

**Grace Reformed Church Newsletter**  
**June 1, 2020**

***“He has showed you, O man, what is good.  
And what does the Lord require of you?  
To act justly and to love mercy  
and to walk humbly with your God” Micah 6:8***

Words from Pastor Heather:

I must confess Sunday welcoming many of you into our parking lot for our Drive-In service brought an overwhelming feeling of emotions. A feeling of comfort as a somewhat of a norm or at least a new norm. A sense of grief as I wish I could have hugged you all! Then thankful for the beautiful day and God’s protection through these last 10 weeks. We will continue to communicate with you all as we move through our re-opening phases. Whether we are in a building or not God is still ever present and there is still greater work to be done in the Kingdom.

This week will kick off our summer series “Have you Heard?” words seldom spoken today in our faith. Pastor Jack and myself will be rotating throughout the summer. We look forward to exploring these words with you all. My prayers continue to be with you all and if there is anything more specifically I can pray for you please don’t hesitate to reach out.

Blessings,

Pastor Heather

PS – We have attached a devotional/prayer for you on the back of this newsletter to reflect on this coming week.

**Sunday, June 7, 10:00 am**

## **SUNDAY DRIVE IN WORSHIP SERVICE!**

We are excited to once again offer a drive up service! For those of you who were there this past Sunday, we think you would all agree that it was a great time of praising God together. A few tears may have even been shed! We are so thankful for each and every one of you whether you worshiped with us on site or watched the service online!

Once again, a few details you should know about this service:

- We ask that if you are considered vulnerable, sick or have been sick to remain home.
- At the service you will be able to listen to us through your radio. Details of music and message will be available online this week.
- An offering receptacle will be available as you exit the parking lot.
- Buildings (including bathrooms) will not be open. Please plan accordingly.
- Our on-line service will still be available on Facebook, our website, and Youtube.

### **PRAYERS & PRAISE**

Dick Postema was hospitalized for a time last week with some heart irregularities. They implanted a pacemaker which is working well in stabilizing his heart. We pray for renewed strength.

Our Christian sympathies are extended to Rev. George and Juel Grevenstuk upon the passing of Juel's father, Luke Diffenbach on Thursday, May 28 at the age of 91. You can send cards of sympathy to: 4185 Maple St., Dorr, MI 49323.

We give thanks for the safe return to Michigan of the Hiemstra family and also Ron Lankheet. Ron is doing well, but is anticipating knee replacement surgery.

Sandy Gort continues to improve but still gets fatigued easily. It will take approximately 3 months for her to feel back to normal. She thanks the Grace family for all their prayers and cards.

We continue to keep those who have been hospitalized recently or have been ill in our prayers.

We pray for this church as we begin resuming worship services on site. We pray for all those who are working to accomplish this goal. We pray for protection and safety. We give thanks for the many who have volunteered their time to make this possible.

We pray for our people who feel the effects of racism. Please help us to understand and stand up for what is right and just.

Please contact us if you have any prayer requests or if we can help you in any way!

# Prayer for Peace and Reconciliation

Loving God,

We come to you first to give you thanks for all you do and all that you have brought us through. In light of the world that we are living in, we call upon you in a spirit of peace and protection.

Lord, you remind us through Scripture that we have been fearfully and wonderfully made. We know that you have created us in love and to be loved. But we live in a time where some people believe that the lives of your people have no value. We call upon you to help us, to protect us, and to remind us that the life of each person is important to you.

We pray for all of the people of African descent whose lives have been taken away without a good reason and for their families, friends, and loved ones who are left to bear the hurt and the pain of that loss.

We pray for the police officers whose lives have been taken away unjustly for simply trying to do the job they were being paid to do. Bring comfort to their families as well.

Lord, we acknowledge the hurt and the pain felt by people on all sides of this issue. We pray that you will intervene and allow the love of Jesus Christ to enter into our hearts and into our society so that we can see that life is a gift from God that we have no right to take away.

We know that hatred and vengeance are never an acceptable option to resolve a situation, so we call upon you to give us the guidance we need to make things right between us and those who have been called to protect us.

Lord, this is our prayer for peace and reconciliation, the peace that we know can come if we put our trust and our faith and our hope in you.

All of this we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

*This prayer was written by Rev. Dwayne Jackson and used in a service involving police and members of the community of Queens, New York.*