



FIRST CHRISTIAN
REFORMED CHURCH

100 YEARS • 1923–2023

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

May 7th, 2023

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank YOU from SIMDEL!

PRAISE THE LORD AND THANK YOU! On behalf of the children and families in Togo, West Africa, we want to thank each of you for your generous support of the work of SIMDEL Children's Education Ministry. Through your contributions to the Lent "Give Up to Give" campaign SIMDEL will be able to provide the Light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the solar powered Torch audio Bibles along with physical light to the homes of many families in Togo. The contributions came in with a final dollar amount of **\$36,912.55**, the largest Lent offering in our church's history! Your ongoing prayers are greatly desired as we prepare to continue the work with the children and families this Fall.

Want to Update Your Giving?

Did you sign up for an (ACH) bank withdrawal for your offering years ago and haven't touched it? We now have our Church Center App that allows for more control over your giving. You can easily designate funds, contribute to special offerings, and set up recurring payments, but YOU change them anytime!

If you want to discontinue your ACH payment, email office@firstchristianreformed.org and we'll take care of that for you.

Check out Giving on the Church Center App. Don't have the app? Find the Church Center App in the App Store and search First Christian Reformed. Enter your phone number and follow the on screen prompts to get on the app.

Care Group 9 Meet & Greet

Care Group 9 will have a Meet and Greet in Classroom 1 downstairs at 9:30 between services

Care Group 3 Luncheon

Care Group 3 is having a grill out at 11:30 this Sunday in the Activity Center

New Online Fellowship Pad

You may have noticed the fellowship pads are gone! We are replacing the fellowship pads with a online version. This streamlines our processes and saves paper! We'd love for you to try it out.

We are *not* taking attendance, but just love to know that you've come to worship with us.

Just hold up your phone camera to the code and it should pop up a link to a connect card. Use the QR code on the back of your worship folder, the connection card on the church center app home page, or try out the new QR sticker on the back of the pew to let us know you're here to worship with us! You can even fill it out before the service starts.

The new connect cards in the bench are geared toward visitors. but feel free to fill one out if you prefer paper. If you ever need help getting connected to the app or need more help with QR codes, please feel free to stop a staff member, stop in the office or email

info@firstchristianreformed.org

CENTENNIAL

1923-2023

.....

Last Week's Trivia:

Q: How many members currently serve in the leadership of this church as Elders, Deacons and Lay Shepherds?

A: Elders-13, Deacons-13, Lay Shepherds-20

This Week's Trivia:

Q: What nursing home in Sioux Falls did our church hold services in every Sunday in the 1960's?

HOSPITALITY

Denae Matherly

.....

Spring Cleaning Returns May 22-25 & June 19-22

With our annual Care Group Spring Cleaning Party, we will again make the church building look sparkly and spiffy this spring. The results of your hard work and team efforts were astounding last spring, and we can't wait to participate with you in a great show of teamwork as we divide and conquer cleaning this building. **Cleaning dates this year will be May 22-25 and June 19-22.**

Lay Shepherds will be contacting you when your group's specific time is, but as always, you are welcome to jump in with any group if there is a time that works better for you. If you are not a member of a care group and want to ensure you get included in our cleaning efforts, please contact us at office@firstchristianreformed.org.

Congratulations Graduates!

We will be having a graduation reception (with cake!) on May 21 between services for everyone. We invite our Grad to come and be celebrated by the congregation for all their hard work. Please fill out the form below if you have not already:

[High School Graduates](#)

[College Grads](#)

Also, please send a picture of the graduate to office@firstchristianreformed.org so we can include you in our Sunday Slide Show.

WORSHIP

Gabby Friez

The Centennial hymn of the month (traditional service) is ***O Jesus, We Adore You***, published in 1851. The tune was written by William Lloyd in 1840. The text was written by Arthur T. Russell in 1851. This hymn celebrates the redemptive work of Jesus Christ our King and our response of adoration. You can listen to this song here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mAbLJOKrkKQ>

The Song of the month (blended contemporary service) is ***Monument***. This song was written in 2020 by Andrea Olson, McKendree Tucker, and Meredith Andrews. This song, chosen for its connection to our Centennial year, celebrates God's faithfulness through generations. You can listen to this song here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Ouo4ioX>

FIRST KIDS MINISTRY

Heather Buys

It's Time for VBS Decorating!

We will be working on building on VBS decorations on Wednesday, May 17th and Tuesday, May 23rd from 4-8pm at our church! If you are willing to help us, please join us one of those nights. You do not need any special artistic skills and can even come for just an hour or two. Food and drinks will be provided. Please let heather@firstchristianreformed.org know if you have any questions!

Children's Church

Children's Church will continue lessons through May 21.

Vacation Bible School

VBS Registration is open! Kids ages 4 through current 3rd graders are invited to join us June 4-8 from 6:00-8:15pm each night. Kids will launch on a cosmic quest where they'll have a blast shining Jesus' light to the world. Crew leaders and helpers are needed and can also register online!

[Sign me up for Stellar VBS!](#)

GEMS Camp - Last Chance!

Last chance to get your girls registered for GEMS camp. We are looking forward to a fun weekend of games, snacks, activities, worship and meeting new friends! GEMS camp will be at Inspiration Hills on June 16-17. For more details and to register, check out the event online.

[GEMS Retreat Registration](#)

Cadets Camp- Registration Ends May 15!

Cadets- don't forget to get registered for camp! We'd like all boys registered **by May 15th**. This will be such a fun weekend of outdoor camping with so many activities being planned! It will take place at Lake Vermillion on June 22-24 and all our current Cadet boys are invited to join us.

[Cadet Camp Registration](#)

CATALYST YOUTH MINISTRY

Will Grisham

Catalyst Dates

Catalyst will not meet again until June 7th which will be at Mike Davelaar's.

SERVE

We are looking for one more adult to chaperone our students on our Grand Rapids SERVE Trip and for adult females to join the Catalyst team as an adult mentors. This is an amazing opportunity to have a massive impact on the future of our church. Please consider joining us!

Service and Volunteer Opportunities Wanted

Catalyst Youth Ministries is looking for ways to serve both our community and our church. If you have a project or a volunteer opportunity that you think would be perfect for the high schoolers let us know! Contact Will at: will@firstchristianreformed.org or (605)-338-6904.

TECHNOLOGY

Paul Mobley

Don't Miss It Check-It-Out Sundays!

Here's your opportunity to get a tour and description of technical ministries; audio, video, lighting, livestream, software and hardware, that we use every week here at First CRC. You'll have a chance to ask questions, see how things operate, and even get hands-on if you want to! Open to all ages, you need no experience, just a healthy sense of curiosity. We will meet at 11:30, after the second service, on selected Sundays in June. And if you'd like a chance to sit in and shadow one of our experienced volunteers for a more in depth look at this part of ministry, we will make that happen! Call Paul at the church office, 605-339-6904, or email Paul@FirstChristianReformed.org, for more details, or to save your spot to shadow on a Sunday morning.

DEACON'S MINISTRY

May 7 Offering: General Fund

The General Fund supports the local ministry programs, including evangelism, youth, children, adult, 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.

May 14 Offering: Ministry Shares

Ministry Shares proves the power of shared resources by helping the individual congregations of the Christian Reformed Church participate in regional and global ministries. The program provides everyone at First CRC the opportunity to fund ministry efforts around our region and all over the world while operating at very high efficiency. With little overhead costs, this important part of the Christian Reformed Church can continue to thrive if active members donate their part.

Offering Totals- Week Ending April 30

General Fund: \$16,513
Ministry Shares: \$275
Faith Promise: \$540
Building Fund: \$400
Furniture Mission: \$3,896
Tuition Assistance: \$1,695
Missions-Heytsi: \$235
Cornerstone: \$400

Weekly Total: \$24,044

CALENDAR

SUNDAY

8:30 & 10:30am Worship
9:30am Care Group 9 Meet & Greet
11:30am Care Group 3 Luncheon

MONDAY

10:30am Senior Circuit
6:30pm Centennial Activities Committee

TUESDAY

10:30am Senior Circuit

WEDNESDAY

6:30am Men's Bible Study
10:30am Collision Meals
6:30pm Search Committee Meeting
7:00pm Prayer Meeting

THURSDAY

6:45pm Book Club Study

FRIDAY

10:30am Senior Circuit

SATURDAY

7:30am Men of Integrity

[Sunday Worship Folder](#)

[Watch Sermons](#)

[Search Committee](#)

[Submit Prayer Request](#)