

## Response

Intentionally and faithfully set your \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ on the Lord, delighting in him and his truth, and you will return to your \_\_\_\_\_ for Him.

### Life Application Questions

- ❖ Can you remember your first love experience with the Lord? What was it like?
- ❖ What were you doing in those days that you believe the Lord is calling you to do again? Are there new disciplines in your spiritual life that the Lord is calling you to begin?
- ❖ What steps can you take this week to remember your first love, repent of heart-drift, and renew your first love for the Lord?

Sermon audio and notes are available online at [www.rockfordreformedchurch.org/sermons-2/](http://www.rockfordreformedchurch.org/sermons-2/)

## Prayer Fellowship

### Recovery & Intercession:

- ~Gary Gingrich had knee replacement surgery on Dec 7. Home & doing well.
- ~Medical concerns of various Haiti individuals, especially Jorvens.
- ~Carol Riegling continues to deal with health issues.
- ~Elaine Pierson is in Hospice care at Raybrook Manor.
- ~Dave Mundwiler – tumor is stable, continues treatment.
- ~Bill Boyd continues dialysis and awaits a transplant.
- ~Ray Dulyea continued prayer his kidney “numbers” will not change.
- ~Be in prayer for **disaster victims**, and **people searching for jobs**.
- ~Pray for our military: **Emily Bowers, Nick Welch** and all military personnel.

### Extended Family:

- ~Jennifer Madena (Arlene Hunsberger’s granddaughter) w/muscular Dystrophy.
- ~Carrol Orton (Sharon Dulyea’s sister) diagnosed with breast cancer.
- ~Cheri DeGood (Don & Doris’ daughter-in-law) has finished rehab.
- ~Nancy Kingma (cousin of Pomrankas) undergoing chemo treatments.
- ~Brandon Homrich (Newkirk’s son-in-law) chemo is working. One tumor remains.
- ~Kathy Lambers (friend of Bergman’s) 6<sup>th</sup> battle with Leiomyosarcoma.
- ~Barry Lambers (Kathy’s husband) suffered spinal injury, paralyzed waist down.
- ~Helen Heemstra (Terri Katsma’s mom) undergoing chemo treatments.
- ~Jan Lapp (Tyler’s mom) is in Hospice care.

### Sympathy Expressed to:

- Chad & Natalie Kleis at the death of Chad’s grandfather, **Ray Kleis**, 12/17
- Lee & Faith Paull & family at the death of Faith’s father, **Lewis DeWeerd**, 12/16

## 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.

**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 (bulletin insert).

**Prayer time:** We will pray together a couple of times throughout the service.

**Refreshments:** Join us for coffee in the lobby after service! Visitors may pick up a complementary 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 parent-infant 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 112 on the lower level. Children 8 and older are encouraged to remain in the service with their parents. Children’s bulletins are available.

**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 in the lobby or visit our website: [rockfordreformedchurch.org](http://rockfordreformedchurch.org).

**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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Rockford Reformed Church  
connecting • growing • serving

Sunday, January 1, 2017  
Worship @ 10:00am



Prodigal

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONGS OF WORSHIP

*My Lighthouse, This I Believe, It Is Well With My Soul*

Children (ages 3 years - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade) are invited to KidLife Worship downstairs

OFFERING

PRAYER

SCRIPTURE

Revelation 2:1-7 (p.933)

MESSAGE

“The Seven Churches in Revelation: Loving Jesus”

Pastor Paul Bradford

COMMUNION



RESPONSE

*Grace Alone*

CLOSING BLESSING

Today’s Nursery Volunteers:

(10:00am) Lisa Vergouwe, Tamra Miller

Today’s KidLife Worship Volunteers:

(10:00am) Julie Ringnalda, Melissa Vander Tuuk

Next Sunday: “The Seven Churches of Revelation: Passionate for Jesus”  
Revelation 2:1-7 (p.933) • Pastor Paul Bradford

# What's Going On?

## Today:

**9:35am: Prayer** in Room #212 to pray over the services. All welcome!

**10:00am: Sunday School** for all ages:

**NOTE: NO Sunday School on Jan 1**

- **Ages 3 – DK** meet in Classroom #111
- **Grades K-5<sup>th</sup> grade** meet in Classroom #101
- **Middle School** (grades 6-8) Youth Room #153
- **High School** (grades 9-12) Classroom #246
- **Adults:** Watch for info on new study starting in January (Rm#253)

**6:30pm: High School Youth Group.** Meet in the Youth Room #153

**NO HS meeting Jan 1**

## This Week:

**Mondays, 6:30-7:30pm: Weekly Prayer Meeting** in the sanctuary.

**Tuesdays, 7:00am: Men's Prayer Breakfast.** Join us any time.

**Tuesdays, 9:30-11am: Women's Bible Study** – "Speaking Wisely," led by Marcia Coleman and Jean Boyd in Rm #212. *On break- back Jan 3.*

**Wed, Jan 4, 10:00am: Adult Fellowship Group.** Join us in the Fellowship Hall for coffee, goodies, and great conversation. Everyone welcome!!

## Wednesday Night Activities:

6:00pm **Simple Supper**, 6:30pm **KidLife Club** (ages 3 years – 5<sup>th</sup> grade)

6:30pm **Middle School Youth Group**

6:45pm **Adult Classes**

- "Christianity, Cults, & World Religions" – Co-ed class led by Pastor Paul. Fireside Rm #253
- "Discovering God's Will" by Andy Stanley – Women's study led by Polly Johnson. Rm #250

**Last Thursday/month, 7:00-8:30pm: Ladies Book Club.** Fireside Rm #253.

Dec/Jan Book: *The Gate* by Dann A. Stouten. Next meeting is Jan 26.

**Every other Saturday, 7:30-8:30am: Men's Study Breakfast.** "A Man and His Traps." Meet in the Fireside Rm #253. Next meeting – Jan 14.

## Announcements/Events - GENERAL:

**Mailboxes and bulletin boards are in the church office hallway.**

**Communion:** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of every month

**Sun, Jan 8: Blood Pressure Screening** after both services in Rm #211.

**Sun, Jan 15, 6:00pm: Concert of Prayer**

**Sat, Jan 28, 1:00pm: Adult Singles Group.** Pizza Party in the Fireside Room (#253) at church.

## **Results of Annual Congregational Meeting:**

**Administrative Deacon:** Chris Orvis (3yr)

**Shepherd Elder:** Perry Pastula (3yr), Dan Uthoff (3yr)

**Service Deacon:** Fred Bazen (3yr), Tyler Meyerink (3yr), Scott Cool (2yr)

2017 Budget was approved.

**Outgoing Consistory Members:** Scott Jacobs, Dan Buckley, Nancy Steenwyk, Emillie Clayton, Lisa De Boer, Chad Kleis. *Thank you for your faithful service to RRC!*

**Mentors needed for Kids Hope!** Contact Audrey Shantz, [audreyschantz@gmail.com](mailto:audreyschantz@gmail.com)

**On-line Giving:** You can give directly from your phone or computer! There's a link to the form on the front page of our website [www.RockfordReformedChurch.org](http://www.RockfordReformedChurch.org)



## Announcements/Events - YOUTH:

Brian Ellis: [brian@rockfordrc.org](mailto:brian@rockfordrc.org)

**Sunday School** at 10:00am: **MS** (Youth Room #153), **HS** (Rm #246)

**NOTE: NO Sunday School on Jan 1**

**MS** meets on Wednesdays @ 6:30pm, **HS** meets on Sundays @ 6:30pm

**NO HS meeting Jan 1**

## Announcements/Events - CHILDREN:

Children's Ministries – Beth Jennings, Director: [beth@rockfordrc.org](mailto:beth@rockfordrc.org)

KidLife Club – Laura Jolliffe, Director: [laura@rockfordrc.org](mailto:laura@rockfordrc.org)

KidLife Sunday School for ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade at 10:00am

**NOTE: NO Sunday School on Jan 1**

KidLife Club (formerly Pioneer Clubs)

Wednesdays: 6:00pm Simple Supper, 6:30pm Club

## Attendance / Finance:

Last week's attendance: 222

Last week's Ministry & Missions offering: \$13,464.80 (Includes 12/23)

Last week's FLC Debt Reduction offering: \$4,021.91 (Includes 12/23)

Last week's Benevolent Fund offering: \$4,234.45 (Includes 12/23)

# Loving Jesus

*1<sup>st</sup> in Series: The Seven Churches of Revelation*

Text: Revelation 2:1-7

Sunday: 1/1/2017

## Intro

## God's Word

① **Traits of \_\_\_\_\_.**

Ⓐ **An \_\_\_\_\_ to know the other person more deeply.**

Ⓑ **A \_\_\_\_\_ to be with the other person.**

Ⓒ **A \_\_\_\_\_ in the relationship.**

Ⓓ **An \_\_\_\_\_ of your heart.**

② **The danger of \_\_\_\_\_.**

③ **You choose to \_\_\_\_\_ your first love and you can choose to \_\_\_\_\_.**

④ **How to \_\_\_\_\_ our first love.**

Ⓐ **R\_\_\_\_\_.**

Ⓑ **R\_\_\_\_\_.**

Ⓒ **R\_\_\_\_\_.**