

Stephen Ministry®



“Bear one another’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” Galatians 6:2

November 12, 2017

8:45 & 11:15 am • Pastor John Groen • Ephesians 4:17-5:2

Loving God, Serving People

We welcome you into our community and our lives. Following this morning’s worship, we invite you to join us for a cup of coffee in the Fellowship Hall.

Babies & Young Children

A nursery for children 2 years and younger is next to the kitchen off of the Fellowship Hall. Children, 3, 4, and 5 years old who have not started Kindergarten will be dismissed before the sermon to room 27 for Preschool Church Hour.

Aids to Worship

Hearing assistance devices are available in the narthex. Please ask our greeters for assistance.



Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church

1717 Broadway, Ann Arbor, MI 48105 • 734-665-0105 • office@aacrc.org • www.aacrc.org

Church: Becoming and Remaining Human

In Paul's letter to the church in Ephesus, he declares that Jesus is the savior of the world and has launched God's kingdom in his life, death, resurrection and ascension. Jesus has made it possible for us to be a part of that kingdom as the Church. Paul takes this truth and draws out the most startling and affirming conviction: We are the people of God. All of us. When we are the Church, we are God's people. God has drawn us from all places of life and backgrounds and created a people. The implication then is that we are fully human when we live into this identity. To be the Church is to be truly human.

After Paul declares we are the Church, he shows us then how to live as church. It is like he is saying, "now that you see what it is like to be human because you've seen Jesus, be that person! You are human! To be in Christ is what human means! Now live as a human!"

In our lives there are many things, activities, behaviors, relationships, mindsets, that rob us of our humanity. Oppressive cultures or ideologies can rob of us of our humanity. Paul writes to the Church that once we are in Christ there is nothing that can take our humanity. Rather, we live as the people of God! We are free from the humanity robbing ways of life! This fall, we invite you to consider all the things that try to rob us of our humanity, and how God is inviting us to be everything God has called us to be in Christ. We are the people of God! Now it's time to go live that truth!

Pastor John

Pastor Ryan

AACRC Staff

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8:45 worship

Gathering around the Word

Prelude

*Children of the Heavenly Father
Be Thou My Vision*

arr. A. Jordan
arr. Dale Wood

Choir: *Alleluia (Praise the Lord)*

Red Hymnal 532

Welcome

***Call to Worship (responsive)**

*Do not be afraid!
Do not turn away—look!
God is here with mercy, grace and love.
Christ stands among us with arms wide open.
He rules the universe and comes to live among us
through the power of his Spirit.*

**We open our eyes, our ears
and then our mouths in praise.
For God has come and will not abandon us.
So we rejoice now in song,
giving praise to the Almighty One.**

***Hymn:** *God Is Here*

Red Hymnal 246

***We Receive God's Greeting and Greet One Another**

Children's Time

(Children in the Preschool Church Hour Class dismissed to Room 27.)

Hymn: *Let Your Heart Be Broken*

Bryan Jeffery Leach
(Brown Hymnal 662)

Let your heart be broken for a world in need:
feed the mouths that hunger, soothe the wounds that bleed,
give the cup of water and the loaf of bread—
be the hands of Jesus, serving in his stead.

Here on earth applying principles of love,
visible expression—God still rules above—
living illustration of the Living Word
to the minds of all who've never seen or heard.

Blessed to Be a Blessing—A Responsive Reading

*The poor and the weak are not just those of us
with less wealth than most.
It also includes all those in need,
those who recognize this need and cry out for help.*

*Please stand if you are able.

**Weakness is not a defect; all of us have our weaknesses.
We are all weak and needy in some way.
We all have our vulnerable points,
our limits and our handicaps.**

*Whom will we approach for help with our need?
In what way are we weak and needy?
Are we free to express our weakness and our need?*

**Christ has enabled his people to be there
for and with each other.**

The gifts of healing are here.

The gift of a listening ear is here.

The gifts of love, grace and mercy are here.

Thanks be to God!

*Blessed are those who will ask for help.
Blessed are those who realize their limitations,
know their need and reach out to the hands of those ready to help.
Blessed are the people who gather
to praise and worship God together.
Blessed are those who gather to pray for each other
and the world outside these walls.
Blessed are the disciples who walk alongside
their sister and brother in need.
Christ will bless you; Christ will empower you.
Christ will give you peace.*

***Hymn: Let Your Heart Be Broken**

Blest to be a blessing, privileged to care,
challenged by the need—apparent everywhere.
Where mankind is wanting, fill the vacant place.
Be the means through which the Lord reveals his grace.

Add to your believing deeds that prove it true,
knowing Christ as Savior, make him Master, too.
Follow in his footsteps, go where he has trod;
in the world's great trouble risk yourself for God.

Let your heart be tender and your vision clear;
see mankind as God sees, serve him far and near.
Let your heart be broken by another's pain;
share your rich resources, give and give again.

Moment for Ministry: Stephen Ministry

Louise Gruppen

Prayers of the People

We Present our Gifts & Offerings for: The Lord's work through AACRC

Offertory: *Where You Need Me I Will Go*

Mark Patterson

Lead me, Lord, I will follow.
Send me, Lord, I will go.
Show me where you need me, Lord,
and there I will serve you.
Lead me, Lord, teach me, Lord,
where you need me I will go.
Teach me to seek after righteousness.
Teach me to hunger for truth.
Help me forgive, Lord, as you have forgiven
that I may learn to show your love.
Like a lamb I will follow you.
Shepherd, lead me on.
I can hear your voice calling me,
Lord, I hear your song.

Listening for the Word

Scripture: Ephesians 4:17-5:2

Message: "Renewed in Christ—Fully Human"

Responding to the Word

***Hymn:** *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

Gray Hymnal 264

We Celebrate the Lord's Supper

Institution and Invitation

This morning we celebrate communion. All who love Jesus Christ, trust in him alone for their salvation, and agree to be his disciple are invited to join with us in this celebration.

With thanks and joy, take the bread and dip it into the cup. If you are unable to proceed to the front of the sanctuary to partake of communion, remain seated and the elements will be brought to you.

Communion Songs:

Solo: *Thanks be to God*

Stanley Dickson

All: *Be Thou My Vision*

Red Hymnal 859

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Bearing the Word into the World

***We Receive God's Parting Blessing**

***Hymn:** *Christian Hearts in Love United*

Red Hymnal 727

***Postlude:** *Thanks be to God*

As an 11-year-old, Sam Roelofs sang this song as a Thanksgiving blessing on the Merv Griffin Show. Today, you can enjoy listening to the original recording as the postlude.

Pastors: Ryan Boes, John Groen

Piano/Organ: Ann Van Zomeren; Soloist: Sam Roelofs
Savior Servant Singers: Barb Trevethan, Margaret Baker

11:15 worship

God Is Here!

We Will Celebrate the Praiseworthy Deeds of the Lord!

(Psalm 78:4b)

Prelude/Gathering Song: *Hands to the Heavens*

We are Your church
We are Your sons and daughters
We've gathered here to meet with You

We lift our eyes
We lay our hearts before You
Expectant here for You to move

*With our hands to the Heavens
Alive in Your presence
Oh God, when You come
So pour out Your Spirit
We love to be near You
Oh God, when You come*

You are the way
The truth and life we live for
Oh how we long to know You more

(refrain 2x)

Come like a rushing wind
Come light the fire again
Come like a burning flame
Have Your way
Have Your way (repeat)

(refrain)

Come like a rushing wind
Come light the fire again
Come like a burning flame
Have Your way

Welcome

Call to Worship (responsive)

Do not be afraid!

Do not turn away.

Look!

God is here with mercy, grace, love.

Christ stands among us with arms wide open.

*He rules the universe and lives among us
through the power of his Spirit.*

We open our eyes in wonder;

our ears in readiness;

our mouths in praise:

God has come and will not abandon us.

Glory be to our Triune God throughout all generations!

*Songs of Praise

How Great Is Our God

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Red Hymnal 590:1-3, 8

*We Receive God's Greeting and Greet One Another

Children's Time

(Children in the Preschool Church Hour Class dismissed to Room 27.)

We Will Put our Trust in God and Live Out His Commands

(Psalm 78:7)

Song of Blessing: *Bless the Lord, My Soul*

Red Hymnal 836

Blessed to Be a Blessing: A Responsive Reading

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred: let us sow love;

where there is injury: pardon;

where there is doubt: faith;

where there is despair: hope;

where there is darkness: light;

where there is sadness: joy.

I want to bless whomever I see next.

I want to give—not just use and forget.

I want to leave more behind me than thoughtless regret.

Not gonna runaway!

*I want to give—even when I feel poor.
I want to “let it go”—when I’d rather keep score.
I want to hear the people who are always ignored.
Not gonna back away!
I’m only a part of the story.
But wholly a part of the story.
So I’ll take my part in the story—
Get out of myself.
Get over myself.
Get out of my fear.
Give all of myself.
Get lost in the story of somebody else.
O Divine master, grant that we may not so much seek
to be consoled—as to console;
to be understood—as to understand;
to be loved—as to love.
For it is in giving—that we receive;
it is in pardoning—that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying—that we are born to eternal life.*

Amen.

Song of Response: *Bless the Lord, My Soul*

Red Hymnal 836

Moment for Ministry: **Stephen Ministry**

Louise Gruppen

Prayers of the People

We Present our Gifts & Offerings for: The Lord’s work through AACRC

Offertory: *Healing Love*

David Paap

**God Most High Is Our Rock and Our Redeemer:
We Will Keep God’s Covenant and Live by God’s Word**

(Psalm 78:10, 35)

Scripture: Ephesians 4:1-17-5:2

Message: “Renewed in Christ—Fully Human”

We Celebrate the Lord's Supper

Institution and Invitation

This morning we celebrate communion. All who love Jesus Christ, trust in him alone for their salvation, and agree to be his disciple are invited to join with us in this celebration.

With thanks and joy, take the bread and dip it into the cup. If you are unable to proceed to the front of the sanctuary to partake of communion, remain seated and the elements will be brought to you.

Communion Song

Jesu, Jesu Fill us with Your Love

Red Hymnal 299

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

***We Receive God's Parting Blessing**

***Song for Departure:** *They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love*

Red Hymnal 256

***Postlude**

Pastors: Ryan Boes, John Groen

Worship Team: Debbie Bigelow, Victor Chen, Veena Kulkarni-Rankin,
Chase Lancaster, Teressa Streng, Carolyn Wurster, Mike Wilson

Sunday Morning • 8:45 & 11:15 am

- Preacher: John Groen
- Scripture: Ephesians 4:17-5:2
- The Stephen Minister ministry will be recognized during morning worship.

Youth Ministry

- Preschool Church Hour class will meet during this morning's worship services in Room 27 for children 3-5 years of age who have not started Kindergarten. The children will be dismissed to their class during the worship service.
- 9:55–Sunday School (pre-K through 1st grade) in Room 28
- 9:55–Sunday School (2nd – 5th grade) in Room 23
- 9:55–Savior Servant Singers in Room 19
- 10:15–Middle School Sunday School in Rooms 12 & 13
- 10:15–REACH in Youth Room

Adult Sunday School

- Adult Ed in Room 24, we'll watch The Forgotten Holy Land, a short documentary featuring modern-day footage of ancient biblical locations, shot from the air as well as the ground.
- Adult Ed downstairs in Room 18, led by George Lindquist and Tom Trevethan.
- At 11:30 am, downstairs in Room 17, BESEL Sunday School, studying the Bible in English, sing Gospel songs in different languages. Teachers: Mark and Naomi Nah Schult, Yang Liu, Jukie Wilson.

Sunday Morning • 8:45 & 11:15 am

- Preacher: Ryan Boes
- Scripture: Ephesians 5:1-21
- The GEMS will be celebrated this morning and a special offering will be receive for the GEMS ministry. Half of the monies will support our local group and half will go to the GEMS office in Grand Rapids.

Youth Ministry

- Preschool Church Hour class will meet during this morning's worship services in Room 27 for children 3-5 years of age who have not started Kindergarten. The children will be dismissed to their class during the worship service.
- 9:55–Sunday School (pre-K through 1st grade) in Room 28
- 9:55–Sunday School (2nd – 5th grade) in Room 23
- 9:55–Savior Servant Singers in Room 19
- 10:15–Middle School Sunday School in Rooms 12 & 13
- 10:15–REACH in Youth Room

Adult Sunday School

- In Room 24, Rev. Dwight & Jeanne Billingsley from the Arab-American Friendship Center (see inside).
- Adult Ed downstairs in Room 18, led by George Lindquist and Tom Trevethan.
- At 10:10 am, downstairs in Room 17, BESEL Sunday School, studying the Bible in English, sing Gospel songs in different languages. Teachers: Mark and Naomi Nah Schult, Yang Liu, Jukie Wilson.

announcements & reminders

Advent Worship

As a reminder, we will begin a year-long period of worshiping in a single service on December 3, 2017. The single worship service will begin at 9:30am. Children's choirs will meet from 10:50 to 11:05, and Sunday School for children and adults will go from 11:05 to 11:50.

Worship Discussion Opportunities

Council invites you to a second congregational meeting regarding the upcoming worship reset year today at 3:30 pm at church. This will be a time of 'appreciative inquiry'. We will break out into small groups to discuss the best of our current worship at AACRC, and how it could be even better in the next year and beyond.

Church Directories

Printed copies of the 2017-18 AACRC Church Directory are on available on a table in the Fellowship Hall.

December Newsletter

Contributions for the December AACRC newsletter, *On Broadway*, are due in the church office by November 18.

Advent by Candlelight

Sign up for Advent by Candlelight. It will be held in our fellowship hall on Monday, December 4. Look for the flyer in your mailbox and then be sure to sign up at the Christmas decorated table.

Extra Care Sunday

Our Stephen Ministers invite you to be extra caring today. Greet everyone with a smile. Ask them how they really are. Give them an extra hug. Find out if there's anything you can do for them. And let's make a special effort to make Ann Arbor CRC an extra caring place not only today, but every Sunday.

Pray for the Persecuted Church

- On November 6, 2016, the desperately poor Community of Santal Christians were evicted from their homes in the Gaibandah district in Bangladash. Aided by the local Muslims, they set their homes on fire. With help from Barnabas Aid, new homes are being built. Pray for funds and new courage and hope.
- Please continue to pray for the Christian Copts in Egypt, as advised in the insert in 1st week's bulletin.

Special Offering

The offering received last week for the Cadet ministry amounted to \$557.00. Thank you for your support!

Adult Ed, November 19

Rev. Dwight and Jeanne Billingsley from the Arab-American Friendship Center (AAFC) will lead an Adult Ed session and worship with us at the 11:15 service. The AAFC provides English and citizenship classes, led by Christian volunteers, to Muslims in Dearborn. We've asked them to share about what's happening with their ministry. What excites them? What challenges do they see? How can we be praying about their ministry?

Kitchen Linens

Volunteers are needed to wash the kitchen towels beginning in December. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the church kitchen.

Friends In Deed

For the fourth year in a row, Ken Fil of Van Winkle Mattress Co. has agreed to a matching donation on Giving Tuesday. On Giving Tuesday (November 29th, 2017), Ken will donate one (1) bed for every four (4) beds donated on that day. Over the past three years, Ken not only donated dozens of matching beds, he let us choose what size we needed. With your help and Van Winkle's generosity, we might just be able to reach 100 bed donations on the big day. Better yet, we'll be able to provide beds/cribs to every family on our waiting list!

Housing Needed

A student from Michigan Tech Univ has received a co-op semester at Toyota Research and Development beginning Jan. 8. He is willing to help with shoveling snow and other yard work as needed. Contact Brad or Debbie DeBoer, 269-668-3559 or debrahvt@gmail.com. They will be in Ann Arbor some time during Thanksgiving week.

Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity is looking for volunteers this Fall to begin working on the House of Faith that our church will be helping with again next spring. The fall dates for which volunteers are needed are Friday November 17, Saturday November 18, Friday December 1, and Saturday December 2. Volunteers will be working from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. If you are able and willing to work on any of these dates, please contact Matt Admiraal.

AACRC Weekly Calendar

Today, November 12

8:45 & 11:15 AM Morning Worship
9:55 AM Sunday School
3:30 PM Congregation Town Hall

Monday, November 13

6:30 AM AA New Awakening
7:30 PM Facilities Committee

Tuesday, November 14

6:30 AM AA New Awakening
9:30 AM & 1:15 PM Coffee Break
7:00 PM Tuesday Night Dinner
at Lindquist's home
7:30 PM Praise Team Rehearsal

Wednesday, November 15

6:30 AM AA New Awakening
6:30 & 8:00 AM Men's Prayer & Study
5:30 PM Roots at Food Gatherers
5:30 PM Pizza Night
6:30 PM GEMS/Cadets
7:00 PM Choir

Thursday, November 16

6:30 AM AA New Awakening
10:00 AM Prayer Group
10:00 AM Crafters
7:00 PM Friendship Ministry

Friday, November 17

6:30 AM AA New Awakening

Saturday, November 18

6:00 PM ISI Thanksgiving Dinner

Sunday, November 19

8:45 & 11:15 AM Morning Worship
9:55 AM Sunday School

Assisting This Week 11/12

Coffee Servers

8:45 Bill & Dawn Zinsser
Mac & Nita Cox
11:15 Darren & Sue De Zeeuw
Nicole Michmerhuizen

Nursery

8:45 Leanne Groen
Marilyn Essenburg
11:15 Theresa Tanin
Don or Jen Ruth

Preschool Church Hour

8:45 Grant Schoenebeck
Andrea Bennink, Dane Hubers
11:15 Mary Admiraal
Yang Liu

Assisting Next Week 11/19

Coffee Servers

8:45 James & Alice Homan
David & Marilyn Cummins
11:15 Justin & Jocelyn Schiller
Mike & Jackie Waldyke

Nursery

8:45 Joanne Adams
Sean Kim
11:15 Megan Boes
John & Rachel Bush

Preschool Church Hour

8:45 Tim & Kate Costello
Anika Lautenbach
11:15 Justin Schiller
Kate Van Ee



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***International Students, Inc
Larry and Lucy Champoux***
Excerpt from a recent newsletter.



God has a great way of opening doors. Because of Larry's awesome free furniture ministry this past fall (with help from Mark, and many others), Larry and Lucy were invited to give a little advertisement for our activities to all the new Master Students at the Meet and Greet Indian Student Association this past September! awesome free furniture ministry this past fall (with help from Mark, and many others), Larry and Lucy were invited to give a little advertisement for our activities to all the new Master Students at the Meet and Greet Indian Student Association this past September! (pic above)

Thankful for

The Lake Party on September 2nd was a great success - the Koch's hosted it & provided boat rides, Fellowship EPC coordinated the food, many volunteers drove students, brought food & talked to students. We now have over 170 students in our database as a result of this big effort.

Please Pray For

- A smooth transition for Lucy's mom, Bev, to an assisted living apartment. We hope they will manage her meds well and we still need a good lymphoma cancer treatment program.
- Wisdom for Lucy to mentor/disciple many international women here and overseas.
- Preparations for [our daughter] Molly & Stephen Whitney's January 2018 wedding and management of our expectations.
- Thanksgiving Banquet on November 18 - enough volunteers, that all students would seek God more and come faithfully to Bible studies or want to start new ones.
- Indian student dinners twice per month in our home - pray that Bible studies start as a result of these efforts of love.
- Fulfillment of our 20/20 ministry vision: by the year 2020 we find 20 coworkers/mentees that are willing to be trained and able to go on campus with me; and that we find 20 new \$100/month donors.