



Our Promise to You

We're grateful for every gift, and we respect the wishes of our donors. We'll work hard to provide maximum impact and efficiency with every dollar you give. We'll honor your gifts by being wise and careful stewards.

Please know that up to 15 percent of your gift could be used for administrative costs. In addition, every effort will be made to use these resources for the expected use. However, if this project is overfunded or is canceled, your gift will be used on a related project

or initiative focused on encouraging and building up CRC pastors, their families, or their congregations.

You'll receive a charitable tax receipt for your gift. And you can contact us at any time with questions about the impact of your gift.

For More Information

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Thank you for your generosity.

About the CRCNA

Our Vision—What we want to see

The Christian Reformed Church is a diverse family of healthy congregations, assemblies, and ministries expressing the good news of God's kingdom that transforms lives and communities worldwide.

Our Mission—What we want to do

As people called by God, we gather to praise God, listen to him, and respond. We nurture each other in faith and obedience to Christ. **We love and care for one another as God's people.** We commit ourselves to serve and to tell others about Jesus. We pursue God's justice and peace in every area of life.

We love and care for one another as God's people.

Support the Wellbeing of Pastors' Wives



Monica Groothof
Iowa

As a covenant family, the Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA) desires that all of its pastors flourish in ministry and tend to their personal wellbeing. We also recognize that the overall health of a pastor can be significantly affected by the welfare of their spouse.

With this in mind, the CRCNA's Pastor Church Resources (PCR) team hosts a conference for wives* whose husbands serve as pastors in a Christian Reformed Church in either Canada or the United States. Since 2006, these gatherings have been a safe space for pastors' wives to share joys, challenges, hurts, and blessings with others who have similar experiences and "get it."

The Pastors' Wives Conference takes place every two years, alternating with the biennial PCR Pastors Conference. The most recent Pastors' Wives Conference was held in Albuquerque, New Mexico in October 2022.

**Pastors' spouses are both men and women. We surveyed men whose wives are pastors to gauge their interest in attending a conference. There was very little interest, so we decided to focus on women who are pastors' wives and many are very interested in gathering together.*

“It has been such a benefit to me to be able to attend the conferences and walk away blessed by the fellowship of those walking the same walk.”



Pastors' Wives Conference Fund



Pastors' spouses have a role unlike any other in the church. Often they face expectations that far exceed what others in the church experience. They're usually a safe person for their spouse, the pastor, to share struggles and challenges with, but too often the spouses have nowhere to go for support. The load can become heavy—sometimes more than they can bear.

At the conference, attendees are encouraged to come apart, rest, be cared for, and encouraged. It's a safe place where they can share life, and that brings them life. The conference is seen as a lifeline to many.

The CRCNA underwrites most of the conference expenses. We've found that without this assistance, the majority of those who have attended in the past wouldn't have been financially able to do so.

There's a fund designated to the conference expenses. It provides \$60,000-70,000 per event. To date, these conferences have blessed almost 400 women.



Brittany Roeda
Alberta

“ I found a connection with others who understood the joys and struggles unique to those in [pastoral] ministry.”



Marlene Vanderburgh
Ontario

“ The conferences supply a safe place of discussion and friendship. I've attended each and every one!”



Jill Dykhuis
New Mexico

“ The conferences have encouraged and blessed me through many years of ministry as a pastor's wife.”



Richarla Den Oudsten
Colorado

“ There are no words to express the immense blessing these conferences have been.”



Joanne Kim California,
Eunea Kim, Alberta,
Hannah Oh California,
Mi Jeong Jang California
and **Christina Ko** Nevada

“ The conferences comfort and sustain us. They help us to heal so we can thrive.”

Request for Investment

While the next Pastors' Wives Conference is more than a year away (slated for October 2024), the planning begins in early 2023. Having the necessary funds “in hand” is key for the planning team—knowing whether they're able to start working on the 2024 event or not. In other words, if the funds aren't available, planning won't begin.

The CRCNA is asking you to partner in this initiative with a donation to the Pastors' Wives Conference Fund. We anticipate a need of **\$60,000-70,000**.

Please invest today to augment this fund and keep these valuable and life-giving conferences going.

Your gift is a direct investment in strengthening CRC pastors and their families. And where the health of the pastor is, so is the health of the congregation. When you think about it, your gift will not only assist a pastor's wife and family; it will help strengthen their congregation as well!

Thank you for your prayerful consideration and support!

We love and care for one another as God's people.