



FIRST
CHRISTIAN
REFORMED

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

February 21-27

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pulpit Supply

February 25- Dennis Thum-USF
March 3- Cole Pleggenkuhle
March 10- Marc De Waard, Chancellor Reformed

Upcoming Services:

March 10 (5pm) Rest: A Service Of Lament and Restoration
March 17 Installation of Pastor Steve Zwart
March 24: Palm Sunday
March 29 (7pm) Good Friday Service
March 31 Easter Sunday

Custodial Opportunity

We are 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. Contact Al vanDonkersgoed.

Nominate a Layshepherd

Know someone who would make an amazing Layshepherd? Maybe it's even you! We are looking for individuals who would make great Care Team leaders starting August 2024. Click below to learn more about what a Layshepherd does, or to nominate someone for the position.

Contact Kate Bleyenburg or speak to your layshepherd for more information.

[Nominate a Layshepherd](#)

GIVE UP In Order TO GIVE
SIMDEL Children's Education Ministry

To Give, place your envelopes in the marked box at the back of the Fellowship Hall, in the offering bag or give online on the Church Center App. Extra Lent Envelopes are located on the info wall across from the mailboxes.

Lent 2024: Give Up in Order to Give- Week 2

SIMDEL Children's Education Ministry – Uniforms, Backpacks and School Supplies:
 Uniforms, backpacks and school supplies are the core services provided by SIMDEL Children's Education Ministry. At the end of each school year the children selected to receive assistance with uniforms, backpacks and school supplies are determined based upon the recommendation of the teachers. Local tailors come to the school to measure the children for the uniforms which are sewn during Summer vacation. Backpacks and school supplies are purchased based upon the grade level of the approved students. Uniforms and supplies are distributed to the children a couple of days before the start-up of school in the Fall. All material, backpacks and school supplies are purchased in Togo to assist the local economy. The following is a history of the number of children who have been provided with uniforms, backpacks and school supplies through your financial assistance.

Projected

Number of students helped:	2021	2022	2023	2024
· Uniforms	75	189	273	350
· Backpacks	46	189	273	350
· School Supplies	92	189	273	350

Your financial and prayer support is making a huge difference in the lives of many! Thank you!

OUR MISSIONARIES

Missions Team

February Missionary Spotlight

Please check out pics from the Dominican Trip below if you haven't had an opportunity yet!

[Dominican Pictures](#)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS

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

March 6: TBD

March 13 TBD

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

FIRST KIDS

Jill Smith

SCUBA VBS

Scuba VBS happening June 2-6 6:00pm-8:15pm. The Summer event that helps kids dive into friendship with God!

JUNIOR HIGH

Al Van Donkersgoed

JHM

Our next meeting is March 1 from 6:15-7:45 at First Christian Reformed Church. We will listen to a message from Act 27 titled, "Confidence in Christ", play giant fooseball, and share some root beer floats. Our next meeting is March 17, at Suburban Lanes for bowling.

CATALYST

Will Grisham

Coordinators Needed!

2 Worksite Coordinators still needed for SERVE Sioux Falls! Sioux Falls SERVE Dates are July 20-27. Contact Will if interested.

HOSPITALITY

Dena Matherly

Check In Stations

Starting March 3, we're introducing Check-In Stations and Nametags to enhance our connections. These initiatives will help Pastor Steve and all of us get to know each other better. Let's embrace these changes together as we build a stronger community! More information to come in the following weeks.

Youth and Young at Heart

Save the Date! 🎉 Join us for our Annual Youth and Young at Heart Community Event on Wednesday, March 20, 2024, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. It's a night filled with games, snacks, and a special service project.

This event is tailored for Catalyst Youth and our beloved 55+ members. Let's come together for an evening of fun, connection, and making a difference in our community!

See you there!

First Perks Perk Up

Get ready for some cozy vibes at First Perks! Over the next month, keep an eye out as our brand-new furniture and artwork starts to roll in for the Coffee Shop Area. We're thrilled to enhance one of our favorite fellowship spots with more seating, additional meeting spaces, and expanded opportunities for gathering and connecting throughout the week. Stay tuned for updates as we create a more inviting space for our community to come together!

Pie Day is Back!

Get ready to indulge in sweet nostalgia because Pie Day is making a comeback on March 17! Join us as we celebrate the mathematical wonder of pi and officially install Pastor Steve. We're calling on our amazing community for pie (or any round dessert) donations. Want to contribute? Fill out the form below to spread the sweetness! Let's make this Pie Day an unforgettable celebration!
(Pi (π) is a special number representing the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter. It's about 3.14 and is used in many circle-related calculations. Pi Day is celebrated on March 14th)

[Sign Up to Bring a Pie!](#)

WORSHIP

Gabby Friez

Readers Needed:

We are looking for people to read for our Good Friday service on March 29 at 7 pm. Anyone 7th grade and older is invited to read. Please reach out to Gabby with questions or to sign up.

Rest: A Service of Lament and Restoration

We are about to enter the season of Lent. This is a season in which we set aside special time to focus on our brokenness. Whether sin, shame, hurt, or pain, all are welcome at the foot of the cross. This year we will set aside time for a lament prayer service on **March 10 at 5 pm** in the sanctuary. The service will consist of both hymns and contemporary songs as well as songs for reflection. There will be scripture, prayer, and an opportunity to share of God's faithfulness. Regardless of where you are on your walk with the Lord, all are welcome to attend. If you know someone who could use an extra reminder of God's love, invite them to come along! If you have any questions or would like to be a prayer warrior for the service, please contact Gabby at gabby@firstchristianreformed.org.

Hymn of the Month

February's hymn of the month for the 8:30 service is "Be Still for the Presence". I'm confident that you will enjoy learning this contemporary hymn which was written in 1986 by David Evans, a piano teacher from England. The hymn was inspired by the story of Jacob at Bethel and a concern that we Christians sometimes "charge into worship without grasping the awesome reality that the Holy One is actually in our midst". This simple and sweet melody will help us to recognize the presence of God while we gather for worship.

Song of the Month

February's song of the month for the 10:30 service is "Jesus, Son of God" written by Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, and Matt Maher in 2012. As we enter into the season of Lent, this song will help us reflect on the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross while also exalting his name in praise. The simple, ascending melody of the chorus is both easy to sing and powerful as we magnify the name of our Savior together!

PASTORAL CARE

Cole Pleggenkuhle

Stephen Ministry

Need a confidential one on one Stephen Minister? Our ministers are trained to help others navigate tough life circumstances. They are wonderful listeners and provide great care to those who ask for it. If you need someone to talk to, we have Stephen Ministers equipped to listen. If you need a Stephen Minister, contact our Director of Pastoral Care: Cole Pleggenkuhle cole@firstchristianreformed.org

TECHNOLOGY

Paul Mobley

Streaming Updates

We've completed the transition to our new streaming service on our new upgraded streaming computer, which will result in higher quality and reliability of our Sunday morning live stream, as well as improved audio, and an improved way to access our library of past services and sermons.

We stream each Sunday morning, starting at 8:20 and 10:20 AM to our [website](#), our [Vimeo](#) library, [Facebook](#), and [YouTube](#). On the Tuesday following the Sunday service, you'll find the edited and produced Sermon Video, which will also include available closed captioning, as well as a downloadable transcript of the message.

On our website, also on the Tuesday following the Sunday service, you'll be able to view your choice of the complete 8:30 Traditional Service, the complete 10:30 Traditional Service, the produced Sermon video (with closed captioning), and a link to the transcript of the message.

Please take a look at the new livestream, browse through the selection available on our website, and try out the closed-caption and transcript – we think it is a great way to reinforce what you learned on Sunday. I guarantee you'll learn a thing or two you missed when you watch it again!

And please let us know what you think, how you use these ministries, and anything you'd like to see included that will help us be more effective in spreading the Good News. You can just click [HERE](#) to send a quick message.

COMMUNITY

Hills Christian School Auction

You are invited to the Hills Christian School Fall Auction on Friday, March 15, 2024. The doors open at 6:30 PM and the Auction starts at 7:00 PM. Refreshments will be served. Join us for an evening of fellowship and fun while supporting HCS. New and homemade donations will be accepted. Thank you for your support!

DEACON'S MINISTRY

February 25 Cadets

The Calvinist Cadet Corps is a ministry of men in our church who are dedicated to bringing boys into a living relationship with their Lord and Savior. The goal of Cadets is to help boys in 3rd-8th grade grow in all areas of life, including spiritually, mentally, physically, and socially.

Coming Up: March 3-General Fund

Offering Totals from Last Week

General Fund: \$ 16,190
Ministry Shares: \$ 685
Faith Promise: \$ 575
Building Fund: \$ 175
Tuition Assistance: \$ 125
Alpha Center: \$ 2,132
SIMDEL: \$776

Weekly Total: \$ 20,658

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, FEB 21

- **Handbell Choir Practice**
6:30–8pm
- **Cadets**
6:30–8:30pm
- **Prayer Meeting**
7–8pm
- **Catalyst**
7–9pm

FRIDAY, FEB 23

- **Senior Circuit**
10:30–11:30am

SATURDAY, FEB 24

- **Men of Integrity**
7:30–8:30am

SUNDAY, FEB 25

- **Worship**
8:30 & 10:30am
- **Faith Talk for HS**
9:45–10:15am
- **Choir Rehearsal**
9:45–10:15am
- **Sunday School**
9:45–10:15am

MONDAY, FEB 26

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

TUESDAY, FEB 27

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

[Sunday Worship Folder](#)

[Watch Sermons](#)

[Submit Prayer Request](#)

[Email Church Office](#)

[Registrations](#)

[Room Reservation Request](#)