

Lee Street Christian Reformed Church

Church Profile



Wyoming, Michigan

Our **VISION** is to be a truly multicultural, multigenerational body of Christ.

Our **MISSION** is to make and mature disciples from the neighborhoods
in which we minister and live.

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Our Story: A brief history of Lee Street CRC

Lee Street Church has been on a journey in the Godfrey-Lee community for over 90 years. We have old stories to tell; we have new stories to tell. We're thankful to share our story. To God be the glory! Our history shows how God works over time.

Lee Street Christian Reformed Church had its beginnings in the 1920's when a group of recent immigrants from the Netherlands and Dutch farmers from around Lucas, Michigan began to move into the area around where the church building is located. These immigrants sought opportunity, community, and often religious freedom. In 1926, they went to a nearby church, Grandville Avenue CRC, to ask for help in getting started.

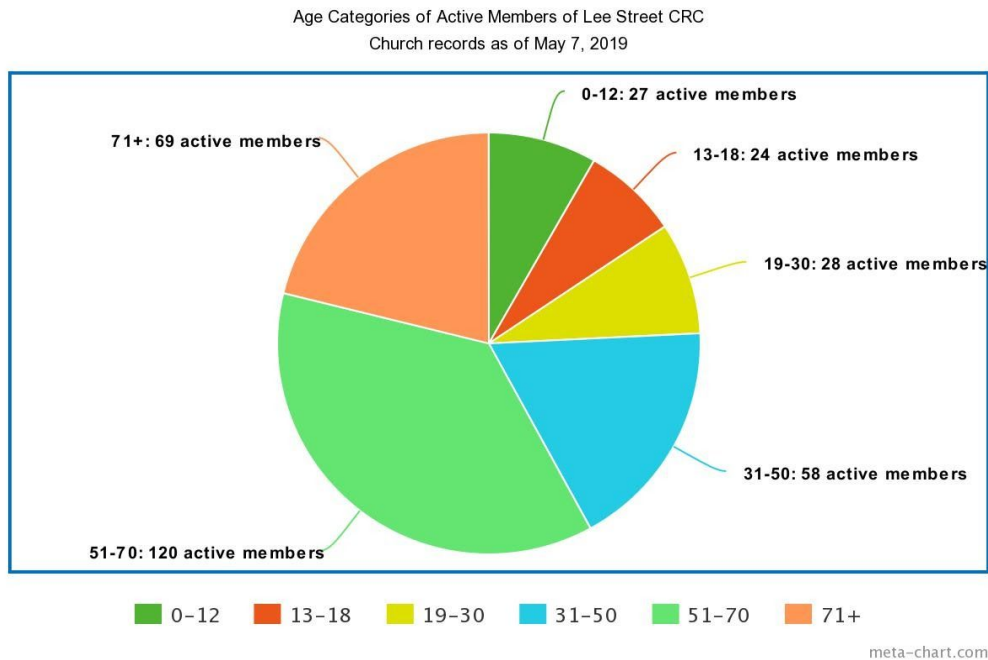
The pastor and council there gave a generous amount to help fund a new church and provided leadership in forming a church council. In many area churches of our denomination, Dutch was spoken at the time. Lee Street wanted to worship together in the language of the new country.

As this immigrant community flourished and more immigrants came, Lee Street Church grew. In the 1950's and 60's, there were over 1,000 people in our church family. In the 1970's, urban neighborhoods across the country experienced a migration of people with European ancestry to farther suburbs. The Lee Street neighborhood echoed this trend. Beginning in the 1990's, several church buildings in our area changed ownership. Many of the Lee Street church family also moved and joined churches closer to their new homes.

Today, we find the migration of the neighborhood continues. The Hispanic heritage continues to grow, followed by Anglo but not typically with Dutch heritage. With this in mind, we have also seen some families that are now empty-nesters return from the suburbs to join the continued changing ministry here at Lee Street CRC. Though the multi-cultural transition has not been without difficulty, we praise God for His leading in the past, present, and we look forward to His will in the future.

Who Are We?: A look at congregational make-up

- Active Membership and Age Distribution of LSCRC

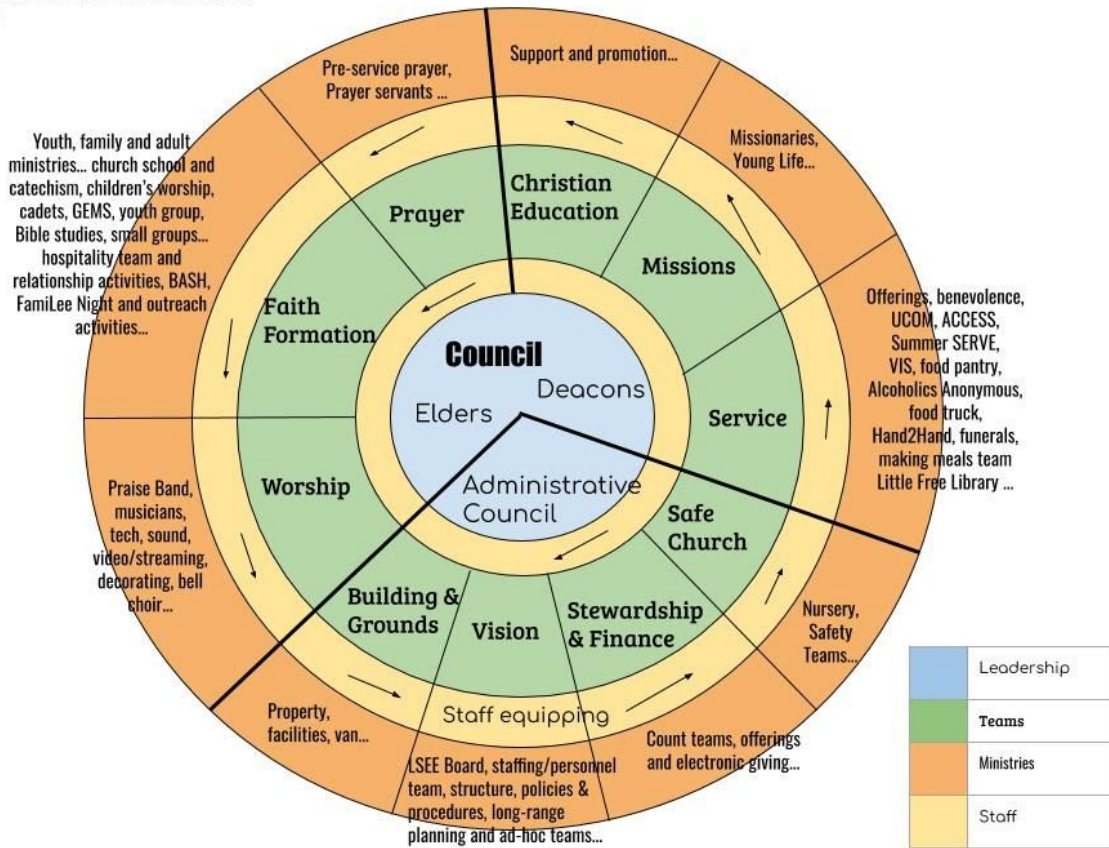


- Recent Statistics for LSCRC

- Members: 2018 - 311; 2019 - 335
- Births: 2018-4; 2019-3
- Baptisms: 2018-4; 2019-8
- Professions of Faith: 2018-17; 2019-5
- New Members: 2018-11; 2019-0
- Marriages: 2018-2; 2019-6
- Deaths: 2018-6; 2019-6
- Transferred Out/Lapsed: 2018-10; 2019-22

Who Are We?: A look at how we operate

Lee Street CRC Action Chart
2020



Paid Staff:

- Administrator/Director of Worship: 30 hours
- Faith Formation Director: 20 hours
- Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper: 25 hours
- Weekday Custodian: 15-17 hours
- Weekend Custodian: 7-8 hours
- Band Director: Yearly Stipend
- *Community Connector: Lee St pays a portion of this salary but the CC is employed by Great Lakes Urban (GLU).*

Vision and Mission: How are we living it out?

How We Worship

A typical Sunday worship service

- Music, confession, congregational response are coordinated by theme with a strong focus on dialogue between God and worshipers.
- English speaking service: start time 9:30 AM typical, 10 AM in summer.
- Spanish-speaking service at 12:30 PM.
- Both English and Spanish services are similar in structure and content.
- Music:
 - Live music throughout each service, including prelude, offertory, and postlude.
 - Music is both traditional and contemporary: without tradition being the point and without being edgy and performer-focused.
- Screen is used frequently to lead singing, liturgy, sermon slides, etc.
- Communion is open to baptized members including children.
- English/Spanish services are combined into one service quarterly and during July's gatherings under a tent.
- Sunday evening Bible study led by Pastor or Elders.

Member involvement

- Worship Director oversees all aspects of planning and participation in coordination with the worship team.
- Worship team and Worship Director support lead coordinators for praise teams/singers, sound, tech, video/streaming, decorating, art/drama, prayer, bell choir, praise band, guitarchestra, and other accompanists.
- Band Director directs orchestra/band instrumentation and leads practices.
- On Sundays, congregational members regularly:
 - Lead the opening call to worship, prayers of the people, scripture reading, announcements and various other parts of worship.
 - Provide healthy financial giving to the church.
 - Run sound system, projector/powerpoint, and recording/streaming of service.
- Elders ultimately oversee worship.

How We Witness and Serve

- GEMS/Cadets
- Neighborhood Engagement and service projects
- FamiLee Night
- Host Church for Summer SERVE (with Youth Unlimited)
- Hand 2 Hand
- Little Free Library
- Food Pantry and monthly food truck (partner with GLECC)
- Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)
- VBS in Spanish
- Young Life
- Block party (BASH)
- Missionary Support
- Partnerships with: Godfrey-Lee Public Schools, Great Lakes Urban, UCOM, VIS, ACCESS

How We Build and Maintain Relationships

- Prayer and Fasting Groups
- Small Groups / Bible Study groups in English and Spanish
- Benevolence Fund
- Care Teams for Homebound Members
- FamiLee Breakfast, making meals team, and any other reason to eat together
- Enrichment activities based off of sermon series
- Sit and Stitch group
- Bike and Bites group

How We Grow and Learn

- Sunday School/Catechism
- GEMS/Cadets
- Children's worship lesson for young children during sermon
- FamiLee Night
- Youth Group
- Adult Bible Study/Small Groups in English and Spanish

Strengths Worth Noting:

- Financial Giving - Lee St has been blessed with a budget surplus year after year.
- Outreach Efforts - Our block party (BASH) and summer engagement events like Joy in July are effective in engaging our neighborhood.
- Music - Lee St has many members with strong musical gifts that make worship services fulfilling and engaging.
- Hospitality - Visitors feel welcomed and members feel loved through an emphasis on building and maintaining relationships