

Growing with the Lord Debt Reduction

With the tremendous appreciation in the stock market over the last nine years or so, perhaps some of you have accumulated large potential gains. A great plan can be the gifting of your appreciated stock to the church as your Growing with the Lord gift. A few of the benefits of gifting appreciated stock are

- avoid paying capital gains tax
- receive a significant tax deduction
- contribute more net dollars to Growing with the Lord than with an outright cash gift.

If you are required to withdraw a minimum retirement amount from your accounts because you are over 70 1/2 years of age, then a rollover of your required distribution in full or part can also provide a tax savings. The gift must come directly from your plan administrator to Cascade Fellowship in order to avoid including the amount in your income for the year.

The church has a brokerage account set up to handle such stock gifts. Please contact the Church Treasurer, Dan H, or Church Accountant, Bob B, for information to take advantage of these opportunities.

Dan H, Church Treasurer

Bob B, Church Accountant
949-4342 (church) or bob@cascadefellowship.org

"But just as you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge,...see that you also excel in this grace of giving."
II Corinthians 8:7

THIS WEEK

Sunday

9:00am Sunday School
9:00am Discover Cascade
9:30am Prayer (CG #1, Prayer Room, #201)
10:30am Worship (UWC & LWC)
12:00pm Meal (Hosts: CG #6)
3:30pm Middle School Youth
6:00pm Evening Gathering
6:00pm High School Youth

Monday

6:30pm GriefShare
7:00pm Worship Rehearsal (LWC)

Tuesday

7:00am Men's Bible Study at Gathering Place
9:30am Women's Bible Study
6:55pm Bible Study Fellowship (Men)
7:00pm Ministering Elders Board Meeting
7:30pm Women's Min. Leadership Team Meeting

Wednesday

12:30pm Wonder-full Wednesdays Book Club
1:00pm Senior Adults Bible Study
6:30pm Financial Peace University
7:00pm Worship Rehearsal (UWC)

Friday

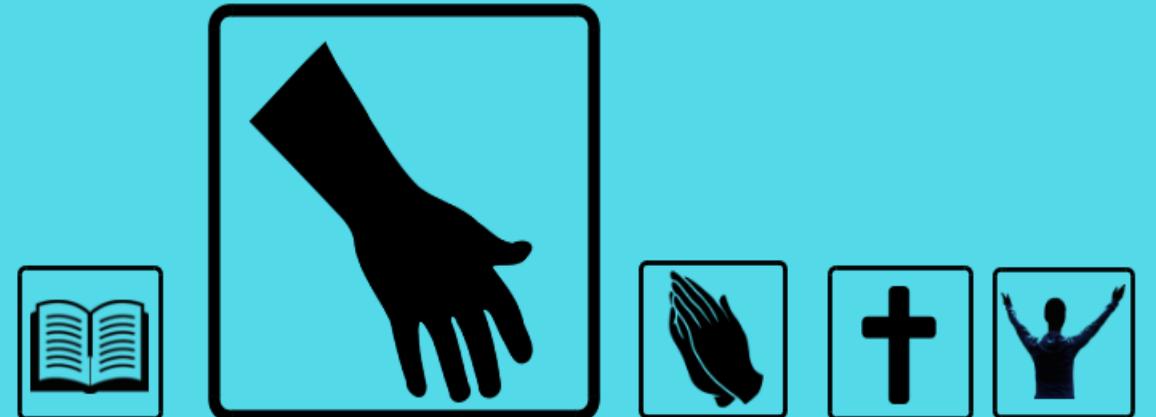
6:15am Men's Bible Study

Sunday

9:00am Sunday School
9:30am Prayer (CG #2, Prayer Room, #201)
10:30am Worship (UWC & LWC)
12:00pm Meal (Hosts: CG #5)
6:00pm Evening Gathering
6:00pm High School Youth

Cascade Fellowship Christian Reformed Church
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Grand Rapids, MI 49546 | office@cascadefellowship.org

October 15, 2017



REFORMATION

Cascade Fellowship Christian Reformed Church October 15, 2017

Welcome

We are pleased to worship with you today as together we worship the one true God who faithfully controls the seasons of our world and of our lives.

If you are visiting today, we invite you to stop at the Information Center to find out about our ministries and activities.

Please enjoy refreshments and fellowship after the worship service.

Mission and Vision Our mission is to love God, love people, and make disciples wherever we go. Our vision is to see lives transformed by the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Nursery & Children's Worship

Nursery is available on the lower level for infants through two-year-olds. A nursing room is also available for mothers. Our **Children's Worship** program provides age-appropriate worship for children age three through 1st grade. Children are dismissed from the Worship Centers early in the worship service and should be checked in at Check-In Centers. Parents, please pick up your children personally using the parent card after the service.

Today in Worship

Message: Grace Alone

Pastor James Karsten

Scripture: Ephesians 2:1-10

Praise: *Your Grace Is Enough
And Can It Be
This Is Amazing Grace
Amazing Grace*

REFORMATION

Five hundred years ago
and today

Special Offerings

Today: External Ministries Fund
Next Sunday:
Christian School Tuition
Assistance Fund

Worship Notes

On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed 95 theses (statements for discussion) on the door of All Saint's Church in Wittenberg. The impact of those hammer blows began the reformation of the Church. In the course of the reformation, five key principles were established and affirmed. In Latin they are *Sola Scriptura* (Scripture alone), *Sola Gratia* (grace alone), *Sola Fide* (faith alone), *Solus Christus* (Christ alone) and *Soli Deo Gloria* (to the glory of God alone). On this 500th anniversary of the Reformation, we spend five weeks looking at each of these principles, considering why they are still true and relevant to us today.

Prayers for the Family

Gary & Betsy, Owen and Cooper G (#1) The G family mourns the loss of father and grandfather Glenn G on October 4.

Fran N (#5), Bill & Jean K (#8) The N family mourns the loss of brother-in-law and uncle, Rev. Calvin N, last Sunday.

Eric & Kristeen, Jackson, Nora, and Lincoln VW (#1) The VW family rejoices in the birth of a healthy baby girl, Joanna Henriette, Tuesday.

Women's Ministries

Snack & Shop Shoppers needed! Reserve November 2 for our 3rd annual Snack & Shop event!

Adult Ministries

Evening Gathering Join us tonight at 6pm for praise, prayer, teaching, and fellowship in the Cascade Room. Tonight Rev. Ed M leads.

Adopted, Transformed, and Held The Adult Sunday School class (9:10-10:10am) discusses biblical truths and a Reformed faith which can change the way we live today in this confusing and challenging world. Leader: Jessica M. Any adult welcome any week!

Children's & Youth Ministries

Middle & High School Youth Middle school meets today, 3:30-5pm. High school meets 6-8pm. Join us for fun, food, and Jesus.

Announcements

Weekday Reflections Carry Sunday's message this month into your life and week. Watch your email for brief reflections and applications of Sunday's topic three days a week.

GriefShare Join us Monday evenings, 6:30-8:30pm, for help working through the grieving process. Newcomers always welcome. Questions? Contact Julie, julie@cascadefellowship.org.

Celebrate Calm: Parenting Seminar We host Kirk Martin as he talks about practical ways to parent with love and calm. Join us Wednesday, November 8 (at Cascade Station) from 6:45-8pm for a free seminar for parents and leaders of children and teens.

Event Help To allow GEMS & Cadet leaders, parents, children & youth leaders to attend Celebrate Calm, volunteers are needed to help with nursery, childcare, greeting, and dinner cleanup. If you are able to help Nov. 8, 6:15-8:15pm, please sign up on the bi-fold, online at cascadefellowship.org, or email Laura B at laura@cascadefellowship.org.

Visionary Family Conference Dr. Rob Rienow will be at Bauer CRC, Hudsonville Nov 4 & 5. Visionary Parenting portion on Nov 4 is designed to motivate and equip parents and grandparents to help their children and grandchildren grow in Christ. See bauercrc.org/405-2 for details and registration.

Thank You Thank you so much for the flowers, cards, and words of sympathy given to our family as we mourned the loss of John's mother. We so appreciate the love we feel from this body.
John & Laura, Justin, Ryan, and Aaron B

REFORMATION



Grace Alone

Scripture: Ephesians 2:1-10

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. Ephesians 2: 8-9

What is the basis of our salvation? At the time of the Reformation, this was a burning question. Is God's grace enough or do we have to add our own merit to it?

Things to Think About

- 1) How do you define grace?
- 2) In what ways have you tried to earn God's grace or favor?
- 3) Have there been times that you have treated God's grace like an additional benefit rather than as all-sufficient?
- 4) Why is it important that grace is unmerited?
- 5) Why is the word "alone" so important?
- 6) Take time to list several ways you have experienced God's unmerited grace in your life.

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— Romans 3:23-25

Paul says that the Jews who had been converted to Christianity knew that they could not be justified by the works of the law, but only by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and he makes a comparison between the two in order to show that we cannot be justified by grace unless we actually renounce all personal merit. John Calvin

Therefore, we are justified freely by His grace, that is, by God's mercy, so that we understand that we are pleasing to God, not on account of the dignity of our works, but on account of Christ" Philip Melancthon

"Yes, dear friend, you must first possess heaven and salvation before you can do good works. Works never merit heaven; heaven is conferred purely of grace."

Martin Luther

Additional Resources

What's So Amazing About Grace?

Philip Yancy