

Lakeland Reformed Church Vicksburg, Michigan



Church Profile

MISSION, VISION, PURPOSE:

We are a fellowship that is: LEARNING from God's Word about God's love in Jesus Christ and His will for us as His people; REACHING up to God as we worship and pray; Reaching out to others in our community and around the world as we extend a helping hand to people in need and a loving invitation to receive forgiveness and eternal life through Jesus Christ; and CARING about each other's needs and spiritual growth.

BASIC DETAILS

JOB TITLE AND CONTACT INFORMATION

POSITION: LEAD PASTOR – PART TIME

ADDRESS:

10442 Sprinkle Rd, Vicksburg, MI 49097

WEBSITE AND CHURCH EMAIL

<https://www.lakelandreformedchurch.com/>

lakelandreformed@gmail.com

TELEPHONE

269-649-1703

CLASSIS AND SUPERVISORY INFORMATION

Great Lakes City Classis

Rev. Greg Bower, Classis Supervisor

gregbower@glcclassis.org

616-340-7785

Nancy Boersen, Classis Clerk

office@glcclassis.org

616-541-0846

Pastoral Search Committee

Nicole Maturen, Chair

LRCpastoralsearch@gmail.com

269-830-1942

APPLICATION EMAIL ADDRESS

LRCpastoralsearch@gmail.com

TYPICAL SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

9:30 A.M.

- Prelude as worshipers enter sanctuary
- Welcome & Announcements
- Call to Worship and Opening Prayer
- Three opening songs
- Children's message and dismiss for Children's worship
- Greet one another
- Message, Scripture and Prayers
- Prayers, Praises and Offering
- Congregational prayer
- Benediction
- Closing chorus



Christmas Cantata Service 2025

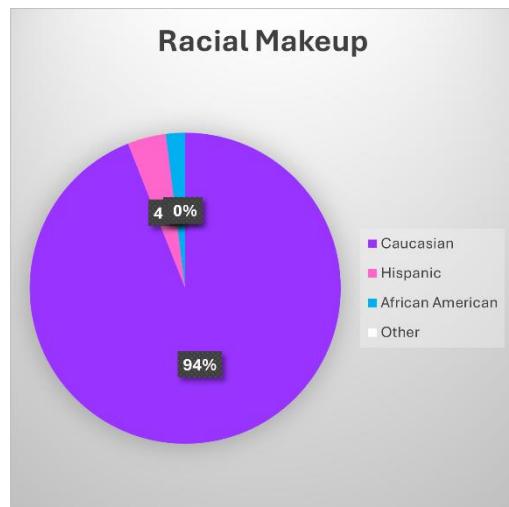
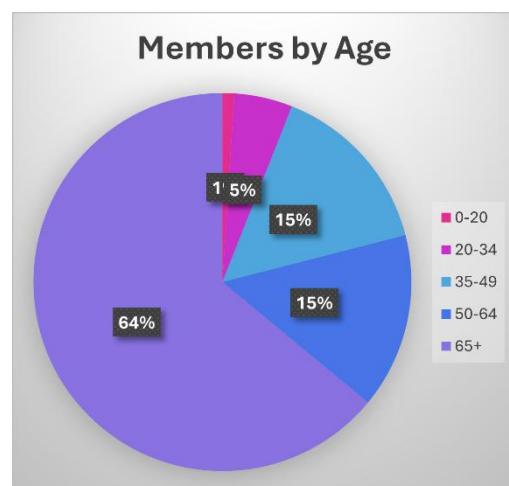
LCR stands out as a small, authentic, genuinely welcoming congregation with a single, traditional worship service and a staffed nursery during worship services. It is the hope of the church body that visitors to LRC come away with the impression that the church is Christ-centered, preaching the gospel and messages from the Bible, with a passion for outreach, sharing and showing God's care and compassion in our community. During the COVID pandemic, we were one of the few churches to provide a drive-in service produced entirely by church members.

LAKELAND REFORMED CHURCH

MEMBERSHIP

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE		
	2025	2020
9:30 AM	50	80

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP		
	2025	2020
ACTIVE	92	127
INACTIVE	4	36



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Children's programs include: Children's sermon, Children's worship during Sunday service, and Vacation Bible School. Children's Worship and VBS curricula are drawn from Group and Cokesbury, e.g. Simply Loved by Group is the current Children's Worship curriculum.

VBS draws volunteers and children from several local churches that do not offer their own VBS. Attendance varies over the 4 nights of VBS: 2024 drew 65-85 kids nightly and 2025 drew 82-114 kids nightly. The typical program includes 3 nights of worship, Bible stories, crafts, outdoor activities and a meal. On the fourth night families are invited to attend the worship service that is followed by a meal. VBS is our largest outreach activity each year.

Adult education:

Women's Bible Study meets twice monthly, attendance 15-18 people.

Men's Bible Study meets twice monthly, attendance 5-10 people.

Co-ed Summer Bible Study meets twice monthly outdoors,
attendance 18-20 people.

Adult social programs: Men's breakfast, occasional congregational meals.

The 2025 summer Bible study followed the book, *The Questions Christians Hope No One Will Ask* by Mark Mittleberg. This book stimulated authentic discussion among church members who hold a range of positions on controversial issues. The Bible study members were able to forge unity as a body discussing these issues frankly while acknowledging opposing viewpoints.



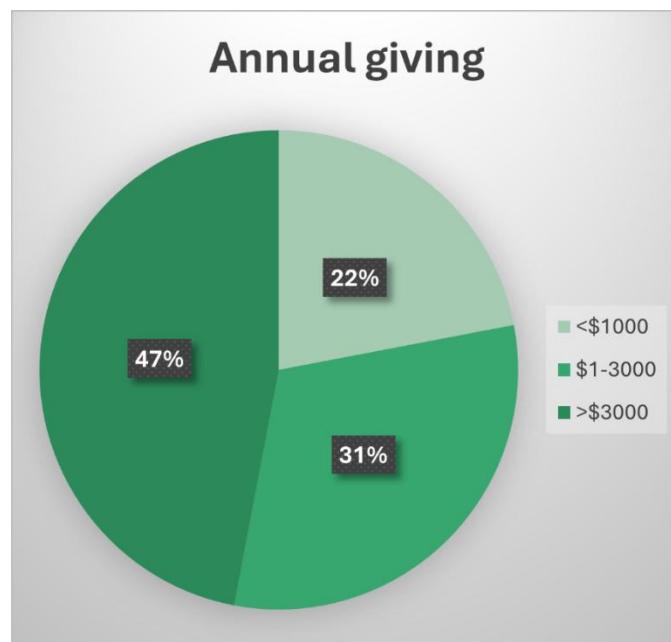
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – VBS & CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



FINANCES

	2025	2020
Total spent for Congregational purposes	\$278,086	\$297,125
Total contributed to benevolences	\$13,981	\$13,283
Percentage of budget contributed by living donors: 95%		

We support two Reformed Church Missions: Kelly's in Nicaragua and Newhouse's in Bahrain.



Financial assistance beyond congregation:
\$18000 received in cost sharing with preschool

CHURCH BUILDING

LCR owns the church building outright, without any mortgage. The building features a large narthex and sanctuary and a large carpeted fellowship area/gym. Additionally we have an approved commercial kitchen, stage, offices, library, pastor's study, and nursery. The building is located on a major road between Portage and Vicksburg and on a large lot with an outdoor worship space, large playground and wooded area.

Our building also houses Lakeland Creative Beginnings (LCB) LCB is a State of Michigan 5-star rated preschool and daycare that has been serving the local community since 1998. LCB currently offers three programs: the state-funded, tuition-free Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) for four year olds; a mixed-age preschool for ages 2 years, 9 months through 5 years old, and before and after school care with transportation to and from all three Vicksburg elementary schools. LCB teachers use the HighScope curriculum, an evidence-based, child-led and play-centered approach developed in Michigan through research focused on improving outcomes for children from diverse and low-income backgrounds. Currently the program serves 50 children from a variety of socioeconomic and faith backgrounds. LCB has its own Board of Directors and, as a taxable entity, LCB operates financially independently but under the auspices of LRC. LCB and LRC intend to grow in partnership to offer more Christian faith-based events and activities that enrich children's experiences and support family connections.

OFFICE SPACE

The Pastor has a combined office and study within the church building.

There are additional offices that are used for Youth Director, Kid's Hope Director, Building Technician, and Office Manager.

STAFF

In addition to the pastor, paid staff include the following:

- Office manager, part time
- Youth director, part time
- Kid's Hope director, part time
- Building technician, part time

CONSISTORY

Nominations for consistory members are requested from the congregation. The nomination committee recommends a slate, which is approved by consistory and presented to the congregation for approval.

Presently we have four elders and four deacons, each of whom serves a 2-year term.

Current Consistory Members			
Position	Employment	Gender	Age
Elder	retired	female	60's
Elder	retired	female	80's
Elder	teacher	male	60's
Elder	manager	male	50's
Deacon	business	male	70's
Deacon	business	female	60's
Deacon	retired	male	70's
Deacon	retired	male	60's

CONGREGATION DEMOGRAPHICS

LCR is a faithful and loving congregation with strong bonds toward each other and eagerness to care for each other and the surrounding community. Church members step up in many roles, from outreach to maintenance to internal leadership. The steadfastness of the members of LRC has helped sustain the church through both good and difficult times.

Education: Most members have education beyond high school. Many have college degrees. A few have graduate degrees.

Occupation: Church members are employed in various jobs with no predominant occupation. The most common occupations are in business and office work. There are a few scientists, engineers, farmers, teachers and industrial workers.

Adult Choir



Seniors Annual Dinner



Graduate Handmade Quilt



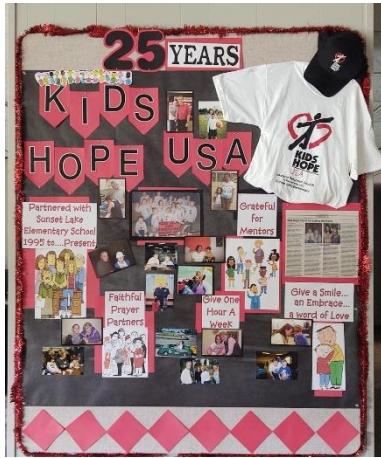
COMMUNITY

LCR primarily serves the Village of Vicksburg (pop. ~4000), City of Portage (pop. ~50,000) and surrounding rural areas. Vicksburg Community Schools has an enrollment of ~2,500 while Portage Public Schools enrolls ~8,800 students. Both communities and school systems are growing, providing an opportunity to welcome new community members to LRC.

There are other churches of many denominations in the vicinity, including ChapNaz Church of the Nazarene, Vicksburg Bible Church, Vicksburg Methodist Church, St. Martin Catholic Parish, Vicksburg Gathering of Ada Bible Church, and The Bridge - Vicksburg. LRC collaborates with some of these churches through the South County Ministerial Alliance, with occasional joint worship services. Our VBS program also draws volunteers and participants from nearby churches and the community.

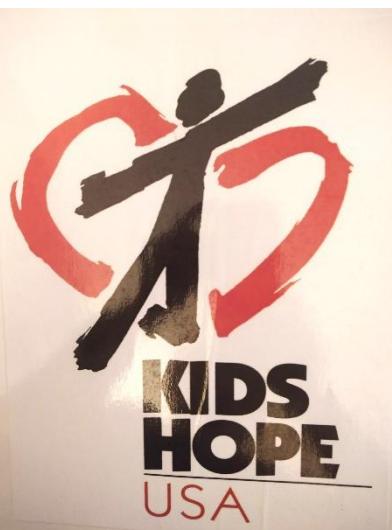
OUTREACH

In addition to VBS, we also organize several annual events for the local community including an Easter egg hunt, Trunk or Treat (along with LCB) and as of 2025, a Fall Festival. LRC also has a long history of involvement with Kids Hope, which provides one-on-one mentoring at local schools. More recently, LRC has begun to work with adult residential programs (Residential Opportunities, Inc. and Turning Leaf Residential Rehabilitation Services).



**Kid's Hope -
Mentoring In the
Schools**

COMMUNITY & OUTREACH



Founders Generous Hands



**Community Events
Easter Egg Hunt & Trunk or Treat**

Holiday Giving



PASTORAL JOB
DESCRIPTION,
INFORMATION, AND
COMPENSATION

PASTORAL JOB DESCRIPTION AND INFORMATION

Expectations and Requirements of Minister

In order of priority, the church anticipates that the minister will carry out the following activities:

1. Preaching – illuminating God's word and revealing His salvation to a sinful congregation
2. Conducting worship – making space for the Holy Spirit to move and convict
3. Membership growth – helping to lead outreach into the community and welcome visitors
4. Pastoral counseling – comforting and challenging church members to grow and share faith
5. Adult Education – supporting church members growth as Christ's disciples
6. Staff administration – encouraging and unifying LRC staff

The following gifts and talents will enable the minister to succeed:

1. In-depth Biblical knowledge
2. Expository preaching/teaching
3. Ability to inspire staff and congregation
4. Ability to lead collaboratively with consistory
5. Exceptional interpersonal skills

The pastor should be fluent in the English language.

As part of the LRC family, our pastor can expect loving and prayerful support and cooperation from the congregation.

Although our church members dedicate their time and talents to our outreach programs, we yearn to see measurable growth in terms of spiritual transformation. We hope that a pastor with leadership skills will help us help others take steps of faith that will transform their lives and that LRC would be a home where those seeking direction and purpose in their lives find belonging and discover God's love and grace.

PASTORAL JOB
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COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND MINISTRY EXPENSES

The salary we are prepared to offer our new pastor is \$34,000 annually. Housing allowance is included in the salary as there is no parsonage. The average increase to our pastor over the past three years was 4%.

Benefits include:

- Pension, \$3700
- Social security offset, \$2600
- Travel reimbursement, \$1500
- Book allowance, \$1500
- Continuing education allowance, \$500
- Health insurance, negotiable up to \$11,000
- Vacation, 4 weeks annually

LAST THREE PASTORS

Rev. Dr. James Poit 1999-2002

Rev. Edward Schmidt 2004-2020

Rev. Kent Sanders 2022-2025

KEY CONSISTORY MEMBERS

Vice President of Consistory

David Blough

Classis Supervisor

Rev. Greg Bower, Classis Supervisor

gregbower@glcclassis.org

CELEBRATIONS



Remembrance Service

Baptism Day



Lent



**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Nativity**



Easter



Christmas



OF ME