

MINISTRY STAFF — HOW CAN WE SERVE YOU?

Sr. Pastor: Rev. Matthew Burns; matthew@psrc.org / Children Ministries: Kate Martinka; kate@psrc.org / Worship Leader: Steve Martinka; steve@psrc.org / Office/Finance: Sadie Perkins; churchoffice@psrc.org/finance@psrc.org

PLEASANT ST. KIDS — We would love to help your children become devoted followers of Christ! Check in and get a name tag at the kids cart in the fellowship hall before service.

- **NURSERY** (babies-age 3) during the service for Bible stories, music, play, and more!
- **KIDSTREET** (age 4-2nd grade) dismissed before sermon for a Bible story, craft/activity, music, and more!
- **ECHO** (3rd-5th grade) dismissed after the sermon to reflect and get to know each other, lasting 10 minutes. We don't meet on the last Sunday of each month.
- All ages are welcome to stay in the service. There is space under the balcony and in the fellowship hall if you need to get the wiggles out.
- **FAMILY SUNDAY** All ages worship together when there is a 5th Sunday; there is no Nursery, KidStreet, or Echo.

CARE — COME ALONGSIDE OTHERS

LET'S PRAY TOGETHER — Synod has designated the second Wednesday in March (March 8,) as the Annual Day of Prayer. All CRC congregations are requested to assemble to ask for God's blessing upon the world, our nations, crops and industry, and the church worldwide—*Thanks for praying!*

MANY THANKS — We are so grateful for the love and support shown to us as we experienced such a heartbreaking and ultimately victorious journey with Karen. We want to thank Pastor Matthew, the Elders, the Deacons, Sadie and all of you people of Pleasant St for your many blessings of support and constant offerings of prayer, love and encouragement during this time. In the Love of Jesus—*Steve, Adam, Analiese and Josiah Stinson*

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS — *Begins next Sunday, March 12. Be sure to "spring ahead" one hour!*

GROW — CULTIVATE YOUR FAITH

CONFRONTING CHRISTIANITY... SMALL GROUP — Both inside and outside the church, life-long worshippers, curious inquirers, and committed skeptics carry questions with them about Jesus. We'll be looking at *Dr. Rebecca McLaughlin's* book to help us explore them. Please sign up at the connections corner to receive a book in February. Read it during the month of March and we will plan to meet for 4 Wednesdays in April, 6:30-8:00pm—*Pastor Matthew!*

SERVE — CONTRIBUTE YOUR TALENTS & RESOURCES

OUR SECOND OFFERING — Next Sunday will be in support of the Calvinist Cadet Corps. The Fairlawn and Pleasant Street churches support a shared scouting club of the Calvinist Cadet Corp, an independent youth organization in the Reformed tradition. Our club meets Wednesday evenings during Midweek for boys in grades 1 through 6; this season we have about 20 boys from multiple churches attending Cadets. The goal of cadets is to help boys grow more Christlike in all areas of life

REACH OUT — CONNECT WITH OUR COMMUNITY

WCS WELCOMES — Dr. John Abbondanza, a specialist in vision therapy and vision-related learning problems, for an informative presentation regarding the critical link between vision and learning. The event will be held at WCS, 279 Linwood Ave. in Whitinsville on Wednesday, March 22, at 5:15pm. Admission is free and all interested parents, guardians, and educators are invited to attend. Please RSVP at whitinsvillechristian.org.

FREE SEMINAR AT FAIRLAWN — *"The Seed of Addiction"* Thursday, March 23 at 7pm. Counselor Brian Crockett from Milford will present, what tends to cause an addictive personality. This presentation will also provide a starting place for caregivers and suffering persons for their respective recovery journeys— We hope you join us!

WHITINSVILLE RETIREMENT CENTER — Is looking for a friendly part time employee to cook for our wonderful residents. We have flexible menus and encourage trying out new recipes. Experience is a plus but we will train the right candidate. If you love working with the elderly and this sounds like a good fit for you, please call Jeannine at 508.234.6381.

WELCOME

We're glad you joined us!

508.234.5268 + Office: 8a-4p Mon-Fri

March 5, 2023 + 9:30am

"Harm's Way: Images of Sin"



If you have been worshipping with us for a long time or you are entering the doors of a church for the first time, it is our hope that you will experience a kind welcome, a sense of genuine community, and the grace and truth of Jesus Christ that the Christian Church has celebrated for centuries.

LIVING THE STORY OF GOD THIS WEEK

Tonight 6:30p HS Youth Group Study: Foundation
M 9:30a Women's Bible Study: Fellowship Hall
6:30p Celebrate Recovery: Fellowship Hall
T 9:30a Coffee Break: Fellowship Hall; Childcare
6:30p Divorce Care: Fellowship Hall
6:30p Grief Share: Foundation
W 6:30p Prayer Meeting: Fellowship Hall

Prayer of Preparation

Holy God, we long for your peace, and trust in your promise; we hear your call to turn toward you, to change our lives and welcome you in. In the Name of the One who is coming, we pray. Amen!

GATHER

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship—Psalm 108:1-4

My heart, O God, is steadfast; I will sing and make music with all my soul. Awake, harp and lyre! I will awaken the dawn. I will praise you, Lord, among the nations. I will sing of you among the peoples.

For great is your love, higher than the heavens; Your faithfulness reaches to the skies.

SONGS: *Your Grace Is Enough & Great Are You Lord*

RENEWAL

Prayer of Confession—Exodus 20: 1-20

We confess, Lord God, that the voices of a passing age – the world, the flesh, and the devil - are loud in our ears and lead us astray.

Save us, God of Truth and Mercy. Shepherd us with your still small voice.

We proclaim personal autonomy. Films and social media are filled with the notion that we don't need God to set us free—we are our own masters.

And God spoke all these words: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

We ask ourselves, "What's in it for me?" I'm number one.

God says "You shall have no other gods before me."

The world says; Try to make as much money as you can and spend all of it on improving your own quality of life.

You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything. You shall not bow down to them or worship them, for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God.

Sunday is about you; you should do whatever you want to.

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

Six days you shall labor and do all your work.

Don't pay any attention to your parents. They're old-fashioned and they ruin your fun.

Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

You are entitled to hate people who are nasty or who make life unpleasant.

You shall not murder.

When your marriage gets dull, it's OK to flirt with an affair.

You're only human.

You shall not commit adultery.

You should get what you want even if you have to take it from someone else. It's only wrong if you get caught.

You shall not steal.

Don't miss out on any gossip about people. When you put other people down you feel better about yourself.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

Always keep up with the Joneses. Why should other people have more than you do?

You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's spouse; their hired help, their car, or their kitchen remodel, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

God of truth and mercy, you sent Jesus to seek and save the lost; to open ears and give sight to the blind – we have been dull to love and blind to the truth and we are lost without you.

Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin through Christ our Lord, AMEN.

Words of Assurance

Jesus said: come to me all you that are weary and carrying heavy burdens – I will give you rest. Take up my yolk, learn from me for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Jesus, our burden is light for you bore our cross – where mercy and truth meet. Jesus said: I am the light of the world, whoever follows me will never walk in Darkness but will have the light of life.

Jesus, our forgiveness shines from your cross.

Shepherd us in the light of your Mercy and Love. AMEN.

COMMIT

Morning Offerings: Ministries of Pleasant Street;

SONG: *Before The Throne Of God Above*

Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you

And also with you!

KidStreet Dismissal

[Children age 4 through 2nd grade are dismissed]

WORD

Morning Prayers

Genesis 4 + "Harm's Way: Images of Sin"

ECHO Dismissal

[Students in grades 3-5 are dismissed]

SONG: *Lord I Need You*

SEND

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face towards you and give you peace.

SONG: *Graves into Gardens*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord, Jesus Christ!

The candle in the front is lit as a symbol that Jesus Christ is present in our worship this morning.

