

THY KINGDOM COME

“To The Glory of God”

Christ Memorial Reformed Church

1957 - 2014



Preface

It is a rather daunting task to write the history of a church. At one level, it is straightforward by researching the factual information contained in the archives and by talking with charter members and former pastors. At another level, it is more difficult to capture the spirit of what makes this part of Christ's kingdom we call Christ Memorial unique. I have attempted to be faithful to both aspects of this endeavor.

Thy Kingdom Come, the history of Christ Memorial Reformed Church, was written after the first 57 years of its existence. It highlights the key events over this period of time which help define what it is today.

One of the challenges of writing history is what to include and what to leave out. There is much more that could have been included but the result would have been too lengthy. Highlights from the writer's perspective are included and, as with the writing of any history, reflect the bias of the writer.

The sources consulted for this effort included review of the material about Christ Memorial at the Joint Archives of Holland. My special thanks go to Cynthia Mokma who diligently forwarded relevant information to the Archives and to the staff at the Archives who gave me access to boxes and boxes of material. I also met with charter members Herm Bakker, Jerry Becksford, Eleanor Borr, Marilyn Houting, Sally Scholten John, Micky Riksen Nagelkirk, Dwayne and Sharon Oonk, Gary Scholten, K. Lois Van Lente, Jerry Van Lente, and Doug Van Lente. I appreciate their willingness to share their memories about the church.

I also met with four former senior pastors including the Revs. Edwin Mulder, Ron Beyer, Tim Brown, and Mike Pitsenberger. Their insights and remembrances were highly valued. Finally, I met with Rev. Wes Kiel and Ed Vander Kooy who, while not senior pastors or charter members, had helpful insights and information. Especially with organizations as large as Christ Memorial, it is difficult to know who to consult. I chose to limit it to senior pastors since they are the most significant leaders of the church by their preaching and teaching, and to the others as noted above. If in so doing I have offended anyone, I apologize.

Keith J. Van Zoeren

Any misstatement or error of fact is solely the responsibility of the writer.

Introduction

In concert with Reformed theology, Christ Memorial Reformed Church is first and foremost a body of believers who are becoming disciples of Christ, re-forming according to the Word of God.

The second and third chapter of the Book of Revelation contains clear, concise, and comprehensive instruction on the Church's life and work as presented to the seven churches in Asia Minor. The letters address what Christ thinks of the church and considers the marks that should characterize it — love, suffering, truth, holiness, opportunity, and wholeheartedness.

While the only perfect church exists in heaven, Christ Memorial Reformed Church has experienced and exhibited many of these characteristics throughout its history. It is known for being the church that will accept anyone, regardless of where they are on their life journey, a church where life can begin again. Phrases used to describe the church include not being judgmental, a permission-giving rather than a permission-withholding church with a DNA of engagement and encouragement. Themes that come through are that it is a very friendly, caring, welcoming, and relational church that results in a vital community.

The church has also been abundant in resources with both people and finances which has resulted in generous giving of time, talent, and financial resources for its own members, the local community, and around the world. Throughout its history, an emphasis on education and discipleship for all ages, and especially youth, has characterized the church. It was a pioneer in the role of women in the church.

Christ Memorial has had a history of gifted pastors who have provided God-honoring teaching and transformational spiritual leadership, along with many gifted lay leaders. The use of both traditional and contemporary music is a key element in the worship experience led by talented directors and worship leaders. A significant part of what makes the church distinctive is God-honoring worship that must be experienced to be fully appreciated.



While the church is a God-inspired and honoring institution, it is a human institution which at times results in periods of conflict and suffering. Christ Memorial has not been immune to these struggles, but has survived and become stronger as a result. The Bible teaches that God disciplines those He loves and that applies to His church as well.

Early Beginnings

The story of Christ Memorial Reformed Church began on August 8, 1956, when eleven families from Trinity Reformed Church in Holland met to consider founding a new Reformed church on the southwest side of Holland due to the growing population on this side of Holland. Trinity Reformed leadership felt their church was getting too large, and the southwest side would be a good place for a new church start.

On November 13, 1956, a steering committee of five men was elected to formulate preliminary plans to organize a new church. On Sunday, November 25, 1956, the first service was held in Montello Park School gym.

On January 23, 1957, 41 families met to form the congregation; and on February 17, 1957, the first consistory of 12 men was installed. A second congregational meeting was held on March 26, 1957; and five potential names for the new church were suggested: Charity, Covenant, Grace, Christ, and Memorial. The name of Christ Memorial Reformed Church was selected.



**First Consistory
1957**



**Montello Park School
1957**

To set up for worship on Sunday mornings, members would rope off the gym for a worship area and place folding chairs for the worshipers. Sunday School was held in a corner of the gym and segregated by gender. Teachers would send three-cent postcards to Sunday School students to remind them to attend. Seminarian Ron Brown was the summer pastor and because of his height, the basketball hoop in the gym had to be moved. At Christmas time, some members wanted to have a Christmas tree in the worship area, but this was not allowed by the elders. It was placed in the hallway instead.

From the beginning, Christ Memorial was known as a friendly church, and new people who would come to worship would be assigned a current member to make them feel welcome.



**First Choir
1957**

The First Pastor

On November 7, 1957, Reverend Edwin Mulder was installed as the first pastor. The installation service was held at Trinity Reformed Church with the charge to the pastor given by Reverend Gerrit Rozeboom who was the father of Luella Mulder, Rev. Mulder's wife.



**Rev. Edwin Mulder Family
1957 - 1963**

On February 7, 1958, the congregation agreed to purchase ten acres of land which included an apple orchard on the corner of 24th Street and Graafschap Road. Approval was also given to proceed with the building of an educational building. Funding was secured by selling promissory notes to families in the church who wanted to share in this venture of faith. The mother church, Trinity Reformed Church, gave a substantial gift of \$40,000 for this venture. Architects for the project were Howard Kammeraad and Rodger Stroop, both of whom were charter members with their families.

The apple trees on the property were cleared by some of the men of the church. The property included the "white house" on Graafschap Road which became the first parsonage. This house was later moved to 24th Street, and consistory and youth group meetings were held in the basement which at times became flooded. Eventually the "white house" was sold and moved off the grounds.



**Clearing the Apple Orchard
1958**



Ground Breaking 1958

A ground-breaking worship service was held on April 20, 1958; and the new educational building was dedicated "To the Glory of God." The building was designed to reflect contemporary architecture for reasons of economy, function, simplicity of design, and intimate relationship to the congregation. It was designed to hold worship services as well as basketball games. The result was described as having unusual grace and inspiration. Three services were held each Sunday. By early 1959, the church had grown from 11 to 98 families with 208 communicant members, 181 baptized members, and 225 pupils in the church school. The first church directory was published in 1959.

In 1961 News and Views, the first all-church written communication, was published by



West Side of Church looking from Graafschap to the East

the Senior Youth Fellowship, thus beginning a long history of church-wide communication. In 1963, Christ Memorial participated in the denomination's Preaching, Teaching, Reaching Mission (PTR) which reflected the church's value of evangelism and discipleship.

The vision for the church was to think outside the box and not replicate existing churches. The congregation accepted people regardless of what they did or where they were on their life journey but also held them accountable. They even allowed a person who drove a beer truck to become a member which at that time in Holland was quite radical. The church became known as the church who would take anyone. The church was a joyful, caring, celebratory congregation. The church sponsored baseball and basketball teams that played and prayed together. Church picnics were held at Smallenberg Park, Kollen Park, the Ottawa County Fairgrounds, and the Hope College Stadium. A facility was erected for Boy Scouts on the south end of the oiled parking lot, and Troop 151 met there. Many neighbors were attracted to the church because of this endeavor.

In 1962 a new parsonage was built on 24th Street east of the educational building to house Rev. Mulder and his family. The house was dedicated on December 23, 1962. This house was eventually sold and moved to 478 Graafschap Road to make room for a new sanctuary.

By 1963 the congregation was divided into "zones." The placement of members into "zones" was an attempt to assimilate members. At the same time, every woman in the congregation was invited to join a "circle" where women met to study, pray, and fellowship. To this day, several of these "circles" still exist.

On December 29, 1963, Rev. Mulder delivered his farewell sermon after having taken a call to become the Minister of Evangelism for the Reformed Church in America.

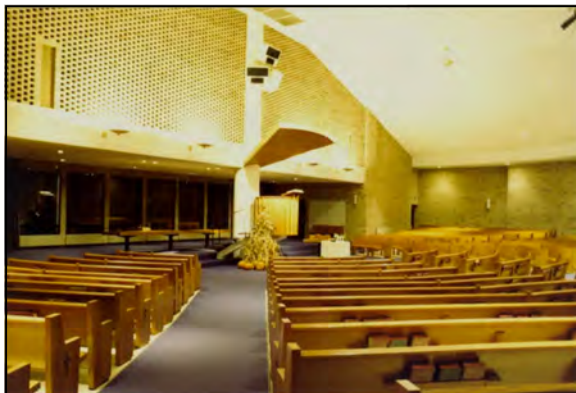
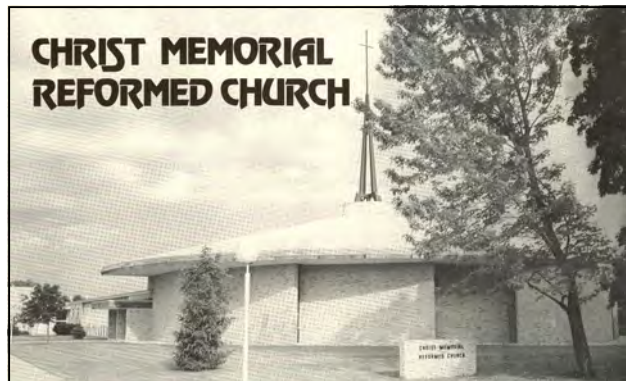
The First Sanctuary



On October 1, 1964, Reverend Royal D. Kemper was installed as the second pastor of Christ Memorial Reformed Church and served until 1970.

**Rev. Royal Kemper Family
1964 - 1970**

In 1967 plans were developed to build a new sanctuary to be connected to the educational building to accommodate 675 to 750 worshipers. The design called for making a strong theological statement with an arc over the seating area converging on the pulpit, illustrating the centrality of the Word of God. The pulpit was affectionately known as the pickled barrel since its design resembled one. The communion room was slightly elevated above the nave and placed behind the pulpit. It was open and accessible to all worshipers and at all times to remind the congregation of the free access one has to God through the mediation of Jesus Christ. The congregation would gather around the communion table with extensions accommodating 140 communicants. The choir was situated in the midst of the people toward the back of the sanctuary. The church's spire rose 50 feet above the building.



The new sanctuary was consecrated on October 13, 1968, "To the Glory of God." The congregation included 185 families and 700 members with six staff members and 31 choir members. The church also supported four missionaries. The first pictorial directory was published on November 8, 1970.

During the planning for the new sanctuary, the consistory approved paving the parking lot at an estimated cost of \$28,000 even though it was not part of the original bond offering. The church received a call from an elderly lady, not a member of the church, who asked if the church was still selling notes. When she was advised the notes had been fully subscribed, she asked to meet with one of the church members at her home. At that meeting she presented shoe boxes full of \$20 bills totaling \$18,000. She did not trust banks and did not want her children to know she had this money. While she did not trust banks, she did trust the church.

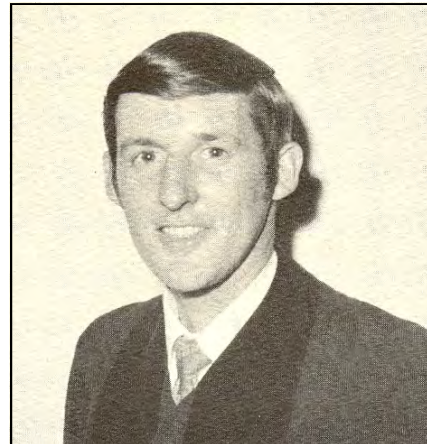
Significant Growth

While vacationing in West Michigan in 1970, Rev. Ron Beyer was invited by his former high school speech teacher to preach at a Sunday evening service at Christ Memorial. Soon after that event, Rev. Beyer was installed as Christ Memorial's third pastor on November 1, 1970. At that time the church consisted of 167 families and 626 members.

Soon after Rev. Beyer's arrival, the consistory advised they needed to reduce the budget by \$10,000. He challenged them to not cut the budget by \$10,000 but raise it by \$10,000. The following year's budget was raised from \$125,000 to \$185,000, marking a turning point for the church reflecting a generous spirit among the congregation that has become a hallmark of the church.

Consideration was given to move the church to a more visible location in the Holland area, but a decision was made to stay where they were at the current location. In 1975 a project was approved to build a new south educational unit as the congregation's size increased. Previously the church purchased the property located just south of the existing building on Graafschap Road to make more room for parking. The building included new classrooms, a fellowship hall, fireside room, a two-story office building, and a courtyard. It was dedicated "To the Glory of God" in June 1976. The church even attracted a family of ducks with little ducklings settling in the courtyard. The staff had to "sweep" them out of the courtyard and through the hallways so they could get outside.

Due to rapid and exciting growth from 1972 to 1978, three additional ordained staff were added: Rev. Donald Hoekstra as Minister of Education, Rev. Dick Doeden as Minister of Congregational Care, and Rev. John Kimmons as Minister to Youth. There was training in evangelism with a focus on reaching out to others. Bethel Bible Series became the center point for education. Because of an increase in youth, the "white house" parsonage became the youth house.



Rev. Ron Beyer
1970 - 1978

A key moment came when the rZò Rock Band presented a concert. Following that event, an attempt was made to be contemporary and still bless the traditional. There were two worship services on Sunday mornings and one at night. Outreach ministries included becoming involved with the start of Community Action House in Holland and reaching out to people living in the Meadow Lanes Apartments.



Northeast looking Southwest

The Bridgebuilder began monthly publication in March 1972. This written communication to all the church members included the Senior Pastor's rCorner,ò consistory notes, the nursery schedule, the monthly financial statement, the Women's Guild's news, Sunday School news, new members, favorite recipes and other relevant information about the happenings in the church. In 1978 Christ Memorial consisted of over 1,400 active members, 2,300 baptized members, and a budget of over \$500,000.

The message of Christ Memorial to the community was, *rTo all who need rest, to all who need comfort, to all who need friendship, to all who need hope, to all who sin, to all who need a Savior, this church opens its doors, and in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord says ðWelcome.ð*

Many broken lives were attracted to the church and God healed them. One expression of this message was that a funeral needed to be conducted for a motorcyclist who had died. The funeral director called Christ Memorial and Rev. Beyer agreed to conduct the service. Many of the cyclist's friends attended. Several weeks later, one of the couples who attended the funeral asked Rev. Beyer if he would marry them which he did. Subsequently several members of the Road Knights attended worship at Christ Memorial. This was also a time when divorce rates were increasing. Part of Rev. Beyer's ministry was extensive counseling to young families which resulted in many people coming to Christ Memorial.

However, Rev. Beyer's ministry ended abruptly in 1978 resulting in his deep sorrow and regret for the pain he caused the congregation. Rev. Hoekstra was asked to step into the role of interim pastor.

Rev. Mulder Returns

The Rev. Edwin Mulder returned in 1979 and was installed as the fourth pastor of Christ Memorial on February 25 at Dimnent Chapel on Hope College's campus. Rev. Wes Kiel joined the staff shortly after in December 1979 as Pastor of Congregational Care.

Christ Memorial continued its message of being welcoming, caring, and accepting, becoming a magnet church for many families within the community. The philosophy was one of rejoicing in a spirit of joy and caring. This was a time when divorce continued to increase, and many churches in the Holland area were losing members to Christ Memorial because of its caring and accepting attitudes.

Stephen Ministry was begun under the leadership of Rev. Wes Kiel. This ministry included extensive training of lay members in how to care for people. Many in the congregation were trained.

Christ Memorial was both pastoral and prophetic. It took a strong stand supporting anti-apartheid practices in South Africa. It was an advocate for justice and peace. In August 1981, Christ Memorial Church began celebrating its 25th year anniversary with the theme, "Remember, Rejoice, Renew - Blessed to Be A Blessing." On August 9 a celebration worship service was held led by Rev. Mulder. In November worship services were held to commemorate the first worship services of the church. Revs. Royal Kemper, Dick Doeden, Ron Beyer, and Edwin Mulder were in attendance at worship services throughout November. In January 1982 a banquet and program were held at the Holland Civic Center. In March there was a music concert by the combined choirs of Trinity Reformed and Christ Memorial. In April a re-dedication service was held. A mission celebration with the theme of "Tell, Go, Do" was also conducted.



In July 1983 Rev. Mulder left to become the General Secretary of The Reformed Church in America.

Pipe Organ and Choir in the First Sanctuary - 1970's

Rev. Timothy Brown



Rev. Timothy Brown
1983 - 1995

Following Rev. Mulder's leaving, a nine-member committee was formed to search for a new pastor. On a vote of five to four, Rev. Tim Brown was called and installed on October 27, 1983. The vote reflected differing opinions about who should be the senior pastor, resulting in a rather difficult first couple of years for the new pastor. However, it taught Rev. Brown that ministry was about being faithful and was not a popularity contest.

Part of Rev. Brown's ministry was to periodically preach at Hope College. As a result, there was an infusion of hundreds of students attending Christ Memorial which became an enormous gift to the congregation. The church continued as a gracious place by meeting people at their point of need. It also affirmed the leadership of women in pastoral roles by hiring Rev. Neva Evenhouse as Pastor of Congregational Care. During this time, the church was affectionately referred to as "the largest Christian Reformed Church in Holland," which built a new nexus between the Reformed Church and the Christian Reformed Church.

In 1988 John Bright came to Christ Memorial as the first full-time Director of Music. Under John's leadership the choir grew from 32 to 150 members, beginning a new era of inspirational music and worship.



Christmas Eve services became popular as a time for families to worship together and grew in numbers of people attending and services offered.

A New Sanctuary



Because of the church's growth, in 1988 an "Open Doors for Christ" campaign was launched with the goal of building a new sanctuary. At this time there were 900 families and 2,400 church members with 1,400 attending worship weekly. The goal of the campaign was to raise \$4,000,000 for a new 1,600 seat sanctuary, surrounding fellowship space,

expanded parking, and remodeling of the existing sanctuary. Ground breaking occurred on April 16, 1989; and a new tag line was introduced: "Where life begins again."

When the new steeple was put in place, Rev. Brown climbed to the top and prayed that God would use this building for His Glory. Between September 6 and 23, 1990, the dedication of the new facilities included an area open house, worship services, a dedication picnic, and laying of the cornerstone "To the Glory Of God" on September 15. On September 23 the new Hymnal for Worship and Celebration was introduced. Also in 1988 the Dogger property was obtained from Holland Public Schools in exchange for a parcel of land owned by the church. This property was from Graafschap Road east to the Holland Middle School.

In 1990 Rev. Bill Boersma was called to Christ Memorial as Minister of Education beginning what would become a long and successful ministry with the church. In 1993 the American Church Growth Institute identified Christ Memorial as one of the fastest growing churches in non-metropolitan areas of the U.S. In 1991, 1992, and 1993, a Festival of Salt and Light was held with a focus on outreach to the community, the nation, and the world. During this season Christ Memorial became involved in the start of Maple Avenue Ministries in the first joint venture between the Reformed and Christian Reformed Church. It also became the mother church for Good Shepherd Community Church in Franklin, Tennessee, and had a missionary-in-residence.



In 1993 under the leadership of Executive Pastor Rev. Wes Kiel and Rev. Neva Evenhouse, the new governing structure of the church was put into place. The structure went from a 12-elder and 12-deacon consistory to a separate Board of 12 Elders with 130 pastoral care elders, a board of 12 deacons, and an administrative consistory consisting of six elders and six deacons. This change resulted in elected congregational leaders using their gifts more appropriately. This model also became popular with other churches.

In 1995 Rev. Brown accepted a call to become the Henry Bast Professor of Preaching at Western Theological Seminary. His final sermon was based on the Apostle John's letter to the church in Ephesus in the Book of Revelation in which John praises the church for its works, toil, and patient endurance, but admonishes it to not forget its first love.

Following Rev. Brown's departure, Rev. Kirt Anderson was installed as the sixth Pastor

A Time of Transition

of Worship Ministries on September 22, 1996, and remained in that position until June 1999. During this period a time of stress for the church evolved resulting in several staff transitions including the Children's Director, Minister of Christian Formation, Youth Director, Executive Pastor, Minister of Outreach, and Pastor of Congregational Care.

To assist the congregation in a process of healing and new direction, Rev. Rick Veenstra was appointed interim senior pastor in October 1999. He facilitated taking the leadership and congregation through a season of reflection and discussion about what Christ Memorial should become in the future. He continued in this role until July 2001.



Rev. Kirt Anderson
1996 - 1999



Rev. Rick Veenstra
1999 - 2001

Way Beyond Us



Rev. Mike Pitsenberger

On September 16, 2001, Rev. Mike Pitsenberger was installed as the seventh senior pastor of Christ Memorial.

Under Pastor Mike's leadership, a "Vision Encounter" was undertaken. The effort engaged almost 300 members of the congregation during three summits which answered these questions: "Where have we been?" "Where are we going?" and "How will we get there?" The outcome of this effort was a new mission and vision for the church.

Christ Memorial continued and strengthened its DNA of engagement and encouragement. Growth in ethnic, generational, economic, and ability diversity followed. A Cross Cultural Ministry called "All God's People" began in 2003. Gary Matthews was hired as the second full-time Minister of Worship upon John Bright's retirement in 2005. Also in 2005 Rev. Steve Vander Molen was called to become the Pastor of Congregational Care.

At a congregational meeting on November 8, 2004, a "Way Beyond Us" three-year spiritual and stewardship journey was approved. The vision included constructing a new fellowship hall, space for youth, a prayer room, expanded adult education classrooms, a kitchen, an expanded library/resource center, a multipurpose worship/chapel/education center, renovated space for children's ministries, an expanded narthex, and consolidation of all staff offices into the two-story wing. The estimated cost was \$13,000,000.

On May 22, 2005, a celebration of the "Way Beyond Us" campaign was held at the Ottawa County Fairgrounds under pouring rain.





**Building Committee and a
Four-Generation CMC Family**

On May 29, 2005, a ground-breaking ceremony was held at the site of the new construction, just east of the existing sanctuary. On April 29, 2007, the new facility was dedicated "To the Glory of God"



Ribbon Cutting to New Building



A standing stone was set in the new narthex to commemorate the event. The new and refurbished facility was virtually debt free, thanks to the generosity of the congregation. In 2005 Christ Memorial had 2,700 active members, 3,800 baptized members, and an operating budget of \$3,200,000.

LifeQuest Church Plant

In August 2007 Christ Memorial planted its first new church on the north side of Holland with Rev. Toby Gruppen as the pastor. The church was eventually named LifeQuest.

50th Anniversary Celebration

On September 9, 2007, the church celebrated its 50th anniversary. The Reverends Edwin Mulder, Mike Pitsenberger, and Tim Brown via a video message, participated in the celebratory service. A Power Point presentation of the first 50 years was shown, and 20 charter members were recognized.

Transitions 2011 - 2015

Rev. Mike Pitsenberger left in January 2011 and Rev. Steve Vander Molen became the interim senior pastor.



Rev. Steve VanderMolen
2011 - 2012



Rev. Todd VanEk
2012 - 2014

Rev. Todd Van Ek was installed as the eighth lead pastor at Christ Memorial on March 18, 2012. Under his brief leadership, the church's mission statement, "Transformed lives transforming our worlds in Jesus's name" was adopted. The church's vision of "Becoming a Christian community of all ages, abilities, backgrounds, and cultures dedicated to having the mind of Christ in order to live as the hands, feet, and voice of Jesus wherever we go" was reinforced. Rev. Todd Van Ek left on August 31, 2014, to become the President of Mission India.

Rev. Joel Giles arrived in December of 2014 as specialized transition pastor.



Rev. Joel Giles
2014 - Present



Rev. Steve VanderMolen
2011 - 2012

Rev. Jim Liske left in January 2011 and Rev. Steve Vander Molen became the interim senior pastor.

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Rev. Joel Giles
2014 - Present

Conclusion

As one can see from the past five-and-a-half decades of Christ Memorial history, the church has been richly blessed by God. As one of the largest congregations in the denomination, it has in many ways become one of its flagship churches.

Reflecting on a half century of history, several defining characteristics emerge:

1. **Worship:** Pastors and congregants have highly valued the experience of true worship on Sunday mornings, thanks to the involvement of its choir and worship leaders.
2. **Visionary:** The church has demonstrated leadership in the community of Holland as well as with the denomination.
3. **Mission Oriented:** Throughout its history, Christ Memorial has reached out to the local community and around the world involving many of its members.
4. **Generous Spirit:** Whether to help a member, serve the community, reach out to the world, or build new facilities, members have always risen to the challenge of giving of their time, talent, and financial resources.
5. **Accepting:** The church has always taken seriously Christ's invitation when He said "Come to me, all you who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

Additional characteristics could be articulated by others who have been part of this ministry.

The church in America in the 21st century is facing challenges and issues that are in many ways different than what it has faced before. Diversity, gender roles, an aging population, youth who are estranged from the traditional church, and a changing economic environment are just a few of these issues. Christ Memorial will probably not look like it does today 10, 15, or 20 years from now.

However, Christ has been faithful to His bride throughout the last 2,000 years. The instructions He gave to His church in the book of Revelation still apply today: admonition to not lose its first love - Jesus Christ Himself; to hold to the truths of scripture; acknowledge that suffering is part of the journey of faith; be wholehearted in devotion to the one true God; grow in holiness; seize opportunities to serve God: and constantly be re-formed by the Word of God.

By remaining true to its calling and mission, Christ Memorial Reformed Church will not only continue to be blessed, but will thrive in ways not yet even imagined, with the help of God.

Soli Deo Gloria

Charter Members of Christ Memorial Reformed Church

Mr. & Mrs. Maynard Bakker; Herman &
Mary Lou
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Bear
Mr. & Mrs. William Becksford; Jerry,
Sharon, Dale, Gloria
Mr. & Mrs. Burton Borr
Mrs. Mabel Boss
Dr. & Mrs. Richard De Loof
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Den Uyl; JoAnne,
David, Paul
Mr. & Mrs. Russel De Vette; Christi,
Lynn, Joel
Jack M. & Jerry H. Hamelink
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Hoek, Steven, Mary
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Hooker; Byron &
Roger Van Oss
Mr. & Mrs. Keith Houting; Lynn
Mr. Ronald Israels
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Jacobusse; Linda,
Kristy
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Jurries; Nola, Beth,
Phillip
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Kammeraad; Judy,
Pamela
Mr. & Mrs. Lester Klassen
Mr. & Mrs. James Klomparens; Paul
Mrs. Frieda Kruid; Karen
Mr. & Mrs. John Kruid; Linda, Ricky
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Kuiper; Edward,
Patricia
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Langenberg; Robert,
Mary, Timothy
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Leys; Lorraine,
Carol
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Lokker
Mr. & Mrs. Jack Mellema; Thomas
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Meyer; Ted, Mary,
Linda, Jack
Mr. & Mrs. Irvin D. Mokma
Mr. & Mrs. Cornelius Northouse
Mr. & Mrs. Edmund Oonk; Dwayne,
Ross, Scott

Mr. Merle Pointer
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Post, Jr.; Mary,
Ernest, Jon
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Riksen; Maxine,
Annabelle, Rosemary, Michael
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Robinson
Mrs. Marie Saunders; Robert
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Scholten; Gary,
Cheryl, Sally, Nancy, Carol
Mr. & Mrs. Gerrit Schrotenboer; Dale,
Nancy
Mr. & Mrs. William Slagh; Michael,
Kevin, Laurel
Mr. & Mrs. George Slikkers; Kerry,
Deborah
Mr. & Mrs. Lyle Snyder; Dennis,
Marlene, Janice, David
Mr. & Mrs. Martin Stahel
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Steketee
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Stroop
Mr. & Mrs. Rodger Stroop; Doyle,
Kenton, Mark, Marlin, Sheldon
Mr. & Mrs. Earl Vanden Bosch; Sheryl,
Bruce
Mr. & Mrs. Jay Vander West; Edward,
Jodi
Mr. & Mrs. Albertus Van Dyke
Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Vande Vusse;
David, Frederick, Joan
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Van Lente; Jeremy,
Brian, Craig, Douglas
Mr. & Mrs. Chester Van Liere; Dennis,
Robert, Mark
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Veltman; Sandra,
Debra
Mr. & Mrs. Maynard Weighmink, Del
Wayne, Sandra
Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Wierda; Mary, Nancy
Mrs. Gary Windemuller
Mrs. Reka Wolters; Richard, Rose

*Ordained Pastors
who have served or continue to serve at
Christ Memorial Reformed Church*

Rev. Edwin Mulder, 1957 - 1963, Senior Pastor
Rev. Royal Kemper, 1964 - 1970, Senior Pastor
Rev. Ron Beyer, 1970 - 1978, Senior Pastor
Rev. Don Hoekstra, 1972 - 1989, Christian Education
Rev. Dick Doeden, 1975 - 1979, Congregational Care
Rev. Wes Kiel, 1979 - 1997, Congregational Care | Executive Pastor
Rev. John Kimmons, 1978 - 1980, Youth Minister
Rev. Edwin Mulder, 1979 - 1983, Senior Pastor
Rev. Tim Brown, 1983 - 1995, Senior Pastor
Rev. Neva Evenhouse, 1985 - 1992, Congregational Life
Rev. Bill Boersma, 1990 - present, Adult Discipleship | Care Ministries
Rev. David Kool, 1993 - 1998, Outreach/ Evangelism
Rev. Kirt Anderson, 1996 - 1999, Senior Pastor
Rev. Kama Jongerius Zuidema, 1992 - 1999, Congregational Care
Rev. Greg VanderMeer, 1997 - 1999, Christian Formation
Rev. Paul Burmeister, 1998 - 2000, Executive Minister
Rev. Fritz Kruithof, 2000 - 2005, Congregational Care
Rev. MaryAnn Wierks, 2001 - 2012, Outreach
Rev. Gary Matthews, 2005 - present, Worship and Music
Rev. Michael Pitsenberger, 2001 - 2011, Senior Pastor
Rev. Steve Vander Molen, 2005 - 2012, Care Network | Executive Pastor
Rev. Dewey Thompson, 2006 - present, Children's Ministries | Administrative Pastor
Rev. Todd Van Ek, 2012 - 2014, Lead Pastor
Rev. Kenita Harris, 2013 - present, Spiritual Formation
Rev. Timothy Nelson, 2013 - present, Family Ministries



Aerial View of Christ Memorial Reformed Church

