

## Life Application

- ❖ Spend time in prayer each day, and bring specific requests for yourself or others to your heavenly Father. Pray persistently, wholeheartedly, and with full confidence that God loves you and will give good gifts as you ask.
- ❖ In every interaction this week, intentionally seek to treat others as you desire to be treated.

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

## Prayer Fellowship

### Recovery & Intercession:

- ~Howard Shanken scheduled for outpatient surgery on Sept 1.
- ~Sarah Proppe – Recovering after surgery for a herniated disc. Still in NC.
- ~Ruth Westrate – home recovering from a concussion and fractured vertebrae.
- ~Beth Ashendorf is home. Volunteers appreciated to visit. Call Sam (308-4596) if you can help.
- ~Ray Dulyea – prayer that all “numbers” will stay regulated.
- ~Elaine Pierson is in Hospice care at Raybrook Manor.
- ~Dave Mundwiler – Undergoing radiation & chemo in addition to current treatment. Seeking advice from Mayo & U of M.
- ~Bill Boyd continues dialysis and awaits a transplant.
- ~Medical concerns of various Haiti individuals, especially Jorvens.
- ~Be in prayer for all **military personnel, disaster victims, and people searching for jobs.**

### Extended Family:

- ~Edie Walton (Sally Bowers’ mom) is in Hospice care.
- ~Bill K. (friend of Shankens) foot amputated and full knee replacement. In rehab.
- ~Judy Handanch (Terri Katsma’s sister) home & in rehab for speech/memory.
- ~Carrol Orton (Sharon Dulyea’s sister) undergoing radiation treatments.
- ~Brandon Homrich (Newkirk’s son-in-law) hospitalized with a lung infection. Prayer that white blood count will rise.
- ~Helen Heemstra (Terri Katsma’s mom) undergoing chemo treatments.

## 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, August 27, 2017

Worship @ 9:30am

*Mighty Fortress*

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SONGS OF WORSHIP**

*Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone), Made Alive, Holy Holy Holy*

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

**OFFERING**

Life Group Promotion

**PRAYER**

**SCRIPTURE**

Matthew 7:7-12 (p.742)

**MESSAGE**

“True Discernment: Discerning God's Character”

Pastor Paul Bradford

**RESPONSE**

*How Deep the Father's Love for Us*

**CLOSING BLESSING**

**Today's Nursery Volunteers:**

(9:30am) Karen Bazen, Tamra Miller

**Today's KidLife Worship Volunteers:**

(9:30am) Julie Ringnalda, Becki Pilko

**Next Sunday:** “True Discernment: Discerning the Character of Others”  
Matthew 7:13-23 (p.742) • Rev. Jason Vermeulen

## What's Going On?

### Today:

**9:05am: Prayer** in Room #212 to pray over the services. All welcome!

**After Service Socials:** Join us in the gym for goodies and great conversation.

Hosted by: RRC Staff    Next week: Labor Day Ladies

**Sunday School** for all ages: (*Resumes Sept 17*)

**6:00pm: Praise in the Park** at the Garden Park Stage in downtown Rockford.

TODAY: The Springs Church Praise Team

### This Week:

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

### Announcements/Events - GENERAL:

**Family Mail Folders and bulletin boards** are in the church office hallway.

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

**Consistory Nomination Forms** are available in the back of church. One form can be filled out by each communicant member. A list of eligible members is also available. A Form and List were also emailed. You can email your nominations to [office@rockfordrc.org](mailto:office@rockfordrc.org) or fill out a form and place it in the box in the back of church. **Deadline** is noon on Sunday, September 3.

**Summer Worship Schedule:** One service at **9:30am** - thru Sept 10

**Wed, Sept 6, 10:00am: Adult Fellowship Group.** Join us in the Fellowship Hall for coffee, goodies and great conversation. All welcome!

**Sun, Sept 10: RRC Annual SeptemberFest.** (Fall Kick-Off) Join us for an **All-Church Picnic** on the front lawn following the morning service (still one service at 9:30am). Hot Dogs, Hamburgs, Drinks provided. Bring a dish to pass: salads, sides, chips, desserts. Fun & games!!! Fall programming for kids & adults will be available.

**Sun, Sept 24 – Presentation of Bibles:** Bibles will be presented to all those in **Kindergarten** and **6<sup>th</sup> grade**. Please contact the church office with the name of your child. We don't want to miss anyone!

**Mentors Still Needed:** Still in need of about 10 mentors and prayer partners for our youth program. Please contact Brian Ellis for more information.

**Sat, Sept 23, 6:30pm: Fundraiser Event for Brandon Homrich** (Newkirk's son-in-law). Assumption Family Life Center, 6390 Belmont Ave, Belmont MI. Music/Heavy Appetizers/chance drawings/games. \$10 per person

**Sun, Sept 24, 5:00pm: Concert of Prayer.** Join us as we pray over all the Ministries of the church.

**Saturday, Sept 30, 8:30am: Ladies' Day Event** with speaker Karen Hossink. Includes morning breakout sessions and ends with a delicious lunch. Invite other women from the community. Registration on the RRC website. Forms are also available in the back of church. Deadline is Sept 17 for lunch, however, you can still register for the event after the 17th. Can you help? Have questions? Contact Lori VerMerris, [lvermerris@yahoo.com](mailto:lvermerris@yahoo.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** (*Resumes Sept 17*)

**MS** Youth Group meets on Wednesdays @ 6:30pm (*Resumes Sept 20*)

**HS** Youth Group meets on Sundays @ 6:30pm (*Resumes Sept 17*)

### 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 (*Resumes Sept 17*)

**KidLife Club:** Wednesday Programming (*Resumes Sept 27*)

### Attendance / Finance:

Last week's attendance: 145

Last week's Ministry & Missions offering: \$9,971.98

Last week's FLC Debt Reduction offering: \$510.00

## Discerning God's character

*Series: True Discernment*

Text: Matthew 7:7-12

Sunday: 8/27/2017

### Intro

### God's Word

① As you \_\_\_\_\_ persistently and \_\_\_\_\_ whole-heartedly, God will \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

② God's \_\_\_\_\_ for us is beyond the greatest \_\_\_\_\_, so we can \_\_\_\_\_ that he will \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

③ Do to \_\_\_\_\_ what you would have them do to \_\_\_\_\_ - that's God's kind of \_\_\_\_\_!

### Our Response

Trust God's \_\_\_\_\_, keep on \_\_\_\_\_ and believing God's \_\_\_\_\_, and show his kind of \_\_\_\_\_ to others.