



SIOUX FALLS, SD

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

October 23-29

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**NO Wednesday Night Meal Tonight**

### **Deep Dive**

October 23, 2024 – Tonight, join us at 6:45pm for another Deep Dive into this past week’s message on generosity and philanthropy and the opportunities to use our resources to positively impact our community.

### **Special Edition of Deep Dive Next Week!**

Mark your calendars for a **special Deep Dive on Wednesday, October 30! Starting at 6:30pm – NOTE TIME** – we will spend time unpacking Sunday’s message on standing for the truth with a time of prayer and discernment reviewing the ballot here in South Dakota. **IMPORTANT:** This is NOT a political or partisan gathering but an attempt to thoughtfully, discerningly, and prayerfully converse together on the issues facing our community and state in this election cycle with our eyes fixed on Jesus and seeking God’s Kingdom first. We have committed a 2-hour time slot for this gathering and everyone is invited!

### **The Pursuit of God!**

In our final section of messages under the theme of “Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of God”, we will explore the Gospel’s transformative power when God’s people fix their eyes on Jesus – the author and perfecter of our faith – in our pursuit of God.

Jesus exhorts us to “seek first His kingdom and His righteousness” and making room for Him to add all other things that are necessary for doing His work in this world.

We will look at three key aspects of fulfilling this mandate: standing for truth, pursuing His Kingdom and not ours, and committing all our ways for His glory. When we fulfill these purposes as followers of Jesus Christ, transformation happens.

Will it be easy? By no means! “In this world, we will have trouble.” But, as Christ reminds us: “I, Jesus, have overcome the world!

Let’s commit our ways to pursuing God and seeing His Kingdom come and His will be done here in our church and city as it is in Heaven!

## **Sunday, October 27: "Taking Our (Last?) Stand!"**

**Scripture Readings: Mark 8:34-38, Romans 1:16-25**

This week our theme revolves around what it means to stand for truth. The continual challenges to truth seem almost surreal. Yet, we have confidence and hope as God's people knowing that God's unchanging, transforming truth is able to stem the tide and push back against the efforts to undo God's Kingdom purposes. Jesus has overcome and so will God's people. "And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death." Revelation 12:11 ESV

### **CAP Meals 2024- Get Your BAG this Week!**

It's time for our annual Thanksgiving Meal delivery program, CAP Meals, or Caring About People, to start getting ready for the season. Every year, First CRC delivers thanksgiving meals to around 200 families in the Sioux Falls area. The ministry seeks to bless families from area schools that have expressed a need for a holiday meal.

#### **How it works:**

- **Pick up a reusable grocery bag and grocery list from the Activity Center (or more!)**
- **Purchase food items on the list and return them by Nov 17**
- **If possible, include a \$20 or more donation with the groceries to cover the cost of a Ham or Turkey purchased in bulk closer to Thanksgiving**

*(Please put your marked donations in the black donation boxes in/by gym, offering bag, or give on the church center app to CAP Meals fund.)*

*Any donations for CAP meals are welcomed to cover other costs of the overall project.)*

- **Meals are delivered to families by First CRC volunteers on Sunday, Nov 24**

### **Holiday Services**

This year, we will be trying out something new regarding our upcoming holiday services to allow employees and volunteers to be able to spend more time with their families. Please join us for:

**Thanksgiving Eve Service held Wednesday, Nov 27 at 7:00pm**

**Christmas Eve Service held on December 24 at 5:00pm.**

### **Dominican Republic Church Build Trip**

We are looking for volunteers to join us for our next church build project in the Dominican Republic. We will be working with the Iglesia Christiana Reformada Church in Villa Nizao, south of Barahona in the southwest part of the country. We will leave on Friday Jan. 24 and return on Saturday Feb 1, 2025. This is a small congregation that has been waiting for 25 years for a church building of their own. This will be our 11th church build project in the Dominican Republic. Please contact Rick Vander Haar at 605-366-2794 if you are interested or have questions.

### **Winter Clothing Drive For Center of Hope**

🎵 Baby It's Cold Outside 🎵...Well, it will be soon! First CRC has partnered with Center of Hope to supply winter gear for the underserved and disadvantaged in our community. **From October 9th to November 30th** we'll have 2 large bins set out at church to collect a variety of cold winter gear for Center of Hope. High-need items include Men's jeans, snowpants, gloves, mittens & blankets. However, they will accept cold weather gear for Men & Women / Boys & Girls of ALL ages. Other needs include snowboots, shoes & general clothing. Items can be new or gently used. Let's clear out those closets! Questions can be directed to Kearsen Nyenhuis (605) 929-2021 or [joshandkearsen@gmail.com](mailto:joshandkearsen@gmail.com).

## Care Group 6 Potluck

We'll be having a potluck on **October 27th**, following the second service, in the Activities Center. We'll have pulled pork sandwiches, provided by our Care Group leaders! Last name A-M please bring a side dish; Last name N-Z please bring a dessert. We look forward to seeing you there!

-CG6 (Matthew Davelaar, Tim Van Vugt, Di Olson & Kearsen Nyenhuis).

# Defending God's Family

This class empowers parents and grandparents to engage with social issues and defend the sanctity of family as part of our church community.

SUNDAY, Nov. 10, 2024  
6:30-7:30 PM  
Fireside Room  
EVERYONE is Welcome!

*Childcare Provided*

## Glow Kids - How screen addiction is hijacking our kids - and how to break the trance



We've all seen it: kids staring at a glowing screen in restaurants, playgrounds, and in the grocery store. But at what cost? Is it a harmless indulgence? Good for kids? Interactive education? Learn how technology has affected the brains of an entire generation. Screen tech correlates with disorders like ADHD, addiction, depression and increased aggression.

Presented by:  
Nancy Cutshall  
A passionate grandma who wants the best for today's kids



For More Information Contact Kaye Sjaarda 605-212-8025  
Albert Huizing (605) 501-2805 | Carol Spronk (605) 254-4248

## CHURCH FAMILY

### Thank You

Thank you for the cards, prayers and many inquiries to my family, following my recent back surgeries. I appreciated every single one of them. To know that others were lifting me up in prayer, gave me the strength, peace and hope I needed as I faced each day. I thank God that I have been relieved of the majority of the pain I felt for so long. God is Good!! Linda Aukes

## MISSIONS

### October Mission Spotlight: Heytsi Prayer Requests in Ukraine

- **Pray** for peace in the war torn country of Ukraine.
- **Pray** for physical, emotional, and spiritual health for the Heytsi Family.
- **Pray** for the Lord to Provide financial help with the farm & the greenhouse.
- **Pray** for continued safety as the war continues.



## FIRST KIDS

Jill Smith

### Mark Your Calendars- Christmas Program

First CRC's Christmas Program will be held Dec 15 at 4:00pm. Preschool through 3rd Grade.

**No Sunday School or Faith Talk on November 10**

## WORSHIP

Gabby Friez

### Hymn of the Month

"All Glory Be to God on High" was written by Nikolaus Decius, a monk who studied under Martin Luther, in 1525. First written in the early part of the Reformation, we use this hymn as a celebration of The Reformation that we observe at the end of the month. As we sing this hymn, we join the voices of the believers that have gone before us as we acclaim the glory of God!

### Song of the Month

Our song of the month at the 10:30 service is "Today, Tomorrow and Forever" by Sanctus Real. Written in 2020, this song helps us focus on the faithfulness of God through all of life's circumstances and our response to live and to worship him. This upbeat song is sure to add some celebration to our worship services as we recommit our lives to God each week.

## HOSPITALITY

Denae Matherly

### Name Tags Are Here to Stay!

Would you like to order a permanent, magnetic name tag to wear at church? These will be similar to the ones our staff use. We're about to place a group order, and having your own name tag means no more printing a new one each week! You can keep it in your mailbox or car for easy access. Cost to you is \$5.00.

To order, email [denae@firstchristianreformed.org](mailto:denae@firstchristianreformed.org) with the subject line: Nametags  
Please include your first and last name exactly as you'd like it to appear on the tag.

### Are You Outgoing and Friendly?

Do you love making people feel welcome? We're building a hospitality team, and I'm looking for folks with creative ideas on how to make our church atmosphere even more inviting. If you've ever thought, "You know what would make this place even better?"—then I want to hear from you! Basically, we need some brainstorming power to dream up ways to expand our hospitality ministry and bring those ideas to life. If you're ready to welcome new guests with open arms (and maybe even some snacks), let's chat!

Meeting-Wednesday, November 20, 5:45-6:30pm

Bring your pizza from the Wednesday meal to the conference room and we can eat while we chat.

## JUNIOR HIGH MINISTRY

Al VanDonkersgoed

## JHM

Due to some scheduling conflicts we will bowl from **1:30 to 3pm this Sunday for JHM at Suburban Lanes** located on 2621 S. Spring Ave. We will provide some pizza and drink as a snack. They do have a snack shack if you would like to bring money for that.

Our next meeting is Nov. 10 at First CRC. We will talk about what it means to know your faith, play a version of grog, and snack on some root beer floats.

For updates and communication please sign up for remind by texting @1crcjhm to 81010 or follow this link <https://www.remind.com/join/1crcjhm>

## CATALYST

### NACHO ORDINARY FUNDRAISER!

Catalyst will be having its annual Taco Feed Fundraiser on Wednesday, Nov 6. They will be raising money to pay for summer mission trips to SERVE sites all over the country. Last year, we sent over 30 kids to Michigan and California. We'd love to have the ability to do that again and more! Join in the festivities for tacos and all the fixin's as we hope to raise \$10,000+ for Summer SERVE Projects!

## COMMUNITY

### Center of Hope

Christmas is around the corner! Plan to be a blessing this Christmas season by being a gift donor or volunteer in the Sharing Christmas program! Sharing Christmas is a collaborative effort of Center of Hope and The Community Outreach that ensures Christmas gifts are possible for struggling families in our community. Please reach out to Adam Hofer via email at [adam@centerofhopesf.org](mailto:adam@centerofhopesf.org), if you want to get involved!

## DEACON'S MINISTRY

### October 27 -Building Fund

The building fund is designated towards the First CRC Church building and grounds maintenance in order to preserve and provide long-term care for our facilities.

### Coming Up: November 3 -Ministry Shares

### Offering Totals from Last Week

General Fund: \$ 15,256  
Ministry Shares: \$ 468  
Faith Promise: \$ 335  
Building Fund: \$ 640  
Tuition Assistance: \$ 512  
CAP Meals \$500

**Weekly Total: \$ 17,711**

## CALENDAR

### WEDNESDAY, OCT 23

- **Prayer Meeting**  
6–6:30pm
- **GEMS**  
6:30–8:30pm
- **Women's Bible Study**  
6:30–8:30pm
- **Deep Dive Forum**  
6:45–8pm
- **Catalyst**  
7–9pm

### THURSDAY, OCT 24

- **MomCo**  
8:30-11:00am

### FRIDAY, OCT 25

- **Young Adult Men's Study**  
6:30–7:30am
- **Senior Circuit**  
10:30–11:30am

### SATURDAY, OCT 26

- **Men of Integrity**  
7:30–8:30am

### SUNDAY, OCT 27

- **Worship**  
8:30 & 10:30am
- **Children's Church**  
8:30–11:30am
- **Vocal Choir Rehearsal**  
9:30–10:30am
- **Sunday School**  
9:45–10:15am
- **Faith Talk for HS**  
9:45am–10:15pm
- **Care Group 6 Meal**  
11:30-1pm
- **Junior High Ministry@ bowling**  
1:30-3:00pm

### MONDAY, OCT 28

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

### TUESDAY, OCT 29

- **Senior Circuit**  
10:30–11:30am

Sunday Worship Folder

Watch Sermons

Submit Prayer Request

Email Church Office

Registrations

Room Reservation Request

Contact A Stephen Minister