

May 15, 2022



South Grandville Church

SPOTLIGHT

Connect - Equip - Reach

Pastor's Perspective: CHANGE AHEAD!

I was reading through a list of quotes recently on "change." Some were inspiring. Others were convicting. A few were humorous. Here are some of my favorites:

- o **Any change, even a change for the better, is always accompanied by drawbacks and discomforts.** —*Arnold Bennett*
- o **Change before you have to.** —*Jack Welch*
- o **Change is inevitable—except from a vending machine.** —*Robert Gallagher*
- o **Christians are supposed not merely to endure change, nor even to profit by it, but to cause it.** —*Harry Emerson Fosdick*
- o **Everyone thinks of changing the world, but no one thinks of changing himself.**
—*Leo Tolstoy*

None of us are strangers to change. Change, for many of us, has been the reason for some of our greatest and most disappointing moments in life. In the midst of all the changes you've made over the years, and the changes some of you are contemplating, there is one constant you can count on: You're not going to please everyone!

As a Pastor, I have sometimes initiated changes in the church. After the decision is made and implemented, some will want to hoist you to their shoulders and parade you up and down the aisle. Others will yell, "Let's fire him!" In years past, I would take those two opposing reactions as key indicators as to whether or not I made the right choice. Today? Not so much. Don't misunderstand me. Exercising tact, diplomacy, good listening skills are important. Trying to get a pulse of where others are at on any given topic before making a change is good leadership.

But at the end of the day, leaders are ultimately responsible for what God has placed on their heart for the decision and direction He wants them to pursue. No wonder the experts say, "*Leadership can be a lonely place.*" What about you? Do you sense God is leading you to make some changes? If so, be wise. Do your homework. Take it slow. And whatever else you do, listen first and foremost for God's direction and timing.

BTW, This Sunday our church is especially recognizing our High School graduates and celebrating their completion of this season in their lives. But finishing this chapter in their lives will mean more changes for them as well. So, pray for them! And most of all, in the midst of change--both anticipated and unexpected changes--remember the ancient words of **Proverbs 3:5-6** which still applies "for such a time as this"....

**Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;
in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight.**

- *Will Hensen, Pastor (by the grace of God)*

Council Updates:

- With gratitude to God, we acknowledge the Holy Spirit's leading in selecting individuals to serve as Elders and Deacons. Keith Beavon and Roger Grit were selected for the office of Elder and Nicole Dornbos and Brian Mann for the office of Deacon. They will be installed for their three year term on Sunday June 5. With gratitude for their service, we also acknowledge the following individuals as they are completing their 3 year term of service. The retiring Elders are Tom Vryhof and Steve Zuiderveen. The retiring Deacons are Diane Reed, Kathy VandenBosch and Bonnie Williams.
- **The Deacons gratefully acknowledge the following offering totals for the month of April.** General Fund \$21,848 Faith Promise \$2,151 Christian Education \$1,560 Baby Pantry \$504 Benevolence \$522 Capital Improvement \$625
Special offering: World Renew Ukraine Relief \$1,746

Church Announcements:

- **This Sunday** Pastor Will plans to bring us a message from John 20:24-31, "Dealing with Doubt". We will recognize our graduates and celebrate what has been happening in the youth programs of South Grandville over the past year.

Next week Pastor Will's message, "Life Lessons in Prayer", will be based on Mark 1:35-39. Our service will also include a special time of prayer for the Pastor Search Team as they have recently entered into a critical phase of the search process.
- **VBS: THANK YOU** to everyone who signed up to help staff VBS. We officially have enough volunteers. Registration is still open for participants so if you have not registered your kids, please get them registered. If you took a cactus with a snack item, please bring your item back to church this Sunday!
- The **Grandville 4th of July Parade** is back this year! We want to **reach** out to the hundreds of people who will be walking by and sitting on the lawn of our church, so we plan to put out a tent with a supply of water bottles and Icee-Pops. If you would be willing to be a friendly greeter for those who stop by, please sign up for a time slot on the counter by the bulletin board. We also need you to donate Icee-Pops (tubes with juice that can be frozen). Donations can be brought to church between now and the end of June.
- **Men's Bible Study:** We invite you to come to week 4 of our short course based on Prof. N.T. Wright's book, *Simply Good News* this Thursday morning at 9:30. We will be meeting in the Youth Room in the basement and discussing *Misunderstandings of the Good News*. We hope to see you there.
- **Service Opportunity:** We are planning a work day to clean up the grounds around church on Saturday, May 14. It should not take more than a couple of hours as long as we have enough volunteers. Please plan to be at church at 10am with work clothes, gloves and a smile. Donuts will be provided.

- **Volunteers in Service (VIS)** is seeking volunteers to assist with their phone-a-friend program. Many of the VIS friends are feeling isolated and are requesting a weekly phone call or note encouraging them. If you are interested in helping with this, please contact James Toebes at 616-209-2491.
- Are there any women who would be interested in attending the **Women's Summer Break-Away** at Maranatha Retreat Center in Muskegon - July 21 or 22? Breakaway is a day of encouragement, laughter, and challenges – as well as great food! Join Bible teacher **Carol Kent**, founder and director of *Speak Up Conference*; praise and worship leader **Jenny Simmons**, and Maranatha's own missionary, **Lauren Rushiti**. Take a break from your daily routine and join us for a day (9-3:30) you'll surely enjoy. ***If you're interested*** please add your name to the list on the counter by the bulletin board. If you know of a sister, neighbor or friend who wants to join us, list their name too!

Congratulations Graduates!



Congratulations to Ashleigh Dornbos on Graduating from Calvin Christian High School. While attending Calvin she stayed very busy both academically and in sports. Ashleigh participated in swim, XC and basketball. She helped with the Student Life Committee and Year Book Committee. She received the student life committee leadership award, shadow award, and the scholar athlete award. Ashleigh plans to attend Grand Rapids Community College to pursue a career in baking. Ashleigh's favorite verse is Isaiah 41:10 - "So do not fear, for I am with you, Do not be dismayed, For I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous hand." Congratulations Ashleigh on finishing your High School Career! We pray God continues to bless you and that you continue to look to Him for guidance.



Hunter James Vogel graduated highschool from Mid-Atlantic Academy in Newport News, Virginia. He is happy to be back in town and is currently living with his grandparents. He is starting a new job at Inontime Logistics in the warehouse and hopes to work his way up to being a semi-truck driver. Hunter's favorite verses are Philippians 4:13, Jeremiah 29:11, John 3:16-21, Romans 8:28 and Joshua 1:9 - "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord you God will be with you wherever you go."

Congratulations Ashleigh and Hunter! We are so proud of all you have accomplished. As you look towards the future, remember that God has good plans for you, and we, your church family at South Grandville, will be praying for you as you continue to grow in your faith.

Youth Ministry Update:

As we come to the close of another school year, we wanted to share an update with everyone on some of the things we did. This year we had 18 kids participate in Gems and Cadets. This year was the first year that we decided to combine the boys and girls for our Bible lesson time and were very pleased at how well they interacted with each other. Following our Bible lesson time, we split into our groups and did crafts/projects and had our snacks. One of the highlights of the year is always the derby race, which the boys won this year. This spring we also did a service project at one of our meetings. We learned about the organization Hand 2 Hand and packed snack and dinner bags to donate. We challenged the kids to work diligently but slowly and to think about what it would be like to live with food insecurity. It was incredible to see the thought and care they put into packing the food. We had a great year and the kids are already asking when we will start meeting again. We closed our year with a skating party at Terry Hall Roller Rink.

Youth Group met twice a month during the school year. The kids are in grades 7-12 and we meet all together. We typically share a meal, do a lesson and play games together. This year we did a variety of lessons on different topics as well as some fun activities including sledding and bowling. Our last regular meeting of the year will be this Sunday but the kids have asked if we can plan some things for the summer, so we plan to schedule some pool parties and fun events this summer as well.

As we look at making plans for the upcoming school year, we could really use your help! Teenagers love to eat and we spend a significant amount of our budget feeding them. If you would like to help we can always use snacks and cans of pop. It would also be incredibly helpful to have help with meals for youth group. Please check with Kristina Netz or Nicole Dornbos if you would like to help with that. Lastly, continue to pray for the kids we minister to and for the counselors/leaders as we help them to navigate through life's challenges and joys.

Calendar:

May 15: Youth Group 5-7pm

May 19: Men's Bible Study 9:30am - Youth Room

May 21: Widow/Widower Dinner 5pm

May 23: Council Meeting 7pm with Elders and Deacon's Meetings following
Search Committee Meeting 7pm

Schedule:

Interim Pastor Will Hensen: Phone 616-915-8757

Admin Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday from 9-12 and Friday from 12:30-2.

Diane's Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9-3

May Offering Schedule

Special Offering: Calvin Theological Seminary

May 1: General Fund, Faith Promise

May 8: General Fund, Christian Education

May 15: General Fund, Baby Pantry

May 22: General Fund, Benevolence

May 29: General Fund, Capital Improvement

- **Coffee Servers:**
May 15: Mike & Denise Besteman, Steve & Brenda Zuiderveen
May 22: Steve & Linda Schroeder, Keith & Mary Beavon
- **Bus Drivers:**
May 15: Chad Vogel
May 22: Ed Peters
- **Kids Own Worship**
May 15: Bonnie Williams - Jesus Heals A Lame Man
May 22: Robin Dertien - Jesus Stills the Storm
- **Nursery:**
May 15: Tracy Mann, Khloe Remijn
May 22: Sue Pipping, Lauren Dertien
- **Hospitality:**
May 15: Jim & Luanne Mellema
May 22: Gary & Sue Pipping

Prayer List

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." Phillipians 4:6

South Grandville Prayer Line 616-532-5413 (option 4)

Requests

- Council Members: Jim Hoekstra, Marc Faasse, Sue Pipping, Lori Vellenga
- Military: Lt Col Brian Sikkema
- Missionary of the Month: Cody Zuiderveen - GVSU Campus Ministry
- Members: Harvey Heerspink, Cindy Alkema, Roger Berg, Robert Albers

Help & Healing

- **Vince and Hannah Hause** welcome our ongoing prayers as Hannah has had some difficulties with her pregnancy.
- **Wilma Levering** continues to receive care and physical therapy at Mission Point of Grandville (formerly Brookcrest) Room #117 following her recent fall at Sunset and hospitalization. She would welcome cards of encouragement!
- **Beth Staal** received another encouraging report this week as she continues to receive weekly care at the wound clinic for her ongoing foot issues. **Beth** is very grateful for our prayers for her sister, **Kristyn DeHaan**, who has begun the third cycle of treatment as part of a clinical trial for recurrent cancer. **Kristyn** is hopeful of returning home from Houston, Texas in a few weeks upon completion of this third cycle.
- **Linda Winkle** is now at home but her doctors anticipate a very lengthy period of recuperation. With physical therapy, adjustments in very strong medication, and the use of oxygen she is hopeful of gaining strength, mobility, and overall greater ease in breathing.

Happy Birthday!

May 16: Lucas Netz

May 19: Kathy Bradfield

May 21: Doug DePuyt

May 22: Olivia Neve

May 26: Ade Kaashoek

May 26: Emelia Stob

May 27: Penny Whitaker

May 28: Brian Sikkema, James Toebes, Mary Beavon, Mark Hopkins, Roy Sloterbeek

May 29: Dave Joustra, Joyce Byker, Khloe Remijn

May 31: Michael Padilla