

**Sunday, April 12, 2026**

*Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. Psalm 105:1*

**THANK YOU** to those who are serving us during worship today.

**MUSICIANS:** Jan Johnson & Angie Meester

**THIS WEEK AT PARKERSBURG CRC**

Today 9:30 a.m. – Morning Worship Service

Next Sunday 9:30 a.m. – Morning Worship Service

**OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

**Please remember** those of our congregation who live alone and those alone in care facilities through a phone call or a card.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Everyone is invited** for coffee and fellowship following the worship service this morning. There is a sign-up sheet on the counter for volunteers to serve.

**The second offering** next Sunday will be for Lifewise Academy.

**We welcome** Pastor Jack Ritsema to our pulpit this morning.

**Please check your mailbox:** It's the time of year to elect new council members. Prayerfully consider this and return your ballots to the box in the fellowship hall by the end of the month. Thank you. **The Council**

**A-P Food Pantry Needs You!** The Aplington-Parkersburg Food Pantry provides a large food supplement to approximately 100 families within our communities the third Saturday of each month and April is our church's month to assist with distribution. The pantry needs several volunteers from our

church on Saturday, April 18, from 7:00-9:30 a.m. at the Parkersburg Civic Center. Please let Jan Johnson, Marcia Allspach, or Angie Meester know if you are able to help. We look forward to seeing you then!

**Ladies: Please keep** your Saturday, April 25, 2026 open for a Women's Retreat to be held in our church. We are planning a day of guest speakers, a style show, a book sale, a special meal, music or in other words A FULL DAY! The day will begin at 8:30am with a coffee buffet and the program starting at 9am. We are ending the day at 2pm. More details will be available soon. It will be a good time to visit with old friends and make new ones!!

**Ladies, if you** are planning to attend the Women's Conference in our church on April 25 and have RSVP'd, please sign the sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall.

**Upcoming Speakers:**

April 19 – Jack Ritsema

**Heidelberg Catechism Q & A 7:**

**Q: Then where does this corrupt human nature come from?**

A: From the fall and disobedience of our first parents, Adam and Eve, in Paradise. This fall has so poisoned our nature that we are all born sinners and corrupt from conception on.

*-HC and ME: The Heidelberg Catechism for Christian Living (2006), Faith Alive Christian Resources*

**Offerings**

	<b>Offering</b>	<b>Needed</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Last Week	\$4,814.00	\$2,436.27	+\$2,377.73
Year to Date (14 Sundays)	\$33,569.40	\$34,107.78	-\$538.38

**Parkersburg Christian Reformed Church**

April 12, 2026 – 9:30 AM

**WE COME NEAR TO GOD**

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

\*Hymn: TCH 11 **Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing**

\*God's Greeting

\*Mutual Greeting

Song: TCH 506 **I'd Rather Have Jesus**

Morning Prayer

Offertory and Offering: 1) General Fund  
2) Faith Promise

\*Hymn: TCH 444 **I Love to Tell the Story**

**SERVICE OF THE WORD**

Scripture: **Matthew 18:21-35** (pg. 1527)

Message: **ESCAPING TERRORISTS**

Prayer of Dedication

**RESPONSE OF LOVE, GRATITUDE AND SERVICE**

\*Hymn: TCH 435 **God of Grace and God of Glory**

\*God's Blessing

\*Closing Song: TCH 166 **Praise God from Whom All  
Blessings Flow**

\*Postlude

## Council Notes of April 7, 2026

The council meeting of April 7th, 2026 was opened by the reading of Romans 12 3-8. Prayer was given by Ken Mehmen.

Article 1: Minutes of the March 2nd, 2026 meeting were read and approved.

Article 2: No Correspondence was received.

Article 3: Ministry Reports and Concerns

- Elders Report: Communion was provided to shut-ins during the month of March.
- Pulpit Committee:
  - April 12<sup>th</sup> – Jack Ritesma
  - April 19<sup>th</sup> – Jack Ritesma
  - April 26<sup>th</sup> - Joel De Boer
  - May 3<sup>rd</sup> – DJ Steen
  - May 10<sup>th</sup> – Jimmy Meyer
  - May 17<sup>th</sup> - Wendell Davelaar
  - May 24<sup>th</sup> - Dale Akkerman
  - May 31<sup>st</sup> – Ron Bartlett
- Worship Committee: No Report
- Attendance Report: There was an Average Attendance of 42.6 people with 20.2 people live streaming.
- Outreach Committee: No Report
- Discipleship Committee: April will be the final month of Catechism and Sunday School before transitioning into summer break.
- Building and Grounds Committee: A new sump pump was installed. Discussion was held on the church sign. Discussion was held on a possible church cleanup day.

Article 4: Financial Reports and Concerns

- Receipts of \$14,212.40 was received. Budget amount of \$12,181.35 is needed. Giving us \$2,031.05 for the month. With a YTD of -\$2,916.11

Article 6: Old Business

- No update was provided on the outreach card to share information about our church.
- The Search Committee met with Rukes on March 24, 2026, to discuss a potential candidate. After careful consideration, the committee decided not to pursue the candidate. Rukes remains

confident that additional candidates will emerge following Easter. Continued prayers are requested that God will lead a pastor to our church.

Article 7: New Business

- Discussion was held regarding the council's interest in pursuing an interim pastor.
- The member list was reviewed in preparation for the upcoming selection of Elders and Deacons.
- As the mowing season approaches, individuals who served last year will be contacted to confirm their interest and availability for the coming season.
- Council discussed the need for additional volunteers to support the Aplington-Parkersburg food pantry on Saturday, April 18, from 7:00–9:30 a.m. at the Parkersburg Civic Center. Congregation is asked to prayerfully consider volunteering.
- Marcia Allspach reported that Mike and Victoria Van Der Dyke have retired, and that Sarah and Dami Aderemi have assumed their role. Council agreed to continue the Faith Promise offering through Resonate Global Mission, now directed to support Sarah and Dami Aderemi.

Article 9: Motion was made and supported to adjourn the meeting.

Article 10: Concept minutes were read and approved.

Article 11: Closing Prayer was given by Rollyn DeGroot

Respectfully submitted:

Vice President: Ken Mehmen

Clerk: Mike Ascher

Members Present:

Mike Ascher

Ken Mehmen

Rollyn DeGroot

Amy Swanson Haan

Pat Prier

Guest Present: Marcia Allspach

Members Absent:

Brad Allspach

Next Meeting is set for Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> following church service.