



FIRST  
CHRISTIAN  
REFORMED

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

*April 17-23*

### CHURCH FAMILY

#### **Profession of Faith- April 21**

Join us this Sunday to witness the profession of faith of Levi Davelaar and Isaac Davelaar at 8:30am and Max Matherly at 10:30am

#### **Meal Train- New Dates Added**

Gil & Jan Blankespoor: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/51olrz>

#### **Caring Bridge- Rylan Van Zee**

visit: [www.caringbridge.org/visit/rylanvanzee](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/rylanvanzee)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **Graduating?**

If you/your son or daughter are graduating High School or College this spring, we'd love to celebrate with you! We will be hosting a reception on May 19 for everyone to congratulate the graduates, and featuring them on a slideshow. Let us know all about the graduate by filling out the appropriate form below and sending a picture to [office@firstchristianreformed.org](mailto:office@firstchristianreformed.org)

High School Graduates

College Graduates

#### **Senior And Friends**

Senior and Friends will meet at 9:30 AM in the Fireside Room at 1st CRC on Saturday, April 20. We have invited Pastor Steve to spend some time sharing his story with us over doughnuts and coffee. We are hoping that his wife, Angela, will be able to join us too, pending a full schedule with weekend guests and moving activities. Let's give them a warm welcome and share a time of get-acquainted fellowship.

# PASTOR'S CORNER

*Steve Zwart*

## **I Wonder as I Wander**

In the early 1900's, John Jacob Niles penned the words to the song "I Wonder as I Wander" after hearing a young voice - a beautiful soul in an impoverished setting - under a night sky repeat the line over and over and over again. And while artists throughout the years embellished on the line, its reflective tone and simple lyric invite us into a place of great potential.

You might say: "Potential? Really? Sounds haunting and empty to me!"

The story is told of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who trained and taught seminarians "underground" during World War II, where he challenged his students to begin each day with 3-4 hours of scripture reading and prayer. After some time had passed, he inquired how it was going. With crestfallen faces, the students replied that task was indeed difficult, some noting that they either fell asleep or found their minds wandering off. Figuring their mentor would be disappointed, they were surprised as his response.

Summing up his observations, he said that one should not despise slumber or wandering in pursuit of the presence of God. If one is engaged in communion with God and slips into a state of blissful rest or in pursuit of truth with one's mind wandering into regions that need the truth of God, you have labored well in your sanctification.

Sleep? Wandering? Is good? Think about it: what better context to find rest than in dedicated time in the presence of God. Or, what better way to discover the regions of the heart and mind that need the attention of the truth of God than where the mind wanders - for our wanderings often land in places of fears, failures, questions, concerns, mysteries, or the like.

You mean I have permission to fall asleep in church during the sermon? Or wander through the Bible while the message is being preached? If your heart is set on worship of God and you land in the place of wonder-wander or rest, receive the peace of God and be refreshed. That being said, if you neglect the creational order of necessitated rest and come haphazardly tired to church, let it not become the pattern of your frame of worship lest you show contempt for the presence and worship of God.

Wonder in your wandering is permissible. Rest is essential. Journey in sanctification well.  
Pastor Steve

## OUR MISSIONARIES

*Missions Team*

### April Missionary Spotlight



**Vasya & Maranda Heytsi**  
New Life Church, Ukraine

Heytsi- Spring Newsletter

**New Missionary Newsletters**

## FIRST KIDS

*Jill Smith*

### **Student Nursery Volunteers!**

We are looking for students to help out in the nursery! They are the perfect age to help in nursery as they still love to play toys, read books and give out hugs and snuggles!  
You can sign them up below!

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/17nYXefYLGw4XyGsi-5EqNt56hYqdn7eHZxy7s6wrOgU/edit?usp=sharing>

### **SCUBA VBS**

Scuba VBS happening June 2-6 6:00pm-8:15pm. The Summer event that helps kids dive into friendship with God!

SCUBA VBS Sign UP

### **VBS Donations**

#### **Needed to make under the sea decorations:**

Cardboard boxes of any size  
Cardboard Egg cartons  
Cardboard tubes (Toilet paper/paper towel/wrapping etc)  
Plastic lids (pop, juice, milk etc)

**Please bring these downstairs to the marked area!**

### **Ministry Season End Dates**

**The last day of Sunday School (& Faith Talk) is April 21st.**

**The last day of Children's Church will be May 19th.**

### **Christian Illusionist Matt Adams- Registration OPEN!**

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, May 1st as Christian Illusionist and Evangelist Matt Adams joins us to perform an amazing show. Great for kids, but open to all ages, Registration is open NOW. Cost is \$5 person, ages 5 and under are free.

Christian Illusionist Sign Up

## JUNIOR HIGH

*Al Van Donkersgoed*

### **JHM**

Our final official meeting is April 28th at Thunder Road from 6-8pm. Note the time! Bring a \$5 donation, if able, to get two hours of indoor Thunder Road fun. Bumper cars, laser tag, mini bowling, arcade and 7 D theatre. They do offer concessions at your own expense.

We plan to have a couple of summer connections so be on the lookout for those communications.

# CATALYST

*Will Grisham*

---

## **SERVE Chaperones Needed!**

We still need female chaperones for two of our SERVE mission trips! We need one leader for Holland, Michigan and one leader for Muskegon, Michigan. Both trips go from July 6th to July 13th! If you love being in service and want to see firsthand the impact a summer mission trip can have reach out to Will!

## **SERVE Worksites Needed!**

Do you have a project that needs completing? We may be able to help! SERVE Sioux Falls is happening from July 20th – July 27th and we need worksites. Whether it's painting your house or pulling your weeds we have students ready and willing to help. Contact Leigh Roelofs at [lbroelofs@sio.midco.net](mailto:lbroelofs@sio.midco.net) to see if your project is right for SERVE!

---

# HOSPITALITY

*Denae Matherly*

---

## **New Furniture!**

Come check out the new furniture in the coffee shop! We've more than doubled our seating capacity so we hope to see lots of people hanging out in there!

---

# WORSHIP

*Gabby Friez*

---

## **Hymn of the Month**

April's hymn of the month for the 8:30 service is "See, What a Morning (Resurrection Hymn)" by Stuart Townend and Keith Getty. Both Townend and Getty have been on the forefront of the contemporary hymn movement. A contemporary hymn is a song written within the last 50 years with a hymn-like structure specifically to be used for corporate worship. "See, What a Morning" was written in 2003 and tells the story of the resurrection with a reoccurring declaration "Christ is risen from the dead".

## **Song of the Month**

April's song of the month for the 10:30 service is "Psalm 34 (Taste and See)" written by Joe Rigney and Shane Barnard and made popular by Shane and Shane. This is the song that Pastor Steve introduced to us during his installation service. This song is a beautiful setting of Psalm 34 that boasts a soaring chorus that has been in my head frequently over the last few weeks, "Magnify the Lord with me. Come exalt His name together. Glorify the Lord with Me. Come exalt His name forever."

---

# COMMUNITY

---

## **Annie!**

Sioux Falls Christian High School Fine Arts will be performing the musical "Annie" on April 18, 19 & 20 at 7pm. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for children.

## **National Day of Prayer**

National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 2. We invite you to join us for an informal time of prayer downtown Sioux Falls in front of City Hall at 6 pm. Please consider coming so we can "Lift up the Word, Light up the World."

Dorothy Ter Horst, National Day of Prayer South Dakota Prayer Shield leader.

### Inspiration Hills Summer Worship Leader

We are looking for a talented and passionate individual to lead worship at Summer Camp! As a Summer Worship Leader, you will have the opportunity to inspire and uplift campers through music and praise in an exciting Christian atmosphere.

The job runs from May 19-August 9 and includes weekly pay, room, and board. Our location is Inwood, IA which is roughly 40 minutes south east of Sioux Falls, SD.

To apply, visit [www.inspirationhills.org/work](http://www.inspirationhills.org/work) , call us at 712-986-5193, or email lucas at [lucas@inspirationhills.org](mailto:lucas@inspirationhills.org)

### Collision Celebration

Join us Sunday, April 21, 2024 from 5-7pm at the Sioux Falls Convention Center for an evening of appetizers and impact as we celebrate how God has equipped students to share the hope of Jesus to transform lives!

For more information check out [www.collisioncelebration.org](http://www.collisioncelebration.org)

Contact Will if you are interested in sitting at his table! [will@firstchristianreformed.org](mailto:will@firstchristianreformed.org)

### Center of Hope

The Center of Hope is expecting a record year in their Bike Ministry offering bicycles to income-eligible individuals and families needing them as transportation. With that being said, they are needing bicycle donations! Please consider dropping off bicycle donations Tuesday-Friday 9am-5pm.

### New Roots

What do you think about helping new American adults get their driver's license? It meets a huge need for individuals and their families, the city appreciates safe drivers, and friendships are developed. New Roots Ministry empowers immigrants and former refugees in various ways, including lining up volunteers to bless people with driver training. Those being trained must provide an insured, running vehicle, and a special brake is available, all to improve safety. Please text or call Fred at (605)376-6330, or email him at [sfnewroots@gmail.com](mailto:sfnewroots@gmail.com), if you are interested or have questions.

## DEACON'S MINISTRY

### April 21: Offering of the Day –General Fund

The General Fund supports the local ministry programs, including evangelism, youth, children, adults, worship, small group, and health ministries, as well as the operational expenses of the property, office, and personnel expenses. God has blessed First CRC with the opportunity to minister through these programs.

### Coming Up: April 28- Bible League

### Offering Totals from Last Week

General Fund: \$ 12,221  
Ministry Shares: \$ 385  
Faith Promise: \$ 325  
Building Fund: \$ 245  
Tuition Assistance: \$ 690  
ITEM: \$2,560  
Ukraine-Heytsi \$ 677

**Weekly Total: \$ 17,103**

# CALENDAR

## WEDNESDAY, APR 17

- **Handbell Choir Practice**  
6:30–8pm
- **Cadets**  
6:30–8:30pm
- **Vocal Choir Rehearsal**  
6:45–7:30pm
- **Prayer Meeting**  
7–8pm
- **Ad Board Meeting**  
6–8pm
- **Catalyst Youth Movement**  
7–9pm

## THURSDAY, APR 18

- **MOPS**  
8:50–11am

## FRIDAY, APR 19

- **Senior Circuit**  
10:30–11:30am

## SATURDAY, APR 20

- **Men of Integrity**  
7:30–8:30am
- **Seniors and Friends**  
9:30am–12:30pm

## SUNDAY, APR 21

- **Worship**  
8:30 & 10:30am
- **Faith Talk for HS**  
9:45–10:15am
- **Sunday School**  
9:45–10:15am

## MONDAY, APR 22

- **Senior Circuit**  
10:30–11:30am
- **Men's Life Bible Study**  
6:45–8pm
- **Monday Night Women's Bible Study**  
6:45–8pm

## TUESDAY, APR 23

- **Senior Circuit**  
10:30–11:30am
- **Tuesday Afternoon Women's Bible Study**  
2–3:30pm

Sunday Worship Folder

Watch Sermons

Submit Prayer Request

Email Church Office

Registrations

Room Reservation Request