



SIoux FALLS, SD

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

November 6-12

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Original Taco Feed TONIGHT! 5-7pm

Catalyst will be having its annual Taco Feed Fundraiser on Wednesday, Nov 6. We are SO EXCITED to have you join us to share our excitement for Summer Missions! We are hoping to raise \$10,000+ to send as many kids as possible on SERVE this summer. Come relax, fill your belly and enjoy the festive atmosphere, including live music, as you enjoy tacos, nachos, and ice cream! All are welcome!

Can't make it? Give on the church center app, or click below for Venmo, PayPal, and Apple Pay options.

[Taco Feed Donations](#)

FINAL DEEP DIVE TONIGHT!

We wrap up our Wednesday night Deep Dive's tonight, having feasted on God's Word... (and yes, tacos too!!)... exploring the Christian's roles and responsibilities in our world as followers of Christ. Come for an evening of prayer and discussion as we reflect on the election of yesterday as well as exploring the "where-do-we-go-from-here" of this moment. Therefore Go Eat Tacos at 5:00pm, then come to the sanctuary at 6:45pm!! See you tonight!!

Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit Of God

This Sunday marks the conclusion of our series: "Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of God." As we gather for worship on the Sunday following our nation's election and having journeyed through many of the prevailing issues in our land through our study of the Scriptures, we finish in the place of beginnings... and endings. In essence, all that we do is for the "glory of God." It begins by shaping our world and life view, permeates our everyday life pursuits, and is the end goal of mankind and all creation. But this is only possible because of the "all-surpassing power of God" at work within us through Christ. May God be glorified in all our pursuits until we see Him face to face!

Church and Offices will be closed Monday, November 11 in observance of Veteran's Day.

CAP Meals 2024- We need your help!

We just received a final count of meals needed for this year. It's about **100 more than last year!** SO we NEED your help to fill out the bags for this year! Thanks for those of you that have already returned bags back to church. Bags can be dropped off in the fellowship hall the next 2 Sundays, or bring to the office during the week. Don't have time to shop? Donate on the app and we'll use the money to fill bags still needed!

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 to church by Nov 17**

(Please return to gym on Sundays or on weekdays place in kitchen, or bring to office.)

- **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

Please mark your calendars for:

Thanksgiving Eve Service held Wednesday, Nov 27 at 6:00pm (Note Time Change)

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

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 or call Holly Burns at 605-201-4723.

[Thanksgiving Meal SignUp](#)

Senior & Friends

We are planning our annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Saturday, November 16, 2024. We will meet in the activity center at 11:00 AM (note early start time).

We will be entertained by a delightful young lady, Kelsey Keuter, who plays the viola. She is excited to be joining us, and we are looking forward to having her.

Our meal will be catered and will cost \$15.00 per person. It will be necessary to pre-register no later than noon on Monday, November 11. Please contact Marcene Struiksmma at 605 -376-1316, Luella Schaap at 605-366-6688, or Bonnie Gorter at 605-214-4914. This is always a highlight and a great way to share our thanks for our abundant blessings.

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.

Clothing Drive for Center of Hope-Only A Couple Weeks 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.

Defending God's Family Class

(Open to ALL)

Topic: Glow Kids

We've all been there—kids captivated by glowing screens at restaurants, playgrounds, or the grocery store. But have you ever wondered what impact all this screen time has? Is it just harmless fun, or is it something more? Join us as we explore how technology is shaping the minds of today's kids. Learn about the surprising effects screen time can have on developing brains, including its connections to issues like ADHD, addiction, depression, and even aggression.

When: Sunday, November 10

Time: 6:30-7:30 p.m. (during junior high youth group)

Where: Fireside Room

Everyone is welcome! Come for an eye-opening conversation that's sure to spark meaningful insights for you and your family.

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

"When the Dust Settles"

This past fall has been one of the driest, most-dusty, allergy-provoking falls in a long time.

It seemed this "cloud cover" of dust in the air persisted over us and permeated everything. Even on the insides of cars, homes, etc. we noticed dust somehow found its way in and settled over everything.

The real kicker comes when it rains. It's a double-edged sword: it reveals the dust by creating a slimy mud AND it rinses everything if we get a good down pour.

Strange how rain can both reveal the bad and produce the good all in one shot.

Hmmm... I wonder if the rain of God's mercy works the same way.

Certainly, the dust storm of the past election cycle and the many dust-ups that occurred along the way between political parties, pundits, politicians, and the general public layered everything with a coating of choking residue that clouded the judgment at times of even some of the best from among us. It's cloud cover caste shadows of angst, worry, hostility, and animosity that seemed to cover everything of everyday life.

The book of Lamentations reminds us God grants new mercies every morning... much like... well... a refreshing morning rain.

In view of those mercies, we see both the slime of our brokenness and the graciousness of God to wash us clean.

Thus, we wake up on the post-election day to see the leftover slime of a hotly contested and contentious election and look to God to refresh us again with generous new undeserving mercies to freshen our day as we trust in Him.

As we begin clean up work with the new mercies of today, may we start with any slime that is on us, in us, or came from us. Then, spread the refreshing rains of God's mercies to those around us caked in the dirt of brokenness and looking/needing/desiring to be washed clean.

MISSIONS

Missionary Spotlight- Micah Schuurman

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

[Micah Schuurman Newsletter](#)

CHURCH FAMILY

Care Group 4 Gathering

Care Group 4 leaders would like to invite Care Group 4 to Josh and Sharla Kattenberg's home at 2201 E Saint Charles Cir Sioux Falls SF 57103 (just 1 mile from church) on Nov 10 after the 2nd service for a noon meal. All food is provided. No need to bring any food.

Card Shower

Kelly Van Engelenhoven’s birthday is on Thursday, November 7. Care Group 2 would like to have a card shower for him. Please make sure include a return address with name on it will not be delivered.

Kelly’s address is:

Kelly Van Engelenhoven 16977

Box 5911

Sioux Falls, SD 57117-5911

FIRST KIDS

[Jill Smith](#)

Christmas Program Practice

Program Practice continues this Sunday, Nov 10 at **9:30** in the GEMS Room.

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 this Sunday, November 10

Butterbraids!

Cadet Parents: Remember to pick up your butter braids between 5:30pm-6:30pm TONIGHT! There is NO CADETS. We ask that you use your evening to deliver your butterbraids. You may even find some of them at the taco feed!

WORSHIP

Gabby Friez

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:](#)

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.

Upcoming Wednesday Night Meals:

Nov 6. -Special! Catalyst Taco Feed Fundraiser!

Nov 13-Spaghetti and Breadsticks

Nov 20- Pizza

JUNIOR HIGH MINISTRY

Al VanDonkersgoed

JHM

We meet this Sunday, Nov. 10 at First CRC. Our message asks the question, "Do I know my faith? We will also 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

Farewell Reception for Will Grisham

Come join us as we celebrate Will! As he steps into a new chapter at Embrace Church (West Campus), let's send him off with our love and blessings.

We'll have a popcorn and topping bar between services on Sunday, November 17. Be sure to stop by, grab a treat, and wish Will well on his next adventure!

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, 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.

November 10- 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

November 10 Communion Offering: Friendship Ministries

Friendship Ministries is an organization that helps churches around the world share God's love with people who have intellectual disabilities grow deeper in their relationship with God.

Coming Up: November 17: The Banquet

Offering Totals from Last Week

General Fund: \$ 15,500

Ministry Shares: \$ 3,444

Faith Promise: \$ 961

Building Fund: \$ 380

Tuition Assistance: \$270

Weekly Total: \$ 20,555

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, NOV 6

- Taco Feed- Catalyst
5–7pm
- Prayer Meeting
6–6:30pm
- Cadet Butter Braid Pickup
5:30–6:30pm
- Women's Bible Study
6:30–8:30pm
- Deep Dive Forum
6:45–8pm

THURSDAY, NOV 7

- MomCo
8:30–11am

FRIDAY, NOV 8

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

SATURDAY, NOV 9

- Men of Integrity
7:30–8:30am

SUNDAY, NOV 10

- Worship & Communion
8:30 & 10:30am
- Children's Church
8:30–11:30am
- Vocal Choir Rehearsal
9:30–10:30am
- No Sunday School or Faith Talk
9:45–10:15am
- Junior High Ministry
6:15–7:45pm
- Defending God's Family
6:30–7:30pm

MONDAY, NOV 11- Church and Offices Closed

TUESDAY, NOV 12

- 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](#)

[Contact A Stephen Minister](#)