

FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

Sioux Falls, SD

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WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

December 20-26

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Services:

December 24: 8:30 & 10:30am Services (No Sunday School)

December 25: No Services

December 31: 8:30 & 10:30am Services (No Sunday School)

Church Offices will be closed December 22-26

Pulpit Supply- December

Dec 24- Carl Zylstra

Dec 31- Bernie Haan

Jan 07- Jerry Buwalda

Jan 14- Aaron Baart

Going South For the Winter?

Are you headed South for the Winter? Please let us know if you will be gone for awhile. Email the office: office@firstchristianreformed.org, call, or fill out this quick form: [Gone For The Winter](#)

Texting Program

We can now use text messages as another way along with email and church center notifications to send you quick updates on your phone for things such as weather updates and reminders. You may have received a text early afternoon last Wednesday telling you this. If you do not want to receive texts, reply with STOP, otherwise you do not have to do anything and you will stay on the list.

Giving Envelopes 2024

Giving Envelopes for 2024 are available in the office. Please let us know if you were unable to pick them up and would still like them, or yours were missing so we can get them to you.

Church Center App

Did you know you can use the app on your PC too? The desktop version of the app gives you a few more options to split your offering than on the phone, plus you can use all the features you have on the app, only bigger, like reading the newsletter and checking out the directory. Bookmark it for easy access. You will need a code sent to your phone or email to sign in just like on the app. Check it out! firstchristianreformed.churchcenter.com

Custodial Opportunity

We are currently looking for some part time custodial help on Friday mornings from 8:30am-12:30pm. This position would require light cleaning, Senior Circuit setup, and ensuring the church is ready for Sunday mornings. Those who may be interested in this position should contact Al vanDonkersgoed or the church office.

Coffee Break HELP!

We are seeking a dedicated and caring childcare worker to join our team on Wednesday mornings from 9:45 AM to 11:00 AM. This position involves working with a small to medium group of delightful kids, aged 1 year and older. No heavy lifting required or diapers. If you can help out, even once a month, please email connect@firstchristianreformed.org

Meal Trains

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

Mark & 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 features our missionary, 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

January 3, 10: Menu TBD

*Menu Subject to change. All Meals are Free Will Donation. Gluten Free Options available.

CENTENNIAL

1923-2023

Last Week's Trivia:

Q: What year did we begin serving coffee after church?

A: 1973

This Week's Trivia:

Q: How many members did the "Young Peoples Society" have when it was formed in the 1930's?

Centennial Videos and Trivia

FIRST KIDS MINISTRY

Jill Smith

Children's Church

No Children's Church Dec 24 and Dec 31

Sunday School

No Sunday School Dec 24 and Dec 31. Sunday School will resume on Jan. 7.

JUNIOR HIGH MINISTRY

Al Van Donkersgoed

JHM

Our next official meeting is Sunday Jan. 7th from 6:15-7:45. We also have an open gym scheduled on Thursday Dec. 27 from 1-3pm. Come and shoot hoops, play volleyball, nine square or and enjoy some time with friends.

CATALYST YOUTH MINISTRY

Will Grisham

Catalyst will be on break until January 3rd in honor of finals and the holiday break! Many blessings to all!

SERVE Registration

SERVE Registration: Registration for both of our away SERVE sites will begin on January 3rd, 2024 beginning with our Senior Class. The registration timeline is as follows:

Jan. 3rd-Jan 10th: Open registration for Seniors

Jan. 10th-Jan. 17th: Open registration for Seniors and Juniors

Jan. 17th-Jan. 24th: Open Registration for Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors

Jan. 24th-until all spots are filled: Open registration for all high school students.

We have 10 spots per trip. To register, all students must make a non-refundable deposit of \$50 through either cash or check with their name, parent/guardian name, and a good email address. (Checks are made out to First Christian Reformed Church). Reminders and updates will be sent out as the dates come close.

Regarding Sioux Falls SERVE, all high schoolers will be welcome to attend worship services and help within our SERVE.

Serve Coordinators Still Needed!

2 Worksite Coordinators: The Worksite Coordinators help decide and plan all of our service projects. They connect with the people we are serving, finding out exactly what service they require and what jobs our students will be doing. During the actual week of SERVE, they will go to all of the different worksites and stay in communication with the community to make sure the job is getting done.

HOSPITALITY

Denae Matherly

Christmas Photo Backdrop

'Tis the season for joy, and what better way to cherish the festive moments than with a family photo? 🌟 Visit the enchanting Christmas photo backdrop in the back of the Fellowship Hall, available for your family snapshots!

Don't Forget to Share Your Snaps! Share them to instagram or facebook, #firstcrcsf

WORSHIP

Gabby Friez

Vocal Choir

Rehearsals resume Sunday, January 7, 9:45-10:15 a.m., in the Choir Room.
New members, high school age on up, are always welcome! Time commitment is minimal, but the fellowship is immeasurable! We'd love to have you join us as we "sing and make music in our hearts to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Eph 5:19-20

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.

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

"Merry Christmas! A Big Thank You to our many technical ministry volunteers who work behind the scenes during this Advent season, and each and every weekend. Your servant hearts, your willing smiles, and your 'Can-Do' attitudes are much appreciated. Have a blessed Christmas with friends and loved ones, and remember 'For unto us a Child is born!' "

DEACON'S MINISTRY

December 24 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.

Upcoming: December 31- General Fund

Offering Totals- Week of Dec 17

General Fund: \$ 25,980
Ministry Shares: \$ 910
Faith Promise: \$ 420
Building Fund: \$ 175
Tuition Assistance: \$ 585
Ukraine- Heytsi: \$305

Weekly Total: \$ 28,375

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY 12/20

6:30am Men's Bible Study
10:30am Collision Meal
6:30pm Library Work Night

THURSDAY 12/21

FRIDAY 12/22

Church & Office Closed

SATURDAY 12/23

SUNDAY 12/24

8:30am & 10:30am Worship
NO Sunday School or Children's Church

MONDAY 12/25

Merry Christmas!

TUESDAY 12/26

Church & Offices Closed

Sunday Worship Folder

Watch Sermons

Submit Prayer Request

Email Church Office

Registrations

Room Reservation Request