

Welcome to Cottage Grove Church and to our worship services. If you are visiting, please sign a guest book at the back of the sanctuary or near one of the entrances and join us for coffee after the morning service so that we can get better acquainted. Recordings of our services are available on our website or on compact disk by calling the church office or using the order form located next to the guest book in the narthex. May the Lord bless you richly as you hear His word and join in worship.

**The Lord's Day • March 6, 2016
Morning Worship • 9:30 a.m.**

Prelude

*Call to Worship and Prayer

*Celebration Hymnal 209 (twice)

*Declaration of Trust and God's Greeting

This Is the Day

GEMS Litany

Choose Truth

Leader: The Bible is the Greatest Story ever told. It's God's Book and it conveys His radical love for the world.

GEMS: Jesus is the hero of God's Story. God sent Him to rescue us!

Leader: Jesus rescues us from sin. He comforts the grief-stricken, gives strength to the weak, provides freedom for the captive, rest for the weary, provision for the needy, and eternal life to the sick and dying.

GEMS: We know this because the Bible tells us so!

ALL: Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path
(Psalm 119:105).

Congregation: When we understand God's Story, it shines light on our story. Within the context of His Story, we can discern what's true from all the layers of lies we absorb in a day.

Leader: God gave us the light of His Word to guide our steps. He gave us His Spirit so we have the power to choose well! And He gave us His Son who rescued us so we can live as children of light.

GEMS: In light of this, what will you choose?

ALL: We will choose to be lifelong hearers and doers of His Word. We will seek to fall deeper in love with the Author of Life as we learn to walk in His light.

Special Music

Thy Word - sung by GEMS

The Law of God

Assurance of Pardon

Celebration Hymnal 572

Blessed Assurance

Children's Sermon - Grace Hansum

"What's a lamp?"

Offering

Cottage Grove Gems

Congregational Prayer

*Song

Ancient Words

Scripture

Joshua 3 (pew Bible, p. 334)

Sermon

THE BEGINNING OF THE END

Prayer of Application

*Celebration Hymnal 63: 1, 2, 5

All Creatures of Our God and King

*Closing Prayer

*Closing Song

Benediction Song

GEMS first time through,
congregation joins on second

*Postlude

*Please stand if able.

Bold denotes projected items.

participation in song. Make plans now for a great evening of song and praise. Proceeds from a free will offering will benefit the Timothy Christian High School Choral Department. For information please see our website at www.menofachord.org or contact a member of the Men of A-Chord.

Tuesday, March 22, 2:00, 3:30, and 5:00 p.m. **Mid-America Reformed Seminary** invites you to join Dr. Derek Thomas, Robert Strong Professor of Systematic and Pastoral Theology at Reformed Theological Seminary in Atlanta, for this year's Spring Conference entitled "The Problem of Pain." This series of lectures will concentrate on the Book of Job, the question of why Christ had to suffer, and rejoicing in tribulation. Dr. Thomas will present these three lectures at the seminary.

Thursday, March 31, 11:30 a.m. **Bible League Women's Luncheon** at Teibel's Restaurant in Schererville, IN. A "Thrift Store Fashion Show" will be our program, music with Susan Van Kley. Prayer Reminders from Africa will be available. An offering will be taken to raise funds for Bibles for Africa. Call Pearl Reynhout (708-331-2240) for your reservation by Monday, March 21. Tickets are \$16 (chicken) or \$20 (fish).

Saturday, April 9, 7:00 - 10:30 a.m. **Lansing Christian School 8th grade Pancake Breakfast**. All you can eat pancakes, sausage, orange juice, milk and coffee. It's for a great cause, so bring the whole family.

Monday, April 11, 9:30-11:30 a.m., 1:00-3:00 p.m. and 5:00-7:00 p.m. **Lansing Christian School Open House** for families who are interested in exploring our high quality academics taught from a Christ centered perspective. For more information, call the school office at 708-474-1700.

In Service

| | March 6 | March 13 |
|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Organist AM | Arlene V Z | Arlene V Z |
| Pianist AM | | Beth H |
| Organist PM | | Joanne H |
| Pianist PM | Angela U | |
| Greeters AM | Joel & Mary Lou N | John & Betty S |
| Greeter-South AM | Rich K | Tom V K |
| Greeters PM | Ron & Florence O | Luke S |
| Nursery AM | Beth H Dale H | Bethany T Bethany W |
| Ushers | Bob S Mark U Bob T | Ryan S Rich K Carl E |
| Video AM/PM | Rich K | Tom V K |
| AM Cookies | Edie G | Cele B |
| Holland Home Driver | Dick S | Dave V K |

Elder Districts

A – C Frank V
D - G Rick U
H – K Luke S

Deacon Districts

Tom V K
Timothy T
Neil V

L – R Gene F
S – U Rich K
V – Z Dick S

Doug B
Ken B
Bob S

Evening Worship • 5:30 p.m.

Prelude

*Call to Worship and Prayer

*Celebration Hymnal 8: 1, 2, 4

*Declaration of Trust and God's Greeting

*Celebration Hymnal 737

*Confession of Faith

Come Thou Almighty King

Like a River Glorious

The Apostles' Creed (Psalter, p. 3)

Song of Praise

Celebration Hymnal 219

The Prayers of God's People

Offering

*Celebration Hymnal 708

Scripture

Sermon

Prayer of Application

Surely the Presence

Cottage Grove General Fund

Behold, What Manner of Love

Psalm 127 (pew Bible, p. 968)

IN VAIN, UNLESS THE LORD...

*Celebration Hymnal 237

*Closing Prayer

*Postlude

Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

Today at Cottage Grove

- 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship. Seminarian Peter VantHoff, preaching. Offering: Cottage Grove Gems. GEMS Sunday.
- 11:00 a.m. **Sunday School** for 4 year olds – 6th grade. Lesson 6. Homework due: lesson 5. **5th grade** catechism: Lesson 16 memory work due. **3rd/4th grade** Church School: Lesson 5 homework due.
- 3:30 p.m. **Choir rehearsal.**
- 5:30 p.m. Evening Worship. Seminarian Peter VantHoff, preaching. Offering: Cottage Grove General Fund.
- Deadline for the March/April **Profile**. Please e-mail the church office or place items in the mailbox by the church office. Your contributions of articles, news items and pictures will be most welcome. See Dave & Gail V K with questions.

This Week at Cottage Grove

Monday, March 7

- 6:45 p.m. **Men's Bible Study** meets. Join us to study the Gospel of John. Lesson: John 17.

Tuesday, March 8

- 9:45 a.m. **Women's Coffee Break, Story Hour** and **Nursery** meet. Lesson 1: *The Joy of Sharing Jesus*. Join us for Bible Study. Nursery: Bonnie B, Edie G.
- 9:45 a.m. **Men's Coffee Break Bible Study** meets. Lesson: John 18.
- 7:00 p.m. **Council** meets. A copy of the agenda is posted on the library bulletin board.

Wednesday, March 9

- Men: What is in your Wednesday time slot, between 6:30 - 7:45 a.m.? If you are free, why not join our **Men's Prayer Breakfast** at Sheffield's Restaurant (1027 Sheffield Ave.) in Dyer? It's a great and enriching way to start the day and develop rich relationships with the guys. We'd love to meet up with you there!
- 7:30 p.m. **Combined Annual Prayer Day Service** at First CRC. All are encouraged to attend this special service of prayer to ask for God's blessing upon the world, our nation's crops and industry, and the church worldwide. Dr. Nederhood, preaching. Message title: PRAYING IN THE LION'S DEN.

Thursday, March 10

- 12:00 noon. **Bulletin** deadline.
- "Sabbath Rest"—our church's ministry to the homeless. Please keep this ministry in your prayers

Next Week at Cottage Grove

Sunday, March 13

- 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship. Seminarian Joshua Dykstra, preaching. Sermon title: TRUE WORSHIP FROM TRANSFORMING POWER. Offering: Cottage Grove General Fund.
- 5:30 p.m. Evening Worship. Seminarian Joshua Dykstra, preaching. Sermon title: THE TIMELESS COMFORT OF COVENANTAL CARE. Offering: Bethshan.

Wednesday, March 16

- 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. **Midweek Fellowship Dinner**. Sign up on the library bulletin board today if you plan to join us for this dinner.

Friday, March 18

- 6 p.m. **Dinner and a Movie Night**. Looking for a family friendly Friday night activity? Come to church for dinner and a movie! The Fellowship Committee will provide a main dish, and asks the congregation to bring a side or dessert. **Sign up on the bulletin board** so we make enough food. Dinner will be at 6 and the movie will start around 7. If you have questions, contact any member of the Fellowship Committee. All are welcome!

Prayer Requests

- Elroy H as he recovers from surgery for colon cancer.
- John S as he recovers after having a stent placed in his heart.
- Luke S is at Manor Care for rehab. He is in Room 263B. His phone # there is: 251-3124. Pray for a complete recovery.

- Faith S is in Intensive Care at South Suburban Hospital. Pray for healing. Pray also for Len & Rachel as they wait patiently at her side.

Our Church Family

"Our prayers have been answered beyond what we expected. John only needed one stent. We thank the Lord for His healing mercy and all of you for your prayers, concern and encouragement." John & Betty S.

"We want to thank our Cottage Grove family for all the prayers, cards, calls, and words of concern and encouragement through Dick's surgery, and treatment of his parotid gland malignancy. We felt the peace and power of your support, and praise God for your love. Proverbs 11:25 says those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed. May you be blessed in return." Sincerely, Dick and Judy S

From Mission Committee

Neighbor Love Idea: Daylight Savings Time begins next Sunday. Remind friends and neighbors to set their clocks ahead Saturday night.

Our **Mission Project** for March is **P.A.S.S. Baby Shower**. Donations of diapers of every size, wipes, baby bottles, shampoo, lotion, bibs, receiving blankets, crib sheets, clothing, formula, etc. for our local P.A.S.S. center. Thank you for your faithful support!

Announcements

The **Pastoral Search Committee** asks the congregation for continued prayers. The committee also asks if any member has a suggestion or knows of a Pastor that the Search Committee should add to their list of possible candidates, please contact Mike H.

VBS OLYMPION July 25 – 29. Many workers are needed.

There are still a few **Fannie May candy bars** left. They can be picked up in the Gems display case in the Fellowship Hall or see Cheri S to purchase candy bars. Cost is \$1.25 a bar.

Requested Announcements

Illiana Cadet Council is looking for advertisers for the 2016 Cadet Super Saturday program. This year's event will take place on April 9, 2016. Please contact Rick U for the information to submit an ad by March 18. Thank you for your support.

Mondays, 7 p.m. Rehearsal for the Easter Cantata *The Day He Wore My Crown* at Lynwood United Reformed Church. **Calling all singers!** It's not too late to join us. The performance will be on **Saturday, April 9**, at 7 p.m. at the same location. If you have any questions, please call Justin Rich at 219-374-7920 or email at iamrich4@sbcglobal.net

Thursday, March 17. Lansing Christian School Open House starting at 5:30 pm, before the 7:00 band/choir concert, for families who are interested in exploring our high quality academics taught from a Christ centered perspective. If you are interested in attending, or want to learn more about Lansing Christian School, call the office at 708-474-1700 for more information.

Saturday March 19, 7:00 p.m. Harmony of Generations Concert with

Men of A-Chord and Timothy Christian High School Choir at Timothy (188 Butterfield Rd., Elmhurst, IL). Each choir will sing separately and will join together as a mass chorus with Justin Rich and Erin Lanenga directing. The Timothy Jazz Band will be participating with plenty of audience