

CONNECTED



September 13, 2026

Kick-Off Sunday

North Hills Christian Reformed Church

Welcome to North Hills Church on this Kick-Off Sunday! Let's thank today's volunteers: **Rob Bowles** at the Welcome Center, **Michael & Taylor Williams**, nursery attendants. We invite everyone to enjoy a **picnic** immediately following the worship service this morning.

Birthdays this week:

September 13: Deb Bonthuis
September 13: Will Ruit
September 16: Sue Van Oyen
September 17: Susan Dantzler
September 19: Helen Beamer

August 2026 Media Statistics:

Facebook: 273 followers
Instagram: 146 followers (+2)
YouTube: 397 subscribers (+3)
1.1k views
139 hours watched
563 viewers, 383 new
Website: 480 users (441 new users)
Countries (in order of number of users):
United States, Canada, Germany, Hong Kong,
India, Japan



Our STEWARDSHIP:

September 6 tithe:

\$9,475 (exclusive of online tithes)

Tithes received through September 6:

\$380,220

Here 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)



Growing at North Hills Church!

Sundays:



Our **Nursery** opens at 9:20am each Sunday morning in the downstairs playroom. Who's watching our children? The schedule is posted on the bulletin board outside the church office, and the attendants are listed in each week's *Connected*.

Worship each Sunday at 9:30am. The readings, prayers, songs, and music compliment the week's story from the Bible.

Sunday School Classes:
Children ages 4–8
("Elementary") and

children ages 9–13 ("Middles") meet each non-communion Sunday from 10:45am–11:45am. Meet at the "big clock" in the Atrium by 10:40 am.

Catechism: Inter-generational class for anyone 8th grade and older. Pastor Engle makes Catechism fun (really)! Join us at 11:00am with Pastor Engle in his office.



Pastor Jim Vander Slik will lead an in depth, interactive study on the book of I Corinthians. Bring your own Bible! The sessions meet at 11:00am in the church Council Room.

Pastor Engle leads an overview of the Reformed, Christian faith using the *Heidelberg Catechism* as a guide. This group is intergenerational, and a good introduction to the teachings of North Hills Church. The group meets in the Pastor's office.



Wednesdays:

The 10:00am **Women's Bible study** draws women both from North Hills Church and our community. The group is currently working through the book of Acts.

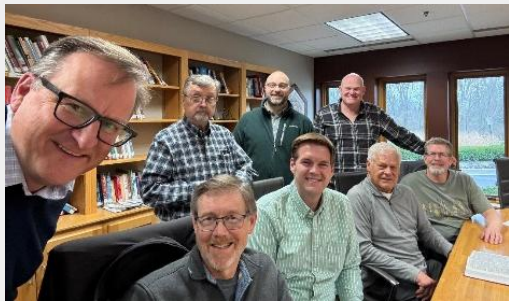
6:30pm **Joys of Recovery** is an Alcoholics Anonymous group that meets in our Fellowship Hall.



7:00pm online sermon discussion group is hosted by **Judy Hunsberger**. Email Judy at judy.hunsberger@gmail.com to receive meeting code and password.

Thursdays:

New for this year, **Debtors Anonymous** meets at 4:00pm in the Director of Youth and Administration (DYA) office. Debtors Anonymous is a free, peer support fellowship to help individuals who struggle with compulsive debting, overspending, under-earning, and financial avoidance.



Men's Bible study attendees meet biweekly for a light dinner at 5:30pm in the Council Room, and begin Bible study at 6:00pm.



A brochure with the complete schedule—exact meeting dates, locations, and times—is in your church mailbox, and available online at our website.

Summary of the August 18, 2026 NHCRC Council Meeting

Opening Devotion & Prayer – Elder Michael Rupke shared a Devotional from *Today* on aging parents and offered an opening prayer.

The Council then received reports from standing committees and staff: All written reports were accepted as presented. Items requiring approval of Council and additional comments are as follow: **Adult Ministries** – The committee has planned all the sessions for this year. The class opportunities will be printed in a brochure format and placed in the mailboxes in the atrium and posted on our website. **Child Care Board** – Enrollment is nearing capacity and tuition increase was approved. **Christian Service** – Martha Ruit has retired from meal coordinator. Going forward, the elders will contact Jenna with meal needs from their respective parishes. Jenna will then inform meal providers on Sign up Genius. **Deacons & Treasurer** – We received a thank you card from Resonate Global Missions for our funding the purchase of the car for the Aderemis, our missionary family in Nigeria. Arab American Friendship Center will have a representative speak at our December 13th adult education class. New City Kids have merged into Motor City Music Club – funding has been halted until Deacons receive more information. Treasurer has requested that committee budget requests be submitted to him by September 1st. **Director of Youth and Education:** The fellowship committee's baseball game date was changed to August 28th. Additionally, Jenna along with Kathy Engle are looking to provide Child Care with a program of *Faith in Music*. **Elders** – the elders plan to reach out to their parish for visits and updates to membership. **Grounds:** Fall workday is being planned and a date will be announced soon. **Integration/Fellowship:** Ladies night at Saxsmas had 18 in attendance, Sunday afternoon golf had 9 attending. The All-Church picnic is next fellowship event. **Outreach** – The Concert on the Hills was a success. Next event is the *Trunk or Treat* [October 29] and Vespers [December 13]. **Tech Committee:** Pastor will set up a meeting on the livestream taskforce, exploring improvement recommendations given to us by David Zylstra. **Administrative Matters:** Elder Ed van Veen will attend the October 3 classis meeting with Pastor. Council Minutes of June 2026 were approved as received. A motion was made to adjourn until September 15. Deacon Pat Reeves offered the closing prayer.

–Ray Rowell, Clerk



Summer 2026

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Carolyn's Ministry Update



Encouragement From Around the World

South America: Maria asked our staff to "help her hear from God". After 18 months of conversations and studying the bible she recently accepted Christ!

Europe: Six international students from the Middle East studying in Italy have joined their classmate (one of our staff) for a 6 week bible study on the book of Luke. Please pray for this group to experience the hope that is found in Christ!

Middle East: A student named Matt made a new years resolution to "become a Christian". After a month of attending church he placed his faith in Christ and has been reading the bible with his friend Faith. In a recent meeting with one of our staff Faith told them about a dream she had the night before. In the dream she heard a voice saying, "You are on the right path," and she saw a cross shining in the darkness. She said that she was sobbing in the dream and woke up crying as well. After hearing this, the staff members (slightly taken aback) asked Faith if there was anything preventing her from placing her faith in Christ. She said she needed more time to consider it but came back the next week and was ready to trust Jesus and follow him.

Asia: A new believer named Wave recently asked one of our interns to start taking him out to do evangelism on his campus. Walking together one day, the intern saw a group of students and said, "Why don't we share with them?" To which Wave replied, "Oh, I know those guys. I already did!" Wave happily shares his desire to reach his campus with the gospel, so that others can, "Have the same experience meeting God that I did."

Thank you so much for your partnership in this work!

Carolyne McDonnell

if you want to receive

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the email version of