

SERMON NOTES

Revelation 4 – Groaning With Hope in the King

Questions for family/small group discussions:

1. Read Romans 8:18-24. What are some “present sufferings” that you most think about for yourself or those around you? And what are the ways that you see the creation “groaning” and longing for change?

Hope is _____ of that which you cannot see.

The more you learn and embrace the _____ that awaits you tomorrow, the more you can persevere and even _____ through the groaning and labor of today.

2. Since everything that Jesus has accomplished is transferred to you, list some of the aspects of the wealth that you have gained (see Ephesians 1:3-14 for a partial list).
3. Read Rev. 4. We are moving toward the coming of God’s kingdom. What are some signs of God’s kingdom breaking out?

4. Read Revelation 5:11-13 and 15:1-4. How would you describe the worship that we are headed for when we join God and believers in heaven?

5. Read Revelation 19:6-9. What is the significance of eating with Jesus at this great banquet feast? When you see this party thrown for you and you are sitting across the table from Jesus, what does it say about what he thinks of you and your relationship with him?

6. This banquet feast is a wedding feast in which Jesus is the groom who welcomes you as his bride. List and reflect on some of the ways that Jesus has pursued and sacrificed himself so that he and his people can celebrate this great day that leads into eternity.

7. While we struggle and groan through the effects of sin in this life, how does it help to get our lives, heart, mind and worship oriented around Jesus and his kingdom coming in all of its glory?



Order of Worship

Worship Service @ 10:00 a.m.

KidLife Worship returns August 4. Nursery is available for kids kindergarten and under.

Prelude	<i>Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery</i>
Call to Worship	<i>How Great Thou Art There is a Fountain The Solid Rock</i>
Offering	<i>Come Thou Fount</i>
Prayer & Message	Groaning With Hope in the King Revelation 4 (p.1030) Rev. Tim Meendering
Response	<i>Holy Holy Holy</i>
Closing Blessing	

*Join us in the gym for the After-Service Social
hosted by Care Group 1.*

welcome to Rockford Reformed Church!

In this program you will find today’s order of worship, along with announcements, a calendar, prayer requests, and more. If this is your first time here, please stop by our welcome table in the lobby and pick up a gift bag!



Rockford Reformed Church

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RockfordRC.org
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Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs 9:00am-2:30pm

Pastor:

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Laura@rockfordrc.org



ATTENDANCE & GIVING

You can give directly from your phone or computer. Look for the link on the front page of our website. Contact the office if you would like offering envelopes.

Last week's attendance: 227 • **Last week's offering:** \$8,441

PRAYER

Congratulations to **Mike & Melissa Fisk** on the birth of their daughter, **Emery Grace Fisk**, on June 24.

Congratulations to Kevin & Kelly Carpenter-McClure on the birth of their daughter, Kennedy James McClure, on June 14. Proud grandparents are **Tom & Miriam Carpenter**.

Jean Boyd - pray as she continues through chemotherapy treatments.

Bill Boyd - continues dialysis and awaits a transplant.



Online Bulletin & Connection Card

rockfordrc.org/sunday

or aim your phone's camera at the qr code to access:



WHERE DO MY KIDS GO?

If you have children, they are welcome to remain with you throughout the service, or you can choose from different options:

KidLife Note: This Summer from June 30 - July 28 (five weeks), **KidLife Worship (for kids 3 years through 2nd grade) will be on a break.** The nursery will still be available for kids kindergarten and under. The cry room is located at the back of the Sanctuary as well.

Children's bulletins and crayons are available near the lobby stairs.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
6/30 10a Worship Service After-Service Social	7/1 5p Golf	7/2 7:00a Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30p Softball	7/3 10a Adult Fellowship Coffee office closed	7/4 office closed	7/5 office closed	7/6
7/7 10a Worship Service After-Service Social	7/8 5p Golf	7/9 7:00a Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30p Softball	7/10 6:10p HS Whitecaps	7/11	7/12 7a REAL Men	7/13
7/14 10a Worship Service After-Service Social	7/15 5p Golf	7/16 7:00a Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30p Softball	7/17	7/18	7/19	7/20

For a full listing of all of our events, announcements, volunteer needs, and more, be sure to sign up for the eBeacon, emailed weekly. Contact the church office at connect@rockfordrc.org and ask to be put on the list. Paper copies are available for those without email.



As you know, RRC has been serving in Haiti for nearly a decade. We have been blessed to work alongside the Haiti Foundation Against Poverty (HFAP) and are still extremely invested in this organization's ministries. This year however, we have been called to serve in a different capacity and are excited about this new opportunity.

On July 29, a team from Rockford will be traveling to Haiti to serve with Greg Yoder and Christian World Outreach (CWO). We will still spend a day serving with HFAP in Port-au-Prince, but then will head to the countryside to serve with CWO. We are extremely excited to see another side of Haiti and share the gospel with some of the world's most unreached people. While there, we will be sharing His love with 500+ children in the community of Monbin.

With any new opportunity, there are also new challenges. One of our challenges has to do with fundraising. We are traveling to La Victoire in northern Haiti and therefore have

additional travel expenses to consider. We also would LOVE to share a meal with the 500 children that we work with each day. We want to feed their souls and their bodies, but know that we can only do so with the support of our friends and family.

With that said, we are sincerely asking for your prayers. Pray that God will prepare us for our visit and bless our efforts as we minister to the people of Haiti. We also need prayers that our financial needs will be met. At this time, we need to raise \$4,500 for the feeding program we hope to provide in the countryside. Donations can be made directly to CWO online at cwomissions.org. Please designate in the comments section that your donation is for the Rockford team. You can also donate by writing a check to RRC Missions. Please include in the memo line that your donation is for Haiti.

Please know that whether you feel led to contribute financially, through prayer, or both, all of your support is greatly appreciated. We look forward to doing God's work in Haiti and letting you know all about how God has worked through this team when we return later in August.

Supplies needed for Haiti:

- Canned Chicken
- Canned Tuna
- Baby Formula
- Size 4 Diapers
- Size 5 Diapers
- Diaper Wipes
- Baby Shampoo
- Baby Soap
- Protein Bars
- Powdered Gatorade
- Granola Bars
- Peanut Butter
- Kids Snacks (individually wrapped...crackers, cookies, fruit snacks, etc.)

**Donations can be dropped off in the bins at church anytime between now and July 21.*

***Donations can also be dropped off at Espwa Boutique between 11 am and 4 pm on Wednesdays and Thursdays, and between 11 am and 5 pm on Fridays and Saturdays. Make a donation AND receive 10% off your total Espwa purchase that day!*

****Monetary donations are also being accepted for this year's trip and are greatly appreciated. You can make a check out to RRC Missions and place in*

the Missions Mailbox at church OR you can donate online at cwomissions.org. Simply click "Donate", "Haiti", and type "Rockford" in the comments section. Your prayers and donations are greatly appreciated.

Thank you for supporting this summer's mission trip to Haiti!

Limited office hours this week. The office will be open 9am-12pm on Monday and Tuesday, and closed the rest of the week. Email and voicemail will still be checked daily. If you need to get a hold of someone on staff, please contact them directly. Thank you!

Adult Singles Lunch and the **Ladies' Book Club** will be taking the summer off and will resume in September.

High School Whitecaps Game: Wednesday, July 10, meet at church at 6:10pm. We'll be back to church around 10:30-11pm. Cost is \$5. Please sign up by July 9.