

# 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:

- D. Redder/W. Moak—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.)

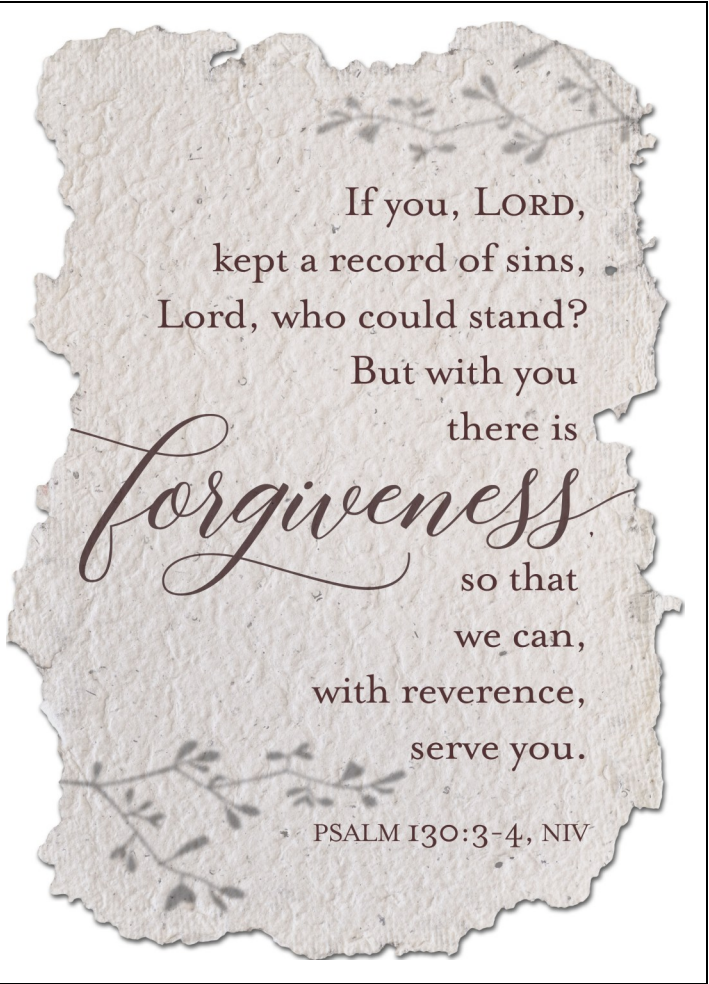
## Weekday Ministries

- 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    Dick Barnett—2026  
             Mike Nagelkirk—2027  
             Darl Redder— 2028
- Deacons   Joe Leazier—2026  
               Ryan Oosterhouse—2027  
               Wayne Moak—2028



# Harvest Community Church

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

# Welcome to Harvest Church

December 21, 2025

**We are glad you are here!**

“My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins...” 1 John 2:1-2a

## Morning Worship

**Message: “Forgive Us Our Debts”**

**Scripture:** Matthew 6:12; 1 John 2:1-2

Pages 685 and 862 in the blue chair Bibles

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**This morning** we are taking a second look at the 5th petition of the Lord’s Prayer: “Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.” Last week we looked at the wonder of God’s forgiveness and our desperate need for it. Today, we look at the “how” of God’s forgiveness, sitting at the center of the gospel message.

**Second Offering** this morning is for The Guiding Light Ministries in downtown Grand Rapids. Guiding Light provides the teaching, relationships, and support to empower individuals in living a new life of recovery where they are reconnected to God, back to work, restored to family, safely housed, and active in service.

**Advent Candle of Joy** will be lit this morning. Along with hope and peace, comes the joy of our Lord and Savior’s arrival. “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people. Today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ, the Lord!”

**The sacrament of baptism** will be administered this morning to Sophie Grace, daughter of Bryce and Hannah Pennington.

**Congratulations** to Nick and Emily Berens in the birth of Maverick Nicholas, on Friday, December 12th. There is a baby basket under the mailboxes for anyone who would like to celebrate with them with a gift.

## **Advent Calendar Information:**

- Christmas Eve service will take place here at Harvest on Wednesday evening, 6:00. Please remember how we conclude this service with candlelight singing outside in front of the church. Dress accordingly.
- Sunday School will not be meeting on the Sundays of December 28th and January 4th.

**A Christmas Eve Service Flyer** has been placed in your church mailboxes. Use it as a means of inviting someone to that service!

**Coffee Break** for women will not meet this week or next. We will resume our studies with a new topic on Wednesday, January 7 when we will be using the study guide entitled ‘The Power of a Woman’s Words.’ by Sharon Jaynes. If you need a book, contact the church office.

**Guest Preacher** next Sunday will be Pastor Duane Nieuwsma. Pastor Duane is a retired Christian Reformed pastor. Pastor Ben and Karilynn will be out of town visiting with family.

**Weather closing reminder**—tune in to WOOD TV channel 8 when weather could cause cancelation of church services and other Sunday events. You can also get the information by going to **TV8 weather closings** on your smart phone.

**From World Renew. Help Families Affected by the Pacific Northwest Flooding** - Beginning December 8, heavy nonstop rains have led to record flooding in western and central parts of Washington state, killing at least one person and forcing tens of thousands of people to evacuate due to profound damage to homes and communities. World Renew Disaster Response Services (DRS) is preparing a response to help flood survivors, including in communities already recovering from severe flooding in 2021. Please join us in prayer and donate to help flood survivors at [worldrenew.net/northwest](http://worldrenew.net/northwest), by calling 1-800-552-7972, or by mailing a check made out to World Renew, with "Pacific Northwest Floods 2025" in the memo line, to: World Renew, 8970 Byron Commerce Dr SW, Byron Center, MI 49315.

**ReFrame Ministries. Kids Corner Devotions: Advent at Home: Away in a Manger** - Check out this week’s kids’ devotion, “Advent at Home: Away in the Manger” at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Jesus knows what it feels like to be human, just like you. This means He understands when you’re tired, hurt, or having a hard day. He loves you so much and always knows how to comfort



and care for you! Explore all the great content at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net), including the Kids Corner Christmas Collection of devotions, Bible stories, crafts, and activities.

**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—Sunday School for all ages
Wednesday	6:00 pm—Christmas Eve Service

**From the Deacons—Offerings Received**  
**December 21** General Fund \$7,955.00

## ASSIGNMENTS

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

**Greeters** Today Mike and Karie Hilley  
**December 28** Lyle and Val Livingston

**Nursery** Today Marshann Ludema, Joshua Flohr  
**December 28** Mary Flohr, Jessica Kastanek  
**January 4** Lisa Nurenberg, Erika Leazier

**Coffee Time** Today Wayne Moak  
**December 28** Harlene Westendorp  
**January 4** Steve Werdon

**Prayer Ministry**  
Today Karilynn Ridder **December 28** Gail Pepper

**Prayer Family:**  
Please be praying for this household over the next week. Each Harvest household is rotated through the schedule.  
**This week:** Richard and Anita Duits