

# HOPE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH HULL, IOWA

Church Profile - 2021



# The Vision and Mission of Hope CRC

## **MISSION:**

Hope is a Christian Reformed ministry - committed to:

\* The Word of God as the infallible foundation of our faith

\* A Biblical and Reformed world and life view which confesses that our world belongs to God

\* Living out our Christian calling in which we offer our hearts and lives to do God's work in his world

\* Bringing a ministry of hope to those in need

## **VISION:**

Hope CRC is a fellowship of believers in Jesus Christ who.....

**Worship - joyfully** to bring honor and praise to God

**Study - diligently** to learn, believe and apply God's Word to all of life

**Fellowship - intentionally** to strengthen and help each other in our life together in Christ

**Serve - graciously** to welcome and witness to those in need

HOPE CRC Church Verse: Romans 15:13

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

## Part 1: Church Information

1. Name: Hope Christian Reformed Church  
P.O. Box 580  
1407 6th St.  
Hull, IA 51239

Telephone: (712) 439-1386

Classis: Heartland

2. Search Committee Chairman: Jim Eekhoff  
1714 Aspen St.  
Hull, IA 51239  
Phone Number: 712-470-0870  
E-mail Address: [eekhoffjim@gmail.com](mailto:eekhoffjim@gmail.com)

3. Classical Church Counselor: Pastor Loren Kotman  
1121 5th St.  
Hull, IA 51239  
Phone Number: 712-439-1123

4. List of All Paid Staff Positions
  - a. Pastor
  - b. Secretary
  - c. Custodian
  - d. Accompanists

5. Membership
  - a. Number of Church Members (families) 88 families, 14 single professing members.

	<u>5 years ago</u>	<u>Currently</u>
Professing Members	226	208
Non-Professing Members	117	93

b. Ages of Church Members. (January 2021)

- i. Age: 0-11 - 55
- ii. Age 12-18 -36
- iii. Age 19-24 - 21
- iv. Age 25-34 - 27
- v. Age 35-49 - 52
- vi. Age 50-64 - 65
- vii. Age 65-older -45

c. Educational Level of Adults

- i. Some high school or less - 0
- ii. High School -212
- iii. College - 101
- iv. Graduate School - 13

d. Percentage of Members Belonging to the Congregation

- i. Less than 1 year - 8 new members in the last year
- ii. 1-5 years - 2 new members in this time frame
- iii. 6-10 years - 4 new members in this time frame
- iv. 10 or more years - Everyone else

6. Worship

a. Time            Average Attendance

9:30a.m.    Pre-covid - 230; Post-covid - 180

6:00p.m.    Pre-covid - 80; Post-covid - 40

B.    Frequency of Communion Celebration: 6 times a year

C.    How are members involved in planning and participating in the liturgy/worship? Worship committee plans the services along with the pastor.

#### D. Type of Music Used in Worship

Our church incorporates a mix of traditional and contemporary songs into worship. Most of our hymns/songs are accompanied by piano with occasional praise teams involved with the worship service. The majority of our music is taken from the "Lift Up Your Hearts" red hymnal or the grey psalter.

We have many talented musicians and singers in our congregation.

#### 7. Church/Sunday School

a. Attendance in Church School - 3 year olds through high school - 74

b. Children and Worship Attendance - Hope CRC began Children and Worship approximately 2 years ago. Our church decided to incorporate it with the evening service. The attendance ranges from 3 to 8 children during this time.

#### 8. Community Setting:

a. Location - Small Town. Population - 2,300

b. Function - Industrial, Agricultural

c. Growing community

d. Schools in our Town - 5: Hull Christian Grade School, Western Christian High School, Hull Protestant Reformed Christian Grade School, Trinity Christian High School, Boyden-Hull High School

e. Racial/Ethnic composition of community

i. Asian - 1.12%

ii. Hispanic - 6.28%

iii. Caucasian - 92.6%

## 9. Program Information

Name	Purpose of Group	Number of Members	Frequency of Meetings	*Leadership Role
Council	Governing Body	13 + Pastor	Monthly	2
Elders	Guidance	7 + Pastor	Monthly	1
Deacons	Financial Management	6	Monthly	3
Worship	Plan Worship	6 + Pastor	Monthly/ Bi-Monthly	2
Education	Plan Church Education	3	As Needed	3
Building and Grounds	Maintenance and New Construction	6	As Needed	3
Evangelism	Encourage and Outreach	10	As Needed	3

\*Leadership role. 1 being the most leadership needed to 3 with not as much of a leadership role for the pastor.

## Part 2: Building/Financial Information

1. Present annual budget:       \$164,681  
Last year's annual budget:   \$163,949
  
2. Percentage of financial obligations met:  
    100% Local and Classical Ministry Shares  
    64% Denominational Ministry Shares
  
3. Property owned by church:
  - a. Original building was built in 1965.
  - b. Sanctuary seats: 300
  - c. Building contains a pastoral office, council room, mens and womens restrooms, nursery, 6 classrooms, secretary's office, kitchen, and fellowship hall.
  - d. Church has a 4 bedroom parsonage next door to the church.
  
4. Office/Study: both in the church and in the parsonage
  
5. Compensation:
  - a. The salary range we are prepared to offer our new pastor will be based upon experience and several other variables. The average annual increase for this position over the past 3 years has been 2.6%
  - b. Housing: Parsonage
  - c. Benefits and Expenses
    - i. Pension (denominational)
    - ii. Medical Insurance: Paid by Church (other)
    - iii. Mileage: \$1500
    - iv. Continuing Education Funds: \$2,200
    - v. Annual Vacation: 4 weeks

### **Part 3: Leadership Expectations**

The top 7 leadership categories which Hope church feels are the most important qualities of a pastor.

- Effective preacher/speaker of the gospel truth
- Helps people develop their personal relationship with God
- Effectively works with and connects with the youth
- Makes pastoral calls to people confined in their homes or in the hospital
- Encourages members to relate their faith to their daily lives
- Compassionate and cares for others and is sensitive to their needs
- Helpful counselor and maintains confidential



## Part 4: Church History

Sixty years ago in Hull, Iowa, 24 families, including the minister and entire consistory, withdrew their memberships from the Protestant Reformed Church. Their denomination's view of God's grace had caused years of controversy. Locally, the dispute had led to intense division in families and rifts among friends with resulting ramifications that remain today.

But, motivated by faith, hope, love and a desire for peace, the dissenting group reunited with the Christian Reformed denomination and envisioned a ministry that would touch not only the lives of their own members but also the life of their community.

The new congregation was named HOPE:

"For you are our Hope, oh Lord God." Psalm 71:5

"To lay hold of the Hope set before us" Hebrews 6:18

Second, third and fourth generations of those original founders are among its current members. "That is why we labor and strive, because we have put our HOPE in the living God." 1 Timothy 4:10

A church building was completed in 1965 and has had several additions and renovations to accommodate the growing church membership needs as well as community activities.

A parsonage was also built and has been the home of 10 pastors. Their individual stories can be found in the 50 year anniversary book.

The history of Hope throughout its six decades shows how it has faithfully carried out its mission to offer spiritual growth opportunities to all of its members:

- With worship services twice each Sunday and on special occasions
- Offering opportunities for using a variety of musical talents
- With Bible studies for men, for women, for couples
- With Sunday School, children and worship, catechism and Youth Group

Hope provides Hearts and Hands Care Groups for its members to encourage each other in times of special needs, to enjoy each other in fellowship, and to provide special hands-on services when needed.

And the history of Hope shows how it continues to touch the lives of the Hull community:

In the 80's Hope Church began the "Coffee Break" meetings for all ladies in the community of Hull and continues to host the Wednesday morning lessons for women of all ages, with nursery and toddler groups to teach and entertain their small children. (COVID-19 has momentarily interrupted this, of course.) Cadets and Gems have also often made use of Hope's accommodations and hospitality.

Hope furnishes representatives for the Hull Daily Vacation Bible School, the after-school community services, Meals on Wheels, Combined Appeal, the American Legion and Auxiliary, the Bible League, Gideons, Love in the Name of Christ (LOVE Inc), Samaritan's Purse, Christmas gifts, and Friendship Bible Studies for those with special needs.

Hope combines with other churches in town for special services such as on Memorial Day, for community holiday activities and sports activities and with groups for assisting newcomers and those with language barriers.

Hope has volunteers on the various city support crews as firefighters, rescue units, business associations, etc.

Hope provides board members and countless other volunteers for Hull Christian Grade School and Western Christian High School.

Hope supports worldwide missions in Mississippi, Denver, South Africa, Spain, and Guatemala.

"Put your HOPE in the Lord both now and forever more." Psalm 131:3