

ON Broadway

Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church Newsletter

March 2017

Lent 2017

Focus on the Prophet Amos: Conquering the Various Harmful Indifferences in our Lives

Pastors John & Ryan



March 1, Ash Wednesday, 5:45 pm

We gather for a simple meal of soup and bread, and we'll move to the sanctuary at 6:30.

Sunday, March 5, Lent 1: Amos 1:1-2:3

Conquering our indifference to hatred, Pastor John

Sunday, March 12, Lent 2: Amos 2:4-3:15

Conquering indifference to the marginalized, Pastor Ryan

Sunday, March 19, Lent 3: Amos 4:1-5; ch. 6

Conquering indifference to self, Pastor John

Sunday, March 26, Lent 4: Amos 5:18-27

Our indifference to God, worship, Pastor Ryan

Sunday, April 2, Lent 5: Amos 7:10-17 (ch. 4:6-13)

Conquering our unwillingness to be corrected, Pastor John

April 9, Lent 6: Amos 8; Matthew 21:1-17

Conquering indifference to The End, Pastor Ryan

April 10-14, Holy Week

6:30 am worship & 7:00 am breakfast: Focus on the message of James, Pastor John and Pastor Ryan

April 13, Maundy Thursday, 7:30 PM, Pastor Ryan

April 14, Good Friday, Pastor John

Sunday, April 16, Easter: Amos 9:11-15; John 20

God restores Israel, in Jesus we are restored, God is King, Jesus has conquered, Pastor John

Loving God, Serving People

Building a community loved
and changed by Jesus, loving
and changing the world
for him.

Habitat for Humanity 2017 House of Faith • 1156 Parkwood

*Matt Admiraal
for the Service Deacons*



As in the past several years our church has the opportunity to be involved in helping a family become new homeowners by partnering with Habitat for Humanity in the building of the 2017 House of Faith. Joining us in this exciting venture are First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor, Westminster Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor, and First Baptist Church of Ypsilanti. The 2017 House of Faith is a three-bedroom, two-bathroom house with a basement and a garage located at 1156 Parkwood Ave. (just off Ecorse Rd.) in Ypsilanti. A couple of individuals from our church have already had the opportunity to do some demolition work on this house to help make it more energy efficient. This year our church's work days are Friday and Saturday, April 28

and 29, and Friday and Saturday, June 9 and 10. On the April dates, the tentative schedule of tasks that we will be completing include installing blue board, house wrap, and insulation, while on the June dates the tentative tasks include landscaping, installing trim and cabinets, and doing other unfinished work. One of the best things about being involved in the House of Faith is that you don't need to have any house building skills or talents. Rather you just volunteer your time, and the leaders from Habitat for Humanity show you exactly how to complete the tasks that need to be done. In addition, all of the supplies that you need are located at the house at which we will be working. We need at least six volunteers to work from 9:00 – 4:00 on each of the dates listed above. In addition, we need volunteers to provide lunch on April 29 and June 10. If you are able to help out with this fun and rewarding project on any of the dates listed above, please contact Matt Admiraal. We will also be taking a special offering on March 26 to support this ministry opportunity.

Panera Bread

Godwin & Barbara Okonkwo



Most of you, I'm sure, are familiar with Panera Bread Co. Did you know that at the end of each day Panera donates the unsold bread and pastries? Various organizations pick up the leftovers and distribute them to the hungry in our community.

For the past couple of years four families from AACRC have rotated the responsibility of going to Panera on Washtenaw at 10 pm each Monday evening, picking up what is left, wrapping the bread and pastries and then delivering it all to Hope Clinic on Tuesday. (During the Coffee Break

season, the women there have wrapped and delivered it.)

Godwin and Barb Okonkwo have loosely coordinated this ministry but because they will be leaving in May for a "grand babies sabbatical" for six months we would like to have another person or persons take over the coordination and/or pick up once or twice a month. If more are interested, that would be great! We would arrange the pick-up schedule accordingly.

Please let Godwin or Barb know if you would be willing to help. (gokonkwo44@gmail.com, bjokonkwo69@gmail.com)

Inspire 2017

...a new kind of CRC event

Information from website <https://inspire.crcna.org>

Inspire 2017 is a conference to connect people from across our 1,000+ churches for three days of powerful worship, practical workshops, engaging speakers, and conversation. We'll gather to refresh, refocus, and reimagine how our shared calling finds expression in our local communities and beyond. If you're involved in ministry at any level in your church, this event is designed for you. Attendees will gather to worship, participate in learning sessions, wholesome conversations, and prayer, and will be surrounded by other believers all ready to support each other. Together, servants in the Christian Reformed Church of North America will hear God speak, feel His love and grace, and experience His goodness! It truly will be a new kind of event for the Christian Reformed Church.

When: August 2-5, 2017

Where: Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center

Registration: open now for early bird rates (register by March 31); group rates available

Sessions include a wide array of topics. Here are just a few:

- How can the church demonstrate the validity of the Gospel by our unity across racial and cultural lines?
- 10 things to consider when choosing, using, or writing children's ministry curriculum
- Ways to strengthen faith formation
- From pew to neighborhood
- Live just-ly with your community
- Stages of faith—perspectives on discipleship
- Changed for life—the impact of short-term missions
- Muslims: understanding and enfolding
- Through a glass darkly—what lenses do we use in our view of the criminal justice system?
- Go and Tell evangelism—telling your story
- Engaging Scripture for greatest impact
- Jesus' practice of hospitality
- Formed into Christ's image—the role of worship

Some of the keynote speakers and presenters include: Ruth Padilla DeBorst, Richard Mouw, Haman Cross, Ann Voskamp, and Harvey Carey.

Check out the website <https://inspire.crcna.org> for more information about this new event. A number of the mission team members will be attending. If you are interested in joining us, let Barb Fichtenberg know (bfichtenberg@hotmail.com) so we can get a group rate. Information and a sign-up sheet are also available on the mission bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

Sanctuary Institution Workshop

*Barb Fichtenberg
for the Missions Team*

On Saturday, January 28, a Sanctuary Institution workshop was held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Ann Arbor. The workshop was organized by Michigan United, WICIR, and ACTION Lansing. Michigan United is a statewide coalition working for the dignity of all people and for a society that protects our civil rights. WICIR is the Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights.

This report is based on the oral and written reports that were presented. The workshop began with the discussion questions “What do you hope for?” and “What do you fear?”

Background information was provided by an immigration lawyer on root causes of migration, types of visas, and why our system is broken. This was followed by a reflection on the biblical tradition of sanctuary by Rev. Jack Eggleston. Sanctuary is one of the most ancient traditions that we have as a people of faith. In the years before the Civil War, the Underground Railroad helped slaves find safety in many congregations throughout the country. “Sanctuary is about providing safe space to those who are victims of unjust laws.” A brief history of the Sanctuary movement of the 1980s which was precipitated by the wars in Central America was presented which led into the discussion of modern incarnations of the movement in major U.S. cities beginning in 2014, including a case in Detroit.

The New Sanctuary Movement taking place in congregations across the country is a response to the rise in deportations that has been occurring since 2007. Those who are entering Sanctuary are usually our neighbors and long-term residents of our communities. The faith community has the opportunity to do what Congress has failed to do: protect immigrant families who are being separated and torn from the fabric of their communities.

Congregations were presented with varying levels of how this works:

- open sanctuary (providing an open door)
- public sanctuary (invited families as part of a public campaign)
- private sanctuary (invited families without a major public campaign)
- support & welcoming (helping another faith community who is hosting)

“The church has been a space of sanctuary for those wrongly persecuted for thousands of years. The ability to provide humanitarian sanctuary defines who we are and our call as people of faith to care for the most vulnerable among us.”

*You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
will say to the Lord,
“My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.”
Psalm 91:1-2*

Have You Thanked Your Sunday School Teacher?

Mary Admiraal
Sunday School Program Leader

My Sunday School experiences, from childhood to adulthood, have been showered with memories of men and women who have used their time and talents to nurture my faith journey. The lessons they prepared, the Bible verses we memorized, the special way they told God's story using engaging activities, their interest in my life outside of the classroom, and their examples of service in other ministry areas have been used to build a foundation of faith in a perfect Father who loves me.

Sunday mornings still are my favorite day of the week because during the Sunday School program year, I, along with 35 volunteers, get to carry out the promises we made at each child's baptism "...to receive them in love, pray for them, and instruct them in the faith." On a Sunday morning, I can walk into a children's or youth Sunday School classroom and join the children in songs of the faith, listen to them pray for one another, hear the Biblical accounts of Jesus and how He makes a difference in our lives, watch the children live out their calling as Christ's disciples by serving one another, and hear men and women share parts of their faith story.

Please join me in recognizing these men and women who faithfully familiarize our children and youth with God's name and His unfathomable love for each of them; helping to establish that foundation of faith we desire for each of our children and youth.

Sunday School Ministry Team

PreKindergarten: Katrina Brehob, Jill Fenske, Janna Wilson, Marilyn Cummins

Kindergarten and First grade: Phil Boonstra, Titia VanderMolen, Deb Weener, Amber Diemer

Second grade and Third grade: Debbie Tuckey, Carla Byma, Todd and Rachel Redder

Fourth Grade: Gabby VanderMolen, Wayne VanZomeran, Martha Kooistra

Fifth Grade: Chris Van Ee, Justin Schiller, Phil and Jeanne Palmbos

Sixth Grade: David and Margaret Baker

Seventh and Eighth Grades: Matt Admiraal, Jim Steenstra

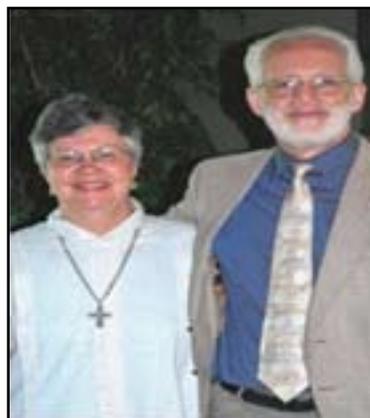
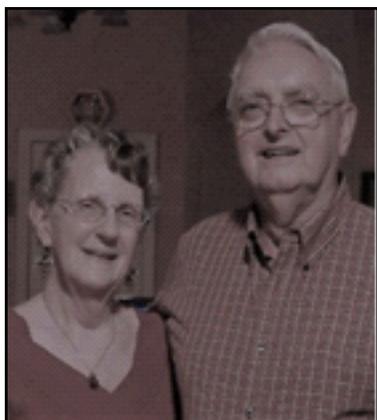
Sonshine Singers: Laura Boonstra

Shepherds Singers: Louise Gruppen

Savior Servant Singers: Barb Trevethan

Accompanists: Joan Brush, Margaret Baker, Ann VanZomeran

Guest Teachers/Helpers: Melanie Bolhius, Lorrie VanderRoest



Mary Admiraal's first grade Sunday School teachers, Chuck and Elaine Sutphin and fifth grade Sunday school teachers Kevin and Cathee Miles.

Cycling to End Poverty

Barbara Fichtenberg, AACRC Missions Team

Sea to Sea is a cross-continental bike tour that raises funds to help end extreme poverty worldwide. Registrants can sign up for the entire nine-week ride or a segment of it at <http://seatosea.org/>. It will take place from June 26 to August 31, 2017. The ride spans the U.S. and Canada from Vancouver to Halifax.

Tour Director Terry Barnes says that no experience is necessary and that “people of all backgrounds successfully participate in Sea to Sea each year.”

AACRC’s Melissa Kloostra participated in the event in 2008. She shares her thoughts on the experience:

“Sea to Sea was an amazing experience. To view creation from the seat of a bicycle while engaging those across the country to make them aware of the cause of poverty is a powerful encounter. There were 220 of us in 2008 who participated in either portions of or the whole bike tour from Seattle, WA to Jersey City, NJ and collectively we raised 2.5 million dollars to help end the cycle of poverty. I personally completed three of nine weeks cycling across the country, starting in Madison, WI and ending in Jersey City, NJ. The camaraderie with fellow cyclists, the small towns and large cities cycled through, the hard work, long hours on the seat of a bicycle, and the sense of accomplishment of being part of such a unforgettable journey will stay with me always. As I sit and page through photos, the memories of crazy antics, hot days, strong head and tail winds, rest stops with family and friends present, lifelong friendships forged and amazing sunrises and sunsets are worth experiencing. If you have any interest or further questions, don’t hesitate to ask! You won’t regret starting this journey.”

Barnes says that he is expecting at least 300 cyclists to participate in the ride this summer with a goal of raising more than 2 million US dollars to benefit World Renew and Partners Worldwide in their efforts to end global poverty and hunger.



PETER AND JANET PAYNE

INSTITUTE FOR CREDIBLE CHRISTIANITY

**2017 Europe Mission
Please Pray!**



MARCH 1 to APRIL 28

- March 1-7—SWEDEN
- 7-10—SWITZERLAND
- 10-14—FINLAND
- 14-19—LITHUANIA
- 19-25—HUNGARY
- 25-31—DENMARK
- 31-April 7—SWEDEN
- 13-27—GERMANY

In University Campuses
invited by **Christian Students**
International Fellowship of Evangelical Students

Apologetics Lectures
Evangelistic Campus Missions
Training for Christians

sign up for email reports

ppayne@ucsc.edu

Please send to:

On Broadway

**Ann Arbor Christian
Reformed Church**

John Groen, Pastor of Worship Ministries
Ryan Boes, Pastor of Family & Youth Ministries

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Deadline: the 18th of every month

Sunday Morning Worship
8:45 & 11:15 am
Memorial Day through Labor Day
10:00 am

