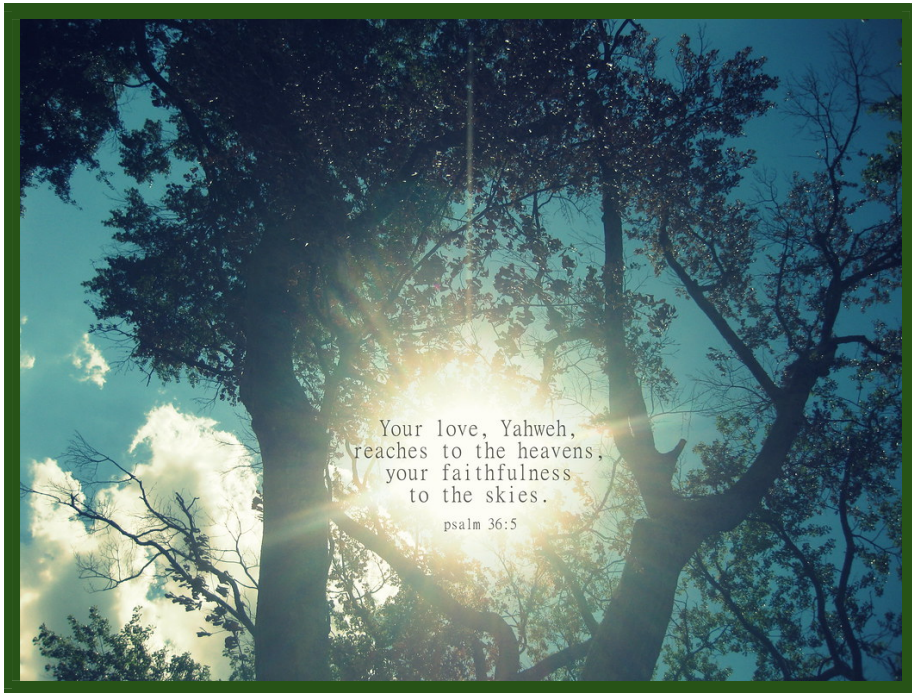


FIRST REFORMED CHURCH
of **SOUTH HOLLAND**
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Sunday, September 22, 2024



Welcome to First Reformed Church!

Being part of a church means growing together. For 175 years, First Reformed Church has been a place where people gather to follow Jesus, give our praise and thanks to the Father, and keep in step with the Spirit as we receive encouragement, face challenges, and bear one another's burdens.

1857 is the first record of Sunday School classes being held in our church. Classes for our children have been part of our church life ever since! Currently we hold Sunday School classes from 11:10am-noon on Sundays throughout the school year, through high school. There are also adult classes and Bible Study opportunities.

Come join us as we grow, learn, worship, and serve together!

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Sunday, September 22, 2024

WE APPROACH GOD

Organ Prelude

"Concerto in C Major"
"When in Our Music God is Glorified"
"To God be the Glory"
"Thy Mercy and Thy Truth, O Lord – Psalm 36"

Welcome & Call to Worship

Pastor Anthony Bolkema

*Congregational Worship

"Let the Whole Creation Cry"
"Christ, Our Hope in Life and Death"

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Jim Oord

Song of Assurance

"Love of God"

Greeting One Another

Pastor Jim Oord

THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture Reading

Psalm 36

Prayers of the People

Pastor Anthony Bolkema

Message

"How's Your Heart? Carrying a Message"

WE RESPOND TO GOD

Offertory

Request Jar

*Doxology

*Benediction

Pastor Jim Oord

*Sending in Grace

"God Be With You"

*Organ Postlude

"Praise Ye, the Father"

*Those who are able please stand.

Please, join us downstairs in the Fellowship Hall after worship for a cup of conversation and a cookie

UP & COMING AT FIRST...

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

GREETERS: Don and Nyla DeGraff; **WELCOME CENTER:** Gerri VanBaren
WORSHIP TEAM: Nolan Bolkema, Grant Sikkema, and Lisa Triemstra
PROJECTION: Gwen Adams; **VIDEO:** Rhonda DeBok; **SOUND:** Lucas Bolkema
ORGAN: Steve DeVries; **PIANO:** Anthony Bolkema
NURSERY: Mary Decker and Sara Jabaay
COFFEE SERVERS: Rodger & Sherry Norris, Nyla De Graff, and Faye Gowens
COOKIE VOLUNTEERS: Nyla DeGraff, Nancy DeVries, and Barb Grevengoed
PRAYER ROOM ELDER: Clint Verhagen

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

9:30AM: Piece Makers meet in the Fellowship Hall
7:00PM: Music Team rehearsal

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

10:00AM: Women's Bible Study meets in the Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

6:00PM: Meal/"The Chosen" in the Fellowship Hall

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

4:00PM-6:00PM: Clothing Closet in the Activity Center

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

GREETERS: Jim DeGroot and Steve VanderWoude
WELCOME CENTER: Alison VanderWoude
WORSHIP TEAM: Kim Bolkema, Nolan Bolkema, Nikki Nyhanna, Nick Paarlberg, and Lisa Triemstra
PROJECTION: Liam VanderWoude; **VIDEO:** Keith Flowers; **SOUND:** Rhonda Hesselink
ORGAN: Joanne Hoeksema; **PIANO:** Jeremiah Green
NURSERY: Darcy Daly and Gerri VanBaren
COFFEE SERVERS: Claude and Sharon Brooks and Gwen Adams
COOKIE VOLUNTEERS: Nancy DeVries, Cindy Paarlberg, and Merley Verhagen
PRAYER ROOM ELDER: Roger DeGraff

CARE...

Our Christian sympathy is extended to **Michael Ware** and his family on the passing of his wife Taketia, on Wednesday, September 18. The Ware family were former members of First Church. Funeral arrangements are pending.

Jim Rietveld has been admitted to Crown Point Franciscan, Room 542 as doctors are trying get his kidney and liver numbers back to normal.

Gert Stallinga fell and had surgery yesterday to repair damage to her hip and femur. She is in the ICU at the University of Chicago in Hyde Park.

Ruth DeBoer fell and broke 3 bones in her hip and pelvis. She is undergoing therapy at Hartsfield Village Rehab.

Ellen Nelson's daughter **Colleen** is going through a variety of serious health issues.

Craig and Jan Nelson continue to struggle with a variety of health issues and need prayers for health and strength.

Mary Berumen has been able to return home and is receiving home health care.

Adina Holloman, Trina Taylor's daughter, completed her antibiotics last week. She was very happy to have that IV line removed. She is back to working full time, but they are still monitoring her. She is still on medication to reduce brain swelling and having minor headaches. Thanks for your prayers and support!

Continue to pray for those battling cancer, going through treatments, facing side effects, or caring for a loved one with cancer. And for those giving care to parents, spouses, siblings, children, and/or friends who are struggling.

OUR EXTENDED FAMILY: **Anita Decker-Steenbergen**, Hartsfield Village, #1308, 10002 Columbia Avenue, Munster, IN 46321

OUR GIFTS...

Sunday, September 15

Offering: \$9,602.07; (Needed Weekly: \$11,500.00)

Total Giving: **\$9,602.07**

Reach 175: \$10,353.65; UPDATED REACH 175 TOTAL: \$75,491.29

ON DUTY FOR SEPTEMBER...

First Security: Colin Cutler; **First Emergency:** Alison VanderWoude

CHURCH LIFE...



GAME NIGHT: **Saturday, October 12**, from 6:00-8:30pm in the Fellowship Hall, we'll be playing UNO, Ticket to Ride, various party games (Catchphrase, etc.), and King's Court (instructions provided by Jack Olthoff). There will also be a table of games for young children. Pizza will be served. Sign up at the Welcome Centers!

GETTING TO KNOW YOU: When you go downstairs for coffee, take a look at the screens in the Fellowship Hall. We're continuing a series of "Getting to Know You" slides where our church family can meet various members and learn interesting tidbits about each other. Stay tuned ... maybe you'll be interviewed next!

CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORTS for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, are available in a single marked mail slot located on the north end of our mail slots. If you have any questions please contact Deacon Chairman, Eric Pradelski.

MONTHLY MISSION SPOTLIGHT: This month we are highlighting our mission partner, Grace Covenant (formerly known as Jackson County in Annville, Kentucky). At the Welcome Centers, you'll find a bookmark with prayer needs from Grace Covenant. Please keep them lifted in prayer throughout the month and stop by the Welcome Center in the narthex to sign a card for them.



**WILL YOU PARTICIPATE IN OUR 2024
THANKSGIVING STUFFING
CHALLENGE?**

Beginning next **Sunday, September 29**, we will be collecting boxes of stuffing. Our goal as a church is to collect 1000 boxes! These boxes will be donated to

Open Access who will use them as a part of the 1000 Thanksgiving meals they will give away to families this fall. Please call the church office with any questions. Your donations can be dropped off in the narthex at our Welcome Center, or at the blue table in the Fellowship Hall.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES...

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS today for all ages from 11:10am - noon. All are welcome to join us as we spend time learning more about God and His Word. See the insert in your bulletin for class information and locations.

THE LADIES' BIBLE STUDY KICKOFF will be this **Tuesday, September 24** at **9:30am** (note the change in time) in the Fellowship Hall. We will be having a brunch followed by a session of our new Bible study for the season: "Jesus & Women in the First Century and Now" by Kristi McLelland. Please contact Mary Koster if you have not ordered your study book and need one. Thank you!



THE CHOSEN: Episode 3 of Season 3 does an amazing job at balancing Jesus' humble attitude and his confident conviction. There's no sign that Jesus doubts who he is or what he has been called to do. When he avoids proclaiming his identity openly, it's clearly a decision that's born out of his character and/or strategy - not out of doubt. When pressed to speak, he speaks boldly and

doesn't hesitate to call out the spiritual issues in his hometown. When pressed about his identity, he acknowledges that he is not only a rabbi and not only a prophet, but the one the prophets foretold and the pure embodiment of God's salvation and justice. Indeed, the attempt to execute Jesus testifies to how lofty his claims were perceived to be. To proclaim himself to be the Law of Moses would be blasphemy, if it weren't true. This study continues this **Wednesday, September 25**, and will include a light meal at 6:00pm. Please sign up at the Welcome Centers.

FUTURE WEDNESDAY “THE CHOSEN 3” NIGHTS

October 9 & 23, November 6 & 20, and December 11

December 4: First Christmas Party (no study)

December 18: Chapel Vespers Service

6:00 – 7:30pm

REMINDERS....

BE SURE TO VISIT the welcome centers to sign up for church events, sign cards for our shut-ins, and sign the card for our missionary of the month.

PRAYER ROOM: Every Sunday, an elder is assigned to pray in our Prayer Room for 20 minutes following the service. The Prayer Room is located through the doors and down the hallway from the Chapel (exit the Sanctuary from the door by the piano). The praying elder will be praying for those who attended the service, the needs of our congregation, and various parts of our church's life together. If you have a particular prayer request, stop by and the praying elder will pray with you (or you can join her or him in prayer for our church).

PLEASE KEEP THE PARKING AREA that is lined in the front and on the north side of the church - which is closest to the elevator - available for those who have difficulty walking. Thank you!

PLEASE CONTACT the church office if you know of a friend or family member who has been admitted to the hospital.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS...

ELIM DUTCH FESTIVAL is **Saturday, September 28**, at Elim Christian School in Crestwood, IL. A day of fun, friends, and fantastic Dutch food and treats. Please join us. We need your help to make this day a success in supporting the ministry of children and adults with disabilities. We will need baked goods, craft items, and volunteers to work that day of the festival. If you are willing to help, please contact Lynn Hoeksema, Tricia Paarlberg, or Judy Gill.

THE BIBLE LEAGUE VOLUNTEER AMBASSADORS of First Reformed Church have placed a special fundraising letter in your church mailbox. Together we are equipping Christians and churches all over the globe to engage people in the Word of God. As a result, God’s Kingdom is growing! Look for this letter and as you read it, please sincerely pray for God’s Word to change lives. We appreciate any contribution you can make to purchase Bibles. Kindly respond on or before **Monday, September 30**. If you have any questions, please contact Becky Wright or Judy Gill.

SERMON NOTES...

Psalm 36

“How’s Your Heart? Carrying a Message”

Pastor Jim Oord

PRAYER ROOM: Need a word of encouragement or someone to pray with? Come to the prayer room after church until 11am. It is located outside the double doors west of the Chapel. A team of dedicated volunteers would welcome the opportunity to pray with you this morning.

2024-2025 Sunday School

Sunday School meets today from 11:10am-12:00pm from Sept. 22-April 27.

Breaks will be: October 27, December 29, February 16, and April 20.

PreK-5th Grade gather to sing, work on memory verses, and collect an offering in the Genesis Room from 11:10-11:30am, then move to their classrooms from 11:30am-noon

PreK-2nd Grade

- Teachers: Jenne DeYoung, Sara Jabaay, Julia Keep, Katie Sikkema
- Helpers: Megan DeYoung, Amber Fransen, Mykah Lett, Clifton Rhodes
- Room: Genesis Room
- Material: “The Gospel Project” curriculum, covering Acts and the letters of Paul

3rd-5th Grade

- Teachers: Kim Bolkema, Jenne DeYoung, Gail Housman, Katie Sikkema
- Helpers: Anthony Bolkema, Laurel DeGraff, Sarah Jabaay, Mykah Lett
- Room: Library
- Material: “The Gospel Project” curriculum, covering Acts and the letters of Paul

6th-8th Grade

- Teachers: Rhonda Hesselink, James Oord
- Helpers: Anthony Bolkema, Kim Bolkema, Dacia Hill, Julia Keep, Peter Keep
- Room: Heritage Room
- Material: “HC and Me” (the Heidelberg Catechism)

9th-12th Grade

- Teachers: James Oord, Grant Sikkema, Rick Veldboom
- Room: Balcony
- Material: Book Club

Tibstra House (starting October 6)

- Teacher: Raylene Oord
- Room: Chapel
- Meets from 10:40-11:30am

Adult Classes (also attended by high schoolers)

- “Let’s Talk about Death” (led by Jim Oord and Tim Smits) – Oct. 20, 27, Nov. 3
- “Reformation Rockstars” – Nov. 24, Dec. 1 & 8 (led by Jim Oord & Russ Paarlberg)
- “How to Do Devotions” Workshop - January 19, January 26, February 2 (led by Jim Oord and Joanne Hoeksema)
- TBD - March 30 and April 6



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SECRETARIES' OFFICE HOURS

9:00AM – NOON / Monday – Friday

STAFF...

Rev. Dr. James Oord
Senior Pastor

Gerri VanBaren
Administrative Assistant

Pastor Corey Buchanan
Associate Pastor

Steve Alexander
Church Custodian

Anthony Bolkema
Pastor of Worship & Ministry

Jane Ackerman
Church Accountant

Rev. Dr. Rich Grevengoed
Pastor of Care & Visitation

Darcy Daly
Nursery Coordinator

Nyla DeGraff
Church Administrator

Toni Smith
*Director of Family Life
Christian Pre-School & Day Care*

Visit us online at www.frcsh.org

Find us in the app store by searching for
"First Reformed Church South Holland" or by visiting get.theapp.co/1779.



To get to know you better, please fill out our **Welcome Card**
in the pew and place it in the offering plate. If you want
more information about the life of First Church,
make sure to include your email address.