

The Link



Interim Pastor Update

Rev. David Kahler began his interim ministry on January 1st. For more information about the Interim/Transitional Ministry please see the attached FAQ's from Pastor Dave.

Souper Bowl of Caring - February 3rd

We are excited to participate, again this year, along with local charities across the country to collect non-perishable food items and monetary donations for our local food pantry. The Souper Bowl of Caring is a powerful movement that is transforming the time around the Big Game into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving. In addition to collecting non-perishable food items, soup pots will held by our children in grades 3-5 at the end of worship. We will be asking for \$1 donations to include with food items collected. All donations will go to the Hillsborough Food Pantry. Thank you for your support!

Search Committee

The Pastoral Search Committee has completed the Church Profile and it has been posted on the Reformed Church of America website. We are working on getting it posted on the Lutheran and Presbyterian websites as well as local seminaries. We have already received a number of resumes. The resumes will be reviewed and the interview process will begin in February. Feel free to reach out to any Pastoral Search Committee member if you have any questions or concerns about the process.

Adult Bible Study

Explore how all four gospels proclaim the parables of Jesus to impact our faith and life. Join us each Wednesday evening from 7:30-9:00 p.m., in the Fireside room, for Adult Bible Study. Pastor Dave will lead us as we explore the similarities and differences of the same parable in all four Gospels and apply its meaning to our lives. Refreshments served and members and friends are welcome!

2019 Classis Dues Per Communicate Member

Dues for this year is \$90.67 per communicant member. Congregations in the Reformed Church in America pay an annual per capita assessment to sustain the administrative work of the governing assemblies: The General Synod, Regional Synod, and the Delaware- Raritan Classis, which our church is a part of. The Neshanic Reformed Church Consistory encourages us all to consider paying this assessment as a special gift. (Please mark your donation as "Classis Dues".) The services provided to NRC by the Classis have been a valuable during our pastoral transition.

Upcoming Events

- Feb. 3 Souper Bowl of Caring
- Feb. 3 Soup Sale
- Feb. 4 Search Committee
- Feb. 10 Boy Scout Sunday
- Feb. 10 Children's Choir Rehearsal
- Feb. 11 Consistory Meeting
- Feb. 24 Mission of the Month Offering
- Feb. 24 Spaghetti Dunch
- Feb. 24 Congregational Meeting
- Feb. 24 Children's Choir Rehearsal

Let us know if you want to receive this monthly newsletter via email exclusively!

Just email the church office to be added to the list.

Thank you for considering to help us save on materials and postage!

More Important Church News

Missions Committee

A basket has been placed in the narthex, where donations can be collected for the Monthly Mission on any Sunday of the month. We will continue to have a special collection during worship service on the last Sunday of each month. This basket will enable you to give to our Monthly Mission in the event you are unable to attend on the last Sunday. If you have a specific mission you would like to add to our calendar, please see Don Preslar or Tony Barberio.

Soup Sale

Starting Feb 3rd, until supply is gone, the NRC Women will offer various soups in quarts (\$10) or pints (\$5) for sale during the coffee hour. Look for chili, chowders, pea soups etc. for a quick meal. Please note that most soups will be frozen and can be eaten at your leisure.

Meals for Christine Held

<https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/34w2zy> - Sign up for a meal via the Meal Train website. We would like to provide meals 3-4 times per week. Contact Anne Mazer with any questions phone at 908-938-2900 or email andrew_mazer_210@comcast.net.

Christian Nurturing Center News

Despite the chilly temperatures, the children at CNC are staying warm with lots of fun activities...from looking for the Groundhog to Valentine's Day parties and playing outside in the snow! Registration for the 2019-20 school year is now in full swing. If you have a little one that will be ready for preschool in the fall be sure to drop us a note or give us a call to schedule a tour. Contact: Rachel LaRitz - 908-369-5215 or christiannurturingcenter@gmail.com

February Mission— Christian Nurturing Center Scholarship Fund

At times, families attending our church preschool are in need of financial assistance to cover the cost of tuition. This fund provides assistance to families who may have otherwise been turned away.

This offering will be collected on during worship on February 24th. Donations are also accepted all month via our E-Giving (online donation) website, the blue Monthly Mission offering envelope or write "February Mission" in the memo section of your check. Thank you for your support!

Sunday Worship Altar Flowers

Please contact Neva in the church office if you would like to order flowers to be displayed during one or more of our Sunday worship services.

Opportunities Available on Sundays

Would you like to be a Greeter/ Usher, or help with refreshments after service? Contact the church office for more information or to be added to the rotation calendar.

Hillsborough Food Pantry Most Needed Items

- Canned vegetables
- Canned fruit
- Laundry detergent
- Dish detergent
- Toilet paper
- Coffee

Contact Us

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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) About Interim/Transitional Ministry

What is the difference between Interim/Transitional Ministry and “Regular” Ministry?

“Regular” Ministry refers to all the activities a church and installed Minister do together – worship, prayer, Bible Study, pastoral care, mission, etc. Interim Ministry refers to all those activities plus an additional component of preparing the church for the next phase of ministry (usually a next phase of ministry with an installed pastor).

What does the additional component of preparation consist of?

It is different for every church. It may be helping congregants grieve the loss of the previous pastor and family’s departure. Redefining mission apart from the previous pastor is part of it. It may include empowering new leaders to step into leadership. Revisiting denominational and community ties to ministry is also a part of it. The additional component consists of all those special activities that help a congregation transition from ministry with the previous pastor to ministry with the new installed pastor.

Are you an installed pastor?

No. While I am an ordained minister, just as my predecessor is and the new pastor will be, I am under contract, not installed, and this is for specific reasons. In order to do the joyful yet hard work of transitional ministry, the church needs assurance that I’m not staying longer than the interim period.

Can you be our next installed pastor?

No. The interim process is laborious enough that it would be a bad idea for me to become your installed minister. If you still want me around at the end of the interim, then I’ve done a poor job of transitional ministry. We should work hard enough that we’ll be pleased with our ministry together and equally joyful to bless to one another in our separate upcoming ministries.

Will interim ministry hurt?

Yes and no. There is a blessing and curse to every part of life. There is pain in saying goodbye to the previous minister and family. Possibility of new ministry with a new pastor can be scary for some and encouraging for others. Taking time to reflect on how ministry has been done and what can and/or may change with a new pastor can be daunting for some and exciting for others. My recommendation is to feel whatever you feel (happy, sad, angry, curious, etc.) in the interim and leverage those feelings to engage in edifying/enriching conversation with me, other church leaders, and fellow disciples. By doing so you’ll maximize this interim period for your own personal discipleship as well as for the congregation at large.

Why do you use interim and transition interchangeably?

Interim often refers to a period of time and carries with it a passive tone. Transition has a more active movement to its definition. Because Interim ministry is transitioning from an old model to a new model of Transitional Ministry, Interim Ministers are currently using them interchangeably until the new model takes root. Even we Ministers are in transition! 😊

These are frequently asked questions. You may have other questions. You may have unresolved feelings or ministry ideas or whatever the Lord has laid on your heart. Please contact me that we may utilize this interim time for the maxim benefit of your discipleship.

Thankful to be in ministry with you,
Pastor Dave