

CONNECTED

May 12, 2024

Welcome to North Hills Christian Reformed Church, a church that glorifies... gathers... and grows! If this is your first time here, an especially warm welcome to you, and we hope you'll return again! We thank all our volunteers today, including **Mike VanAmberg** for serving at the Welcome Desk this morning.

Everyone is invited to the **Fellowship Hall** for fellowship and refreshments—thanks to **Jerry & Mary Van Wyke**, today's hosts.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES today:

During the service:

Infants, Toddlers and Preschoolers meet in Room D with **Polly Ayers & Michael Krogh**. Parents can sign in their child(ren) starting at 9:20am.

Sunday School Hour (following worship):

K-5th grade: There is no class in appreciation of Mother's Day.

4th-7th grade: There is no class in appreciation of Mother's Day.

Catechism Class (high school & adults): There is no class today in appreciation of Mother's Day.

Our STEWARDSHIP:

May 5 tithes:

\$12,099

Tithes received through May 5:

\$179,855

Ministry plan need through May 5:

\$186,923

There are four ways to give your offering:

- In person: An offering plate is at the east Sanctuary entrance
- Our website: Click "giving" tab
- Mail: Send a check to North Hills Church / 3150 N Adams Road / Troy / 48084
- On your phone: Download and use Vanco mobile app (Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement)



always welcome!

Interested in playing on the **men's softball team** this summer? See coach Jeff Feikens for details. The first game is Monday, May 13, at 6:15pm at Our Shepherd Lutheran School field (1658 E Lincoln St, Birmingham, MI 48009). Fans are



On Sunday, May 19, we will celebrate Pentecost. Wear the color red—don't be shy!—in celebration of the season!

This week's birthdays:

May 12: Wendy Krogh
May 15: Samuel Drewry
May 16: Joel Weinberg
May 17: Beck VanAmberg
May 19: Janice Krum

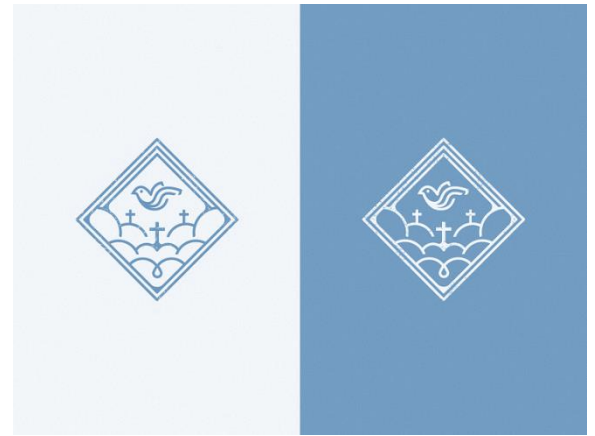
Meet our 2024 Nominees for Church Council:

For Elder (we'll select two):

Gina Grembowski
Richard Murray
Ray Rowell
Michael Rupke

For Deacon (we'll select two):

Julie Brouwer
Leo Ortel
Pat Reeves
Laina Van Wyke



Nominee profiles were placed in your church mailbox.

Our congregational meeting is Sunday, May 19, at 10:45am.

Calling all 2024 **graduates** of North Hills! Send us your graduation picture, and news of your next chapter after graduation! We'll publish all our graduate information in an upcoming issue of *Connected*. Email to: admin@northhillscrc.org.

The deacons and members of our youth group volunteered at Community Assistance Program (CAP) on Saturday, May 4. Thanks to: **Michelle Konik, Rick Konik, Kyle Thompson, Mark Van Wyke, Cheryl Yuhas, John Yuhas, and Willie Yuhas**. CAP is very low on spring and summer children's clothes and toys. Your donations are appreciated—the donation bin is in the lower level Laundry Room.



Thank you everyone for your birthday wishes, texts, cards, and emails! I had a wonderful celebration. We were able to enjoy Pella's annual Tulip Time with our family—our granddaughter Natalie's first! It is a joy to serve North Hills Church!

~Pastor Engle



Jack Boughton, Mary Baker, and Janet van Veen serve a pizza lunch to Childcare Center staff to celebrate teacher's appreciation week.

Spring 2024 Grounds Clean-Up



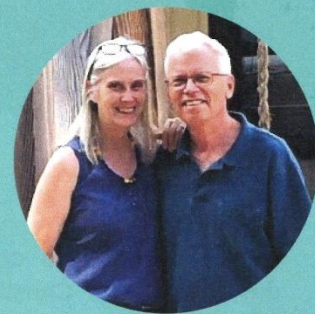
Thanks to everyone who helped with this spring's grounds cleanup on Saturday, April 27. Those who enjoyed breakfast and worked together in the morning: Polly Ayers, David Baker, Deb Baker, Mary Baker, Ted Baker, Kristi Bowles, Rob Bowles, Anton van Breemen, Helen Brien, Jim Brien, Grant Brouwer, Julie Brouwer, Levi Brouwer, Matt Brouwer, Don Callihan, Heather Chandler, Sean Chandler, Zach Chandler, Jacob Dexter, Kyle Dexter, Samantha Dexter, Sarah Dexter, Mark Elliott, Kathy Engle, Pastor Engle, Jeff Feikens, Jon Feikens, Gina Grembowski, Elizabeth Jolliffe, Janis Kammeraad, Michelle Konik, Rick Konik, Patrick Rode, Ray Rowell, Martha Ruit, Bob Schieferstein, Cheryl Yuhas, John Yuhas, Willie Yuhas, Jim Zondag, Lorena Zondag, Lorianne Zondag.



Transforming Teachers

MARK WIERSMA & ANNE LUCASSE
DEVELOPING CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS IN NIGERIA

MARCH 2024



Prayer Points

- Continued persistence by the 10 EC trainers with the teachers they're leading during Mark's current medical displacement.
- Mark's health and recovery following his procedure on March 28, and his swift return to Nigeria.
- Blessing for these handovers of PRACTICED leadership for both EC training and Hillcrest.
- Prayerful responses to our Lord's preparation for EC training's next Nigeria Specialist and for Hillcrest's next Superintendent.

Prayer Calendar

Dates

- **March 28-** Mark's ablation for atrial flutter (GR, MI).
- July- Mark retires from Resonate and Anne hands over responsibility for Hillcrest School.



Moses (right), an Advanced Facilitator, training Interns in Abuja, Nigeria's capital.

10 Years in Nigeria...

Anne and I have had the honor of being in mission as your partners in Nigeria for 10 years! We thank God for blessing YOUR commitment of prayers and gifts to improve a variety of Christian schools across Nigeria.

In these 10 years, Educational Care (EC) became one of a handful of training programs that are beginning to reverse the academic neglect that has plagued Nigeria for decades. Hillcrest School, where Anne has served as Superintendent, has grown enrollment, strengthened academic programs for all learners, and maintained financial stability, as they educate global disciples of Christ.

This growth is the FRUIT of your support. We are deeply grateful for the trust you placed in us to join God in mission in Nigeria.

...and nearing change.

Since coming to serve in Nigeria, a major part of the call for BOTH of us has been to anticipate leadership transitions that will carry on professional improvement in Nigerian Christian schools.

After months of prayer and strategic team preparation, I made it known that I will retire come July. Anne and I will return to Michigan. I will maintain limited contact with this ministry. Part of that will be to help seek candidates for the next Educational Care Specialist for Nigeria.

Your commitment, giving, and prayers have produced a largely independent training team in central Nigeria, and a developing training team in the Abuja, the capital of Nigeria.

We thank you and praise God for all that He's doing among Nigerian schools!

Your Help is Needed

PERHAPS?

Would you like to continue supporting the development of Christian schools in Nigeria? We STRONGLY endorse Sarah Kluitenberg-Aderemi, my Resonate colleague in education development (based in Lagos, Nigeria).

We will include better introduction to her and her family in our next letter. In the meantime, please continue supporting us until August 31.

SECOND...

The EC Specialist -Nigeria position is an amazing role. It was posted over a year ago. More promotion will surely attract candidates. Still, it's likely to take a YEAR before a new Specialist is packing to come. It's critical that we temporarily help Coordinators in Jos and Abuja. as they shoulder some temporary tasks.

EC trainers serve IN ADDITION to their school jobs--some of Nigeria's lowest-paid workers with college degrees. Know also that Nigeria is in its 3rd year of unprecedented national economic strain. To bear up with extra tasks, EC Coordinators will need added income.

Our next letter will detail a "Project Giving" opportunity that will permit Coordinators to keep EC growing in both cities while a new Specialist is recruited.

As always, Anne and I thank you for your prayerful support in this meaningful work in partnership with you.

Mark Wiersma, EC Specialist &
Anne Lucasse, Supt. of Hillcrest School



Anne's Child Safety Protection presentation at Hillcrest's Christian educators conference, a statewide professional event



Volunteers Bob and Tammy visited to assist training team facilitators

UNITED STATES
1700 28th Street SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49508-1407

P (616) 726-1144
P 877-272-6205

CANADA
3475 Mainway
PO Box 5070, STN LCD 1
Burlington, ON L7R 3Y8

P (905) 336-2920
P 800-730-3490

MARK WIERSMA & ANNE LUCASSE

P wiersmam2@gmail.com
P alucasse@yahoo.com

www.resonateglobalmission.org/donate

**MARK & ANNE'S FUNDING
CODE: 802325**

Resonate
GLOBAL MISSION

A Ministry of the Christian Reformed Church

North Hills Loves to Give!

DONATION
RECEIPT



CROSSROADS
PRISON MINISTRIES

Gift Date
4/23/2024

Reference #
15692

Gift
Amount
\$1,055.00

North Hills Christian Reformed Church
3150 N Adams Rd
Troy, MI 48084

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your recent donation to Crossroads Prison Ministries. Your generous support allows us to continue bringing hope and encouragement to men and women behind bars.

At Crossroads, we witness the transformative power of God's love and forgiveness daily, and we are delighted to share how our program has recently impacted the life of one of our students, Joshua C. from Texas. He wrote, "I was affected most by the Prodigal Son lesson because my walk with Christ started a long time ago, and my addiction made me lose sight and feel separated and unworthy of forgiveness. Knowing and being reminded that God loves me unconditionally [and] will forgive me and welcome me back has strengthened my resolve and my relationship with Christ and also my relationship with my family."

Your gift restores hope to people like Joshua, reminding them of God's unwavering love and forgiveness. Through your generosity, we can continue offering support and encouragement to people in prison through our mentorship program. Thank you.

In Christ,

Joe Pryor

Crossroads did not provide any goods or services in whole or partial consideration for a religious benefit

Dear Dr. Engle,
I wanted to take a moment to thank you for the recent generous blessing to the ministry. Since 2001 North Hills Christian Reformed Church has helped support 689 incarcerated people to study God's word.
Thank you again for your continued support.

allis

PO Box 900 | Grand Rapids, MI 49509-0900
800.668.2450 | cpministries.org

Baldwin Center

PO Box 420700
212 Baldwin Avenue
Pontiac, MI 48342
P: 248.332.6101
F: 248.332.0533
www.baldwincenter.org



April 30, 2024

North Hills Christian Reformed
3150 N. Adams Rd
Troy, MI 48084

Dear North Hills Christian Reformed,

As you know, the Baldwin Center is deeply invested in the community we serve.

Our vision is a thriving community with engaged citizens.

Our promise is to provide the tools necessary for individuals and families in need to become vibrant, productive community members.

We value honesty, respect, integrity and compassion.

We believe in the strength of human dignity and the resilience of the human spirit as we continue to ***feed, clothe, educate, and empower!***

We rely on our donors, volunteers and community partners so much, which is why your donation of **\$1055** on **4/17/2024** is truly appreciated.

Thank you for believing in the work we do! It is a privilege to partner with you in bringing our vision to life.

Warm regards,


Elizabeth Longley
Executive Director

Thank you!

The donor did not receive any goods or services for this contribution.

Dear North Hills Christian Reformed Church,

When God's Church bands together great things happen! Through your church's contributions, lives are being transformed across many nations. With access to the knowledge of God's Word, through Talking Bibles, individuals are impacted, causing the whole church to grow!

This Impact Report shows what happens when non-readers, the blind, and those from oral cultures are finally able to access God's Word in their heart language! Barriers are torn down, demons are cast out, miraculous healings take place, and new churches spring forth.

Together we are fulfilling the Great Commission by spreading the light of God's Word to every corner of the globe, reaching people who have never heard of Jesus, and opening up the Gospel to them. Thank you for your partnership it is truly making a difference!

Because they need to hear,



Mark S. Hoekstra
President, Talking Bibles International

April 26, 2024



Cass
Community
Social
Services

Reverend Dr. Randall Engle
North Hills Christian Reformed Church
3150 N. Adams
Troy, MI 48084-1269

Dear Reverend Dr. Randall Engle:

Thank you for your recent gift to Cass. Donations like yours make our work possible all year long.

As the weather grows warmer, much of our attention has turned to outside activities. We are currently busy cleaning up lots and lawns and planting flowers.

In fact, last year we started replacing grass with pollinator-friendly plants in an effort to reduce the costs and environmental impact of cutting grass on twelve blocks and adding beauty, fragrance, and habitats, which support butterflies, birds, and bees.

Staff and volunteers have begun cleaning, rehabbing, and painting a four-bedroom house on Webb Street, which will soon accommodate college interns from across the country.

At the same time, planning is underway to make sure everyone using the Cass Warming Center will have housing by the time the program closes at the end of May. The schedule is likewise being established for children staying in the Family Center so that the summer months will be packed full of recreational and educational options.

We have you to thank for this and so much more.

We are deeply grateful.

Sincerely,

Rev. Faith Fowler

Rev. Faith Fowler
Executive Director

*P.S. Please call me at any time at (313) 883-2277, ext. 201, if you
we are doing, or wish to visit. It's always good*

Donor: North Hills Christian Reformed Church Gift An

Antidel Apartments • Brady Building • Cass House • Fox Family Center • Kim's Center • Littleton Building •

11745 Rosa Parks Blvd • Detroit, MI 48206 • 313.883.2

North Hills Christian Reformed Church -

*My name is Susana Jackiewicz and
I am the Executive Director of HOPE
Against Trafficking.*

*I want to express my heartfelt
gratitude for your generous donation
of \$1,143.38. Your support will assist
us in accomplishing our mission
to help female survivors of human
trafficking heal, restore, and reclaim
their lives.*

*Thank you for taking action and
for coming alongside of us to light
the way for women in need of
safety, hope, and renewed health.
With your support you are making
the promise of a prosperous, peaceful,
and dignified life a reality.*

*With Gratitude,
Susana*