



**Christian Reformed Church of Pease**

**January 7, 2024 - 9:30 A.M**

# **Christian Reformed Church of Pease**

**Mr. Dick Ahlberg**

**January 7, 2024**

## **We Enter God's Presence**

Moment of Silence

Call to Worship

Opening Song: *"Come People of the Risen King"*

God's Greeting and Our Mutual Greeting

Songs of Praise: *"Crown Him with Many Crowns"*

*"As the Deer"*

Confession and Assurance

Song of Assurance: *"Jesus Paid It All (O Praise the One)"*

Intercessory Prayer: Tom Kiel

Our Gifts: 1) General Fund

2) Community Christian School

## **We Hear God's Word**

Children's Message: Beth Sumner

Scripture: Genesis 16

Message: **"Look Back; Look Forward; Look Up"**

Prayer of Application

Song of Application: *"Be the Center"*

## **We Depart with God's Blessing**

God's Parting Blessing

Closing Song: *"Shine, Jesus, Shine"*

## *Sermon Notes*

### Three Questions for the New Year:

1. Where \_\_\_\_\_ ?

Look \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Where \_\_\_\_\_ ?

Look \_\_\_\_\_.

3. What \_\_\_\_\_ ?

Look \_\_\_\_\_.

### You can expect God to:

1.

2.

3.

4.

# "I will sing

of the Lord's great love forever; with my mouth I will  
make your faithfulness known through all generations."

-Psalm 89:1

A HAPPY AND BLESSED NEW YEAR to you in the name of Jesus our Lord!  
With joy we welcome you to this place of worship and fellowship today.  
As we look toward another year of God's goodness and faithfulness,  
let us resolve that this year will be a year of  
faithful service to Him and others.

This morning **Mr. Dick Ahlberg** joins us as he looks at Genesis 16:1-14 to base his message, "Three Questions for the New Year". Next Sunday we welcome back **Pastor Dallas Smith** with the message "Same Message, Different Responses" from the book of Acts.

We are happy to welcome the 2nd-5th graders back to **Children in Worship** today. We are so glad that they could participate fully in our Christmas Eve and Day services, and are excited to share Communion with them again on January 21. If you and your child feel that they are ready to partake in this sacrament, please reach out to your Shepherding Elder.

**Thrive Faith Formation Tip:** "Visio divina" is the practice of meditating on Scripture using art or other images. Try it by reading the story of the Prodigal Son in Luke 15 and then meditating on the art in Calvin University's collection based on this story ([tinyurl.com/ProdigalArt](http://tinyurl.com/ProdigalArt)). Learn more at [crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject](http://crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject)

**SERVE 2024:** Please join us in praying for all who are deciding where to participate in SERVE projects this year; we still have several sites available across the US and Canada. We also covet your prayers surrounding our expanding opportunities for churches and emerging adults! Taken from the January Prayer Guide; [www.crcna.org/pray](http://www.crcna.org/pray).

The second offerings received in January are:  
January 14– REC Snack Packing  
January 21– Rum River Life Choices Center  
January 28– 125 Campaign

## *Our Church Family*

We wish a very happy birthday to:

>**Jean Droogsma**, celebrating 97 years on Wednesday, January 10.

>**Connie Geurkink**, celebrating 83 years on Friday, January 12.

We extend our sympathy to the family of **Dwayne and Peggy Timmer**.

Peggy's father, Gene Herbert, passed away last Monday evening. There will be a visitation Monday, January 8 from 5:00-7:00 pm, and a funeral at 2:00 pm on Tuesday, January 9, both at Peterson-Johnson Funeral Home. A lunch will be served following the service at Zion Lutheran Church in Milaca.

The **Administrative Team** meets tomorrow afternoon. Please keep them in your prayers as they begin a new year with new members on their team.

**Louise Spoelstra** thanks her church family for the visits, cards, treats, and phone calls that she was given during this holiday season!

*"Dear Church Family, Thank you so much for all the wonderful Christmas greetings and anniversary wishes! We are doing quite well right now. Our whole family was together to celebrate Christmas! We rejoiced in the birth of our Lord and Savior. We are also thankful for 57 wonderful years of marriage. We are so thankful for God's love and faithfulness that he has shown us over the years. We miss our church family, but realize we need to be where we are! May you all have a blessed New Year."* ~**Jim & Joanne Vedders**

**Lois Hanenburg's** only phone number will now be (320) 496-0431.

## *Calendar for the Week*

### **Sunday, January 7**

9:30 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship

### **Monday, January 8**

1:30 p.m.

Mission Society

4:30 p.m.

Administrative Team Meeting

### **Wednesday, January 10**

6:00 p.m.

Coffee Break

6:30 p.m.

REC Jr.

7:45 p.m.

REC

### **Thursday, January 11**

7:45 a.m.

Milaca Chamber Morning Perk

7:30 p.m.

Men's Bible Study

## Upcoming Events

- >Sunday Night Live: Sunday, January 14
- >Shepherding Team Meeting: Monday, January 15
- >Coffee in the Fireside Room: Wednesday, January 17
- >Visitation & Funeral of Clara De Vries: Saturday, January 20

**Epiphany** season began on January 6. The liturgical year celebrates the life of Christ, and epiphany, which means ‘manifestation’ commemorates Christ’s revelation to the Gentile world as symbolized by the visit of the Magi with their three crowns on the *pulpit parament*. The ‘good news’ of the gospel made manifest to all the nations of the world is represented by green, the color of life and growth. The circle on the pulpit parament represents the earth across which the gospel message must travel. The four colors represent the four races of humanity to whom the gospel is sent in the four directions to circle the globe. The wreath on the *communion table parament* also uses the symbol of the crown which all those who accept Christ as Lord and Savior receive. It is the victory wreath of leaves the Christian ‘wears’ to indicate: “I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth, there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day; and not me only, but unto them that love my appearing.” II Timothy 4:7-8

**Parable of the Sower Banner:** Luke 8:5-15 “The seed is the word of God...” In the parable of the sower the Lord Jesus uses several word pictures to teach the lesson that we must be “Doers of the word and not hearers only” (James 1:22). Seed well-planted, grown and ripened to harvest is a symbol of the faith that takes hold in the heart of the righteous, grows, and bears fruit (good works) which glorify God.

**Parable of the Kingdom of Heaven Banner:** Matthew 13:47 “The Kingdom of heaven is like a net that was let down into the lake, and caught all kinds of fish.” These symbols remind us of the work of Christ as the fisher of men, and His commission to His disciples to become fishers of men (Luke 5). The shape of the net suggests a shell, a traditional symbol of baptism, which is the sign and seal to believers that they are members of the kingdom of heaven.

## Community Announcements

The next Country-Gospel Singalong with **This Side of Heaven** will be Sunday, January 7, 3:00 p.m. at Milaca E. Free Church.

Grieving a loss? Find hope and healing after the death of a loved one. Join the members of **Grief Share**, a weekly grief support group that meets on Mondays at the Milaca Free Church on Mondays from 6:00-7:00, beginning January 8. Contact Susan with questions at 320.362.0878.

## *Opportunities To Serve*

**Sound Board Today, January 7:** Jeff Hanenburg

**Next Sunday, January 14:** Tom Patten

**Media Today, January 7:** Linda Droogsma

**Next Sunday, January 14:** Stacy Patten

**Livestream Today, January 7:** Bob Sumner

**Next Sunday, January 14:** Sam Fradette

**Greeters Today, January 7:**

**East Door:** Alan & Ruth Ann Kragt

**West Door:** Harly & Pauline Pap

**Next Sunday, January 14:**

**East Door:** Char De Kraker

**West Door:** Carol Timmer

**Ushers Today, January 7:**

**East:** Jim Santema

**Center:** Ron & Bonnie Homstad

**West:** Dewey Droogsma

**Next Sunday, January 14:**

**East:** Mike Larsen

**Center:** Greg Brink

**West:** Steve Hubers

**Nursery Today, January 7:**

**Leaders:** Nicole Hoffman, Haley Hemmerich

**Helpers:** Ty Patnode

**Next Sunday, January 14:**

**Leaders:** Beth Sumner, Shawny Thompson

**Helpers:** Jayanna Boldt, Lauryn Droogsma

**Children's Church Today, January 7:**

**Little Lambs:** *"Jesus is Born!"*

**Leader:** Deb Vedders

**Helper:** Mallery Vander Plaats

**Worship Center:** *"Jesus is Baptized"*

**Leader:** Sara Swanson

**Helper:** Kinsley Hoyez

**The 2-3's:** *Lesson 13*

**Leader:** Julee Moorlag

**The 4-5's:** *Lesson 13*

**Leader:** Bonnie Ash

**Children's Church Next Sunday, January 14:**

**Little Lambs:** *"Follow Me!"*

**Leader:** Barb Goslinga

**Helper:** Ty Patnode

**Worship Center:** *"The Great Pearl"*

**Leader:** Carol Veurink

**Helper:** Aleeri Veurink

**The 2-3's:** *Lesson 14*

**Leader:** Shirley Geurkink

**The 4-5's:** *Lesson 14*

**Leader:** Nicole Hoffman



## **2024 Administrative Team**

**Elders:** Jeff Hanenburg—President  
Tom Kiel—Vice President  
Doug Brink—Clerk

**Deacons:** Bernie Boldt—President  
Ryan Manke—Vice President  
Joelle Hjort—Secretary

## **2024 Shepherdng Teams**

**Red:** Duane Droogsma, Jayne Kiel, Hope Vermeer  
**Yellow:** Phil Vedders, Beth Sumner, Cindy Hemmerich  
**Purple:** Dick Ritzema, Char De Kraker, Char Burklund  
**Orange:** Tom Patten, Sam Fradette, Sharry Kragt  
**Blue:** Byron Byker, John Teeler, Shirley Geurkink  
**Green:** Julee Moorlag, Dylan Ash, Kris Kiel



**Christian Reformed Church of Pease**

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