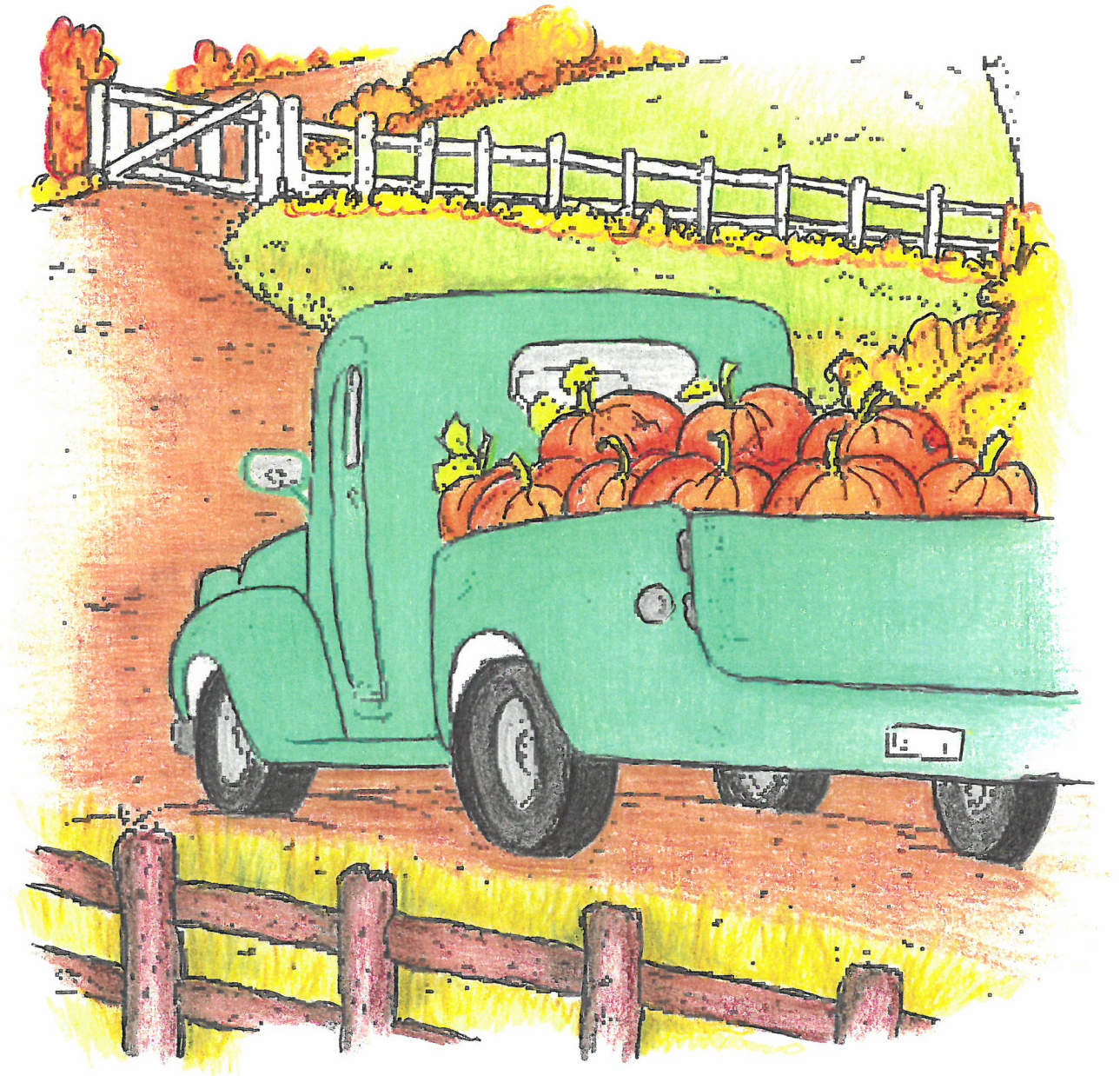


The Borculo CRC

# *Messenger* Fall 2023





From our Summer Intern.....

*“There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother” - Proverbs 19:24*

This past summer, I had the privilege of getting to know and serve you, Borculo CRC, as your pastoral intern. Thank you for welcoming me as your guest and for training me to become a more faithful preacher and pastor.

As with most callings, the best way to learn how to preach is to *preach* and the best way to learn how to pastor is to *pastor*. Improvement happens over time through the discipleship and correction of experienced and wise pastors who care for the flock and care for the flock's future shepherds. Pastors Terpstra and Petroelje are two such experienced and gifted shepherds whose ministry to me has been profoundly deep and meaningful. These are men who are remarkably Christ-like, full of grace and truth. These are men for whom I am very thankful.

But it's not just Pastors Terpstra and Petroelje for whom I am thankful. It is all of you who are full of grace and truth. Thank you for your grace, patience and discipleship of me as I have ministered among you. You have sharpened me as iron sharpens iron and the fruits of your ministry to me have already borne much fruit as I look ahead to the ministry which God has called me to next.

Thank you also for your friendship and brotherly affection to me through your hospitality and fellowship. Whether it was at Vacation Bible School, or at CRC's General Synod, or during the Fourth of July, or during softball championship games, or at the Ottawa County Fair, or in the Upper Peninsula or around the dinner table, your warmth and love speak volumes to me of the Heavenly Father who has first loved you.

As I settle into my first post-seminary ministry role as the Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church (ARP) in Lake Wales, FL, there is a mantra which rings again and again in my heart like a church bell. It is a mantra that I look to remain faithful to not just in ministry but in life itself.

Can you guess what that mantra might be?

It is Pastor Terpstra's refrain in his sermon on the morning of August 6th, 2023, my last Sunday as summer intern at Borculo. "HOLD FAST!" Pastor Terpstra pleaded on the basis of Hebrews 10:23. "Hold fast to Christ! Hold fast to Christ's word! Hold fast to Christ's people!"

It is difficult to devise a more fitting exhortation to the people of God in today's world and it is also the exhortation which I leave with you until we meet again.

Hold fast to Christ, Borculo CRC! It is in Him that all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are stored (Col 2:3)! It is in Him that you will find every spiritual blessing corresponding to your every spiritual need (Eph 3:1). It is in Him that all of God's promises to you find their 'yes' and 'amen' (2 Cor 1:20)!

Hold fast to Christ! He is the greatest friend any of us could ever hope to have. He sticks closer than any brother or sister; closer than any husband or wife; closer than any father or mother. It is in Him that I share the greatest union *with* you and it is in Him that I rejoice *for* you as well, asking for the Lord's continued blessing and favor to you all for His glory. Grace, peace and blessings to you all!

Sincerely,  
Myers McKinney



**CONGRATULATIONS** to Sarah Terpstra and Samuel Kuipers who were joined in marriage in our church on Saturday, August 19, 2023.

The couple has moved to the Upper Peninsula where Sam is attending Michigan Tech.



*Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Kuipers*

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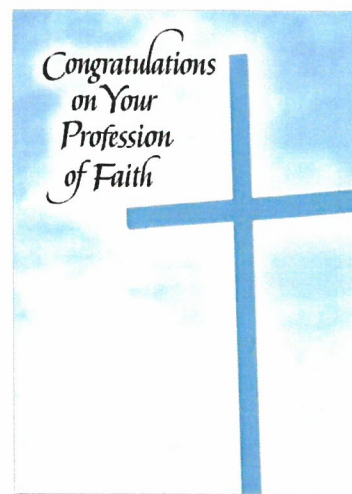
# Welcome

Andy & Kim live in Allendale. Andy is a diesel mechanic who works for Gemini Services in Zeeland. He was born and raised in Hudsonville and graduated from Covenant Christian High School. Kim was born and raised in Battle Creek and graduated from Lakeview High School. She lived and worked at The Master's Mission in North Carolina for 5 years. Kim presently is an enrolled agent with IRS, who works for Byker and Associates in Grandville. She has a bachelor degree in Accounting. Andy has two kids that are out of the house so we like to travel when we have time. Andy's hobbies are fishing, hunting and quading. Kim enjoys taking pictures, quading, and traveling. Most Saturdays, you will find us in the garage playing games.



Andy & Kim Bruining

## Profession of faith



Congratulations to Sophia Terpstra, Brooklyn Gruppen and Alaina Gruppen!  
They made profession of faith on July 9.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Borculo CRC Summer Ball Team



**Back Row:** Coach Chris Van Huis, Braden Van Huis, Brooklyn Gruppen, Jake Van Huis, Brooklyn Ten Hopen, Kasen DeJonge, Cassidy Gruppen, Adalynn DeJonge, Coach Scott Gruppen

**Front Row:** Ava LaRosa, Lauren Werkema, Aleah Van Huis, Cole LaRosa, Evin Gruppen, Lincoln Geurink

**Congratulations to our ball team! They had 4 wins and 1 loss this summer season!**

# UPCOMING FALL CHURCH EVENTS!!!!



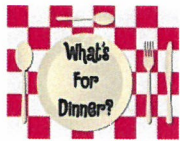
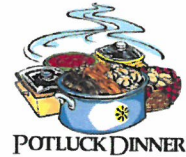
**Sept. 17** — Commissioning and Sunday School and Catechism begins



**FLU SHOT CLINIC: Friday, Sept. 29 from 9:30-10:30**

## ALL CHURCH POTLUCKS:

Sunday, September 17, October 8, November 12 at NOON.



Wednesday night suppers served from 5:30-7:00 p.m.

October 11, November 8, Dec 13 – Watch the bulletin for details!

**Sept. 19 – Men's Discipleship begins**



**Sept. 20 – Men's Fellowship and Growing in Grace begin**



*Women's Discipleship begins Monday, Sept. 25*  
*Ladies Bible Study begins on Tues., Oct. 3*

**Mission Emphasis Weeks – Sept. 24 and Oct. 1**



**Great BORCULO BAKE OFF!!!!** — Sweet and savory breads!

Oct. 24 at 6:30 p.m.



**Christmas Caroling & Bingo**

**December 9 at 5:30 p.m.**



# ARO SERVE PROJECT

On June 17, 2023, 28 people left BCRC to serve at Appalachia Reach Out in Inez, KY for a week. We arrived at ARO after supper on Saturday. We had a chance to check out the campus, unpack and relax after a long day of driving.

Sunday, we went to the Turkey Creek Church of the Nazrene. During the service, everyone from our group was called to the front of the church, and members of the congregation came forward, laid hands on us and prayed over us. It was a very moving moment that left most of us in tears. After the service, some ladies from the Turkey Creek Church made a wonderful meal for us. In the afternoon, we looked at some of the job sites and passed out flyers advertising the VBS program. At night, we enjoyed a meal the BCRC ladies prepared for us and met as a group to decide who would go to each site.

Some of the work that we did were: running a VBS program, cleaning apartments, showing love to a group of women at a women's and infant shelter and addiction recovery shelter for women, replacing a deck, doors and toilets, repairing floors, landscaping, organize the food pantry, painting and hanging new lights.

On Tuesday night, we worshiped at the Celebrate Recovery service. We served dinner to everyone who attended. We provided music for the group and celebrated with the people who were making a commitment to stop their addictions and those who asked the Lord to enter their lives. It was a very eye opening experience to see how many people were struggling with some type of addiction.

The rest of the week was spent working to accomplish all of the tasks put in front of us.

We would like to thank the congregation for their prayers and support of the serve project. We also want to thank the Wednesday night supper ladies for preparing wonderful food for us to take along. A special "thank you" to those who volunteered to serve on this project. You gave your time, talent, sweat & tears to make life better for the people in eastern Kentucky. We came home with a new appreciation for the blessings we have!

Submitted by: Kim Meppelink, ARO Serve Project Mgr.



## ARO MISSION TEAM:

Dennis & Julie Aukema

Rita Austhof

Terry, Tanya, Maddie & Ben Bosch

Linda Geurink

Deb Gruppen

Scott, Jill, Ella, Brooklyn

& Cassidy Gruppen

Kim Meppelink

Andy, Bethany, Megan, Audrey Mitchell

Daniel Pollard

Xiomara Sarmiento

Pastor Stephen, Christine, William,

Andrew & Sophia Terpstra

Mark & Sue Wynia





### **ARO experiences and reflections from those who went on the mission trip:**

*"It was an awesome experience to be part of and so glad to see how the Borculo team used their individual gifts to help out in so many ways. There is a great need there for sure and the people are quite receptive to talking and hearing about the gospel. We all have been blessed and it was incredibly rewarding to be able to give back and just help others." Mark Wynia*

*"ARO was an eye-opening experience for me. I helped out with a young family that had a 2 year old and was expecting a baby. The guys did some home repairs and I helped watch the 2 year old. My intention was to help clean up a very messy and unorganized house, but I learned quickly that all the mom really wanted was someone to talk to and listen to her. This taught me to just slow down and take time to listen instead of being focused on all the tasky things. I also helped out at a women's addiction home for pregnant and new moms. I saw their openness to know the Lord, while going through some difficult circumstances. I'm grateful that I could go on this trip! It opened my eyes to what the Lord is doing in the lives of these people in Inez." Sue Wynia*

*"Going to ARO was a wonderful experience where the group from Borculo CRC had an opportunity to grow closer to each other, the people of Eastern Kentucky and our Lord. God was glorified by the work we did, the conversations we had and the worship we were a part of." Scott Gruppen*

*"This was my 3<sup>rd</sup> time visiting ARO. I have to admit, I was probably the most nervous I have been for any visit. I'm the kind of planner that likes to know numbers ahead of time, how things will run and what the facilities are like, but my planning had to be given to the Lord and I needed to trust He would provide, and wow did He ever! More so than I could have imagined! The park, stage and building worked out so well for hosting VBS! Some of the locals on the park board even stayed to help! The Lord brought many children to come and share in the VBS fun. We started out with 15, 30 the next day, 50 on Wednesday and 20 on Thursday. They ranged from 2-23! It was such a fun time to laugh and play and get to know them. Even though many of them were dealing with hard living situations and scattered families, they came with smiles and a childlike faith. It was great to share with them how much they are loved by God and how they can shine the light of Jesus to others in all situations. It was hard to say goodbye to them at the end of the week, but they will always hold a special place in my heart!" Jill Gruppen*

*"I had a lot of fun on the ARO trip. I liked getting to know the people in Kentucky (even though they were sometimes hard to understand!) The kids at VBS were very sweet and we made a lot of connections with them. One thing I learned from the trip is that there is a lot of value in taking time and going out of your way to stop and talk to people and pray for them." Ella Gruppen*

*"ARO was a great experience! I met lots of fun kids and hope to do it again. I also enjoyed spending time with people from church and getting to know them better." Brooklyn Gruppen*

*"I had a lot of fun getting to know the kids that came for VBS. I also liked going to the restaurants and going to other local places around ARO." Cassidy Gruppen*

*"Some of the projects I worked on during the week in ARO were trimming bushes around the buildings, painting a huge laundry room with Daniel, Ben, Terry & Linda, cleaning an apartment and volunteering at VBS for a day. Dennis, Terry and I worked on leveling the floor and laying laminate down. On Sunday evening, we ate a delicious meal prepared ahead of time by Jan Gruppen and Bev Geurink. The rest of the days, we went out to eat every evening to help boost the local economy, which everyone enjoyed." Rita Austhof*

*"The most important thing I took away from the ARO mission trip was to slow down! The people who live around Martin County always have time for everyone. They don't live on schedules. People in West Michigan normally get caught up in the busy-ness of our daily lives, work, family, school, sports, etc. We all have schedules we have to stick to and we can get rather upset if something disrupts those plans. People we meet, or moments during the day, that we feel are slowing us down and not letting us stay on schedule may have been put in our path for a reason. We need to slow down and be aware of what is going on around us. We could be missing some very important moments that God puts in our path to show His love." Kim Meppelink*

*"As a group, we did a lot of good, hard work to improve the lives of people of Martin County. Some of our best works were the interactions we had with the people we served on the job sites, in the rehab centers and with kids who attended VBS and with recovering addicts at Tuesday night supper and worship. Personally, I am more thankful for the life we have in West Michigan and the community we have to live in, work and raise our families. Secondly, I appreciate the fellow Borculo CRC members that I got to know much better after serving with them." Dennis Aukema*

*"Kim and I worked on installing new toilets for ARO facilities and things didn't go as smoothly as we would have liked. This led to a BIG reminder of how important encouragement and support are! Deb Gruppen seemed to show up and provide that each time we were ready to quit. Worshipping was so amazing with the people of Eastern Kentucky -- a reminder to bring joy and enthusiasm to worship." Julie Aukema*

*"While serving with ARO, some things brought me joy -- like serving in Jesus' name, like getting to know and appreciate members of my congregation, like watching the young people work and use their talents. I enjoyed celebrating recovery in enthusiastic worship. Our hosts, Bob & Marilyn worked with us, but also showed us fun activities in the evening. We climbed a mountain, we ate on Cloud Nine, we hunted wild horses and elk, we had campfires with Daniel's music in the background, we visited an old courthouse. You might have seen our council members in an old jail cell -- all in good fun! Thank you for the opportunity!" Linda Geurink*

*"This was the first time I went on a mission trip. It was such a blessing. Not only did we help the people in the community, but we also worked at the ARO campus. We had a great group of people from church who accomplished many projects. I look forward to doing this again." Debbie Gruppen*

*"This summer, our church went on a mission trip to Inez, Kentucky. I loved it! Some of the highlights for me were going to the addiction recovery center (ARC), watching all the people there and seeing their passion for God. For some of them, they were meeting Jesus for the first time, and it was an amazing thing to watch/witness. I helped with VBS for the kids there. Hearing and learning about their lives that are so different than mine -- it was a truly amazing experience. We got to do a lot of other fun and cool things while we were there, but those two were my favorites. I will always remember my time in Kentucky by the bonds I made and the people we were able to help." Sophia Terpstra*

*"For me, the ARO trip was a lot of fun! I got to know people better, hang out with them more and learn more about the power of God. I did something different every day -- the 1<sup>st</sup> day, I moved stuff in a school; the 2<sup>nd</sup> day, I helped build a porch; the 3<sup>rd</sup> day -- I helped clean up a laundry room and installed new lights; the 4<sup>th</sup> day -- I helped out at VBS and got to learn about how some of the kids are living and how they are impacted by what goes on around them. I would highly recommend going on the ARO trip and I would gladly do it again!" Andrew Terpstra*

*"During the ARO mission trip, I got to help with VBS and clean an apartment one day. It was a great experience and I really enjoyed spending time with friends at the end of each day." Maddie Bosch*

*"During the ARO mission trip, I got to do some painting, cleaning apartments and help with VBS. This trip taught me to be a good helper and worker and I enjoyed time with friends from church when the workday was over." Ben Bosch*



*"While on the ARO mission trip, I worked at a local school, painted and repaired the ceiling on a laundry room at a low-income apartment complex, cleaned an apartment and helped repair a floor at a local home. It was a real eye opener to see how the poverty and drug abuse affects so many in the area." Terry Bosch*

*"I'm so thankful I was able to participate in the ARO mission trip! ARO is a well-organized operation with excellent staff in place to serve the people of Martin County. I went on this trip with a mindset to serve by "working" & "doing".....we did "work" and "do" but equally as important was "being" and "listening". Sometimes the work was simply listening and talking with a Martin County resident or praying for them which doesn't really seem like "work" at all! The many stories from the women at the White Oak Addiction Recovery Center seemed overwhelmingly sad and tragic to me! Those women have been through so much, yet their faith has either been newly found or reinforced through the recovery program. Please pray for the people at the ARC Centers that their faith will continue to grow and that they will be able to live a life free of addiction!*

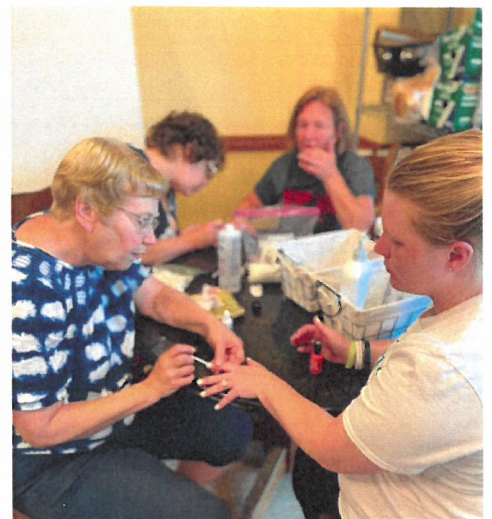
*I also will not forget "Theo", who was a late arrival to VBS. His mom dropped him off and basically said, "He never sits, doesn't wear shoes and runs off....two people watched him at the last VBS" and she left. Within one minute of being with Theo, with my experience with special needs kids and challenging behaviors, I figured God had put me in that place at the moment, for that child. That was definitely a time of "work" and "doing" and not just "being" and "listening"! I am thankful I was finally able to join Borculo CRC on a mission trip and hope to be able to participate in another trip in the future!" Tanya Bosch*

*"The community there was different than at Borculo. There was more poverty, and there was a lack of employment opportunities for the families there. While we were there, I got to see the need that the families there had to deal with day to day, and the smiles from different persons when their needs were met when we lended a helping hand. The smiles on the kid's faces when they completed a project, and the energy with which they danced and played. All of those kids listened more and tried to pay more attention due to the situation they lived in, it would humble them and make every little thing mean so much to them. Helping a community like that does not only help them, but also helped us with our problems -- by helping them we would focus on their problems and leave our own behind or find the solution to them. Another thing that really inspired me was the amount of emotion and closeness in their churches, it made you feel special, like part of a really big family. That Sunday morning was probably one of the best Sundays I've ever experienced. I will always remember that even though they have so little, they still have a smile on their face, knowing that all that they need will be Christ. I am happy that that community has the ARO team to help and encourage them to find happiness in Jesus." Daniel Pollard*





# ARO Summer Mission Work Project





This  
Little Light  
of Mine.  
I'm Gonna Let it  
Shine.

V  
B  
S





Work, friendship and worship



Each of you should use  
**WHATEVER**  
*gift* you have received  
 to **SERVE**  
**OTHERS**  
 as faithful  
 stewards of **God's** *grace* in its various forms



1 Peter 4:10



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

The Community Outreach Committee has been very busy again in the past year. In September, 2022, we had a Fall Kick-Off for the community to introduce the families to our upcoming classes and programs. It went so well, we did it again this year, this time on a Friday evening from 4 PM to 7PM on September 8th. Thank you to the many hands who made it a success again this year.

At the same time as the planning for the Fall Kick-Off last year, we were presented with a need in our community to help a single lady with home repairs. We worked on a Saturday morning, first with two other work groups, one from Haven CRC and one from Victory Point. We went to work on the exterior with a skid steer, a mini excavator, a large wood chipper and maybe 20 pairs of hands. The transformation was incredible! In one day from 8 AM to 6 PM, everyone worked but the job was not done. Victory Point sent guys to put a roof on the garage and to do needed repairs to the garage. Borculo's Tuesday night men's Bible Study came to paint the garage with paint donated by Repco Lite in Holland. As we were working there, we found she was living for the past four years without water or heat. We needed to get a little more help with funds and approached The Foundry for a donation. By the time the snow fell, we had a new furnace (thanks to Borculo CRC), a new well and pump, new plumbing throughout the house (thanks to Haven CRC). The Haven CRC Middle School youth group built a ramp, cleaned up the yard and planted flowers this summer. At the end of August, the Borculo CRC youth group came to do some additional painting and yard work. We can't start to name everyone that helped but know we appreciate you and so does our new friend. We had a "thank you" lunch at the house on September 9.

Throughout the year, we have been donating books to the Ottawa County Jail and getting to know Chaplain Aalderink better. The inmates really appreciate having a variety of reading material available to them. By now, we have donated about 50 bags of books, mostly to Ottawa County but some also to Allegan County. If anyone has books to donate, let one of the committee members know. If we can't use them for the jail, we can put them in the little free library by our playgroup in the back of the church parking lot. Thank you to Diane for expertly maintaining the library.

We had a joint meeting with the Christian Awareness Committee in the spring with the Chaplain from Tyson Foods to explore how we can work together with her for the needs of the workers there. At that meeting, we set plans to help in a multitude of ways, one of which is to provide emergency food for the new hires that don't have enough food to get them to their first paycheck. We have now blessed about a dozen people with needed supplies.

After that meeting, we set a coffee time with Chaplains Aalderink and Herrell, to see what could be done to fill both of their needs. From that meeting, we decided to include Pastor Willie in the circle and that has been amazing. We approached Zeeland Deaconate to ask for help getting a van for transporting the workers from Holland that don't or can't drive to their shift at Tyson. At this time, there is a 15 passenger van providing transportation to their jobs at Tyson. Chaplain Aalderink has helped some who have been released from jail to secure employment and transportation to jobs in the area.

Our newest avenues are Kids Hope USA and the GRO Pod at the Ottawa County Jail. Xiomara is willing to be one of the co-directors of Kids Hope but we would like someone to help her. We will also need some mentors. Training is provided and the school we will be working with is Robinson Elementary. Give our director a call if you want more info at 616-377-6274.

The GRO Pod (God’s Redemptive Oasis) is just starting at the jail. We have approval from the Council to have Borculo CRC to become involved in this ministry. Chaplain Aalderink will speak more about this during our Mission Emphasis time.

What could you do for us? We need volunteers—when you see a request, please step up. Pastor Willie needs quarters for his people. We help him with laundry soap, hand soap, shampoo and deodorant as well as other items from the pantry. His people need to be clean when they leave for work. Help us keep the pantry stocked. If you see someone who has a need, help them out. You do not need to get approval from anyone. We do not give out money or gas cards. That is not our policy at all.

If you donate items to the Gateway Mission in Holland, please tell them you are from Borculo CRC. We are given gift cards based on donated goods. It is amazing how much we receive, but it is more amazing how, every time we have a need for items and use the cards, we get more immediately.

Please pray for our committee to have wisdom and the ability to do the work the Lord has put before us and that we do what He wants us to do, not just what we want to do.

Thank you for all your support and encouragement. To God be the Glory!

Community Outreach Committee Members:

Jer & Bev Machiela	Xiomara Sarmiento
Juan & Bridget Samiento	Bob Brunink
Scott & Jill Gruppen	Tanya Bosch
Nicole Broekhuizen	



## **2023 MISSION EMPHASIS PREVIEW**

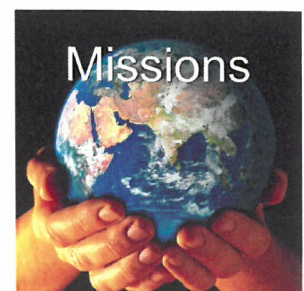
Our Mission Emphasis this year will be September 24 and October 1. Here’s what we are planning:

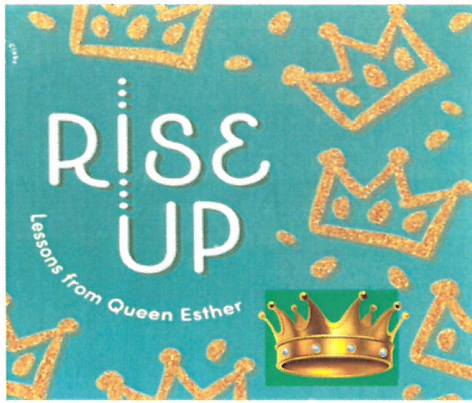
On September 24, at the AM service, we will hear Pastor Paul Mpindi, from Mission French Africa. It is always a treat to host Pastor Paul and hear about his radio broadcasts to the French-speaking African nations. He will also be telling us of his and Charlotte’s travels to Africa to teach and train pastors there. At the evening service, we are switching speakers around and Pastor Stephen will conduct this service.

On October 1, at the AM service, we will be led by Pastor Jean Gomes, Pastor of Discipleship at First Byron CRC. Pastor Jean became a Christian thru missionaries to his native country of Brazil. At the PM service, we will host Pastor Cal Aalderink, Lead Chaplain at Reach The Forgotten Jail Ministry at the Ottawa County Jail. Pastor Aalderink will inform us of some exciting things happening at the jail. Don’t miss it!

We look forward to our Mission Emphasis time and hope to see you there!

Home & World Mission Committee





GEMS

The GEMS season of 2023/2024 is already on its way. Our first meeting was on September 13. Our meetings will continue throughout the year on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM.

Our theme this year is RISE UP. Our theme verse is: *“Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”* Isaiah 40:31.

We will be learning about and studying Esther. We will learn how we can relate to Esther, how she handled difficult times and who she turned to for help.

Please pray for our GEMS girls, that they may be blessed by our studies and activities. Pray also for our counselors as we strive to teach and model Christian behaviors and train these girls to become Christian women.

Submitted by: Deb Herrud, Head Counselor

Erin Weaver

Tracee Geurink

#### The Goal of GEMS:

Titus 2:3 says “Teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live..... to teach to the younger women what is good.” Our vision is to see girls around the world actively and enthusiastically expressing love for God and others—girls equipped, motivated and passionately engaged in living out their faith. Our mission is to bring girls everywhere into a living, dynamic relationship with Jesus Christ.





# CADETS

The Cadet theme for the 2023/2024 season is CADETS—ROOTED and GROUNDED. Our theme verse is: *“So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord’s holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.”* Ephesians 3:17-18.

Our season has already begun on September 13 and will continue on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month throughout the coming season. This year we will be using the Recruit-Pathfinder-Builder Program of the Cadet organization. Boys and counselors work side by side on Bible lessons, Christian service projects, outdoor activities (camping, cycling, hiking, canoeing and much more), and merit badge projects—selecting from a wide range of interests and skills.

More than 100 merit badges are offered in this program. The counselor challenges, guides, encourages, listens, and counsels the boys as an expression of God’s love.

A word of appreciation to the men who have again stepped up to lead these boys and a BIG welcome to our newest counselor, Will Terpstra. May you be blessed by the time and effort to help, encourage and guide these boys.

Please pray for our cadet boys, that they may be blessed by our studies and activities. Pray also for our counselors as we strive to teach and model Christian behaviors and train these boys to become Christian men.

Submitted by: Rob Herrud, Head Counselor

Chris Van Huis

Chad Moran

Will Terpstra

### The Goal of Cadeting:

Luke 2:52 states that “Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.” The goal of the Calvinist Cadet Corps, based upon that verse, is to help boys grow spiritually in all areas of life (devotional, mental, physical and social) by providing Christian men with a uniquely designed structure, program and materials so that they can mentor boys effectively.

# SENIOR HIGH AND MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

The Youth Group is ready for a new year after a great summer!

The leaders this year are Doug Sterk, Tyler and Kaitlyn Hansen, Xiomara Sarmiento, Brandon LaRosa, Dane Werkema, Morgan and Jacob Sposaro and Doug and Melanie Engelsman.

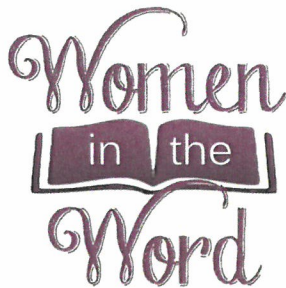
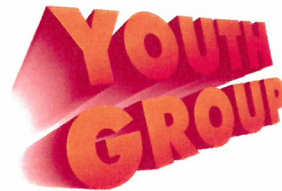
A few leaders and some of the youth had the opportunity to be a blessing to one of our neighbors by painting a shed and doing some yard work on a Saturday morning in August.

We kicked off the season with a campfire and games on Sept. 9. We plan on meeting the first and third Sunday of each month at 4:30 p.m. We are looking forward to a year of fellowship, fun and growing in our faith.

We wish to express a huge “**Thank you**” to Ter Sterk and Jamie and Kim Meppelink, who are retiring from Youth Group activities this year. Your MANY years, and hours of time devoted to the kids in Youth Group are very much appreciated!

Submitted by: Doug & Melanie Engelsman

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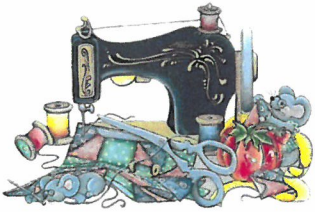
## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

The women of Borculo CRC have many opportunities for Bible study and fellowship in the fall season. Here's a peek at what's being offered.

**Women's Discipleship** will meet the first and third Mondays of the month at 8:00 PM starting **Sept. 25**. We will be using the book “Women of the Word” by Jen Wilkin. “We all know it's important to study God's word. But sometimes it's hard to know where to start. What's more, a lack of time, emotionally driven approaches and past frustrations can erode our resolve to keep growing in our knowledge of Scripture. How can we, as Christian women, keep our focus and sustain our passion when reading the Bible?” Christine Terpstra will be our leader. See the sign up sheet in the narthex to reserve your copy of the book.

**Growing In Grace** will meet every Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM starting **Sept. 20**. We will be using the book “You Are A Theologian” by Jen Wilkin and J.T. English. “Theology can be intimidating. But it doesn't have to be. Whether conversations about theology have felt out of reach, over your head, or irrelevant, consider this book an invitation to the dialogue.” Christine Terpstra will lead our discussions. Look for the sign up sheet in the narthex to reserve your copy of the book.

**Ladies Bible Study** will meet the first and third Tuesday afternoons at 1:30 PM starting **Oct. 3**. We will be using lessons prepared by Pastor Petroelje from I Corinthians. He will also be leading our discussions. Look for these lessons in the narthex and pick up your copy.



# QUILTERS GROUP

On the second, fourth and fifth Tuesdays from September to May, you will find several ladies busy working on quilts in the church basement. I often wondered if others in the congregation really know what we are doing and what “making quilts” really means. Sure, we’re cutting and sewing fabric, but there’s really a whole lot more involved than just that. So, here’s a little info on what we’re doing and what’s involved in “making quilts”.



First, our method: the quilts we make are made up of three layers. The top layer with the quilt design, the middle layer or filler, usually quilt batting or flannel and finally the backing. Oddly enough, we don’t actually do any sewing at church—most of that is done in our homes. The completed top layer is brought back to church to have the filler and backing added. Then we attach them to the “sticks”. These are long sticks, set on four horses, to which all the layers are attached, stretched across and fastened on all four sides. Then, we use a heavy crochet thread to stitch through all the layers, attaching them together. Once done, we remove the layers and the final finishing of the sides is done at home by one of our members.



Now that you know our method, here are more facts and interesting info about us.

#1. Did you know that every year, usually in December, we have donated between 75 to 80 quilts to various agencies.

#2. Did you know our list of donated agencies is growing? We have sent quilts to the Salvation Army, the Vets Home in Grand Rapids, to Degage Ministries in Grand Rapids, to ARO in Inez, KY, baby quilts to Positive Options in Holland and the Family Life Center in Allendale.



#3. Did you know that although we like to use batting or flannel as our filler, we occasionally get creative? Remember those old royal blue choir robes we had years ago? Whatever happened to them? We quilters know! A great deal of them were cut apart and ended up inside our quilts! If you ever wore one, you remember how warm they were. Yes, in true Dutch style, we repurposed them into quilt fillers.



Now that you know a bit more about us and what happens during our time at church, I will end with a request. If this is something you might be interested in, please come on a Tuesday afternoon. We don’t care if you can sew or not! Those Tuesdays are all about standing around those sticks and joining the layers together. Anyone can do that. We have all the tools needed and are more than happy to explain the process. We hope to see you there.

Quilters: Jane Overway, Sue Weaver, Rita Austhof, Ruth Essenburg, Sherill Bergsma, Hermena Vandenberg, Erin Weaver, Julie Aukema.



## Teacher/Leaders for 2023-2024

### SUNDAY SCHOOL (Sundays at 10:50 AM)

Tim & Teresa Vander Zwaag, Superintendents

Music: Jill Van Huis

Pianist: Jody Broekhuizen

**PreK& Kindergarden:** Tracee Geurink

**1st & 2nd grade:** Rita Austhof

**3rd & 4th Grade:** Scott Gruppen

**Subs:** Tanya Bosch, Sarah Werkema

### Christmas Program Committee:

Jill Van Huis

### CHILDREN'S WORSHIP: (Sundays during AM service)

Rita Austhof & Nicole Broekhuizen

Kailyn Clay & Brooklyn Gruppen

Bev Boeve & Audrey Mitchell

Jill Gruppen & Cassidy Gruppen

Deb Haak & Ella Gruppen

Tanya Bosch & Maddie Bosch

### Women's Discipleship (1st/3rd Mondays at 8:00 p.m.)

Christine Terpstra

### Growing In Grace Group (Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.)

Christine Terpstra

### Thursday morning Bible Study (9:00 a.m.)

(Watch bulletin for details)

### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY (1st & 3rd Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.)

Rev. Petroelje

### QUILTING for MISSIONS (2nd & 4th Tuesday afternoons)

Jane Overway

### CATECHISM (Sundays at 11:00 AM)

Jeff Machiela 5th & 6th

Bill Broekhuizen 7th & 8th

Doug Sterk 9th & 10th

Pastor Terpstra 11th & 12th

### CADETS

(2nd & 4th Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.)

Rob Herrud

Chad Moran

Chris Van Huis

William Terpstra

### GEMS

(2nd & 4th Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.)

Deb Herrud

Erin Weaver

Tracee Geurink

### Youth Groups

(Sunday evenings at 4:30 p.m.)

Doug & Melanie Engelsman

Jacob & Morgan Sposaro

Xiomara Sarmiento

Brandon LaRosa

Tyler & Kaitlyn Hansen

Dane Werkema

Doug Sterk

### MEN'S DISCIPLESHIP

(Tuesdays at 8:00 p.m.)

Rev. Terpstra

### MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

(Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.)

Rev. Terpstra

**NURSERY WORKERS**

09/17/23 AM Ella Gruppen, Bev Boeve, Brook Ten Hopen  
PM Kim Gruppen, Sophia Terpstra

09/24/23 AM Kailyn Clay, Deb Herrud, Sydney Broekhuizen  
PM Deb Gruppen, Megan Mitchell

10/01/23 AM Nicole Broekhuizen, Tanya Bosch, Ella Gruppen  
PM Emily Broekhuizen, Cassidy Gruppen

10/08/23 AM Liz Bosch, Jill Gruppen, Audrey Mitchell  
PM Sue Weaver, Andrew Terpstra

10/15/23 AM Kaitlyn Hansen, Karen LaRosa, Jacob Van Huis  
PM Deb Haak, Aleah Van Huis

10/22/23 AM Kailyn Clay, Sarah Werkema, Lauren Werkema  
PM Erin Weaver, Audrey Mitchell

10/29/23 AM Christine Moran, Julie Pollard, Myla Moran  
PM Jill Van Huis, Brooklyn Gruppen

11/05/23 AM Julie Aukema, Bev Boeve, Maddie Bosch  
PM Nicole Broekhuizen, Ella Gruppen

11/12/23 AM Deb Gruppen, Kim Gruppen, Sydney Broekhuizen  
PM Emily Broekhuizen, Aleah Van Huis

11/19/23 AM Angela Gruppen, Deb Herrud, Alaina Gruppen  
PM Kailyn Clay, Sophia Terpstra

11/23/23 Thanksgiving -  
Tanya Bosch, Jill Gruppen, Megan Mitchell

11/26/23 AM Sarah Werkema, Karen LaRosa, Cassidy Gruppen  
PM Erin Weaver, Andrew Terpstra

12/03/23 AM Julie Aukema, Christine Terpstra, Brook Ten Hopen  
PM Liz Bosch, Jacob Van Huis

12/10/23 AM Christine Moran, Bridgette Sarmiento, Aiden Moran  
PM Ruth Tolsma, Maddie Bosch

12/17/23 AM Kaitlyn Hansen, Bonnie Schrottenboer, Megan Mitchell  
PM Deb Haak, Sophia Terpstra

12/24/23 AM Megan Sievers, Julie Pollard, Audrey Mitchell  
PM Jill Van Huis, Cassidy Gruppen

12/25/23 Christmas -  
Bev Boeve, Kim Gruppen, Sydney Broekhuizen

12/31/23 AM Kailyn Clay, Xiomara Sarmiento, Brooklyn Gruppen  
PM Sue Weaver, Andrew Terpstra

There must be 2 people in the nursery at all times. If you are unable to take your scheduled turn, please exchange with someone. If you have problems, contact Jill Van Huis (616-340-4537).

**CHILDREN'S WORSHIP**

09/17/23 Tanya Bosch, Maddie Bosch 14

09/24/23 Bev Boeve, Audrey Mitchell 15

10/01/23 Kailyn Clay, Brooklyn Gruppen 16

10/08/23 Communion

10/15/23 Deb Haak, Ella Gruppen 17

10/22/23 Rita Austhof, Nicole Broekhuizen 18

10/29/23 Jill Gruppen, Cassidy Gruppen 19

11/05/23 Tanya Bosch, Maddie Bosch 20

11/12/23 Communion

11/19/23 Bev Boeve, Audrey Mitchell 52

11/26/23 Kailyn Clay, Brooklyn Gruppen 21

12/03/23 Jill Gruppen, Cassidy Gruppen 46

12/10/23 Communion

12/17/23 Rita Austhof, Nicole Broekhuizen 47

12/24/23 Deb Haak, Ella Gruppen 48

12/31/23 Tanya Bosch, Maddie Bosch 22

**COFFEE SERVERS**

09/17/23 Bonnie Schrottenboer, Linda Geurink 12/3/2023 Jack & Luanne Busscher

09/24/23 Howard & Von Driesenga 12/10/2023 Bonnie Schrottenboer, Linda Geurink

10/01/23 Gayle Garbrecht, Diane McConnell 12/17/2023 Howard & Von Driesenga

10/08/23 Brian & Tammy Walters 12/24/2023 Gayle Garbrecht, Diane McConnell

10/15/23 Pastor Terpstra Family 12/31/2023 Brian & Tammy Walters

10/22/23 Jack & Luanne Busscher

10/29/23 Bonnie Schrottenboer, Linda Geurink

11/05/23 Howard & Von Driesenga

11/12/23 Gayle Garbecht, Diane McConnell

11/19/23 Brian & Tammy Walters

11/26/23 Pastor Terpstra Family