



— FIRST —  
CHRISTIAN  
REFORMED  
CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

February 26, 2017

**LENT PROJECT:** Lent begins this week Wednesday, March 1. We will again be approaching Lent with the theme *Give Up In Order to Give!* In conjunction with First CRC's summer mission trip to Ukraine, we as a congregation will be participating in a Lenten focus on Ukraine and our support of *Arise!* Ukraine. In your mailbox February 26, you will find a calendar to follow along with throughout Lent. Each week there is a focus or goal with reminders about what life is like for the youth in Ukraine. We encourage you to read the listed Bible passages as a family, reflect on the great gifts God has blessed us with, and think about what you might be able to give up in order to bless the people of Ukraine. Along with the calendar you will find a corresponding envelope to place your money in for that week. These offering envelopes can be returned on Easter Sunday, April 16. Feel free to also check out <http://ariseukr.com/camp-ministry/> to see First CRC's involvement with Crosswinds English camp. We will be sending our group there in June 2017.

**REFORMATIONAL DEVOTIONS:** The year 2017 marks the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. To help us celebrate and appreciate the great Reformed doctrines of grace, Pastor Cal has been writing daily devotionals based on the Heidelberg Catechism. He began on January 1 and will continue through December 31, covering one Lord's Day each week (Sunday-Saturday). To be encouraged daily in grace and truth, go to <http://firstchristianreformed.org/news/category/daily-bible-readings>.

**ARISE UKRAINE MISSION TRIP:** The Mission Team has partnered with *Arise-Ukraine Ministries* (Paul Logan) to lead an English Day Camp for non-churched youth aged 13-16 in Kiev, Ukraine. The dates of the trip are June 8 through 18. The primary emphasis of the camp is to teach English, with specific focus on teaching Bible stories, Christian prayer and songs. Team members must be willing to present the gospel and invite the youth to receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Members are also to be mature and committed to helping others meet Christ through humble, servant-like and verbal witness to Jesus Christ. *Arise-Ukraine* requests that First CRC's ministry team consist primarily of those who will be entering their Senior year of high school, entering college or currently enrolled in college. The Ministry Team will be led by Pastor Cal, Justin Burns, Megan Schouten, Kelsey Van Peurseem and Gavin DeHaai. If you are interested contact [calvin@firstchristianreformed.org](mailto:calvin@firstchristianreformed.org).

**TUITION ASSISTANCE MINISTRY:** Applications are now available for Christian day school tuition assistance for the 2017/18 school year. The application can be accessed under the Resources tab on First CRC's web page. You can also access it directly at [TADS.com](http://TADS.com) and click on First CRC's form where it asks for the school. The cost per application is \$39.00 and the deadline is April 15, 2017. Please contact a committee member if you have any questions or require additional assistance.

**CLASSIS IAKOTA:** Classis Iakota will meet in regular session on Tuesday, March 7, 2017, beginning at 9:00 am at the New Holland Christian Reformed Church, New Holland, SD. The delegates from First CRC are Pastor Calvin Hoogendoorn, Elder Randy Iverson and Deacon Seth Steensma.

**LENT SERMON & STUDY: Register TODAY!** Join us for a 6-week Lenten Sunday Bible Study from March 5-April 9 at 5:00pm in the Fireside Room. It will be led by Pastor Cal and based on the Gospel Project Bible Study: "SAVED: Life in the face of Death." More information here [http:// www.lifeway.com/Product/the-gospel-project-saved-life-in-the-face-of- death-bible-study-book-P005695954](http://www.lifeway.com/Product/the-gospel-project-saved-life-in-the-face-of-death-bible-study-book-P005695954).

Register at <http://firstchristianreformed.org/ministries/adult-discipleship/small-groups> or at the Information Center. For those of who who have already registered, a workbook has been placed in your mailbox.

Please look over the individual study section of session 1 prior to our March 5 meeting. If you have any questions, contact Melissa Prins at [melissa@firstchristianreformed.org](mailto:melissa@firstchristianreformed.org).

## SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

Check out all the small group opportunities at [www.firstchristianreformed.org](http://www.firstchristianreformed.org). If you have any questions contact [melissa@firstchristianreformed.org](mailto:melissa@firstchristianreformed.org).

**WEDNESDAY EVENING STUDY: Register TODAY!** Join us Wednesdays at 6:30pm from March 1-April 12 for "A Journey through Lent; Reflecting on Christ's Sacrifice for Us" by Tim Keller. The study states: "Lent reminds us of Jesus' 40-day wilderness experience at the onset of his earthly ministry. It provides an opportunity to prepare for Good Friday (April 14) and Easter Sunday (April 16). Register at [http:// firstchristianreformed.org/ministries/adult-discipleship/ small-groups](http://firstchristianreformed.org/ministries/adult-discipleship/small-groups) or at the Information Center. For those of you who have already registered, a workbook and 40 day devotional has been put into your church mailbox. If you have any questions, contact Melissa Prins at [melissa@firstchristianreformed.org](mailto:melissa@firstchristianreformed.org).

**DISPATCH PROJECT: We Want You In Nicaragua!** For the past 4 years Dispatch Project, partnering with First CRC, has gathered together a team to serve for a week in Nicaragua. Interested in seeing firsthand the work that **Jeff & Christy Faber** are doing? We are looking for you and 4 friends to join us as we spend time serving and learning at [Nicaragua Christian Academy](#) [The Nehemiah Center](#) and [Tesoros de Dios](#) from **June 10-19**. This is particularly a great trip for teachers, former teachers, Spanish speakers, and technology enthusiasts. However, we would **love** to put your special skills and abilities to use :). Please talk to Brady Fopma or email [brady@fopma.net](mailto:brady@fopma.net) to find out more!



# YOUTH MINISTRY

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**JHM:** will meet on Monday, February 27 from 7:00-8:30pm. We will finish up our series on “Crew”.

**JHM Spring Retreat:** The annual Junior High Spring Retreat will be at Inspiration Hills April 7-9. Look for more information soon.

**HSM:** Sunday, February 26; HSM will meet for a Pickleball Tournament. Join us at church at 6:30pm and be ready for some fun and active competition!

# CHILDREN’S MINISTRY

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**CADETS:** The **CADET SNOW DERBY** is Saturday, March 4th at Newton Hills State Park by Canton. We will meet and leave church at 8:30 am and should be back around 3:30 pm. Please wear appropriate clothing. Cadets should bring a plastic bag for wet clothes and you may bring a change of clothes. You should also bring a sack lunch and something to drink (with a sealable lid). You **must** bring a can of soup (chicken noodle or beef), a spoon and something to eat it out of (bowl or coffee mug). If you have questions please call Chad Kooiman at 605-360-4738 or Kris Anderson at 605-731-9817.

**FIRST CRC PLAYDATES:** Come and join us for Tuesday morning playdates! If you are tired of being in the house and need a place for the kids to run off some energy, we would love to have you join us on Tuesdays from 9:00-10:30 am in the Activity Center. There will be some toys set up that the kids can play with during this time. Come and meet some new friends while the kids burn off some energy!

**MOPS BABYSITTING FUNDRAISER:** Want a night out? Mops at First CRC is holding a babysitting fundraiser on March 3rd from 6:00-10:00 pm! Kids of all ages are welcome. Drop them off and pick them up any time within those hours. Structured activities and snacks will be provided! Suggested donation is \$10/child for the entire evening.

**GEMS REFIT: GEMS Fun Night-** It's not too late to register for the upcoming Refit event on **Monday, March 6th, 6:30-8:00pm!** Registration forms are available on the 1st CRC website and can be returned to Chad/Allison Vander Haar's church mailbox by Friday, March 3rd. First CRC GEMS tickets are paid for but ticket price for guests are \$5 per person. Tickets at the door are \$8 for GEMS and guests. This should be a fun night of fitness and laughter - no experience needed! For more information on Refit Revolution go to <http://refitrev.com/>. If you have questions contact Allison Vander Haar at 605-929-9862 or email [cavanderhaar@sio.midco.net](mailto:cavanderhaar@sio.midco.net).

**PIZZA!** First CRC GEMS are selling Papa Murphy's Coupon Cards to raise money for our club! Each coupon card costs \$10 with a \$28 value and they never expire!! They are good at all Sioux Falls, Brandon, and Mitchell locations. Contact your favorite GEM, Megan Vander Haar or Jessica Overman at [gems1stcrc@yahoo.com](mailto:gems1stcrc@yahoo.com) to get yours today!

**VBS SAVE THE DATE:** The wonderful weather this week has us thinking Vacation Bible School! Save the dates on your calendar for June 11-15th. “Maker Fun Factory” is the theme this year. *Created by God, Built for a Purpose.*



# DEACON'S MINISTRY

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## February 19, 2017

OFFERING AMOUNT

General Fund	10,170.00
Building Fund	375.00
Faith Promise	515.00
Ministry Shares	895.00
Tuition Support	3,810.47
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,765.47</b>

February 26: Offering of the Day is for Hope Haven. Hope Haven nurtures independence through a broad range of services for children, adults, and families with unique challenges. The Hope Haven staff value and equip individuals according to their strengths and abilities.

March 5: 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 plus the operational expenses of the property, office and personnel expenses. God has blessed First CRC with the opportunity to minister through these programs.

**COFFEE SHOP IN CAFE CONNECTION:** The Administrative Board is happy to announce that the new Coffee Shop for the Cafe Connection has recently become fully funded. We are grateful for all the support the congregation has given to this project. More details will be given as we move forward with the project.

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Feb 26-March 4, 2017

<b>SUNDAY:</b>	8:30/10:00 am Worship/Children's Church/SS 10:00 am Sioux Falls Flourishing Church 5:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm HSM
<b>MONDAY:</b>	10:30 am Senior Circuit 6:45 pm Coffee Break 6:45 pm Men's Life 7:00 pm JHM
<b>TUESDAY:</b>	10:30 am Senior Circuit 6:30 pm NAMI 6:30 pm Pickleball
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	6:15 am Men of Integrity 8:30 am Women's Bible Study 9:30 am Center of Hope/Men's Life 9:45 am Coffee Break for Women 6:30 pm Tim Keller Lent Bible Study 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm Cadets
<b>THURSDAY:</b>	9:00 am MOPS 7:00 pm Praise Team Practice
<b>FRIDAY:</b>	10:30 am Senior Circuit 6:00 pm MOPS Babysitting Fundraiser
<b>SATURDAY:</b>	7:30 am Men of Integrity 8:00 am Cadet Snow Derby-off campus

# BULLETIN BOARD

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1st CRC Newsletter announcements may be sent to [office@firstchristianreformed.org](mailto:office@firstchristianreformed.org). These are due by noon on Wednesday.

**CHURCH MAILBOXES:** If you have an item for someone that does not fit into their mailbox, do NOT place it on top of the mailboxes, but instead put it in the cabinet labeled “oversized items”. Please take one the attached notes from the cabinet and put it into their mailbox to alert them of the item.

**BEAUTIFUL LIFE WOMEN’S CONFERENCE:** All women are invited to the Beautiful Life Women’s Conference on Saturday, April 1 at the American Reformed Church in Luverne, MN. Doors open at 8:00 am with a continental breakfast; conference is from 9:00 am-2:00 pm. Rachel Barrentine - singer, songwriter, speaker - will weave her personal narrative of music, chronic sickness, goofiness, and grace in a way that ignites fresh faith in her listeners as she challenges us to “Be Brave”. Registration is available online at [www.beautifullifeconferences.org](http://www.beautifullifeconferences.org) or by calling the church office at 507-283-8600. Cost is \$25 before March 26; \$30 after, and includes dinner from The Bluestem.

**CORNERSTONE PRISON CHURCH:** Save the Date! Cornerstone Prison Church Council, Board and Congregation would like to invite you to the Annual Benefit Banquet Monday, April 10, 2017. Please join us at Trinity Christian Reformed Church, Rock Valley, IA at 6:30 p.m. Doors will open at 6:00 p.m. Save your spot by calling Trinity CRC at 712-476-5292 or go to our website [www.cornerstonepcsd.org](http://www.cornerstonepcsd.org). Enjoy an evening of fun, food and fellowship as we listen to Gale Van Engen and Arlyn Boon perform and hear how the hope of Jesus Christ is working in hearts and lives of inmates in the South Dakota State Penitentiary!

**BIG SOO COUPON BOOKS:** Big Soo Coupon Books have been discounted to **\$35.00!** The Youth Group still keeps \$10 for every book sold. There are coupons for 76 different restaurants in and around Sioux Falls, Golf Courses, Great Bear, Great Plains Zoo, Thunder Road, Wild Water West, car washes, oil changes, and many other household and auto goods and services. Please pick your Big Soo Book at the church office!

**AG SUMMIT 2017:** The community is invited to attend Ag Summit 2017 “*Thou Shalt Not Kill-What’s the Christian Response to the New Food Movement*” on Wednesday, March 22, from 8:15 a.m. to noon, beginning in the Dordt College Campus Center. The event features keynote speaker Kevin Murphy, owner and founder of Food-Chain communications. The event will consist of breakfast, 9:00 am presentation by Murphy in the Campus Center, panel discussion at 10:00 am in B.J. Haan Auditorium, and a final presentation by Murphy at 11:00 am in conjunction with Dordt College’s Chapel Series. Ag Summit 2017 is presented by Dordt College and the Sioux Center Chamber of Commerce Ag Committee. Tickets are \$15 and registration is appreciated by Thursday, March 16. Contact the Chamber Office at (712) 722-3457 or [admin@siouxcenterchamber.com](mailto:admin@siouxcenterchamber.com).

