



— FIRST —
CHRISTIAN
REFORMED
CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

December 7, 2018

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

ADVENT-NEW YEAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE: December 23:
Christmas Candlelight Service @ 5:00 pm; December 25: 9:30 am
Christmas Day Worship ; December 30: Regular morning Worship; No
evening worship.

WOMEN'S EVENT: Thursday, January 24, 2019 6:30-8:30PM. Looking for a night of fun, laughter, desserts, worship and inspiration? Invite your sister, mother, neighbor and friends to join you at our women's event featuring local author, Jennifer Dukes Lee and worship provided by the Dordt College Praise Band. Tickets are \$12.00 and need to be purchased online by January 20, 2019. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/womens-event-with-jennifer-dukes-lee-tickets-53154153504>. We hope you will join us! It will be a great night to reflect and recharge for the new year. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Prins melissa@firstchristianreformed.org. Jennifer Dukes Lee is a local author and has written several books geared towards women with her most recent being, "*It's All Under Control*." Her book focuses on the "journey of letting go, hanging on, and finding a peace you almost forgot was possible. This book is for every women who is hanging on tight and trying to get each day right - yet finding that life often feels out of control and chaotic. Discover a new way of living that will free you to be you and finally experience the peace of knowing a God who truly has it all under control."

CONGREGATION CHRISTMAS PROJECT: Last week to fill a Christmas Stocking for a patient at Avera Behavioral Health. Stockings can be picked up and returned to the table in the Activity Center in between church services. Please have all filled stockings returned to the Activity Center by December 16th.

OFFERING ENVELOPES: Offering envelopes have been distributed in church mailboxes. Please take them home and not store them in your mailbox to allow the mailboxes to be used for other ministry mail throughout the year.

SENIOR AND FRIENDS: PLEASE NOTE THE DATE AND TIME. We will be meeting in the Activity Center for brunch at 10:00 am on Saturday, December 15. The cost is \$10. The program will be provided by Spencer Smith. He will share his musical talents on the piano and will favor us with seasonal songs and carols. For reservations or cancellations please call Joyce Christians at 351-9294 by December 10th.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

CHILDREN'S CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL: The Christmas program will be Sunday, December 9th at 3:30pm in the First CRC Sanctuary. Make sure to invite families and friends! It will be available via live stream for those who would like to watch online.

Christmas program practice will be this Saturday, December 8th from 9:30-11:30 am in the First CRC Sanctuary. We would love to see as many kids there as possible!

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:

December 8th: 9:30 am Christmas Program Practice

December 9th: Children's Church; K-6th Large Group lesson; Christmas Program- 3:30 pm at First CRC.

December 16: Children's Church; No Sunday School

December 23 & 30th: No Children's Church or Sunday School

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

SMALL GROUPS/BIBLE STUDIES: Opportunities are still available for Small Groups and Bible Studies. For specific details or to sign up, please go here: <https://firstchristianreformed.churchcenter.com/groups>.

YOUTH MINISTRY

HSM: Christmas Party!! Meet at church at 7:00 pm. Wear your ugliest Christmas sweater for a chance to win a prize. Also BYOM (Bring Your Own Mug).

Remember this is the last week to fill a Christmas Stocking for a patient at Avera Behavioral Health. Stockings can be picked up and returned to the table in the Activity Center in between church services. Please have all filled stockings returned to the Activity Center by December 16th.

JHM: Junior High Ministry is celebrating Christmas on December 16. Wear your Christmas sweaters, toques 🇨🇦 (stocking caps), socks, slippers and celebrate a Crazy Fun Christmas with us!



DEACON'S MINISTRY

Dec 2, 2018

OFFERING AMOUNT

General Fund	18,225.50
Building Fund	535.00
Faith Promise	1,400.00
Ministry Shares	1,320.00
Tuition Support	1,367.00
Bible League International	895.00
CRWRC	50.00
Wycliffe	50.00
TOTAL	\$23,843.00

December 9: 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.

December 16: Offering of the Day is for Tuition Assistance. The Tuition Assistance Fund provides financial support for families in need of help with the cost of Christian school tuition for the 2018-2019 academic school year.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Dec 7 - 13, 2018

FRIDAY:	10:30 am Senior Circuit
SATURDAY:	7:30 am Men of Integrity 9:30 am Children's Christmas Program Practice
SUNDAY:	8:30/10:30 am Worship/Children's Church 9:45 am Sunday School/Catechism 9:45 am Choir 3:30 pm Children's Christmas Program
MONDAY:	10:30 am Senior Circuit 6:45 pm Men's Life
TUESDAY:	10:30 am Senior Circuit 2:00 pm Women's 55+ Bible Study 6:30 pm NAMI Connections 6:30 pm Pickleball
WEDNESDAY:	6:15 am Men's Bible Study 8:30 am Women's Bible Study (Beth Moore) 9:30 am Center of Hope Coffee Break/Men's Life 9:45 am Coffee Break for Women 6:30 pm GEMS 7:00 pm HSM Christmas Party
THURSDAY:	5:45 pm ReFit

BULLETIN BOARD

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.

THANK YOU: We would like to thank all who remembered our family in the passing of Ann to her eternal home. We appreciated your cards, visits, memorials, prayers and many other acts of kindness. God bless each of you! Al De Wit and family

MEAL TRAIN: A meal train has been established for the following people to assist them and their families during their cancer treatments. Please consider being the hands and feet of Jesus to these families. Cindy Yoder: <https://mealtrain.com/k7q0mv> ; Kim Bleyenburg: <https://mealtrain.com/vw0kzy> ; Matt Beck: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/009nn3> .

HOPE HAVEN: Hope Haven International Ministries presents “Rejoice” featuring Nashville recording artist Jill Miller on Tuesday December 18, 2018 at 7:00 pm at the Orpheum Theatre. Tickets are available at the Washington Pavilion Box Office, info@washingtonpavilion.org or 605-367-6000. The Christmas concert will also feature the Bell Choir from Sioux Falls Christian School. Proceeds will go towards funding wheelchair sponsorships for an upcoming overseas distribution trip in 2019.

CORNERSTONE PRISON CHURCH: Faith Fellowship Weekend Friday, January 25 from 6:00-8:00 pm and January 26 & 27 from 7:15 am - 4:00 pm. Each day the theme for the weekend is “Year of Reconciliation” based on 2 Chronicles 7:14. Join us for worship, large group talks and small group discussions. The deadline for signing up is Monday, January 7. We would be happy to have you join us for part of the weekend or all of it. If you would like more information or to sign up, please contact us at office@cornerstonepcsd.org or call 507-215-3670. Thank you for considering this wonderful ministry opportunity!