

# FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

Sioux Falls, SD

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## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

**November 29 - December 5**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Congregational Meeting Dec. 11 at 7:00pm**

### **Pulpit Supply- December**

Dec 3- Carl Zylstra  
Dec 10- Carl Zylstra  
Dec 17- Carl Zylstra  
Dec 24- Carl Zylstra  
Dec 31- Bernie Haan

### **Newsletter Day Change**

Look for your weekly Newsletter on WEDNESDAY afternoon going forward as we look to spread out our communication more throughout the week. Please have announcements in by Tuesday!

### **Care Group Fair**

Our Care Teams will be hosting a Care Group Fair on December 10th between services. Stop by the activity center to say hello to your Care team and grab a cookie!

### **Seniors & Friends (Ladies Only)**

We are planning a LADIES ONLY event in the Fireside Room at First Church at 2:00 PM on Saturday, December 16. NOTE CHANGE OF TIME.

Come to our Christmas Extravaganza at the Quilt Shop with Terri (Vis) Vanden Bosch and her quilts. Join us for festive foods and fellowship. Bring a friend! There will be a charge for this event and registration will be required. Watch for further details next week.

### **Coffee Break HELP!**

Coffee Break is in DESPARATE need of 1 more nursery volunteer to help out on Wednesdays from 9:45 to 11:00am. All you need to do is play with toddlers! If you can help out, please call or email Judy Douma at [jkdouma@sio.midco.net](mailto:jkdouma@sio.midco.net) or 605-359-3441.

## Meal Train

Patty Veurink: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/ekqzw1>

# OUR MISSIONARIES

## *Missions Team*

### December Missionary Spotlight



#### **Micah Schuurman-Central America**

#### **Resonate Global Mission**

To learn more about Micah Schuurman, click on the button below:

Micah Schuurman

The month of December our features missionary will be Micah Schuurman. Micah is a son of John and Janet Schuurman. He was born and baptized here in our church while his father was a pastor here.

As a graduate of Dordt University and Calvin Seminary, he has been called by Resonate to be a professor at the Evangelical University of the Americas. Micah has served in Costa Rica since 2016. Our church has supported him for the past 4 years.

# WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS

## *1st & 2nd Wednesdays- 5:30-6:30pm*

December 6: Chili or Potato Bacon Soup with Cinnamon Rolls

December 13: TBD

**\*Menu Subject to change. All meals are Free Will Donation. Gluten Free options always available**

# CENTENNIAL

1923-2023

## Centennial Wrap-up

Our Centennial Year wraps up with a Centennial Celebration as part of our Advent Worship on December 10, the Sunday closest to the actual day of organization (December 13, 1923). The service will include a wrap up video pointing us to the next century and the Lay Shepherds will be serving cookies between services at which time a **centennial memento** will be distributed.

## Last Week's Trivia:

Q: How many entry doors to the church are there?

A: 12

## This Week's Trivia:

Q: How many member mailboxes are there in total?

# FIRST KIDS MINISTRY

*Jill Smith*

## Christmas Program Practice

Practice on **Sunday, December 3 from 4:00pm to 5:30 pm** at church GEMS Room (downstairs) and **Saturday, December 9 from 9:00-10:30am** at church in the Sanctuary.

## Christmas Program

Pre K-3rd Christmas Program is Dec.10th at 3pm in the Sanctuary, with prelude selections beginning at 2:30pm.

## Christmas Program Prelude

If your child would like to perform a piano or other instrumental piece before the Christmas Program on December 10, sign up using the button below or contact Jill Smith.

Prelude Sign-up

## Children's Church Teachers Needed!

We need more children's church teachers! This is a great opportunity for anyone who enjoys working with preschoolers. We have had some amazing high schoolers come help out and love it. We would love to see more!

# JUNIOR HIGH MINISTRY

*Al Van Donkersgoed*

## JHM

Next meeting is Dec. 10. We will meet at Suburban Lanes for a night of bowling.

# HOSPITALITY

*Denae Matherly*

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## **Family Photo?**

Sending that Christmas card photo soon? Send one to us! You can email us any family, individual, or church related photos at ([connect@firstchristianreformed.org](mailto:connect@firstchristianreformed.org)), text photos to (605-321-8363), or upload it to the Church center app on your profile page.

# WORSHIP

*Gabby Friez*

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## **Christmas Hymn Sing This Sunday!**

Do you wish you could sing your favorite Christmas hymns more often during the Christmas season? Our annual Christmas Hymn Sing on this Sunday December 3 at 5 pm in the Sanctuary. Come for a fun night of Christmas hymns, festive fellowship and hot chocolate. We hope to see you there!

## **Centennial Hymn of the Month**

Our hymn of the month for December at the 8:30 service is Glory to God/ Ere zji God. We first began singing this song earlier this year but it is certainly appropriate for the Christmas Season. Based on Luke 2:14, this hymn was first written around 1870. Popular in the Reformed Churches in the United States and Canada, this song was originally sung in Dutch. You are encouraged to sing the song in both Dutch and English as we bring the hymn back for an encore for our final centennial month.

## **Song of the Month**

Our song of the month at the 10:30 service for December is "Same God". Although not specifically a Christmas song, the song does remind us of who God was and who he continues to be. He is the same faithful God who led our church a year ago when it began and continues to lead us today. As we enter into our last centennial month, I hope that you enjoy this song steeped in covenantal language.

## **Candlelight Service Readers NEEDED!**

We are in need of readers for our candlelight service this year. The service is at 7 pm on Sunday, December 17. Practice for the readers will be before the service (time tbd). Anyone 7th grade and above is invited to participate. If your interested in helping out with this or have questions please reach out to Gabby at [gabby@firstchristianreformed.org](mailto:gabby@firstchristianreformed.org)

## **Attention 5th and 6th graders!**

We are once again looking for 5th and 6th graders to help light the candles for our candlelight service. The service is Sunday December 17 at 7 pm. If you are interested in helping out, please reach out to Gabby at [gabby@firstchristianreformed.org](mailto:gabby@firstchristianreformed.org).

# PASTORAL CARE

*Cole Pleggenkuhle*

## **New Bible Study**

Exciting News for Young Adult Men at First CRC!

Starting January 8, 2024, we invite men (Ages: 18-45) to join our new Bible study at First CRC.

Set your cadence for every other Friday morning at 6:30 am, where we'll gather to explore the remarkable characteristics of great Biblical men, beginning with the captivating life of David.

Together, we'll delve into the pages of David's life, examining his courage, faith, and resilience.

Join us at First CRC as we navigate the challenges faced by David, gaining insights into how he overcame struggles and emerged stronger.

It's a journey of growth, fellowship, and discovering timeless lessons from the pages of the Bible.

Mark your calendars and see you there! Click on the form below to join or contact [Albert Huizing](#) for more information. Bible Study will meet in conference room in the church office.

Young Adult Men's Bible Study

# TECHNOLOGY

*Paul Mobley*

## **Hearing the Word**

At First CRC, we go to great lengths to make sure the spoken Word and the Word in song has clarity and is an appropriate volume, and we hope you have heard constant improvements in both worship services and live-streaming recordings. This month we roll out more improvements as an upgraded livestream PC will be installed, allowing more improvements in audio and video quality, and in the consistency and stability of our livestream.

You will also hear improvements in our Hearing Assistance audio as well. Watch this space for more information on Hearing Assistance improvements, changes, and an upcoming 'tune-up' opportunity for you to get your Hearing Assistance device cleaned and tuned up at no charge.

# DEACON'S MINISTRY

## **December 3: 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.

## **December 3: Communion Offering: Union Gospel Mission**

Union Gospel Mission provides nutritious meals, safe shelter from the elements, and other services for the hungry and homeless in Sioux Falls. Their purpose is to "proclaim the gospel of salvation by grace in Christ and Him crucified, for the salvation of souls and the establishing of believers."

**Coming Up: December 10- Ministry Shares**

## Offering Totals- Week of Nov 26

General Fund: \$ 16,214  
Ministry Shares: \$ 3,855  
Faith Promise: \$ 3,100  
Building Fund: \$ 235  
Tuition Assistance: \$ 2,767  
World Renew: \$ 2,820  
Cornerstone Prison Ministry: \$ 3,005  
Banquet: \$ 2,712  
Furniture Mission \$ 2,822  
Feeding South Dakota \$ 3,295  
SIMDEL \$ 1,150

**Weekly Total: \$ 41,975**

## CALENDAR

### WEDNESDAY 11/29

6:30am Men's Bible Study  
9:45am Coffee Break  
10:30am Collision Meal  
6:30pm Handbells  
6:30pm Women's Bible Study  
7:00pm Prayer Meeting  
7:00pm Catalyst

### THURSDAY 11/30

MOPS 8:50pm

### FRIDAY 12/1

10:30am Senior Circuit

### SATURDAY 12/2

7:30am Men of Integrity

### SUNDAY 12/3

8:30am & 10:30am Worship & Communion  
9:45am Sunday School  
9:45am Choir Practice  
4:00pm Christmas Program Practice  
5:00pm Christmas Hymn Sing

### MONDAY 12/4

10:30am Senior Circuit  
6:45pm Men's Life Bible Study

### TUESDAY 11/5

10:30am Senior Circuit  
7:00pm Elder/Deacon/LayShepherd Mtg

Sunday Worship Folder

Watch Sermons

Submit Prayer Request

Email First CRC Office

Registrations

Room Reservation Request