



IDENTITY STATEMENT

WHO WE ARE IN CHRIST

As a body of believers who profess the name of Jesus Christ and claim him as our Savior, our primary identity is in Christ. We name our identity in Christ by highlighting who Christ says we are in his Word:

- We are the bride of the Lamb, Jesus Christ (Revelation 22:2,9)
- We are the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:27)
- We are brothers and sisters in Christ (1 John 3:14)
- We are a royal priesthood (1 Peter 2:9)
- We have different gifts, but the same Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:4)
- We are unified by the Spirit through the bond of peace (Ephesians 4:3)

OUR DENOMINATIONAL IDENTITY

We are part of the Christian Reformed Church in North America. We agree with the teachings of the Heidelberg Catechism, the Belgic Confession, and the Canons of Dort. We support our denomination's mission efforts, both in North America and around the world.

OUR UNIQUE EXPRESSION OF CHRIST'S CHURCH

Spring Lake Christian Reformed Church is a unique expression of Christ's church in the world. We are a multigenerational congregation that values worship and prayer and that places a high priority on passing the faith from generation to generation.

Multigenerational: We embrace God's gift of people of all ages. We enjoy worshiping with each other; we enjoy learning with and from one another; we enjoy fellowshiping with each other.

Worship: As a multigenerational congregation, we are committed to a blended style of worship on Sunday mornings. That means our songs will range from traditional hymns to contemporary praise songs and our instrumentation will range from organ/piano to guitars/drums/keyboards. We will use a variety of both traditional and contemporary worship elements such as drama, video, testimony, Scripture reading, prayer, and responsive readings.

Prayer: We are committed to making prayer a centerpiece of our worship. Our prayers will be focused; they will include at times praying over someone; they will represent the cries of the hearts of our people. In the evening, we share prayer requests once/month and have prayer services six times per year.

Passing the faith: We embrace and support our children and young people as we fulfill our baptismal vows to "pray for, encourage, and help nurture them in the faith." We pass along the faith in both age-segregated groups and in intergenerational settings.

To live into our identity, we embrace these five practices: radical hospitality, passionate worship, intentional faith development, risk-taking mission and outreach, and extravagant generosity.