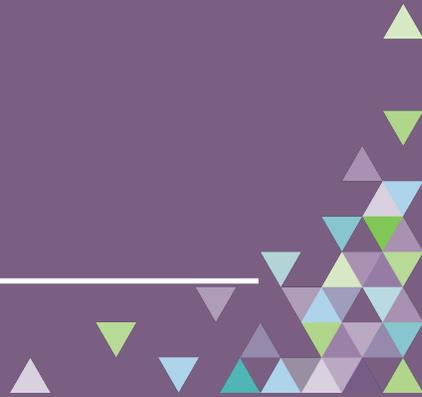




— FIRST —
CHRISTIAN
REFORMED
CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

August 2, 2019



ROAD TO MEMBERSHIP: The next Road to Membership Class will be Wednesday, September 4, 2019. The class will meet at the Church Office from 6:00-8:30 pm. You are invited to attend if you are either interested in becoming a member or simply interested in learning more about First CRC. Sign up [here](#) if you would like to attend.

TECH TEAM: We are looking for individuals to volunteer once every 4-6 weeks in the areas of sound, worship screens, and video at either the 8:30 or 10:30 worship service. Training is available! Contact gabby@firstchristianreformed.org if you would be willing to help out.

WEDNESDAY MEAL MINISTRY: We are excited to announce the beginning of a new ministry starting on Wednesday evening, September 4, that will continue through the ministry season. The first 2 Wednesday nights of each month, a meal will be served in the Activity Center to all who would like to come and eat together and share in the community of First CRC. Serving time each night is from 5:30 pm-6:30 pm and it is a free-will offering donation for cost of the meal (if you are able, suggested price is \$2-\$3 per person). We would love to see you all, eat a great meal with the community at First CRC! Please call with questions or if you are able to participate in the serving nights, contact Trish Van Zee (376-2195) or Holly Burns (201-4723).

COFFEE BREAK: Wednesday morning Coffee Break Bible Study is in need of women to join its leadership team! Please prayerfully consider if you are able to help lead a Women's Bible Study, or help in the nursery or Kids Story Hour. Contact Darcy Maas with questions at 605-323-7518 or drcyms@yahoo.com.

MOPS: The First CRC MOPS (Mothers Of Preschoolers) group is looking for adult and youth workers to help with childcare while moms get a chance to get together, refresh, and focus on Jesus. Our MOPS group meets two Thursdays a month from 9:00 - 11:00 am. These are paid positions. Contact Ann Van Stedum at (605) 940-4222 or at johnandann@sio.midco.net if you are interested!

HOPE HAVEN: As announced at the Spring Congregational Ministry Meeting (June 2), our Church has partnered with Hope Haven International to refurbish, pack, ship and distribute a container of wheel chairs, crutches, and hygiene kits for distribution in Vietnam. This is the month we begin the mission project. Each month a different Care Group – the singles, couples, and families of all ages – will spend a Wednesday evening working at Hope Haven International here in Sioux Falls from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. A total of 25-30 people are needed each evening. More are always welcome. We pray this will be a rich blessing for the recipients in Vietnam and for the volunteers in Sioux Falls.

Care Team #10 has been assigned to serve on Wednesday evening, August 28. If you are part of Care Group #10, your Care Team leaders Rick Vander Haar, Nick De Leeuw, Jill Iverson and Jennie Clapp will be contacting you regarding your participation. If you have yet to be contacted, please feel free to contact your Care Team.

SENIOR AND FRIENDS: We will be meeting on Thursday, August 15 at 6:00 pm in the Activity Center. The meal will be catered and the cost is \$10. The program will be presented by Teresa Nygaard. She will speak about the “Church on the Street.” It is a faith community serving the unhoused and people struggling with poverty in Sioux Falls. For reservations and cancellations, contact Sharon Bultje @ 941-7141 or Marcia Tubergen @ 371-3741.

SMALL GROUPS

THE JOURNEY BIBLE STUDY: Join a Bible Study that is an uncommon, faith deepening, and a life-aligning process guided by three primary questions:

1) Who is God 2) Who am I? 3) What does God desire to do through me? The Journey Bible study is a small group that walks together for 6-8 months in regular study, reflection, Bible reading and prayer. A new group will be beginning mid-September. If you have any further questions or would like more information, please contact melissa@firstchristianreformed.org.



DEACON'S MINISTRY

July 28, 2019

OFFERING AMOUNT

General Fund	6,530.00
Building Fund	370.00
Faith Promise	1,495.00
Ministry Shares	1,450.00
Tuition Support Fund	1,140.00
The Banquet	3,139.33
TOTAL	\$14,124.33

August 4: Offering of the Day is for the General Fund. The General Fund supports the local ministry programs, including evangelism, youth, children, adult, worship, small group, and health ministries, as well as the operational expenses of the property, office, and personnel expenses. God has blessed First CRC with the opportunity to minister through these programs.

August 4: Communion Offering is for the Luke Society. The Luke Society provides resources and support for international Christian health visionaries passionate about ministering to needs in their own cultures. Our ministry empowers nationals to share the saving grace of the Gospel through preaching, teaching and healing.

August 11: Offering of the day is for Ministry Shares. Ministry Shares proves the power of shared resources by helping the individual congregations of the Christian Reformed Church participate in regional and global ministries. The program provides everyone at First CRC the opportunity to fund ministry efforts around our region and all over the world while operating at very high efficiency. With little overhead costs, this important part of the Christian Reformed Church can continue to thrive if active members donate their part.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

July 19 - 25, 2019

FRIDAY:	10:30 am Senior Circuit
SATURDAY:	Jordyn Oostra & Colton Kooima Wedding
SUNDAY:	8:30/10:30 am Worship
MONDAY:	10:30 am Senior Circuit
TUESDAY:	10:30 am Senior Circuit 6:30 pm NAMI Connections 7:00 pm Elders, Deacons, Lay Shepherds
WEDNESDAY:	6:30 pm Stephen Ministry
THURSDAY:	9:30 am MOPS Bible Study 5:45 pm ReFit

BULLETIN BOARD

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Thursday 8:30 am - 4:00 pm;
Friday 8:30 am - 12:00 pm.

1st CRC Newsletter announcements may be sent to office@firstchristianreformed.org. These are due by noon on Wednesday.

BIG SOO: Big Soo Coupon Books for 2018-19 are here! Stop by the church office to pick yours up today for \$42. Proceeds go to Youth Ministry.

THE ABSTINENCE CLEARING HOUSE: The Abstinence Clearinghouse, in partnership with the Alpha Center, will be hosting four *God, Mom & Me Tea* events August 1-3 in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. A *God, Mom & Me Tea* serves as an event for mothers and daughters to focus on the joy of womanhood, the beauty of God's design and the greatness of His timing for development. This event is designed for mothers, or mother figures, and daughters ages 9-12. For more information and tickets: <https://abstinence.net/god-mom-me-tea/>. Use code SUMERDAYS for 40% off registration at checkout online.

CONCERT: The Gospel Gold Quartet will present a concert of gospel music on August 11, 2019 at 6:00 pm at the First Reformed Church (57th and Tomar). Everyone is welcome!

BIBLE LEAGUE: On September 9, 2019 from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm and September 10, 2019 from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm, Bible League International Volunteers invite you to the “His Plan...Our Purpose” events in Sioux Center, Iowa. “*For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.*” Ephesians 2:10. Monday evening’s dinner event will be a blessing of fellowship and an opportunity to hear from Bible League International—where success is measured in transformed lives. On Tuesday, you will hear from keynote speaker Kendra Broekhuis. Kendra is the author of *Here Goes Nothing- an introvert’s reckless attempt to love her neighbor*. Raised in the Midwest, falling in love and marrying her Dordt College sweetheart, moving to Guatemala, living in the south side of Chicago with her husband as he taught at Chicago Christian High, ministry in the inner city of Milwaukee, the blessing of children and loss of her little girl...Kendra’s story has been doused with joy, hilarity, grief, depression, and all sorts of things in between. She is learning to trust God by taking one day at a time, and by praying, “Thy will be done.” You will also hear from Nervana, who is passionate about building God’s church in the Middle East. You’ll come away inspired as she shares how God is moving in the hearts of people in her country. Rich worship will be led throughout the day by Lora Rankin, the Music and Worship Director at New Hope Evangelical Free Church in Orange City. Her hope is to encourage others to sing to the Lord so that His “ways may be known on earth, and His salvation among all nations” (Psalm 67). Purchase your tickets today online at bibleleague.org/tickets through September 3. Get more information online at bibleleague.org/retreat19.

MISSIONARIES 2020: As announced at the Spring Congregational Ministry Meeting (June 2), our Church continues to provide generous prayer and financial support to a variety of missionaries.

Three missionary couples have completed their work either through retirement or through the pursuit of other career opportunities. They are Thomas & Brianna Beck (Dominican Republic), Ariel & Carlye Gomes (Senegal), and Gene & Dawn Michelson (Mali). We pray for the Lord's continued blessing on their lives.

Three new missionaries have been added to the list of those we now support:

Stephen & Sandra Brauning serve in the Dominican Republic through Resonate Global Mission. First CRC has been privileged to serve with them through the numerous Church Construction teams we have sent over the years. Their e-mail address is: sbrauning@crcna.org

Micah Shuurman serves in Costa Rica through Resonate Global Mission. He teaches Biblical Hebrews, Old Testament, and sometime Biblical Greek at UNELA, a small evangelical university with close ties to the CRCNA. His e-mail address is: micah.schuurman@gmail.com

Samantha Sjaarda will serve a 16-month student-missionary internship in Indonesia through Bethany Global University in Bloomington, MN. She will work alongside and learn from long-term missionaries, study the local language, do outreach, and be trained in team development. Her e-mail address is: samikaye99@gmail.com

We will also continue to support our long-term missionaries:

Sarah Adams continues to serve in Bangkok, Thailand through Converge International Ministries. She teaches English at Santisuk Christian School and helps plant churches. Her e-mail address is: saraha@converge.org

Jeff & Christy Faber, and their children, continue to serve in Nicaragua through Resonate Global Mission. They are teachers at the Nicaragua Christian Academy International. Their e-mail address is: jfaber@rcnpartners.org

Vasya & Maranda Heytsi continue to serve in Tyachiv, Ukraine, a small Ukrainian village on the Romanian and Hungarian border. Vasya serves as the pastor of the New Life Church Plant. Their e-mail address is: newlife-ua@hotmail.com

Sadee Van Ruler continues to serve in Bloomington, Indiana, with Global Service Network on the campus of Indiana University. She is extremely active in living and sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ among Muslim students. Her e-mail address is: sadee.vanruler@gmail.com

LaVeryl & Max Voss continue to serve in Papua, New Guinea through Resonate Global Mission. They support the work of Wycliffe Bible Translators. Their e-mail address is: l-m.voss@sil.org.pg

Regular updates of all our missionaries – updates, due to security, we are allowed to post online – are available on our website. Go to <http://firstchristianreformed.org/about-us/partners> to receive all the information.

The congregation is encouraged to pray for, reach out, and communicate with our missionaries. We praise the Lord for their work.

FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
Care Group Teams 2019-2020

TEAMS	ELDER	DEACON	LAY SHEPHERDS
Team #1	Steve Ruiten (20)	Jeremy Schelhaas (21)	Jodi Zylstra (22) Sandi Schonewill (20)
Team #2	Tim Ackerman (21)	Scott Van Den Top (22)	Rachel Dyk (22) Darcy Maas (20)
Team #3	Ryan Van Donge (21)	Matt Van Zee (22)	Missy Ver Mulm (20) Pam Koelewyn (22)
Team #4	Chad Pater (22)	Phil Bonnema (20)	June Bloem (21) Rachel Attema (22)
Team #5	Virg De Jongh (20)	Kevin Vanderwal (22)	Brenda Van Holland (21) Pam Bultsma (22)
Team #6	Jeremy Tims (20)	Carl Van Stryland (21)	Debbie Spronk (21) Trish Van Zee (20)
Team #7	Josh Van Hulzen (22)	Tyler Burggraaf (20)	Beth Jasper (21) Stacy Van Horsen (22)
Team #8	Jon Oostra (22)	Craig Humphreys (22)	Brenda Blankespoor (21) Pam van Engelenhoven (22)
Team #9	Dale Bloem (21)	Cory Bleyenburg (21)	Carla Kooiman (22) Amy Aukes (20)
Team #10	Rick Vander Haar (20)	Nick De Leeuw (20)	Jill Iverson (21) Jennie Clapp (22)