

April 19, 2026

*Carmel's mission is to further Christ's Kingdom
through loving God and loving others.*

MORNING WORSHIP (9:30)

Prelude: *Shelly Robyn*

Welcome

Call to Worship

*Christian Greeting

*Worship Songs: "10,000 Reasons"
"I Speak Jesus"

*Invocation

Professing Our Faith: What We Believe

Congregational Prayer

Hymn: #371 "Heaven Came Down"
(Offerings for the General Fund & Cemetery Fund)
(Please pass the Guest Registers during this time)

Scripture: 1 John 1:1-10

Message: "Jesus Is the Word of Life"

*Hymn: #343 "Just As I Am"

*Benediction

*Parting Hymn: #343 "Just As I Am"

Postlude: *Shelly Robyn*

*(*please stand if you are able)*

EVENING WORSHIP (6:30)

Prelude: *Shelly Robyn*

Welcome

Call to Worship

Worship Hymns: #776 "For the Beauty of the Earth"
#75 "This Is My Father's World"

Invocation

Responsive Reading: *The Heidelberg Catechism Lord's Day #44*

Congregational Prayer

*Hymn: #86 "The Love of God"

Scripture: Galatians 4:3-7

Message: "The Power of Sonship"

*Hymn: #361 "A Child of the King"

*Benediction

Postlude: *Shelly Robyn*

*(*please stand if you are able)*

The warmest of welcomes to one and all. Lift up your hearts unto the Lord. Reach out in loving acceptance to those around you. We are all children of the heavenly King. Please join us for a potluck after the morning worship service.

A warm welcome to Pastor Gary Hegstad as he leads our morning worship service and Rev. Chris Lemmon as he leads our evening worship service.

Guest Register: During the offering this morning, please sign and pass the "Guest" Register down the row. Once it reaches the end and members and guests have signed, please pass it back to the center.

TODAY

No Sunday School

11:00 a.m. – **Church Potluck**

6:30 p.m. –**SR RCYF**

8:00 p.m. – **Homebuilders**

Nursery Attendants: Aubrey V.K., Morgan H., Karlee L., Hannah V.R. **Door Attendant:** Wayne. **Ushers:** Josh V.T. (M), Brad B. (NE), Todd K. (SW). **Audio:** Warren. **Video:** Chad. **Power Point:** Barb. **After Service Greeters:** Dennis & Brian (M), Phil (NE), Henry (SW).

THIS WEEK

Wednesday, April 22

6:30 p.m. – **Legacy Supper**

NEXT SUNDAY, APRIL 26

Nursery Attendants: Juliana Van Kekerix, Courtney Mesman, Aniya Robertson, Tacey Van Kekerix. **Door Attendant:** Gene Sandbulte. **Ushers:** Luke Haan (M), Todd Noteboom (NE), Eric Ochsendorf (SW). **Refreshments:** Chad Robertson, Glenda Van Meeteren. **Cookies:** Gene Sandbulte, Rhonda Sandbulte, Glenda Van Meeteren, Alice Remmerde, Lin De Jong. **Special Music:** Harv Sandbulte. **Children's Message:** Allison Leusink. **Special Offering:** Missionary Support.

UPHOLD IN PRAYER

JR RCYF students and sponsors, as they return from the Middle School Retreat. Please pray for safe travels.

Beth Te Grotenhuis will be meeting with her doctor in a couple of weeks to reevaluate some different options for chemotherapy.

Jim Vande Zandschulp is recovering from surgery.

Ramona Vander Weide is recovering from surgery.

Arda Van Regenmorter will be starting radiation treatments on Monday, April 20.

Paisley Davelaar is recovering from surgery.

Zane White is recovering from surgery.

Arlyn Keizer has an eye appointment on Wednesday, April 29.

Ashley Vande Vegte is anticipating another surgery this summer and will continue immunotherapy through the fall.

Sue Noteboom for continued healing and nerves regeneration.

Carmel Reformed Church as we look for a Pastor.

Middleburg Free Grace Church as they look for a Pastor.

Praying for our local congregations: This week please be in prayer for God's blessing for the Centerpointe Congregation and Pastors Chris Godfredsen and Jamie Dykstra.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please help us to help you: When you have an illness, accident, upcoming surgery, birth or death in the family, or other needs, please notify one of the elders or the church office.

Our sympathies to *Nate & Carmen Maassen and family* on the death of Nate's father, *Butch Maassen*, who passed away Friday, April 10. May God grant peace and comfort to their family.

At the Elders' meeting, it was their joy to receive *Bryce Davelaar* into the communicant family of Carmel Reformed Church through profession of faith.

We rejoice with *Riley Anderson and Christina Boogerd* on the birth of a daughter, *Elodie Mae Anderson*, who was born on Sunday, April 12.

Thank you for all the prayers for the women and volunteers that attended the At The Well event last weekend. A total of 61 women and 27 volunteers participated. God had a plan for this weekend!

Pastor Gary will be in the office Wednesday, April 22 from 2:00-6:00 p.m. and Thursday, April 23 from 12:00-3:00 p.m. If you would like to meet with him outside of office hours, please contact him.

Articles for the May *HIGHLIGHTS* are due TODAY!

ALL Graduates (whether high school, college, or grad school) please get your graduation information to the church office TODAY! Forms are on the Coffee Station or email the church office at carmelch@mtcnet.net.

There will be no Wednesday Night Activities on April 22. The last Wednesday Night Activities lesson will be April 29, and this will be a review of lessons 71-74. Please hand in your teacher's guides after class by putting them in the church mailbox.

Advance Notice: National Day of Prayer will take place at Peace Lutheran Church on May 3rd at 6:00 pm. The theme verse is 1 Chronicles 16:24 *"Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!"*

As the weather improves, the coat racks will soon be put away. Please take a moment to check the coat racks for any personal belongings you may have left behind. Any unclaimed items will be donated to charity at the beginning of June.

We also ask that you check the kitchen for any containers, pans, or other items that may belong to you. Please collect anything that is yours as soon as possible so we can make room for VBS.

The last day of Sunday School will be April 26. **Teachers**, please ensure your Sunday School rooms are cleaned out by Sunday, May 24 and that you complete and return the teacher surveys to Donna Renes. We appreciate all feedback.

Cadets have some Take & Bake Pizzas available for purchase in the Kitchen Freezer. They are \$12/pizza, please put your money in the box by the stove.

EDUCATION APPRECIATION SUPPER

All volunteers involved in our education programs (S.S. teachers, substitute teachers, officers, music leaders, Wednesday LFC teachers, substitute teachers and Bible Study leaders, GEMS and Cadet Counselors, JR and SR RCYF Sponsors, and VBS Directors along with their spouse or guest) are invited to an Appreciation Supper on **WEDNESDAY, MAY 6 at 6:30 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Childcare will be provided.

A great meal and fun evening has been planned for these individuals and we hope you can come and enjoy this time as we show our appreciation to our education volunteers!!

Please sign up at the Coffee Station in the Fellowship Hall or contact the church office, if you will be attending. Please do so by **APRIL 29!**

SUNDAY SCHOOL CELEBRATION SUNDAY SUNDAY, MAY 3

Note time of worship service!

9:30 am – Coffee and Cookies will be served before the service.

9:50 am – Preschool-1st grade meet in the Music Room with teachers.

2nd-6th grade meet in your classrooms with teachers.

10:00 am – Celebration Sunday Worship Service begins
Kids will be sharing their memory work
Presentation of Bibles to the High School Seniors
Short Message

11:30 am – Carmel Women's Ministry will be serving taverns and desserts for a freewill donation.

GENERAL FUND GIVING: Offering: \$6,990.75
Fiscal YTD General Fund offering: \$153,417.11



VBS

Greetings! Or should we say “Dia duit!” (God be with you). VBS is excited to present Emerald Crossing – An Irish Adventure through Psalm 23.

Save the date! Carmel VBS will be June 1-5. We can’t wait to see you!

Our **volunteers** are what make this week a success! You do not want to miss the opportunity to walk alongside the kids and watch them grow in their faith! Volunteers are encouraged to sign up online using the following QR code or link:



<https://vbspro.events/p/events/2691ff>

To sign up to bless our workers with snacks/treats throughout the day, please use the following QR code or link:



[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DA5AF22A7EC34-62538505-carmel#/#](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4DA5AF22A7EC34-62538505-carmel#/)

Donations: Hamburger for the VBS picnic.

Contact Glenda Van Meeteren.

Craft Tent: The craft tent is looking for donations of disposal tablecloths (new or used), used gift cards (no monetary value left on them), and colored napkins (plain, no text/pictures on them). There will be a box by the mailboxes.

We covet your prayers for all those involved in this ministry.

Roundtable Discussion (3 opportunities to participate)

Sunday April 19 11:00 AM All Church Potluck
12:30 PM (approx.) Roundtable Meeting
Sunday April 26 3:00 PM with ice cream sundaes
Wed. April 29 7:00 PM with ice cream sundaes

Goal of the Round Table Meetings:

The meeting will consist of four segments.

- The **first segment** will be a time of **round table discussion** of reflection of the history the joyous/celebrative times as well as the difficult/challenging times of Carmel Church (with the exclusion of the last two years).
- The **second segment** will be a **personal reflective** time as to how one felt when learning of the dismissal of Pastor Ron. Each person will be asked to write on a note card how they felt when this occurred. These will not be discussed at the table, but handed in, and prayer will follow.
- The **third segment** of the meeting will be **personal reflective** time on how one feels today about the pastor’s dismissal, and whether one feels differently today than upon the first week of learning of his dismissal. If so, what has prompted you to change how you have felt? This will be written on a note card again, handed in without discussion at the table, and prayed over.
- The **fourth segment** of the meeting will be **round table discussion in regard to Wondering, Hopeful, and Anticipatory** of what one hopes will take place in the life of the Carmel Church in 2026. This will be discussed around the table with an invitation to write down one’s responses, handed in, and prayed for. These meetings are not designed as a time of debate, nor as a time to “air” one’s grievances. These meetings will give an opportunity in the second segment to share one’s hurt. If a person would like to talk further about one’s hurt, please contact one of the consistory members or Pastor Gary to discuss those matters. **We as a consistory hope you will join us!**

Professing our Faith (Responsively): What we Believe

LEADER: We believe that God is Sovereign, Almighty, the One true God. God is One but at the same time composed of three persons: the Father, the Son (Jesus Christ) and the Holy Spirit.

CONGREGATION: We believe that Jesus has accomplished for us what we could not accomplish for ourselves.

Through His death and resurrection, He has paid for the debt of our sin, and has raised us up to new life, for each of us who believe in Him as our Savior and Lord.

Our eternity will be with Him in the glories of His heaven. There is no other Savior through whom one is saved or gains entrance into God's glory.

LEADER: We believe that the Bible is God's inspired Word – eternal and relevant for all ages, recorded for us that we may know God, and to understand who He has called us to be.

CONGREGATION: We seek to live out the truths of the Bible in ministry as a congregation and in our own lives as disciples of Christ.

ALL: It is through God's grace that in faith in Jesus Christ we are forgiven and made new. We seek to live out this grace of God unto the lives of others as well. Amen.

(Note: For someone that is not familiar with the above thoughts and beliefs, you are welcome to come and visit with Pastor Gary or one of the elders about your questions. It is hard to explain our beliefs fully within this format.)