades the soul of the child of God is so great, that he must declare: "I am shut up and cannot come forth".

Preparatory services are in accordance with God's Word and have been maintained by our fathers throughout all ages. These services are of such great value in rousing poor, unrepentant souls and convincing them of the seriousness of life. Without union with Christ, by faith, a person is without life and without hope for eternity. I long to awaken you to holy jealousy at this time, so that you will be desirous of knowing that great salvation which is in Christ. These services are equally necessary to disillusion those who fancy they have a right to the children's bread, but who have never passed through the strait gate of true repentance and regeneration into the narrow way which leads to life. May God keep you from self-deception.

Finally, these services again and again prove to be necessary to arouse the poor people of God, and to be a hand and a foot to them on life's pathway. The upright people of God are often so timid. So often they are distracted by all sorts of doubts and misgivings which arise in their minds, which deprive them of the liberty to approach the Table of the Covenant. In this respect, also, the servants of God have a most glorious ministry. They are called by God to stir up God's children to commemorate the death of Christ. *Rev. Lamain*

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

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