

# Mission Statement

To the glory of God, the Harvest Community Church is to gather and nurture God’s growing family.

## Purpose

- To **Glorify** God through worship in spirit and in truth
- To **Gather** God’s family through outreach
- To **Grow** in grace and knowledge of Jesus through discipleship
- To **Give** back of ourselves what God has given through service
- To be **Grafted** to one another through Holy Spirit fellowship

## Core Value

If anything good is going to happen, God has to do it.

Therefore, it is important for us to always look to discern what God is doing and join Him in His work.

Such discovery will be

- **Led by scripture**
- **Based on spiritual giftedness**
- **Bathed in prayer**
- **An outgrowth of small group intimacy**

## ELDER/DEACON DISTRICTS:

- J. Flohr/S. Oosterhouse—A-I**
- M. Nagelkirk/R.Oosterhouse—J-O**
- D. Barnett/J. Leazier—P-Z**

Church phone—616-374-8697  
Church email—info@harvesterc.com  
Pastor’s email—ben@harvesterc.com  
Church website: www.harvesterc.com

# CHURCH ACTIVITIES

## Sunday Services

- Worship Service**—9:30 a.m. (Children’s Worship during service)
- Sunday School**—11:00 a.m. Sept-May
- Community Group Ministry**—Sunday evenings  
(CHEERS in the home 1st and 3rd Sundays,  
**Bible Study** at church 2nd and 4th Sundays.)

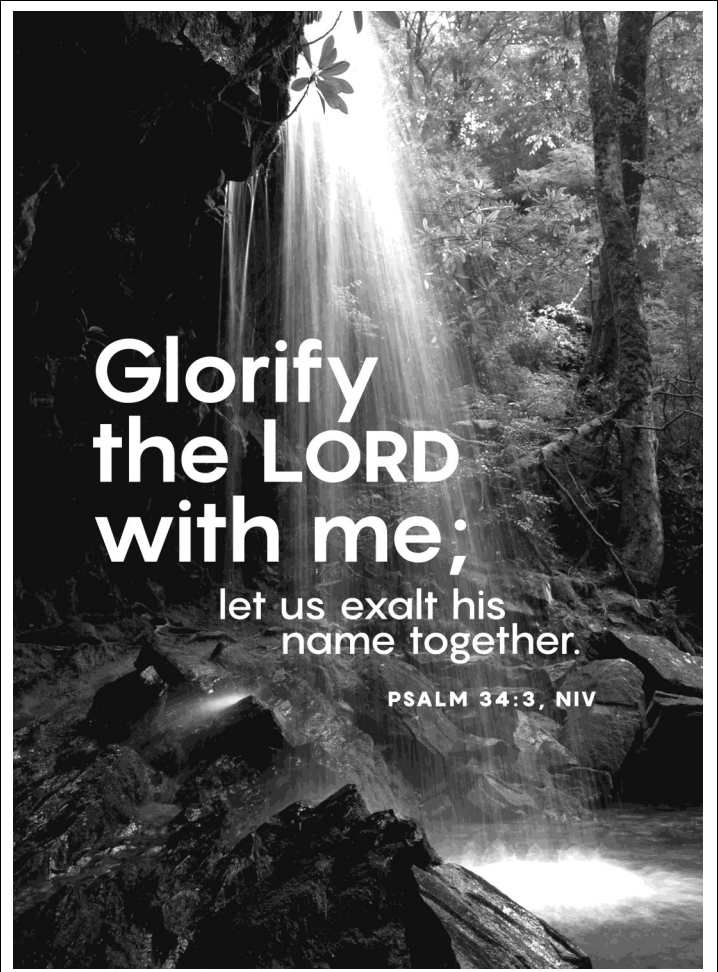
## Weekday Ministries

- Coffee Break/Story Hour/Little Lambs**  
Wednesdays 9:00—11:00 a.m. Sept.—May
- Moms in Prayer**  
Wednesdays—11: 30 a.m. Sept-May
- Prayer Meeting**  
Wednesdays—7:00 pm

\*CHEERS (Caring, Hope, Encouragement, Enlightenment, Respect, Support)

## CONSISTORY:

- Pastor Ben Ridder
- Elders Jason Flohr—2025  
Dick Barnett—2026  
Mike Nagelkirk—2027
- Deacons Seth Oosterhouse—2025  
Joe Leazier—2026  
Ryan Oosterhouse—2027



# Harvest Community Church

A Christian Reformed Ministry  
620 Sixth Avenue  
Lake Odessa, Michigan 48849

# Welcome to Harvest Church

August 17, 2025

**We are glad you are here!**

*“May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in Your sight, Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.” Psalm 19:14*

## Morning Worship

**Message: Preaching in Chains**

**Scripture:** Acts 28:16-31

Page 794 in the blue chair Bibles

*Please join us for fellowship time following the service this morning.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**This morning** we conclude our series on the book of Acts. The final picture we have of the great Apostle Paul is a man chained to a Roman soldier 24 hours a day, yet doing what he had been saved to do: declaring the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. As he would write to the Philippian church: “...it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear” (Philippians 1:13-14).

**Second Offering** this morning is for Starfysh Ministry, an organization begun by Dr. Steve Edmondson of Saranac. This group ministers to the inhabitants of the Haitian island of La Gonave.

**The Profession of Faith** of Dick and Sue Nelson will happen this morning during the worship service. We thus welcome Dick and Sue into communicant membership of Harvest Community Church!

**Adult Sunday School** meets this morning at 11:00. Sunday School for all ages will begin on Sunday, September 21st. More information to come.

**The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper** will be before us next Sunday. Prepare yourself to come to the table of God’s grace.

## From the Outreach Purpose Group

- On Tuesday, September 23, 6:00-7:30, we will be hosting representatives from Starlight Ministries (Myciah Ridder being one) who will be presenting QPR, a suicide prevention training. We will also be advertising community wide, so help us get the word out. This event is free and one can register at my-cah@starlightmin.org.
- Plans are underway for a combined church Vacation Bible School next summer. Bonnie Rush, from the Community Women’s group will be heading this up and is asking each church to provide at least one person to be a part of the planning group. She would like to have that meeting in the next 2-3 weeks. If anyone from Harvest would be willing to be a part of this planning team, please contact Pastor Ben, and he will pass your information to Bonnie.
- Notice on the west wall of the auditorium opportunities for you to again be a part of our annual Samaritan’s Purse Christmas Shoebox ministry. Thank you in advance for helping out this year!

**Reminder to Sunday School Kids:** Please be looking for ways to earn your \$15 to use for buying gifts to pack in the above ministry this fall. Remember, each \$15 you earn will be matched by another \$15, so you will have double the amount to spend at our ‘store’.

**Church Family:** A baby basket for any gifts you would like to give to Sophie Grace Pennington is in the back of the auditorium by the church mailboxes. Baby Sophie is home with mom, dad, and big sister now. Please continue to pray for her.

**Prayer at the School** is scheduled for this evening at 6:30 at the flagpole of any of our 4 school buildings. There will be a pastor or youth leader at each building to lead in prayer for the upcoming school year.

**Old Fashioned Hymn Sing** is scheduled at Woodland United Methodist Church for Sunday, August 31st at 6:00. Enjoy singing some favorite hymns in the comfort of air conditioning.

**Thrive Faith Formation Tip** - In his book Just Mercy, Bryan Stevenson writes, “The true measure of our character is how we treat the poor, the disfavored, the accused, the incarcerated, and the condemned. We are all implicated when we allow other people to be mistreated.” These words speak directly to the heart of Micah 6:8. As you go through this week, focus on aligning your actions with those of the one who seeks justice in all spaces. Note down your observations at the end of the week, and consider what your daily practice can become moving forward. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

**From ReFrame Ministries: Kids Corner Devotions: God's**

**Grand Story: The Boy with the Supersized Supper** - Check out this week’s kids’ devotion, “God’s Grand Story: The Boy with the Supersized Supper,” at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). In today’s Bible story, a boy thought that what he had was not enough. But like him, you will be surprised by what God can do with our “not-enoughs”. Thank God for being the God of abundance.

**Prayer Help.** Are you or someone you know in need of extra focused prayer? There are prayer cards on the greeter table. Please fill them in and leave in the offering basket or in the Prayer Room bowl. The needs are prayed for at Wednesday evening prayer gathering.

## CALENDAR OF THE WEEK

Today	9:30 am—Morning Worship 11:00 am—Adult Sunday School
Wednesday	10:00 am—Moms in Prayer 7:00 pm—Prayer Meeting

## **From the Deacons—Offerings Received**

**August 10** General Fund No information yet

## ASSIGNMENTS

**Thank you to all our volunteers who care for the children, and help with other ministries during the worship service today!**

**Greeters** Today and August 24 Nick and Emily Berens

**Nursery** Today Jessica Kastanek, Jaelynn Duits  
August 24 Mary Flohr, Erika Leazier  
August 31 Jenny Reynolds, Joshua Flohr

**Coffee Time** Today Steve Werdon  
August 24 Marshann Ludema  
August 31 Wayne Moak

## **Prayer Ministry**

**Today** Karilynn Ridder **August 31** Gail Pepper

## **Prayer Family:**

Please be praying for this household over the next week. Each Harvest household is rotated through the schedule.

**This week:** Marcus and Felicia Vanderkooi