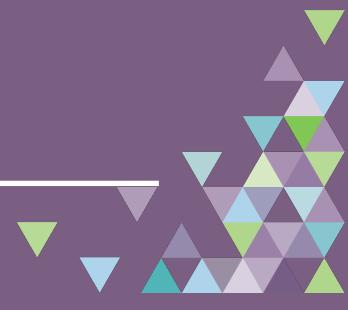




—FIRST— CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

May 8, 2020



OFFICE HOURS: Even though our campus ministry has been suspended, the Church Office will remain open during regular hours: Monday-Thursday (8:30 am - 4:30 pm) and Friday (8:30 am - 12:00 pm; noon).

STAY INFORMED: Check out our church website firstchristianreformed.org, all updates and information in the [weekly newsletter](#), and members can sign up for the [Daily Prayer Happenings](#). Follow social media for updates and encouragement throughout the week [Facebook Page](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#).

ONLINE WORSHIP: We are privileged to join together before the Lord in worship. The online services are available at these three places:

[Livestream](#)

firstchristianreformed.org

[Facebook](#)

If one of the three links below doesn't work for you, the service will always be posted on our website immediately following the live recording.

MEMBERSHIP: The Council gratefully received the memberships of James & Ruth Kerns and their children Carissa and Emily from the Shalom CRC, Sioux Falls. We welcome them into our Church family and pray the Lord will richly bless them.

TUITION ASSISTANCE: The First CRC Tuition Assistance Ministry Committee is now taking financial applications for the 2020/2021 School year. Please note that there are some changes for this year. Sioux Falls Christian Schools has contracted to use TADS for registration and tuition assistance. To simplify things if your student(s) attend Sioux Falls Christian Schools please register AND apply for tuition assistance through the SFC TADS web portal. SFC will then forward the First CRC assistance applications directly to our committee. Please fill out your registration and assistance application as soon as possible. If your student attends another approved Christian school please contact a committee member to be directed to an alternate application. If there are circumstances you feel the application does not address, our committee welcomes additional explanations. Please feel free to email or call a committee member or your Elder or Deacon at any time. Nathan Engbers, John Sjaarda, Brad Van Surksum, Mark Veurink, Tim Ackerman

PSALMS OF THE HEART: During the months of April & May, Pastor Hoogendoorn will be preaching a series of sermons entitled, "Psalms of the Heart." Some Psalms give voice to the longing of our hearts, some express lament over human struggle, and yet others express adoration and love for the Lord. Each of the Psalms serve as a rich pastoral treasure to nurture assurance of faith, to provide confidence in life, and, therefore, to invite us to the privilege to lift up praise to our great God and King, Jesus Christ. The Psalms we will study are:

May 10	Psalm 23
May 17	Psalm 8
May 24	Psalm 1
May 31	Psalm 96 (Pentecost Sunday)

COMMUNITY PANTRY: We would like to provide items to our surrounding neighbors affected by COVID-19. The congregation has an opportunity to contribute by providing the items listed below. These items should be new and clean. They should be dropped off at the Church Office during office hours (Monday-Thursday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm and Friday 8:30 am - 12:00 pm). This is a great way to provide care and compassion in a tangible way during this tough time. If you have any questions feel free to contact our Director of Outreach, Cole Pleggenkuhle cole@firstchristianreformed.org.

Pantry Items: Toilet Paper, toothpaste, toothbrush, soap (shampoo), diapers/ baby wipes, feminine products, soups (canned or other), canned vegetables, pasta, boxed meals (hamburger helper), fruit snacks, fruit cups, chips or crackers, rice, granola bars.

FIRST STUDENTS

HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY: We'll be having a Bingo game night next Wednesday, May 13 at 7:00 pm. Look for the Zoom email invite.

Stay connected: Facebook - First CRC High School Ministry; Twitter - 1st CRC Youth Group @1stHSM; Remind - classname: First CRC Youth Group code: @firstcrc

GRADUATES: We are planning to honor our High School and College graduates. If you have a High School or College student who will be graduating this Spring, please complete this [form](#) and email a picture of your student to melissa@firstchristianreformed.org

FIRST KIDS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: With the COVID-19 crisis still at hand and the restrictions in place through mid-May, we have made the decision to cancel our Vacation Bible School for June 7-11, 2020. There are so many unknowns and the safety and health of our children and volunteers is of utmost importance. We are looking for some alternative ways to bring VBS to your families, but we will not hold our traditional style VBS on June 7-11 as planned.

GEMS: HOT COCOA DELIVERY! GEMS have a few more small boxes of hot cocoa for sale! Flavor choices are original, white chocolate, salted caramel, pumpkin spice, peppermint and white chocolate peppermint. Price reduced to \$10 each. If you are interested in purchasing please contact Megan Vander Haar at gems1stcrc@yahoo.com or 605-929-3859. Thanks for your continued support of our ministry.

WORSHIP May 10, 2020

Prelude: Way Maker

Welcome/Virtual Greeting

Songs: Be the Center

Great Are You Lord

Time of Renewal

Song: Who You Say I Am with Children of the Heavenly Father

Morning Prayer

Offering

Song: He Leadeth Me

Scripture: Psalm 23

Message: The Lord is My Shepherd

Prayer

Parting Blessing

Song: My Friends May You Grow in Grace

Postlude: World Needs Jesus

Confidence Amid COVID-19:

During times of uncertainty, we turn to Jesus. He is our hope, our faithful Father, the lover of our souls. What if I need help? What can I do to help?

- Devotionals from Pastor Cal posted to [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#) and our [website](#).
- Looking for ways to help? Or need help? coronahelpsf.com

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES: Below are some resources that may be found for worship or study. These will help you understand the gospel message, grow in your love for Jesus, and help you live in obedience to Him.

- [The New City Catechism](#): This modern-day catechism was developed by Tim Keller (among others) from the Heidelberg Catechism, the Westminster Catechism, and one of John Calvin's catechisms.
- [The Bible Project](#): The BibleProject is a nonprofit animation studio that produces short-form, fully animated Bible videos and other Bible resources to make the biblical story accessible to everyone, everywhere. The videos show that the Bible is a unified story that leads to Jesus.
- [The Gospel Coalition](#): The Gospel Coalition has a large number of resources for Christians in a time of Coronavirus.
- [The Heidelberg Catechism](#): The Heidelberg Catechism is a rich source of Biblical understanding and pastoral insight for daily living. Specific Q&As might be helpful to read together during this time of uncertainty, especially those concerning God's providence and care (Q&A 1, 26, 27, 28, & 120-129).

3 Simple Ways to Give Online Here

1. Online giving (website or app)
2. Direct Contribution ACH
3. Drop off or Mail check to: 2811 E 26th St,
Sioux Falls, SD 57103

Thank you for continuing to support the ministry of First CRC.

May 10: 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.

May 17: 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 2019-2020 academic school year.

BULLETIN BOARD

CARD SHOWER: Keith Pollema is having a birthday on Saturday, May 9. The congregation is invited to participate in a card shower and send him a card to 735 E. Eldorado Court, Sioux Falls, SD 57108.

SIOUX FALLS CHRISTIAN: Sioux Falls Christian is seeking Host Families for International Students. This is a wonderful opportunity for your family to share God's love and create lifelong learning and memories for the student and your family. A Christian home with an encouraging family environment, extra bedroom, meals and transportation to and from school would be a great blessing for our international students. Host families are needed for this summer and next school year. We presently have three boys and one girl in need of care. There is a monthly stipend for each month of care. For more information, please contact Kim Shemon at kshemon@siouxfallschristian.org or call/text at 605-254-2504. Thank you for your prayers and consideration of our ministry need.