
THE CENTRAL CHANNEL

July 2019

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From the Pastor's Pen

Thou Shalt Not ...

This past Sunday evening we read, responsively, the Ten Commandments. We do this regularly in our services. The law of God is not abolished, but a rule for the believer's new heart and guide to the Creator's will for us as His free people, in Christ. So, let's look a little closer at the eighth commandment, so that God may press us deeper into His will for us as His holy people that our joy may be full (John 15:11).

I know a person who uses the guise of ministry to receive gourmet day-old bread from a restaurant. The restaurant thinks that all the bread is being used for homeless shelters. Instead, most of it is being consumed by the person and his family and friends. This is stealing ... from the poor no less!! He's stealing, even if this person only takes a fraction because he thinks he deserves it since he's giving most of it to the intended recipients. If the person's friends knowingly eat this bread, they're stealing as well.

In applying for WIC, a welfare program, one of my wife's co-workers pretended to think that the "your" in "your total household income" question, meant just her income and not her husband's. And so, this family, with plenty of money, qualified for WIC. This kind of activity happens among God's people; we rationalize and scheme in order to take what's not ours. God calls us out of this and into the joy of following his commands.

Blessings, Pastor Marc



***It is for
freedom
that Christ
has set
us free!***

Galatians 5:1

SHUT-INS AND MISSIONARIES **FOR JULY 2019**



June 30-July 6

JOHN KUNEN

Resthaven Care Center
Anna's Cottage, Room #46
280 West 40th Street
Holland, MI 49423

Missionary

Rev. Victor Atallah
Middle East Reformed Fellowship

July 7 - 13

LLOYD BONZELAAR

A-4714 60th Street
Holland, MI 49423

Missionary

Cambodian Fellowship
Then Duch Ministry
Cambodian Fellowship CRC

July 14 - 20

ELSA DEVENTER

Resthaven Good Shepherd Home
280 W 40th Street
Holland, MI 49423

Mission

Zuni Christian School/Church/Mission
Zuni, New Mexico

July 21 - 27

RUTH TIMMER

Medilodge - Room #5
1221 East 16th Street
Holland, MI 49423

Missionaries

Mark and Deb Wilson
Food for the Hungry in Cambodia

July 28 - August 3

KATHY KOTMAN

Pine Ridge ALF
15467 Port Sheldon St
West Olive, MI 49460

Missionaries

Rev. Dave and Blanca Gifford
Resonate Global Missions in Mexico City

*We've a story to tell to the nations
that will turn their hearts to the right,
a story of truth and mercy,
a story of peace and light-
a story of peace and light.*

*We've a song to be sung to the nations,
that shall lift their hearts to the Lord,
a song that shall conquer all evil
and shatter the spear and sword -
and shatter the spear and sword.*

*We've a message to give to the nations,
that the Lord Who reigneth above
hath sent us His Son to save us,
and show us that God is love -
and show us that God is love.*

*We've a Savior to show to the nations
Who the path of sorrow hath trod,
that all of the world's great peoples
might come to the truth of God -
might come to the truth of God.*

*For the darkness shall turn to dawning,
and the dawning to noonday bright,
and Christ's great kingdom come to earth,
the kingdom of love and light!*



I would like to thank the congregation for the many get well wishes, cards and for prayers offered on my behalf. Thank you as well to Pastors Chad and Marc and Hugh Slenk for the visits. We have a very caring congregation.

Phil Persenaire

*A special THANK YOU for Mom's church family – The many prayers for her and her family were felt; the visits and calls were a great blessing. Thank you to the ladies for serving the family and guests. To the one who worked the sound system for the service and the organist ... thank you. Thank you to the elders and pastors for their visits. Our family was truly blessed by everyone's kindness. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus. **The Shirley Greving family***

Thank you, Central Avenue congregation, for the prayers, care and concern during my recent hospitalization and recovery. Thank you to elder Todd, Pastors Chad and Marc for their faithful visits.

A special thank you to all who remembered our 70th wedding anniversary. We certainly have been blessed these many years. May the Lord bless you as you have blessed us.

Harold and Millie Geurink

We would like to thank the congregation for the many cards and best wishes we received for our anniversary. God has richly blessed us. With Christian love,

Phil and Lois Persenaire

We would like to thank our Central Avenue family for the calls, cards, prayers and visits at the passing of our sister, Shirley Greving. What a blessing to belong to such a kind and caring congregation!

Jerome and Gerri Bush

THANK YOU so very much for the many cards, e-mails, calls and to the many who wished me a HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

*God is so good and we have such a caring church. **Marianne Bos***

*I would like to thank my Central Avenue Church family for their thoughts and prayers during my recent surgery and long recovery. Thank you too for all the cards, phone calls, texts and gifts. I would especially like to thank Pastor Marc and Pastor Chad for their calls to me before and after the surgery. It is so comforting to know that fellow Christians are praying for you. Thank you, everyone! **Ellen Walters***

Thank you for the many cards, calls, prayers and visits in the death of our sister, Carla Tamminga.

Your expressions of sympathy were very much appreciated.

**Fern Barkema,
Pearl and Leon Beyer,
Jerry and Myrt DeVries,
Carol and Eric TerBeek**

Thank you for the many cards I received at the recent death of my sister Carla. I am thankful to be a part of this caring family of Central Avenue Church.

Fern Barkema

Thank you for the cards phone calls and wishes for our anniversary. We appreciated all of them.
Gene and Barb Grotenhuis

Thank you to our dear Central Avenue family for birthday and anniversary cards and wishes. We are so thankful for God's care and many blessings over the years. We go forward, always "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms."
Chet and Mary Dreyer

We appreciated and enjoyed the many cards received for our anniversary. It was so nice to be remembered by so many of you. We are grateful for the years God has given to us to share together ... His blessings in our life as one continue to delight and His faithfulness and provision is always so amazing!
Steve and Sue Zwiep

Bernie Klompamaker and his family would like to express their sincerest thanks to the congregation for all the love and care poured out on Dina and the family over the past months, especially in these last few weeks since Dina's death. Each card call, visit, and greeting have been a blessing. May God be praised for the way His love has been put into action by the congregation and friends as a result of Dina's death. Shalom.
The Klompmaker family

*We are pilgrims on a journey;
We're together on this road.
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load.*

*When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've know together
Of Christ's love and agony.*

*I will weep when you are weeping;
When you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
Till we've seen this journey through.*



UPCOMING EVENTS



SUMMER BACKYARD BOOK CLUB will meet on July 10 and 24 this month. The group joins at 7:00 p.m. at Pastor Chad and Rachel's house to discuss "*The Gospel Comes with a House Key*" by Rosaria Butterfield.

Join for a picnic at Ottawa Beach on Wednesday, July 10, at 5:00 p.m. Food will be provided, and cost will be \$6.00 per person payable to Irv Bos. *There is a sign-up sheet at the back of church. You must sign up if you plan to participate. Don't forget to bring your chair!*

Seniors' July Outing



SENIORS will join together again on Wednesday, July 31, for a Hot Dog dinner at 5:30 p.m. followed by guest speakers, John and Jan Klompmaker – John is Bernie and Dina's son. Beginning at 6:30 p.m. they will share about their work in China. Ice Cream will be served following their presentation. Price will be \$5.00 per person for the dinner and dessert. *More details will come to you but mark your calendars now and plan to join. Watch for a sign-up sheet at the back of church. This late July gathering will serve as our August meeting.*



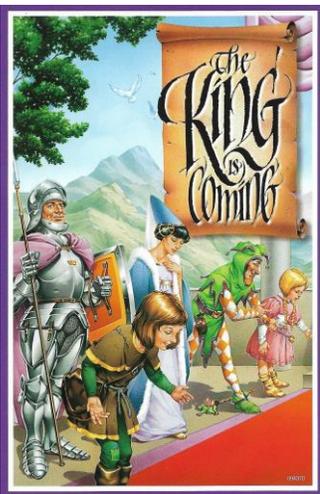
FAMILY BIBLE SCHOOL

on Saturday, August 10, from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Bible School with a twist! Moms and Dads and grandparents will join together with their own children and grandchildren to enjoy Bible stories, singing, crafts, and games. This event is for each family to enjoy Bible School together – not separated into age groups. Each family will learn and play together! Volunteers are needed for this venture ... people to "host" craft tables, people to supervise outdoor games/activities, people to organize refreshment. Everyone will enjoy a time of Bible stories, singing, crafting and recreation together followed by a picnic supper at 5:00 p.m. Are you willing to canvass around the neighborhood with flyers?

Your help is needed with that as well!

Invite your friends and families ...everyone is welcome to join – all families, all ages! Contact Beth Vandebroek with questions and/or more information.





Have you marked your calendars for the Annual Church Picnic? We will join on Saturday, August 24, at Drenthe Grove. *More information will be coming to you as we get closer to the date!*

RYS Convention 2019



Nine youth and three leaders from Central Avenue will be attending the convention this summer.

Youth: Abby Allen, Lauren Bushouse, Kirsten Buter, Lillian Bruxvoort, Katie Karel, Matthew Karel, Ashley Koeman, Elleh Steenwyk, Ava Vander Lugt

Leaders: Pastor Chad and Rachel Steenwyk and Pastor Marc Van Berkum

There will be prayer and a “send-off” in the evening worship service on July 21 and they will be leaving Monday morning, July 22. The convention this year is July 22-26 at Cedarville University in Ohio. The young people will be involved in all kinds of small group devotions, enjoying guest speakers, attending workshops and having fun with recreational activities, a ‘day away’ and a talent show.

This year’s theme is ***“TOTAL LIFE INSURANCE”***

and Scripture is from **Romans 8:31** –

“What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?”
Pray for safety for all those traveling to the convention and pray for God’s blessing on the young people and their leaders as well as all those serving and teaching that this would be a good experience for everyone and that they all would grow closer to the Lord and to one another.

A slideshow presentation is scheduled for Sunday, July 28, following the morning worship service.

Our Calling ... God's Faithfulness

Yet again we experienced firsthand the beautiful faithfulness and the amazing grace of God in our Central Avenue Church family. What a joy and blessing it was for us to witness six young people publicly profess their love for the Lord to and to express their desire to serve Him. It is a joy to embrace the covenant promises of God for our children in their baptisms, but even more exciting to see those promises grow and blossom in their hearts and lives to bring them to personally claim Jesus as Savior and Lord. In a broken and sinful world, God remains our constant, the One we recognize as our Hope in this life and for eternity and ... His kingdom continues to grow!

For almost a quarter of a century now I have been given the opportunity and have been blessed to share the Scriptural teaching of our catechism to many of our young people. And while I take no credit at all in their coming to faith, it has been a joy for me to see them share their faith in their professions. The little bit of time I have had with all of them to remind them that they belong to God, that His love for them never fails, that He lived and died for each of them has been such a lovely privilege. It has always been my heart's desire for them to come to know that they can find peace and joy in accepting His precious gift of faith and then revel in the new life that is theirs in Christ. I always seem to grab their attention when I tell them that while Jesus hung dying on the cross, each of them by name was in His heart and mind. I want them to know that it was for them that He suffered and died. I want them to understand that when God looks at them in and through Christ, He sees them as perfect, holy, righteous, redeemed, and reconciled back to their Creator. They are indeed the precious jewels that will one day adorn their Savior's crown.

I am quite certain that I have enjoyed these many years teaching because it helped me in my own faith journey. These young people whom I have come to know and love have been a constant source of encouragement for me and I have grown to appreciate more and more the truths of God's Word. I believe I have probably been more deeply blessed than they have, but it has always been my prayer that God would grow the seeds being planted in their hearts and lives to His glory and that they would learn to know just how richly blessed they are to be children of the King!

The responsibility of teaching our children and young people remains vital to the life of Christ's church. It cannot ever be lukewarm or watered down – it must be rich and deep to help them to truly learn Who God is and how they must relate all of life to Him. I always tell my first-time students that they have “graduated” from Sunday School and must move from leaning Bible “stories” to a better understanding of what all the Bible accounts mean for them ... from milk to meat Scripture teaches so that they grow and mature in their faith and recognize that one day - the Lord willing - they will serve as leaders and teachers in the church.

There is one monumental thing I have discovered over the years as well – our children and young people have many hard questions about life and they not only want, but desperately need answers that are steeped in truth to nurture understanding ... all of which we know comes only from the Word of God. Diligence in teaching our youth, listening to them, sharing with them, guarding and protecting them, praying for them and with them, and investing in their spiritual instruction must always be of grave importance. It is God's command to “teach our children” and then watch Him work the miracle of faith in their hearts and lives – God is always faithful to bless when we obey. We witnessed yet again His faithfulness to that promise. Let us remain faithful to God's command to bring up our children in the ways of the Lord for His glory and for their eternal joy. Never can that task be neglected or minimized. The fact is that our children are not really ours at all. They belong to Jesus and have been entrusted to us for one reason – to raise them for the Lord by equipping them to be His disciples and by instilling in them the glorious Gospel so that they are ready and willing to be His instruments of truth and love in this world. The time we have been given with our children goes quickly by and we must be devoted to this daunting task and blessed by this calling given to us by God.

S Zwiep

NURSERY SCHEDULE

July 7

A.M. Connie Knap/Audrey Mast

P.M. Margo Hoekstra/Lillian Bruxvoort

July 14

A.M. Grace Vander Lugt/James Bruxvoort

P.M. Sue Zwiep/Ava Vander Lugt

July 21

A.M. Margo Hoekstra/Luke Bushouse

P.M. Anne Bushouse/Samuel Visser

July 28

A.M. Stacey Buter/Shari Smith

P.M. Linda De Wys/Sarah Visser



JULY COLLECTION SCHEDULE

July 7

A.M. Special Mission Commitment - SMC

P.M. Central Avenue Charity Fund

July 14

A.M. General Fund

P.M. Living Threads Ministry

July 21

A.M. General Fund

P.M. HCS Tuition Grant Fund

July 28

A.M. Moving Forward in Faith
and Ministry – MFFM Fund

P.M. Phnom Penh Bible School



JULY COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

July 7 Fellowship Group #1

Steve Zwiep/Jon Peterson

July 14 Fellowship Group #2

Todd Vander Lugt/Bill Beckman

July 21 Fellowship Group #3

Steve Koeman/Kevin Schierbeek

July 28 Fellowship Group #4

Paul Bult/Jerry Mannes

JULY USHERS

AM

Grace Vander Lugt

Todd Vander Lugt

Fred Visser

Tapon Baroi

PM

Phil De Vries

Paul Sterenberg

Lynn Brouwer

JULY GREETERS

July 7 Steve and Sue Zwiep

Beth Vandenbroek/

Judy Windemuller

July 14 Lloyd and Nancy Cook

Dave and Karen Vander Haar

July 21 Bob and Phyllis Dykstra

Rich and Mary Cory

July 28 Al and Glennys De Jonge

Phil and Diane De Vries

JULY VISITOR ASSISTANTS

July 7 Dick and Nan Mulder

July 14 Harv and Elaine Plaggemars

July 21 Hugh and Lois Slenk

July 28 Al and Mary Teerman



<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>
	1	2	3	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATE OUR FREEDOM!	5 9:00 am Prayer	6
7 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Coffee 5:00 pm Worship	8 7:00 pm Worship Committee Mtg	9	10 5:00 pm Seniors' Beach Picnic 7:00 pm Backyard Book Club	11	12 9:00 am Prayer	13
14 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Coffee 5:00 pm Worship with Lord's Supper	15	16 7:00am Executive Committee Meeting COUNCIL AGENDA DEADLINE 4:30 pm Family Hope Center Meal	17	18	19 9:00 am Prayer	20 
21 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Coffee 5:00 pm Worship	22 WEEK OF RYS CONVENTION	23	24 7:00 pm Backyard Book Club	25	26 9:00 am Prayer RYS CONVENTION ENDS	27
28 9:30 am Worship 10:45 am Coffee 11:00 am RYS Slideshow 5:00 pm Worship	29 6:00 pm Elder's Prayer and Training 6:00 pm Deacons 7:00 pm Council	30	31 5:30 pm SENIORS Hot Dog Supper followed by Guest Speaker			

