



FIRST  
CHRISTIAN  
REFORMED

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

*March 27-April 2*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Upcoming Services:**

March 29 (7pm) Good Friday Service (Walk up Communion)

March 31 Easter Sunday (8:30 & 10:30am) Donuts between services!

### **Caring Bridge- Rylan Van Zee**

visit: [www.caringbridge.org/visit/rylanvanzee](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/rylanvanzee)

### **Scripture Version**

The text that is read from the pulpit every week is from the ESV version of the Bible. Please feel free to follow along in the Bibles in the pews, your phone or your own personal Bible, even if it is not the same version.

## PASTOR'S CORNER

*Steve Zwart*

Blessings to you all as we wrap up the month of March... with spring on the horizon being held off by this brief taste of winter!

And just like the weather can be here in the upper Midwest, sometimes changes and setbacks can challenge us to grit through what comes our way and yet at the same time deepen our longing for what is yet to come!

Holy Week reminds us that just as in one moment we see the King come riding into Jerusalem with the accolades of the peoples, in the next moment and by week's end we see this same King with a crown of thorns and sent to the cross.

Our sin and brokenness reminds us that we're still in a battle to overcome and it points us to our need for Christ, our need for a King. Yet, as the battle rages on we know, for sure, victory is coming because of the resurrection. So ... we grit through tackling the sin in our lives and at the same time long for the power of Christ to make all things new - in His time.

Let's gather on Friday to remember the lengths to which Christ went to battle on our behalf. Then, let's gather again on Sunday to celebrate what we deeply long for - resurrection power unto eternal life!

Blessings!

Pastor Steve

# 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.

**Please turn in envelopes by April 7!**

### **SIMDEL Children's Education Ministry – Where do we go from here?**

The board of SIMDEL Children's Education Ministry highly covets your prayers as we discern the Lord's leading and provision to the children and families of Togo. Some of the items we are currently striving to discern are: 1) Do we continue to provide financial assistance to the students currently supported as they move on to middle school and high school? 2) Or, do we extend our services to other primary schools in the villages of Togo? 3) Are there organizations such as Resonate, Samaritan's Feet, Kids Against Hunger and other ministries that we can partner with? 4) How do we best understand and help families discern, create and support sustainable sources of income? 5) Are there additional churches, schools and organizations in our region we can partner with for financial and prayer support?

Thank you for your prayers and financial support. As a grass roots ministry, your prayers for wisdom and discernment are highly coveted.

## OUR MISSIONARIES

### *Missions Team*

### March Missionary Spotlight Sadee Van Ruler- Global Service Network



**Aaron, Sadee and Knoxie Van Ruler  
Bloomington, IN**

#### **From Sadee Van Ruler:**

First CRC Family, we couldn't do this work without YOU. You are our partners in the Gospel of Jesus Christ! Thank you for sacrificially praying and giving financially to be on mission with us! You are God's provision and blessing in our lives. We thank Him for you!

### **Heytsi Update**

Click on the button below for an update from the Heytsi family. Physical copies are on the information wall.

[Heytsi Newsletter- NEW!](#)

# WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS

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

**April 3- Pizza**

**April 10: Grilling Hamburgers and Brats**

## FIRST KIDS

*Jill Smith*

### **No Sunday School or Faith Talk or Children's Church, Nursery Unstaffed Sunday**

There will be NO Sunday School or Faith Talk on March 31.

NO children's church on the 31st. The nursery will be unattended on Easter Sunday (31st), but open for families to use.

### **We NEED Nursery Volunteers!**

We are looking for students to help out in the nursery! We have a blank slate here after Easter and would LOVE to see your students consider helping out! They are the perfect age to help in nursery as they still love to play toys, read books and give out hugs and snuggles!

You can sign them up below!

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/17nYXefYLGw4XyGsi-5EqNt56hYqdn7eHZxy7s6wrOgU/edit?usp=sharing>

Thank you for considering and being a part of a great ministry that our church offers to families of young children!

### **Christian Illusionist Matt Adams**

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, May 1st as Christian Illusionist and Evangelist Matt Adams joins us to perform an amazing show. Great for kids, but open to all ages, registration opens on April 1st! Cost is \$5 person, ages 5 and under are free.

## JUNIOR HIGH

*Al Van Donkersgoed*

### **JHM**

We meet Sunday March 31st, from 6:15-7:45. We will hear a message titled "The Resurrection is Everything", and share some easter treats. Our following meeting will be April 14 at First CRC. We will be serving old fashioned floats after the Hymn Sing. Please arrive at 5:00pm to prepare after clean up we will play a game and finish at 7pm.

## CATALYST

*Will Grisham*

### **SERVE Chaperones Needed!**

We still need female chaperones for two of our SERVE mission trips! We need one leader for Holland, Michigan and one leader for Muskegon, Michigan. Both trips go from July 6th to July 13th! If you love being in service and want to see firsthand the impact a summer mission trip can have reach out to Will!

## SERVE Worksites Needed!

Do you have a project that needs completing? We may be able to help! SERVE Sioux Falls is happening from July 20th – July 27th and we need worksites. Whether it's painting your house or pulling your weeds we have students ready and willing to help. Contact Leigh Roelofs at [lbroelofs@sio.midco.net](mailto:lbroelofs@sio.midco.net) to see if your project is right for SERVE!

## Save the Date!

Join us for a special outdoor worship service at the Levitt At The Falls on Sunday, July 21, 2024 to kick off SERVE Sioux Falls. This will be the only service held that day. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more details!

---

# HOSPITALITY

*Danae Matherly*

---

## Needed: Good Friday Ushers and Greeters.

Sign up here to volunteer to greet or usher on Good Friday (this week! March 29) Arrive at 6:45 p.m. for the 7:00 p.m. service

Sign Up to Greet/Usher Good Friday

## Nametags

Thank you to those of you who have tried our name tag stations. We keep making changes to make it better! We now have 5 up and running! 2 by the back wall, 1 by the sanctuary, 2 by the coffeeshop entrance.

Please Note: Kids in Sunday School and Nursery will need separate tags when they check in to Sunday School or Nursery for safety reasons so they can be accurately accounted for in case of an emergency.

## Easter Morning Juice & Donuts

I am looking for a couple of volunteers to pour juice and to make sure the donut platters stay full on Easter morning. We will be serving from 9:30-10:30. Sign up below.

Help Serve Juice/Donuts Easter Sunday

---

# WORSHIP

*Gabby Friez*

---

## Spring Hymn Sing

Do you love to sing hymns? Do you have a favorite from the hymnal that we haven't sung for a while? Join us for our Spring Hymn Sing on April 14 at 5 pm in the Sanctuary. Bring your hymn suggestions and your voices and join us in a night of worship!

## Hymn of the Month

April's hymn of the month for the 8:30 service is "See, What a Morning (Resurrection Hymn)" by Stuart Townend and Keith Getty. Both Townend and Getty have been on the forefront of the contemporary hymn movement. A contemporary hymn is a song written within the last 50 years with a hymn-like structure specifically to be used for corporate worship. "See, What a Morning" was written in 2003 and tells the story of the resurrection with a reoccurring declaration "Christ is risen from the dead".

### **Song of the Month**

April's song of the month for the 10:30 service is "Psalm 34 (Taste and See)" written by Joe Rigney and Shane Barnard and made popular by Shane and Shane. This is the song that Pastor Steve introduced to us during his installation service. This song is a beautiful setting of Psalm 34 that boasts a soaring chorus that has been in my head frequently over the last few weeks, "Magnify the Lord with me. Come exalt His name together. Glorify the Lord with Me. Come exalt His name forever."

---

## COMMUNITY

---

### **Hope Haven Annual Benefit Auction**

It's BACK and BIGGER- Hope Haven's BIGGEST fundraiser, the Annual Benefit Auction! Join us on Friday, April 5 at Te Slaa Trucking in Hull, IA. Help support the individuals with disabilities by attending our Buy It Now opening at 5pm, followed by our Live Auction at 5:30pm. Choose from over 450 incredible items for all ages to bid on. For a sneak peek of the items, check out our online catalog by visiting: [www.hopehaven.org](http://www.hopehaven.org)

### **Center of Hope**

The Center of Hope is expecting a record year in their Bike Ministry offering bicycles to income-eligible individuals and families needing them as transportation. With that being said, they are needing bicycle donations! Please consider dropping off bicycle donations Tuesday-Friday 9am-5pm.

### **Cornerstone Annual Benefit Banquet**

Cornerstone Prison Church Council, Board and Congregation would like to invite you to our Annual Benefit Banquet on Monday, April 1, 2024 at Trinity Christian Reformed Church, Rock Valley, IA. Doors will open at 6:00 p.m. and the banquet begins at 6:30pm. Save your spot by Sunday, March 24 by calling Trinity CRC at 712-476-5292 or go to our website [www.cornerstonepcsd.org](http://www.cornerstonepcsd.org). A free will offering will be taken as an opportunity to financially support Cornerstone's ministry. We look forward to seeing you! If you are unable to attend, you can send your donations to:  
Cornerstone Prison Church  
c/o Dave Vande Kamp PO Box 88708 Sioux Falls, SD 57109  
Or donate online at [www.cornerstonepcsd.org](http://www.cornerstonepcsd.org)

---

## DEACON'S MINISTRY

---

### **March 29: Good Friday Offering – 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 31: Offering of the Day- St. Francis House**

The St. Francis House is a transitional housing program in Sioux Falls for the homeless that

provides hospitality, fellowship and support to men, women, and families in need. The organization also offers special services for reaching long-term goals, including employment, independent housing, addiction recovery, and money management.

## Coming Up: April 7 General Fund

### Offering Totals from Last Week

General Fund: \$ 10,925  
Ministry Shares: \$ 3,258  
Faith Promise: \$ 246  
Building Fund: \$ 105  
Tuition Assistance: \$ 320  
SIMDEL- Give Up to Give: \$ 7,652

**Weekly Total: \$ 22,506**

## CALENDAR

### WEDNESDAY, MAR 27

- **Women's Bible Study**  
6:30-8:30pm
- **Prayer Meeting**  
7-8pm
- **Mission Committee Meeting**  
7-8pm

### FRIDAY, MAR 29

- **Young Adult Men's Study**  
6:30-7:30am
- **Good Friday Service**  
7-8pm

### SATURDAY, MAR 30

- **Men of Integrity**  
7:30-8:30am

### SUNDAY, MAR 31

- **Worship**  
8:30 & 10:30 am
- **No Sunday School**  
**No Faith Talk**  
**No Children's Church**
- **Nursery Unstaffed**
- **Junior High Ministry**  
6:15-7:45pm

### MONDAY, APR 1

- **Church and Office Closed**

### TUESDAY, APR 2

- **Senior Circuit**  
10:30-11:30am
- **Elders, Deacons, Lay Shepherds Meeting**  
7-9pm

Sunday Worship Folder

Watch Sermons

Submit Prayer Request

Email Church Office

Registrations

Room Reservation Request

Good Friday Folder