



— FIRST —
CHRISTIAN
REFORMED
CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

January 1, 2016

ROAD TO MEMBERSHIP: Are you considering making First CRC your Church home? If so, the next membership class will be held on the Sunday afternoons of January 15 & 22, 2017, from 2:00 pm to 4:30 pm (we are trying a new format). This is an opportunity to learn about First CRC's vision and ministry and to meet other people, including the staff of First CRC. Please sign up at www.firstchristianreformed.org.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MISSION TRIP: First CRC is hoping to partner with CRWM for a Service & Learning Project in the Dominican Republic to help construct a small church building. The trip is scheduled for February 24-March 6, 2017. So far 5 people have signed up, with a total of 12 needed. A complete team is needed by January 6, 2017 in order to make the proper project and travel arrangements. Email calvin@firstchristianreformed.org if interested in participating.

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 anticipated dates of the trip are June 7/8 through 21/22 (two weeks). 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 Calvin Hoogendoorn. If you are interested in serving, please contact him at: calvin@firstchristianreformed.org.



Thank you, 1st CRC for being known as a compassionate church. You have been instrumental in providing a safe place for 55 children in 2016. You have helped to create a safety net for 27 parents who need non-judgmental friendship in the midst of a crisis in 2016.

Your church has been bold enough to enter the world of homelessness, mental illness, medical emergencies, domestic violence, sudden job loss, prostitution, and jail in order to represent the LOVE of Jesus to many vulnerable families in our city.

You have provided blessings to our youngest by providing blankets, pajamas, and other necessities to make them feel loved and welcomed in their host homes.

Blessings to you in the new year as we continue to minister together.

Tracy Folkerts, Director of Safe Families for Children and Erin Wescott, Child Placement Coordinator.

YOUTH MINISTRY

HSM WINTER RETREAT: Winter Retreat is being held at Camp Lebanon over the weekend of February 17-19, 2017. The cost for the weekend is \$100 and you can register online <http://firstchristianreformed.org/ministries/youth-ministries/senior-high/winter-retreat-2017>. Registration forms are due on January 25.

JHM: Resumes again on January 9, 2017.

HSM: Resumes again on January 8, 2017.

SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

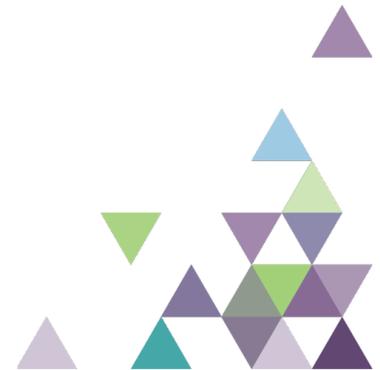
Check out all the small group opportunities at www.firstchristianreformed.org. If you have any questions contact melissa@firstchristianreformed.org.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY:

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday School resumes on January 8th.

We are still looking for someone to lead singing at the 10:30am for Sunday School. If you are interested in serving in this ministry please contact Katy Oppold at katy@firstchristianreformed.org.

2017 INTERNATIONAL CADET CAMPOREE: If there are any former Cadet counselors that are interested in helping with the camporee this summer in the Black Hills, please contact Kris Anderson by December, 31st for more information.



DEACON'S MINISTRY

December 25, 2016

OFFERING AMOUNT

General Fund	7,526.00
Building Fund	345.00
Faith Promise	660.00
CRWRC	1,000.00
Ministry Shares	695.00
Tuition Support	1,345.00
Friendship Ministries	2,035.50
TOTAL	13,606.50

DECEMBER 24, 2016

OFFERING AMOUNT

General Fund	18,070.00
Faith Promise	535.00
Alpha Center	1,563.05
Ministry Shares	455.00
Tuition Support	1,280.00
TOTAL	21,903.05

January 1: 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.

January 8: Offering of the Day is for Ministry Shares. Ministry Shares proves the power of shared resources by helping the Christian Reformed Church's individual congregations participate in regional and global ministries.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Jan 1-7, 2017

SUNDAY:	8:30/10:00 am Worship
MONDAY:	Church office closed
TUESDAY:	10:30 am Senior Circuit 6:30 pm NAMI 6:30 pm Pickleball 7:00 pm Shepherding Meeting
WEDNESDAY:	6:15 am Men of Integrity 9:30 am Center of Hope/Men's Life 6:30 pm Cadets 6:30 pm Stephen Ministry
THURSDAY:	9:00 am MOPS 7:00 pm Praise Team Practice
FRIDAY:	10:30 am Senior Circuit
SATURDAY:	6:15 am Men of Integrity

BULLETIN BOARD

1st CRC Newsletter announcements may be sent to 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.

DORDT COLLEGE CONCERT CHOIR: The Dordt College Concert Choir invites you to a concert at 7:00 pm on Monday, January 9 here at First. The concert is part of a winter tour under the direction of Dr. Benjamin Kornelis and will consist of a wide variety of choral music. The concert is free with a freewill offering received to help defray tour costs.

DAY OF ENCOURAGEMENT: A day to inspire, encourage, and equip God’s people for ministry, Day of Encouragement will take place on Saturday, February 4, 2017, at Dordt College. This year’s keynote speaker is Ed Stetzer, a prolific author and well-known conference and seminar leader. Day of Encouragement also offers a variety of breakout sessions throughout the day focusing on family, worship, youth, tech media, preaching, and shepherding. Early bird registration is available at www.dordt.edu/doe until January 24 for individuals and groups of 10 or more. Late registration will be available through February 4.

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!

THANK YOU: We want to express our thanks to the many people who gave us support and prayers during Gladys’ cancer treatments and surgery. We continue to ask for your prayers during radiation treatments. Harry & Gladys Link

NEEDS OF THE FAMILY: Noutsougans: As you are aware, Simplicie and Delphine Noutsougan were blessed with the birth of a baby girl, Grace, on November 15th. Grace has been transferred to the Dougherty House. With providing Grace care as well as their other children, the family finds itself going many different directions each day. To assist the family, a meal train has been established. If you are interested in providing the Noutsougan family with a meal please go to <https://mealtrain.com/eno4no>. Thank you for your caring support.

