



SIoux FALLS, SD

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

March 12-18

SERMON SERIES

“The Cross of Christ” – Lenten Series for 2025

March 16 – “The Cross of Christ: Judgement and Justice” – Romans 3:9-26

God made very clear from the beginning: sin is disobedience against the living God and the punishment is death. And while God made provision through the sacrificial system to live in covenantal relationship with man, at some point all-encompassing judgement needed to be executed. Yet no man could withstand such all-encompassing wrath... except the God-man, Jesus Christ. This message will explore the nature of God's judgment on sin and the sufficiency of Christ's death on the cross to provide the justice demanded in light of our sin.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BINGO Night presented by Catalyst

Join us TONIGHT, Wednesday March 12 for BINGO. Come for soup and be entertained by the SFC Jazz Band, then stay for BINGO! There will be lots of prizes and popcorn! EVERYONE IS INVITED and it's FREE to all!

Northwestern College Concert April 3

First Christian Reformed Church of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, will host a concert by the Northwestern College A cappella Choir on Thursday, April 3, at 7 p.m. The concert is free and open to the public. Tour repertoire will feature settings of sacred hymns such as “It Is Well With My Soul” by Taiwanese arranger Yu-Shan Tsai. Other highlights include Eric Whitacre's tender “Seal Lullaby,” Jake Runestad's percussive “Nyon, Nyon,” and James Erb's rich setting of the American folk favorite “Shenandoah.” The choir will also perform “Baba Yetu,” Christopher Tin's well-known setting of the Lord's Prayer in Swahili, along with Mark Hayes' arrangement of the spiritual “Here's One” for choir, piano and soprano saxophone.

Senior and Friends

There will be no March meeting for Sr. and Friends. We do plan to meet on April 19, 2025 at 9:30 AM in the Fireside Room. Join us for coffee and doughnuts and bring a FRIEND. We would like input from any of you who have participated in our group in regard to your continued interest. Attendance has been limited as of late, making it difficult to plan for speakers or entertainment. WE WELCOME NEW GUESTS and would enjoy having the support of empty nesters!

You're Invited: Defending God's Family Class

Join us on **March 23, 2025, from 6:30–7:30 PM in the Fireside Room** for an important conversation about protecting our kids' mental and emotional well-being.

Our guest speaker, **Allison DeLeeuw**, is an everyday mom with a deep passion for supporting youth mental health and addressing the rising anxiety levels among children and teens. She'll be guiding us through a discussion based on the book *Anxious Generation*.

No need to have read the book—just bring your heart for kids and a desire to learn! Let's come together to explore how we can help our children experience a healthier, more free childhood.

We hope to see you there!

JOB POSTING

Youth Pastor Search

First Christian Reformed Church is seeking a spiritually mature individual to serve as our Youth Pastor. This is a full time position that involves leading, discipling and nurturing the spiritual growth of our middle school, high school and college students. We ask that you pray that God will bless our search and guide the search committee as they set forth on this journey. We ask that you pray for the hearts and minds of these unknown candidates that they would be directed to the youth ministry here at First. As well, if you know of a qualified individual that desires to fulfill this position, that you would pass that information along.

The information is posted on our website <https://firstchristianreformed.org/about-us/careers>

Candidates who would like more information or who have a Resume and Cover letter can contact al@firstchristianreformed.org or drop by in person at the First CRC office.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS

Upcoming Menu:

March 12: Alfredo soup, Tomato Basil soup and Taco soup (New!), and garlic bread

Special feature: SFC Jazz Band+ Bingo Night!

March 19: Pizza

FIRST KIDS

Program Practice Schedule for Sunday School-Led Easter Program (April 6th)

March 16

9:00-9:30 4th grade

9:30-9:45 2nd & 3rd grade

10:15-10:30 EVERYONE!

WORSHIP

Men's Chorus

Men, come join us as we sing in 4-part harmony with the gospel songs of *Victory in Jesus* and *Just A Little Talk with Jesus* at both worship services on Sunday, April 27. Rehearsals are March 30, April 6 and 13, 10:00-10:25 in the Choir Room located downstairs.

ADULT MINISTRY

Small Groups

Small groups are a great way to build community and find a place to belong. They provide opportunities to authentically know and be known by other people. If you are looking for a place to belong, we want to get you plugged into a small group. Sign up here to get connected! <https://firstchristianreformed.churchcenter.com/people/forms/916512>).

Small Group Leadership

We are building a small group leadership team. If you are passionate about intentional community and building authentic relationships, we need your help to guide and direct our small group ministry! If you're interested in joining this team or would like information, please email Gabby at gabby@firstchristianreformed.org.

Stephen Ministry

We are looking to grow our Stephen Ministry program here at First. This is a robust compassionate care program that connects people with a heart for building friendship who are trained in active listening with people who are going through a difficult time in life. If you are passionate about building one-on-one relationships and have a heart for people who are struggling, we'd love to get you connected and trained in this ministry.

If you are going through a difficult time in life, are feeling overwhelmed or lonely, or could just really use a friend, we'd love to get you connected with one of our Stephen Ministers. If you'd like more information about either of these opportunities, please email Gabby at gabby@firstchristianreformed.org.

HOSPITALITY

Order a Permanent Nametag Here!

Ready to order your shiny new nametag? Just click the link below.

[Click here to order your nametag!](#)

PIE DAY is Back!

It's that time again—**PIE DAY** is happening on **Sunday, March 23, 2025**, and we'll be serving up delicious pie and coffee between services for *everyone!* This is a beloved church tradition, but let's be real... it only works if we have **actual pie**.

Would you like to contribute a pie (or any other **round** dessert—cheesecake, bundt cake, a very confused cookie cake... we're flexible)? Whether it's homemade from scratch or lovingly selected from Costco or HyVee, we'll take it! **Sign up here** to bring your favorite pie and help make this event as sweet as ever!

<https://firstchristianreformed.churchcenter.com/people/forms/926076>

Feed the Team: Staff Lunch Opportunity!

Please use the button below to sign up to feed the team lunch (about 12 people) on a Wednesday at noon!

Sign Up to Provide Lunch

Strategic Board Game Night – March 18 @ 7:00 PM!

Do you love the thrill of strategy and outthinking your opponents? Are you the master of your favorite board game, or looking for a new challenge? Join us for a **night of strategy, planning, and friendly competition!**

Bring your favorite **strategy game** and a friend, or just come ready to jump in and play. This is a great way to **connect, build community, and enjoy some snacks** while putting your skills to the test

Tuesday, March 18 @ 7:00 PM, Fireside Room

Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4AA5A92EA2F9C43-55688643-strategic>

Save the Date! Sisterhood Event – April 26 @ 9:30 AM

Ladies, mark your calendars! You're invited to a **churchwide (and friends & neighbors!) Sisterhood Event**—a morning of **pastries, fancy coffee, community, and fun!**

-Open to all women ages 10 and up

-Celebrate spring with us

-Bring a friend (or two)!

-When: Friday, April 26 @ 9:30 AM

-Where: First CRC Activity Center

We want to make sure there's a seat (and a pastry!) for everyone, so [sign up here](#)

We can't wait to see you there!


PS, We are currently working on booking a speaker. If you have a testimony, a word of encouragement or a skill that you would like to share, please contact Denae Matherly at denae@firstchristianreformed.org


Introducing... The First CRC Dream Team!


We've had a few name changes (Hospitality Team... Enfolding Team... it's been a journey), but we've finally landed on one that fits—**The Dream Team!** And guess what? We want YOU to be part of it.

Join us as we **dream big and make hospitality happen**—helping volunteers find their strengths, planning amazing events, and creating a warm, welcoming space for everyone who walks through our doors.

No special skills required—just a heart for people and a willingness to have fun while making a difference!

 **March 17, 2025**

 **6:00–7:30 PM**

 **Conference Room (next to the mailboxes)**

Come for the mission, stay for the community. We'd LOVE to have you!

JUNIOR HIGH MINISTRY

JHM

Our next meeting is March 23 from 6:15- 7:45 at First Christian Reformed Church. We are going to be putting together care packages for Sioux Falls for people experiencing homelessness, and immediate need. We will learn about the needs experienced, how we can support them. Students will purchase items on the list at Walmart, and build care packages at church which will be distributed over the next year to those who come to our doors. This project is supported by our church, however, if you would like to donate please feel free to send an envelope along with your student, or go to the app and donate to JHM Project Care.

HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

Faith Talk for High School

There will be NO Faith Talk classes March 16 for High School

Upcoming Catalyst Schedule:

March 12th – All church BINGO night! Lots of Prizes! Come one, Come All!

March 19th- Special Speaker- Pastor Steve!

COMMUNITY

Cornerstone Fundraising Banquet- Celebrating 20 years of God's Faithfulness

When: April 7th

Where: Trinity CRC in Rock Valley, IA

Time: Doors open @ 6pm with meal served @ 6:30pm

Catered Meal to be Served

Call 712-476-5292 for reservations by March 30

Bring a Carload and enjoy an evening of great food and fellowship. Hear how cornerstone began and where we are today

MISSIONS

Lent Campaign 2025- Growing Beyond The Gifts

Our focus this year of our 2025 Lent Campaign will be for the Heytsi family in Tyachiv, Ukraine. Your support this year will help them upgrade their church farm. We hope to help them with the funds to purchase 2 solar panels (\$18,000), construct a root cellar (\$5,000), prep and plant 2 fields (\$900), purchase seeds and plants, and buy 6 piglets (\$300).

A special giving envelope has been placed in your mailbox. Please use this as a reminder throughout the Lent season, as well as to submit your gifts. Place anytime during the Lent season in the offering bag, or in the marked box in the back of the Fellowship Hall. Be listening for more information about this the Heytsi Family and their church farm during the Lent season!

From The Heytsi's

First CRC, we are so grateful and thank God for all your support throughout the years. We praise God that you are Giving up to Grow with us this Lent season. With your continued prayers and support, New Life Church bought this small plot of land 2 years ago. Our prayers are that through this farm, we can help with food stability and shortages. In addition to helping provide food, we sell the crops in the market as a small source of income for our church. In the past 2 years, since purchasing the land, we have worked to:

- Clear the land of trees and debris
- build a fence around the land
- build 2 greenhouses
- build a pig barn
- begin to raise 5 goats for milk and meat
- raise chickens for meat and eggs
- are growing small crops of peppers, cucumbers and tomatoes in the greenhouses
- growing corn and beets for the animals food
- growing potatoes, zucchini and raspberries

We praise God for you and your continued support!!"

Electricity in the Ukraine

"Electricity has never been very reliable in Ukraine, but since the war began, it has gotten much worse. They also have planned times when they shut electricity off for specific hours. We use heaters to keep our greenhouses warm during our cold spring days and nights and so having reliable energy is very important, so that we don't lose our vegetable crop and can continue to grow vegetables in the greenhouses. We plan to purchase solar panels and put them on the roof of our shed, so that we have a more reliable energy supply. Thank you for considering helping in our need to get reliable electricity."

Press play in this short video link to get and idea of what the farm looks like:



Heytsi Farm Video

DEACON'S MINISTRY

March 16: Offering of the Day - World Renew

World Renew is the relief and development arm of the Christian Reformed Church in North America. World Renew reaches out in God's name to people, both in North America and around the world, who are struggling with poverty, hunger, disaster, and injustice to help them find lasting ways to improve their lives. Their ministry involves community development, as well as disaster response and rehabilitation.

March 23: Offering of the Day – Building Fund

Offering Totals from Last Week

General Fund: \$ 20,778
Ministry Shares: \$ 620
Faith Promise: \$ 330
Building Fund: \$ 205
Tuition Assistance: \$ 265
Luke Society: \$1,613

Weekly Total: \$ 23,611

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, MAR 12

- **Wednesday Night Meal**
5:30–6:30pm
Handbell Choir
6:30–7:30pm
Prayer Meeting
6:30–7:30pm
BINGO Night hosted by Catalyst
6:30–8:30pm
GEMS
6:30–8:30pm
Women's Bible Study
6:30–8:30pm
Catalyst
7–9pm

THURSDAY, MAR 13

Harvey De Groot - Visitation
4–6pm
Mission Team Meeting
6:30–8pm

FRIDAY, MAR 14

Young Adult Men's Study
6:30–7:30am
Harvey De Groot Funeral
11:30am–2pm

SATURDAY, MAR 15

Men of Integrity
7:30–8:30am

SUNDAY, MAR 16

CHILDREN'S CHURCH
8:30 & 10:30AM
WORSHIP
8:30 & 10:30AM
VOCAL CHOIR REHEARSAL
9:35–10AM
SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:45–10:15AM
WOMEN'S CHORUS REHEARSAL
10–10:25AM

MONDAY, MAR 17

Senior Circuit
10:30–11:30am
Men's Life Bible Study
6:45–8pm

TUESDAY, MAR 18

Senior Circuit
10:30–11:30am
Ad Board Meeting
6–8pm

Sunday Worship Folder

Watch Sermons

Submit Prayer Request

Registrations

Room Reservation Request

Email Church Office

Announcements for Newsletter are due by 3pm on Tuesdays. Please send your written announcement to office@firstchristianreformed.org