



FIRST
CHRISTIAN
REFORMED
CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

December 11, 2022

Changes to the Family: We say goodbye to Jarret Eshuis and his son Levi who transferred their membership to Faith CRC, in Sioux Center, IA. Julie Stordahl and her family who transferred to Shalom CRC, Sioux Falls, SD. Zach Mulder who requested his membership to be released.

Seniors & Friends: REMINDER to those who pre-registered: We will be attending the theatre production of "The Christmas Carol" on Saturday afternoon, December 17 at 2:00 PM at the Orpheum Theatre. Since parking is usually at a premium at the theatre, we will be taking the church vans and meeting at church at 1:15 for everyone's convenience. WE DO HAVE TWO TICKETS AVAILABLE AND CAN BE PURCHASED BY CONTACTING BONNIE GORTER AT 605-214-4914. They are available to anyone interested at \$37.00 person. Payment made by check must be payable to Seniors and Friends.

OFFICE HOURS: The Church Office hours are: Monday-Thursday (8:30 am - 4:00 pm) and Friday (8:30 am-12:00 pm). 1st CRC Newsletter announcements may be sent to office@firstchristianreformed.org. These are due by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday.

Search Committee- Please keep the Lead Pastor Search Committee in your daily prayers as they seek to follow HIS leading for our Lead Pastor. The Committee includes: Mike Davelaar, Amber VanderWal, Pam Koelewyn, Caleb Veldhouse, Sara Koole, Josh Soodsma, Lisa VandeKamp, Justin Snyder, Rev. Van Rathbun, Brad Van Kalsbeek-Chairperson, Rev. Adam Eisenga-Classical Church Counselor

FIRST STUDENTS & KIDS MINISTRY

Christmas Program: Our Preschool and K-3rd students will present their annual Christmas program on Sunday, December 11th at 3:30pm. The program will be [live-streamed](#) for those unable to attend. Please share the link with family and friends, or direct them to our [Facebook page](#). For kids participating in the program, please plan to bring them to the Fireside room at 3:15pm. Preschoolers will sit with their parents when they are finished singing and K-3 students will be dismissed to the Fireside room after the program. Please plan to pick them up there.

If your child would like to play the piano or another instrument for our program prelude, please fill out this [form](#) by Friday at 5:00pm in order for their name to be included in the program!

Sunday School will not meet December 18-January 1st. Children's Church will not meet on December 25th or January 1st. All classes will resume again on January 8th.

Junior High Ministry- Our last meeting of 2022 is Dec. 18, immediately following the candlelight service. This will be our Junior High Christmas Party which includes games, a Christmas message and candy prizes.

Catalyst Youth Ministry- Catalyst Youth Ministry (formerly HSM) meets every Wednesday from 7:00-9:00 p.m. for games, fellowship and Christ-centered relationship building. It's open to all 9th-12 graders. Invite your friends! Questions? Email Will Grisham at will@firstchristianreformed.org.

Big Soo Coupon books are once again for sale! With over \$10,000 dollars in instant savings this book is a must have for any home. Each book is only \$42 each and all of the proceeds go directly to funding Catalyst Youth Ministries future mission work. Stop by the office to get yours today! Questions? Email: will@firstchristianreformed.org

BULLETIN BOARD

Stephen Ministry: Need a confidential one on one Stephen Minister? Our ministers are trained to help others navigate tough life circumstances. They are wonderful listeners and provide great care to those who ask for it. If you need someone to talk to, we have Ministers equipped to listen. If you need a Stephen Minister, contact our Director of Pastoral Care: Cole Pleggenkuhle cole@firstchristianreformed.org

Dordt Music Events- On December 16th at 7:30 p.m. in the B.J. Haan Auditorium, Dordt University's 4th Avenue Singers will present a concert in conjunction with the 4th Avenue Band, presenting some selections from *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* and old favorites such as *White Christmas* and local composer Amy Linder's jazzy setting of *Deck the Halls*. Please join us for a fun evening of music! The concert will also be available on livestream at <https://www.dordt.edu/livestream>.

Justice For All is planning a KENTUCKY BUS TOUR, focusing on our 4 major ministry partners: Grace Covenant Ministries, Annville, KY; Helping Hands, Hyden KY, Appalachia Reach Out Inez, KY; and Appalachian Mission of Hope, Berea, KY. The dates are April 12-18, 2023. Join us, learn, and see how God is using beautiful ministries to share HIS love and hope to those who live in very poor communities throughout Kentucky. We'll be exploring the rich history, culture and stories of the mountain 'hollers', coal, and horses! And God's amazing creation will also be on display! If you are interested or want more information, please contact Pat Vander Pol at JFA (patvp@jfa-nwiowa.org – 712-476-2804).

Justice for All is having a meeting with information about Service & Learning Trips at Justice for All ministry center on Tuesday January 10, 2023 at 6:30pm. Address is for the ministry center is 1335 Valley Drive Rock Valley, IA 51247. There will be light refreshments available. With questions please contact Nick at Justice for All 712-476-2804. Consider going on a trip this year to work alongside others in a different community.

OFFERING TOTALS: DEC 4, 2022

General Fund	30,675.78
Building Fund	1,016.56
Faith Promise	1,454.56
Ministry Shares	1,553.12
Tuition Assistance	1,366.56
Needs of the Family	858.57
Heytsi Missionary Fund	2,568.50
Alpha Center	707.98
Cornerstone Prison Ministry	575.00
GRAND TOTAL	40,776.63

DEACON'S MINISTRY

DECEMBER 11: Offering of the Day is for Ministry Shares. Ministry Shares proves the power of shared resources by helping the individual congregations of the CRC participate in regional and global ministries.

DECEMBER 18: Offering of the Day is Tuition Assistance. The Tuition Assistance Fund provides financial support for families in need of help with Christian school tuition for the 2022-2023 academic school year.

DECEMBER 25: Offering of the Day is Friendship Ministries. Friendship Ministries is an organization that helps churches around the world share God's love with people who have intellectual disabilities grow deeper in their relationship with God.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

December 11 - December 17, 2022

SUNDAY	8:30 and 10:30am Worship & Nursery 9:45am Sunday School & Faith Talk 9:45am Choir Practice 3:30pm Christmas Program
MONDAY	10:30am Senior Circuit 6:45pm Men's Life
TUESDAY	10:30am Senior Circuit 2:00pm Women's Bible Study (55+) 6:30pm Pickleball
WEDNESDAY	6:30am Mens Bible Study (office) 10:30am Collision Meal Ministry 6:30pm GEMS 6:45pm Choir/Bell Choir Practice 6:30pm Women's Bible Study (office) 7:00pm Catalyst Youth Ministry
THURSDAY	8:50am MOPS 5:45pm ReFit
FRIDAY	10:30am Senior Circuit
SATURDAY	7:30am Men of Integrity 1:15pm Seniors and Friends