

Welcome!

We are glad you're here! We want your experience to be a good one, so we have put together a bit of info to help you know what to expect while you are here.

Our worship service: Thanks for joining us today! We will begin the service with singing. Feel free to stand, sing, or just listen as we express our worship to God. If you don't know the songs, don't worry, just follow along with the words on the screen!

The message: This is a time of practical teaching from the Bible. Often, multi-media presentations are incorporated to supplement the message. There is space in the bulletin to take notes if you wish. If you don't have a Bible, ask for one at the information desk, and it's yours to keep!

The offering: This is a time to share with the church how God has blessed us financially. If you are visiting, don't feel you have to contribute. The only thing we'd like from you is your connections card (on the back of this page).

Prayer time: We will pray together a couple of times throughout the service. Also, there is an opportunity at 8:30am (before the first service) to meet to pray for the morning services in classroom #1.

Refreshments: Join us for coffee in the back of the sanctuary after service! Visitors may pick up a complimentary gift mug and welcome packet. If you have any questions, this is the place to find answers!

Childcare: Your children are welcome to remain with you throughout the service! We love that our church is a welcoming place for families. We do have a nursery for children ages 0-3 years if you would prefer to use that. We also have a cry room near the back of the sanctuary for fussy children and nursing mothers. Children ages 3-7 are invited to participate in Children's Worship, an age-appropriate worship and learning time. Children start service with their parents and will be dismissed part way through. If you are unfamiliar with this program, you are encouraged to accompany your kids the first time. They can be picked up after each service in Room 5 on the lower level. Children 8 and older are encouraged to remain in the service with their parents. If they fill out a sermon notes card, they can turn it in at the information desk for a special treat!

Formality: We have no dress code. Whether you are in jeans or a tux, we're just glad you're here! You are also welcome to sip your coffee or read along with scripture passages on your mobile devices. We just ask that you silence your phones as a courtesy to others.

To learn more about our ministries and beliefs, be sure to pick up a welcome packet at the information desk or visit our website: rockfordreformedchurch.org.

Prayer Fellowship

Recovery & Intercession:

- ~**Bill Boyd** is recovering after a heart catheterization on Dec 15.
- ~**Marcia Shanken** is recovering after outpatient surgery on Dec 17.
- ~**Polly Johnson** is recovering after foot surgery on December 1.
- ~**Sue Yurick** will be starting radiation soon.
- ~**Betty Greenland** is undergoing treatment again for re-occurring cancer.
- ~**John Harding Sr** had skin grafting on his foot and is recovering at home.
- ~**Nita Broome** is recovering at home after her recent surgery.
- ~**Tom Smith** moved to a Rehab Hospital: Oradell Healthcare Center, 600 Kinderkamack Rd, Oradell NJ 07649, ph (201)599-5435
- ~**Ray Dulyea** – continued prayer that his kidney test “numbers” will not change.
- ~**Bill Boyd** continues home dialysis and awaits a transplant.
- ~Be in prayer for **disaster victims**, and **people searching for jobs**.
- ~Pray for our military: **Phil Scholten, Nick Welch** and all military personnel.

Extended Family:

- ~**John Ozinga** (cousin of Shanken's) diagnosed w/kidney cancer, had surgery Dec 11 to have a kidney removed.
- ~**Frank Northouse** (cousin of Shanken's) out of ICU, still hospitalized.
- ~**Dawson Babiak** (nephew of VandenHeuvels) diagnosed with leukemia and has started chemo treatments.
- ~**Greg Hewitt** (friend of Van Houtens) finished the strong chemo treatments and is now consulting w/doctors to schedule the bone marrow transplant.
- ~**Maddie Tomasko** (friend of Lilly Johnson) dealing with kidney issues.
- ~**Ron Vander Putte** (Broome's nephew) recent test results show tumor on throat is gone and tumor on pancreas has reduced.
- ~**Marcia Pollie** (Sharon Dulyea's sister) continues chemo treatments.

Sympathy:

- ~Sympathy is expressed to **Dianne Bennett** at the death her mother, **Shirley Jonker**, on December 15.

Attendance / Finance:

- Last week's attendance: 422
- Last week's Ministry & Missions offering: \$10,041.80
- Last week's FLC Debt Reduction offering: \$2,971.00



Rockford Reformed Church
connecting • growing • serving

Sunday, December 21, 2014 • Worship @ 8:45am & 11:00am
“Advent Love”

1 John 4:9-11; Matthew 22:37-40; Ephesians 3:14-19 • Rev. Mike Gafa

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Stand & Worship:

Jesus Messiah; #249 O Come, All Ye Faithful; Behold Our God;
#285 O Holy Night!

(Children Dismissed for Children's Worship)

Children's Worship - 8:45am: Chris Knapp, Nicholas Knapp
10:30am: Nancy Steenwyk, Olivia Pastula

Offering

Prayer (*Roger Hoogewind, Shepherd Elder*)

Scripture

Message

Stand & Worship:

#259 Angels, From the Realms of Glory

Benediction

Postlude

Nursery - 8:45am: Julie Ringnalda, Brianna Knapp
10:30am: Cherri Pastula, Jaime Mueller, Sarah Pastula



Next Sunday:

“Peace. Truth. Light.”

Luke 2:21-35 • Ralph Robrahn

Vision: To always be a living reflection of Christ's hands, feet, and voice in the community.

Mission: To connect people to Jesus Christ and encourage them to grow in their relationship with Him through worship and fellowship, so they will reach out to serve and disciple others for the glory of God.

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email: churchoffice@rockfordreformedchurch.org • **website:** rockfordreformedchurch.org

Notes

Announcements

Today:

8:30am: Prayer Meeting in Rm #1. All welcome!

9:50am: Sunday School Classes for Kids/Youth

Ages 3, 4, & DK meet in Classroom #9

Grades K-5th meet in the “Acts of Faith” Room

Middle School (grades 6-8) Youth Room

Senior High (grades 9-12) Classroom #25

10:00am: Join us for a farewell reception in the FLC gym as we say thank you to Pastor David for his faithfulness and service to RRC.

6:30pm: Senior High Youth Group (grades 9-12) **NO meeting!**

This Week:

Tues, 7:00am: Men’s Prayer Breakfast. Join us any time.

Wed: Pioneer Clubs. **NO Wednesday Programming Dec 24 & 31!**

Wed, 6:30pm: Middle School Youth Group (grades 6-8) **NO meeting!**

Sat, (1st & 3rd), 7:00am: Men/Boys “Saturday Series” in the FLC.

Announcements & Upcoming Events:

***Wed, Dec 24, 4:00pm & 6:00pm: Christmas Eve Candlelight Services**
(childcare at both services)
Offering designated for “Team Orphans”

***Year-End contributions** must be received in the church office no later than 12:00noon on Tues, Dec 30.

***Results of Annual Congregational Meeting:**

Administrative Deacon: Dan Triezenberg (3yr)

Shepherd Elder: Ryan De Kuiper (3yr), Craig VanderHeide (3yr),

Karen Bazen (1yr), Megan DeVries (1yr)

Service Deacon: Rob Bergman (3yr), Eric Ringnalda (3yr)

2014 Budget was approved.

Outgoing Consistory Members: Roger Hoogewind, Jim Scholten, Tim Mulder, Jerry Coon, Suzanne Bredow, Dianne Bennett, Brandon Mueller, and Darryl DeGood. *Thank you for your faithful service to RRC!*

Copies of the handouts are available at the Info Desk.

Connections Card

If you wish to use this card, tear it off at the fold and place it in the offering plate, or take it to the information desk.

- I would like to know more about becoming a follower of Christ
- I'm a visitor and would like more information about RRC
- I would like offering envelopes
- Prayer request (please keep confidential)
- Prayer request (may be shared)
- I'm interested in membership
- Suggestion, question, or concern
- Update my contact info (see below)
- Subscribe to e-news (email address required)

I want to sign up or volunteer for: _____

You may submit this anonymously, but if you would like a response or are signing up for something, please give us your contact info:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Want more info?

Just stop by our information desk at the back of the sanctuary or go online:

rockfordreformedchurch.org