



SIoux FALLS, SD

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

November 20-26

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanksgiving Eve Service

Thanksgiving Eve Service will be held Wednesday, Nov 27 at 6:00pm

Grateful To Be Alive!

Thanksgiving – Thanks-living: In this season of thanks, our new sermon series entitled “Grateful to Be Alive!” will invite us into a place to examine three great reasons to be thankful and to understand “for such a time as this!” We’ve been given life – life abundantly – and the outflow of that reveals life-giving purposes for which God has given us this abundant life: to worship, to be community, and living for eternity. Come, ye thankful people, come!

November 24, 2024: “Built for Community!” – Acts 2:42-47

This week we will see the power of community as the church of the New Testament began to assemble and launch into time and space. We will get a picture of gratitude that fueled every effort of connectedness that empowered the church to transform the world. When we grasp this powerful picture of gratitude and community, we can have daily impact personally and as a church in our city. Let’s let our city know that there is life abundant found in community under Jesus Christ!

Pastor Steve welcomes to the pulpit with him Eric Weber, CEO of Union Gospel Mission here in Sioux Falls. Eric has a heart and passion for community and together they will talk about what it means to be community as followers of Jesus Christ.

CAP MEAL DELIVERY!- SUNDAY, Nov 24

This is the hardest part to get volunteers for! But it's not hard at all! On Nov 24, we will be delivering the cap meals that have been donated to neighborhoods around Sioux Falls. Sign up below and we will give you a number of meals to deliver that are near each other. **Meals can be picked up between 9:30am and noon** on the 24th for delivery.

We would like you to try and **deliver the meals between 11-5pm** that day, as many of the people are expecting a meal delivery that day. In the past, we have delivered meals between 9:30-10:30am. We have found that many of them are not home or do not answer the door at that time. We would like to give you a larger window to deliver meals at your convenience and hopefully catch more people in person.

We need delivery volunteers for about 100 meals yet! Can you help?

[Help Deliver CAP Meals](#)

Thanksgiving Meal at First CRC

Nowhere to go on Thanksgiving? Join us for a meal Thursday, Nov 28 at 11:30 am. Sign up below or at CAP MEAL Table on Sunday or call Holly Burns at 605-201-4723.

Thanksgiving Meal SignUp

Flying South For The Winter?

Let us know you'll be gone with the following form, or send an email to office@firstchristianreformed.org with approximate dates and any info you'd like us to know.

Gone For The Winter

Watch Out for Scam Emails!

We are entering the holiday season and just want to remind you to be vigilant in watching your emails for scams. Churches not immune from being targeted. Make sure if you receive emails from staff members that the email address ends in @firstchristianreformed.org. If you ever are concerned if something is a scam, please contact church. Usually scam emails sound very urgent, and ask you to reply with personal information. They often have spelling errors, just don't sound like the person, are too formal, or have odd greetings or closings. The name at the top is often right, but the sender's email address is usually wrong. If you would like a review on how to spot an email or text scam, click below for a link to the FTC for info.

How To Spot A Scam

Congregational Meeting

Mark your calendars for a congregational meeting Monday, December 9 at 7pm

Clothing Drive for Center of Hope-Only One week Left!

☞ 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.

MISSIONS

Missionary Spotlight- Micah Schuurman

Click here to read to special newsletter from Micah to First CRC!

Micah Schuurman Newsletter

CHURCH FAMILY

Baptisms & Professions of Faith This Week

Please join us this week for the baptism of Rhodes Groenenboom, son of Michael & Kristen Groenenboom, and Grayson Van Peurseem son of Nate & Louise Van Peurseem at the 8:30am service. Join us at the 10:30am service for the baptism of Charlotte Woudstra, daughter of Joel & Katie Woudstra, and Elsie Bender, daughter of Sam & Bre Bender, as well as the profession of faith of Brietta Tims, daughter of Jeremy & Sara Tims.

FIRST KIDS

Jill Smith

Christmas Program Practice

Please note **NEW Christmas Program practice times.**

Sunday, Nov. 24: 9:30-9:45am

Sunday, Dec 1: 4:00-5:00pm

Sunday, Dec. 8: 9:30-9:45am **AND** 4:00-5:00pm

Saturday, Dec. 14th: TBD - most likely a morning practice!

Sunday, Dec. 15: 9:30-9:45am

Christmas Program

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

WORSHIP

Gabby Friez

Christmas Hymn Sing

Our annual Christmas Hymn Sing is **December 8 at 5 pm** in the sanctuary. Join us for an evening of fellowship and song as we come together to sing our favorite Christmas hymns. We hope to see you there!

Hymn of the Month

Our hymn of the month for November at the 8:30 service is "With All My Heart I Thank You, Lord". This tune was originally written back in 1551 and was first published in the Genevan Psalter. The words of the hymn, based on Psalm 138, were written by Stanley Wiersma in 1981. As we turn special attention to gratitude during the month of November, we can sing together of the victory we have through Christ and his steadfast love towards us as we sing this song of thankfulness and praise!

Song of the Month

Our song of the month for November at the 10:30 service is "Gratitude" written in 2019 and made popular on various Christian radio stations by Brandon Lake. This simple melody and powerful words remind us that regardless of what we feel like we have to offer in worship, our gratitude is enough. Even if all we have is a hallelujah or the ability to raise our hands, we can enter into the praise and worship of our Lord and King!

HOSPITALITY

Denae Matherly

Sick of Stickers? Get A Permanent Nametag!

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 with the subject line: Nametags

Please include your first and last name exactly as you'd like it to appear on the tag.

Option to register and pay online for magnetic nametags. [Click here to get yours:](#)

[Order Nametags Here](#)

Hospitality Meeting Tonight!

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.

Upcoming Wednesday Night Meals:

Nov 20- Pizza

JUNIOR HIGH MINISTRY

Al VanDonkersgoed

JHM

Junior High Ministry meets on Nov. 24 at First CRC from 6:15 to 7:45. We will continue to learn about how to know our faith. We will play some group games and share some cookies and hot chocolate. This week take some time to read the story of Daniel to be reminded of the God we love and serve.

CATALYST

Upcoming Meetings:

Nov 20: Catalyst Meeting

Nov 27: No Catalyst- Happy Thanksgiving

Dec 4: Catalyst Meeting

Dec 11: Christmas Party Potluck

Dec 18 Study Night/ Open Gym

Dec 25 No Catalyst- Merry Christmas!

Jan 1: No Catalyst- Happy New Year!

COMMUNITY

Prince of Peace: The Christmas Story

Returning November 30 - December 8 at the Orpheum Theatre in Sioux Falls

A beautiful musical telling the Christmas story: Audiences are taken back to the first century and into the time of the birth of Christ and the world as it was then. This telling of the Christmas story is relevant and rich, giving us the backstory and context of the coming of the Messiah. Many of your favorite Christmas songs are crafted seamlessly into the fabric of the story alongside thought provoking and soul-stirring originals.

Purchase your tickets [here](#).

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, if you want to get involved!

Center of Hope

The Center of Hope is seeking to hire a full-time Bike Ministry Coordinator to work alongside volunteers in their Geared-To-Empower Bike Ministry! The ideal candidate for this position must have a passion for both ministry and bicycles. For more information, please contact Adam Hofer via email at adam@centerofhopesf.org!

Prepare Him Room Women's Event At Shalom CRC

Ladies mark your calendars for Saturday, December 14 so that you can join us for a morning of worship, encouragement, teaching and fellowship. Prepare Him Room is a free virtual event focused on intentionally making space to see Jesus amid the holiday rush. This event is for women of all ages (high school aged and older). Invite your neighbors, coworkers, family, and friends. Doors will open at 8:30am and the event will conclude around 11:00am. Breakfast will be served. This is a free event, however we do ask for you to sign-up [HERE](#) so that we can plan appropriately. If you have any questions please talk to Sarah Lieuwen. slieuwen@shalomcrc.org

DEACON'S MINISTRY

Thanksgiving Offering Envelopes

Please check your mailbox for your Thanksgiving envelope. We give Thanksgiving offerings to share the blessings that God has given us with others. This year there are nine different areas that you can support. You can return your envelope during the offering in any service in the month of November or drop it in the marked box near the back of the Fellowship Hall. There are extra envelopes and a description of each cause that you can give to on the info wall. This will be the offering for Thanksgiving Eve service.

November 24- 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 27- Thanksgiving Offering Envelopes December 1- Ministry Shares

Offering Totals from Last Week

General Fund: \$ 12,539
Ministry Shares: \$ 2,675
Faith Promise: \$ 1,365
Building Fund: \$ 955
Tuition Assistance: \$520
The Banquet: \$ 3,745

Weekly Total: \$ 21,799

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, NOV 20

- **Wednesday Night Meal -pizza**
5:30–6:30pm
- **Hospitality Team Meeting**
5:45–6:30pm
- **Handbell Choir**
6:30–7:30pm
- **Prayer Meeting**
6:30–7:30pm
- **Cadets**
6:30–8:30pm
- **Women's Bible Study**
6:30–8:30pm
- **Catalyst**
7–9pm

THURSDAY, NOV 21

- **Stephen Ministry**
6–7pm

FRIDAY, NOV 22

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

SATURDAY, NOV 23

- **Men of Integrity**
7:30–8:30am

SUNDAY, NOV 24

- **Worship**
8:30–11:30am
- **Children's Church**
8:30–11:30am
- **Vocal Choir Rehearsal**
9:30–10:30am
- **Cap Meal Pickup**
9:30am–12pm
- **Sunday School & Faith Talk**
9:45–10:15am
- **Junior High Ministry**
6:15–7:45pm

MONDAY, NOV 25

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

TUESDAY, NOV 26

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

WEDNESDAY, NOV 27

- **Thanksgiving Eve Service**
6–7pm

Sunday Worship Folder

Watch Sermons

Submit Prayer Request

Email Church Office

Registrations

Room Reservation Request

Contact A Stephen Minister