CHURCH PROFILE FOR IDEAL PARK CRC

320 56TH STREET SW, WYOMING, MI 49548

Ideal Park started out as a children’s Sunday School conducted by a group of Pine Rest Nursing students and other young people from First Cutlerville. these Sunday School classes were started in 1927 and were first held at what is now Legacy Christian school.

The” little basement church”, on Crippen, was called the “La Mar Plat Gospel Chapel” was built in 1928. As the years of the Great Depression deepened, the first “Sunday Evening Gospel Meeting” was added in 1930 for all ages.

In 1948, the little white chapel on Haughey was built and used as our church building. ( This was later known as the Annex and is now a private home.)

On April 13, 1961, we became an organized church, and the building we are using now was erected in 1963.

We are a suburban church in Wyoming, Mi. There are approximately 222 homes in the immediate area.

For the profile, we are currently looking for a male pastor only. Staff positions include Pastor, Organist, Financial Secretary, Bulletin Secretary, and Janitor. We are looking for a lead pastor, but we would also consider a commissioned pastor working towards ordination who would be full time. We are open to the number of years served as for experience.

Ideal Park has an average of about 60 attendees on any given Sunday. Our records show that we have\_\_\_80\_\_\_\_professing members. Composition of our church is primarily Caucasian, African American, and Asian. We are a multi-cultural congregation. We have many community people who have not joined the church but attend faithfully.

List of past 3 pastors: Evan Heerema (2013-2017) Retired, Henry Admiral (2017-2019), Interim, Christopher Bouma, (2019-2023).

We usually have a blend of traditional and contemporary services which use the piano and or organ.

Discipleship and outreach practices within our church for members and attendees are Ladies Bible Study, VBS, Gems and Cadets. We have a vibrant food truck ministry on the first Wednesday of the month, we also have a Wednesday morning prayer time and a “Digging Deeper” discussion and prayer time on Sunday afternoons.

Our Building/Financial for the current year. Our present budget is $170,074.00. Last year’s budget was $159,694.00. Financial obligations met were Budget 100%, Classical Shares 100% and Synodical Shares 100%

Our facilities consist of the present church, and we also have a separate building that we call the Activity Center. Many events are held in this building. We do not have a parsonage, but inside the church is an office that can be used for a study area.

Our worship service is designed to honor and glorify God through traditional and contemporary services, which include traditional hymns and praise songs.

Our church seeks to encourage spiritual growth thru our various ministries such as Ladies Bible Study, Gems and Cadets, a Wednesday morning prayer time and a “Digging Deeper” discussion and prayer time on Sunday afternoons. We also have some outdoor events such as biannual men’s fishing trips, and a Wild Game Dinner.

Our Gems and Cadet groups are made up mostly of community kids.

Ideal Park is a church that responds well with compassion, mercy, and justice for those in need. We participate generously in our local missions.

Ideal Park is a member of and participates in Classis South meetings. We are a committed member of the CRC and subscribe to the standards of our denomination.

Ideal Parks strengths/gifts are that we are family friendly. We meet people at the door, include and accept new people who may be visiting, and are inclusive of the different abled community. We are willing to help and respond to meet the needs within church and community, and to keep them in our prayers for any needs that may arise.

Ideal Park is known for the biannual church sales that have been ongoing since 1928. They are exciting and it is an outreach for the community. The turnout has always been GREAT! We also have a vibrant mobile food truck ministry the first Wednesday of every month.

A major goal for the church is to bring the neighbors to Christ through service and relationships. We plan several large events each year. The events have always been well attended by church members and the community.

The cultural changes that Ideal Park faces, as well as many other churches, is that we are an aging congregation. These are challenging times for us as well as the church in general.

Our leadership consists of 10 council members, who meet once a month or more if needed.

We firmly believe that the Lord knows the future of Ideal Park and we are here to fulfill Gods purpose.