# FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

## NEWSLETTER

November 22, 2017

**OFFICE HOURS:** The regular Church Office hours are: Monday-Thursday, 8:30 am-4:00 pm, and Friday, 8:30 am-12:00 pm (noon). Please note that during the week of Thanksgiving, the Office will be closed both Thursday and Friday, November 23-24, 2017.

**THANKSGIVING DAY WORSHIP:** Join us on Thursday, November 23 at 9:30 am for Thanksgiving Day Worship in our Sanctuary.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** The Fall Congregational Meeting to approve the 2018 General Fund Budget and to provide other ministry updates is scheduled for Tuesday, December 5, 2017, at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

**Full Tummies and Warm Hearts:** Thank you to everyone who helped provide a Thanksgiving meal to nearly 165 of our neighbors from Rosa Parks and Cleveland elementary schools this past Sunday. Your willingness to share has blessed many families.

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MISSION TRIP:** First CRC has committed to send a 12 member construction team to the DR. The trip is scheduled to take place from February 23 - March 3, 2018. If you are interested, please contact either Don Kooiman or Rick Vander Haar as soon as possible, and also ensure that your passport does not expire less than 6 months of the return date of the trip.

**CAFE CONNECTIONS:** We are thankful for you! Visit Cafe Connections from 9:00-9:30 am on Thanksgiving Day. Tell the baristas what you are thankful for and receive a free latte.

**MOPS:** Help Wanted! We are looking for some additional help with our MOPS Kids Program. MOPS meets two Thursdays per month. Workers would need to be at the church from 8:30-11:15 am on those days and will be paid. Please contact Ann Van Stedum at (605) 940-6759 if you are interested. Please prayerfully consider being a blessing to these moms and their kiddos!

**SENIORS AND FRIENDS:** Seniors and Friends are sponsoring an opportunity for you to attend the *"Another Christmas Holiday Show (An Opland Holiday Tradition)"* on Friday, December 1, at the Pipestone Performing Arts Center. The performance is at 7:30 pm. Tickets are $15 and cost for the ride is $5. Buses/cars will leave from First CRC. Call Joyce Christians 605-351-9294, or Kathy Van Der Bill 612-723-1995 vdbs1107@gmail.com, to make your reservations and also to send payment. Checks can be made out to Kathy Van Der Bill. We will accept reservations until noon on November 17th. It's a wonderful way to begin the Christmas season.

# SMALL GROUPS

For information regarding Small Groups, go to firstchristianreformed.org or contact melissa@firstchristianreformed.org.

**BIBLE STUDY WOMEN 45+:** You are invited to a women's Bible study: *The Armor of God,* on Monday, December 4 at 6:45 pm at the church. We will meet 2 times a month on the 1st and 3rd Mondays at 6:45 pm. If you are interested, please pick up a study guide in Sharon Buwalda's church mailbox.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** Thanksgiving is not even here yet, but the Wednesday @ 6:30 pm Women's Bible study is thinking about Christmas. Join us for "Discover the Gift of Christmas". We plan to start the evening of November 29 and finish December 20. If you would like to join us, contact melissa@firstchristianreformed.org or sign up at the Information Center.

# YOUTH MINISTRY

**HSM:** Reminder that there will be no HSM tonight (November 22) as we prepare our hearts for Thanksgiving and time with family! We will see you again on November 29 at 7:00 pm as we talk about chapter 5 of *The Cure*! Have a great Thanksgiving!

**BIG SOO:** DISCOUNTED! Big Soo coupon books have been reduced. Books are $37 a piece and can be purchased by stopping by the church office! Contact carlye@firstchristianreformed.org with questions.

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**GEMS:** We want girls EVERYWHERE to meet the Savior and you can help!! Purchase a Papa Murphy's coupon card for $10 ($27 value) by emailing gems1stcrc@yahoo.com or contact Megan Vander Haar at 929-3859. All proceeds will benefit GEMS Global which strives to start GEMS clubs all over the globe. Coupon cards also make a great gift. Thanks for your support!

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH:** There will be no Children's Church on Sunday, November 26 due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**: Do you enjoy kids and music? We are searching for someone to lead our Sunday School kids singing session on Sunday mornings for 30 minutes during the 10:00 service. Contact heather@firstchristianreformed.org if you can help.

**CHRISTMAS PROGRAM:** Save the Date! Children's Church and K-3rd Grade Christmas Program at Sioux Falls Christian Schools on December 3 beginning at 3:00 pm. Prelude pieces performed by children will begin at 2:30 pm.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL/CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICE SCHEDULE:**

November 26th: K-3rd Grade Christmas Program Practice- All K-3rd Grade children practice from 8:30-9:45am in the GEMS Room; 4th-8th-No Sunday School.

December 2nd (Saturday) - K-3rd Grade Christmas Program Practice - All children K-3rd Grade (No Children's Church kids) from 1:00-2:30 pm at Sioux Falls Christian School.

December 3rd - K-3rd Grade Christmas Program Practice- All children practice from 8:30-9:45am in the GEMS Room; 4th-8th Grade-Regular Sunday School lesson.

December 3rd - Children's Church and K-3rd Grade Christmas Program at Sioux Falls Christian Schools. Please have children arrive by 2:30 pm.

Calling All Children With Musical Talents! We are looking for children of all ages to participate in the prelude for the Christmas Program on Sunday, December 3rd. Each child is invited to play a short piece (two minutes or less) on an instrument of his or her choosing. Sign up your child here by Sunday, November 26th. Contact katy@firstchristianreformed.org or 605-759-7905 with any questions.

December 10th- Grades K-8th grade will have regular Sunday school. There will be a Sunday school break through the remainder of December and Sunday school will resume on January 7th, 2018.

# DEACON'S MINISTRY

## November 19, 2017

| | OFFERING AMOUNT |
|---|---|
| General Fund | 10,356.00 |
| Building Fund | 740.00 |
| Faith Promise | 825.00 |
| Ministry Shares | 1,495.00 |
| Tuition Support | 3,754.06 |
| TOTAL | 17,170.06 |

November 23: Offering of the Day is for Needs of the Family. The Needs of the Family Fund was set up to help the members of our Church in their times of need.

November 26: Offering of the Day is for The Bishop Dudley Hospitality House. The Bishop Dudley Hospitality House in Sioux Falls, South Dakota offers daytime and overnight emergency shelter for the homeless and vulnerable. A wide range of other social service providers offer additional essential services aimed at providing a hand up to those in need.

December 3rd: 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.

December 3rd Communion Offering: Cornerstone Prison Ministry. Cornerstone Ministry is a ministry inside the South Dakota State Penitentiary and the surrounding area to help men develop into faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

# WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Nov 24 - Nov 30, 2017

**FRIDAY:** Church and Church Office Closed

**SATURDAY:** No Planned Activities

**SUNDAY:**
8:30/10:00 am Worship
8:30 am K-3rd Christmas Program Practice
9:30 am Choir Rehearsal
10:00 am Sioux Falls Flourishing Church
5:00 pm No Evening Worship

**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
6:30 pm Pickleball

**WEDNESDAY:**
8:30 am Women's Bible Study
9:30 am Center of Hope Coffee Break/Men's Life
9:45 am Coffee Break for Women
6:30 pm GEMS
6:30 pm Women's Bible Study
7:00 pm HSM

**THURSDAY:**
8:45 am MOPS
7:00 pm Praise Team Practice

# 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.

**CHURCH WEBSITE:** Check out the church website for lots of information! You will find ministry opportunities, up to date calendar information, Daily Bible Readings and more! This is also the place where members can sign up to receive Daily Prayer Happenings. If you are unable to access the Member Section, email kristi@firstchristianreformed.org.

**DAY OF ENCOURAGEMENT**: Save the Date! Saturday, February 3, 2018 at Dordt College. Registration will be available December 1. Everyone is welcome to participate.

**KDCR**: KDCR is hosting the "Celebrate Christmas Tour with Natalie Grant and Danny Gokey" at the B.J. Haan Auditorium in Sioux Center on Thursday, Nov. 30 at 7:00pm. More information can be found on kdcr885.com.

**DORDT COLLEGE:** Friday, December 8: Dordt College will present its Choral Ensembles Christmas Concert on Friday, December 8, at 7:30 pm in the B.J. Haan Auditorium. This concert will feature Bella Voce, Kantorei, and Concert Choir.

**SAFE FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN:** There are many parents right here in Sioux Falls who, if they lost their job or their home, had a medical emergency, needed drug or alcohol treatment or were experiencing other types of crisis, would have no one to call. Safe Families is the response of help to families experiencing a temporary crisis and have nowhere to turn. Bethany Christian Services partners with the local church to equip members to reach out and help host children, mentor parents, and provide much needed resources to struggling families during their crisis. If you would like more information on this ministry, please plan to attend one of our upcoming informational meetings on December 4, January 8, or February 5. All meetings will be held at the Bethany offices, 400 S. Sycamore Avenue at 7:00 pm. If you have any questions, please contact kari@firstchristianreformed.org or the Bethany office at 336-6999.