



BLYTHEFIELD CRC

2021 CHURCH PROFILE

BCRC is passionate about our Mission: “Sharing God’s love with the people around us and with each other.” With God’s help, we strive to utilize the spiritual, physical, and personal gifts he has given us. Our Vision for God’s Church at Blythefield is: “The Spirit ignites people with new life, so that:

- people visit and join our congregation,
- members and seekers of all ages grow spiritually,
- our community is impacted by Christian service and witness, and
- missionaries are assisted in their work.”

OUR STORY

Through prayer and reliance on the Spirit, we are blessed to be a caring, connected, friendly congregation whose goals are to meet the needs of our congregation and the community around us by worshiping, witnessing, discipling, caring, and stewardship of what God has given us.

Worship. Our Worship is a blend of traditional and contemporary elements arranged around consistently biblical, spiritually sound preaching, the quality of which the congregation hopes will continue to be a character defining aspect of our worship. Members help lead worship with their significant gifts, under the direction of our Worship Coordinator who plans services with the Pastor. We have a praise team and a variety of musical talent that shows through in worship, such as solo instrument accompaniment, occasionally a band or orchestra, guitars, etc. We also have a choir, as well as notable participation in planned “walk up choir” where the congregation is invited to come to the front to sing without prior rehearsal. On special occasions our service is enhanced with children’s choir, hand bells, or liturgical dance. We recently installed a screen which has changed the way we worship. This has been met with a mix



of appreciation and criticism and is an area in which our worship is developing. Recent worship services can be viewed at <https://www.facebook.com/BlythefieldCRC/>

Witnessing and Discipleship. “Sharing God’s love with the people around us” includes community outreach, missionary support, and education and development of the members to be living witnesses of Christ. We strive to provide spiritual guidance and education to our children from early youth, through all stages of adulthood with children’s programs during worship, Sunday school, Bible study, and other programs. We take our position in our community seriously as well, striving to welcome visitors, open our doors to the community with activities like Easter Egg Hunts, VBS, outdoor concerts and various events. We also participate in Kids Hope, food drives, and similar programs in our community.



Caring. Hand in hand with our discipleship comes caring for one another. Our congregation is very friendly and welcoming, and has a strong sense of community, praying for each other, being aware of the needs of others, and welcoming newcomers. BCRC was formed from a merger of 3 congregations with the sense of common history and a merged sense of purpose still evident today. We value the fellowship of dinners and activities together such as coffee time after worship, an annual Chili Cook-Off, and the Cadet Pinewood Derby with the Cadets and church-wide participation to name a few. The Deacons host a dinner for the senior congregation members. We participate in inter-generational mission trips. We send packages and cards to college students and to homebound members. These and many more are coordinated by our Congregational Life Coordinator whose impact is clearly and deeply felt among us. Since COVID, we stream our services allowing more connection with those unable to attend worship.



Stewardship. Among the ways we care for one another and the world around us is the Godly use of our resources. Just as BCRC members use their time and talents to plan and staff our ministries, we strive to use our financial resources to advance the Church and the Kingdom. Our budget, which is prayerfully created based on our mission and vision is typically met by year end. We maintain an active benevolence outreach; give weekly offerings to a wide range of institutions such as local shelters, food pantries, mission churches, and the like. We also receive generous gifts any time a unique need or opportunity arises, such as paying for the worship screen, funding a mission trip, or repairing a member’s roof. We also support the CRC with substantial denominational and classical ministry shares.

PROGRAMS

Adult Programs

- Friendship Group
- Women's Bible Study
- Women of Worth Bible Study
- Men's Fellowship (breakfast)
- Men's Life (evening bible study)
- Coed softball team



Youth Programs

- Cadets
- Gems
- Sunday School
- Catechism
- High School Youth Group
- Middle School Youth Group
- Mission Trips

Worship Ministries

- Nursery
- 2s and 3s
- Children's Worship
- Sing and Celebrate (children's choir)
- Worship Team
- Blythefield Band (intermittent)
- Nursery
- Choir
- Walk-up Choirs



Community Outreach

- Hand to Hand
- Kids Hope
- VBS
- Food Drives
- Easter Egg Hunt
- PeterFish

STAFF

- Senior Pastor (full-time)
- Administrative Assistant (full-time)
- Pastor of Visitation (part-time)
- Coordinator of Worship and Music (part-time)
- AV Staff (during service)
- Custodian (part-time)
- Education Coordinator (part-time)
- Kids Hope and Hand2Hand Coordinator (part-time)

DEMOGRAPHIC AND OTHER DATA

BCRC is located in a suburban setting, drawing some members from the city of Grand Rapids and others from the surrounding countryside. The community is growing quickly, and has a population of perhaps 40,000 depending on calculation methods. The area is primarily white, middle or upper-middle class, and the Church demographics match that, with some minorities.



Average worship attendance (Sunday mornings) is 151, with 187 professing members.

Age Distribution.

0-11	15%	19-24	4%	35-49	19%	65+	33%
12-18	9%	25-34	7.5%	50-64	12.5%		

Recent Pastors.

- Darrin Compagner (9 yrs)
- John Witvliet (8 yrs)
- Roger Visker (6 yrs)

Facilities. BCRC has a traditional church building with a sanctuary (300 seat capacity), a newly remodeled narthex/fellowship room, several offices, including a large pastor's study, and a basement containing nurseries and Sunday school rooms around a large central room. There is a baseball diamond in back, adequate parking, a pole barn for storage, a cadet building, and a four bedroom parsonage.

Position Description. Our pastor will compassionately lead us with the power and authority of Christ, a power and authority rooted in obedience to his Word and expressed in loving service. He will communicate through word and deed a call to holy ministry, spiritual maturity and a personal relationship with Christ. He will be devoted to prayer and the study of God's word and able to work effectively in a church staff setting. He will be committed to the Reformed faith and the doctrines of the Christian Reformed Church. The full position description approved by Council is available upon request.

Position Compensation and Benefits. Competitive salary commensurate with experience plus benefits and use of the parsonage. Should a housing allowance be desired in place of the parsonage, we will determine a fair market rate.