



FIRST
CHRISTIAN
REFORMED

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

April 3-9

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scripture Version

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

Thank You From Lori Van Laar

Thanks to all who remembered me with prayers and cards with the passing of my granddaughter, Katie. I am so grateful for your love and prayers.

Thank You From Lee & Deb Van Ruler

We would like to thank the congregation for the prayers, encouragement and cards along with the visitations and encouragement during and after Deb's recent knee replacement. Our community of faith continues to stand the test of time and community. Praise God for His blessings!

Caring Bridge- Rylan Van Zee

visit: www.caringbridge.org/visit/rylanvanzee

PASTOR'S CORNER

Steve Zwart

Recently I was mapping out (ok... actually the master electrician and his son next to me were mapping out) a pathway from my fuse box to a location in the garage for a new electrical line. Wow. There's a lot that goes into the thoughtful pathway and connections needed just for one outlet! Grateful for people who know how to do that!

Did you know that YOU serve that role, humanly speaking! Yes, you provide a critical connection and pathway between the King of the universe and your neighbor, fellow church member, classmate and co-worker. You are someone that provides life-giving current in a world that seems to be short-circuiting. When healthy connections are not maintained, we have sparks and fires that can destroy things in a hurry. When healthy connections are in place, there's life-changing power!

How do we provide that life-giving current? Love selflessly. Acts of kindness. Praying for one another. Getting to know each other's name and greeting one another. Inviting a neighbor for coffee. Standing in the gap for someone with no connections at all. So many opportunities.

Let's unleash that life-giving power even more here at First as we walk in the power of the resurrected King!
Peace, Pastor Steve

GIVE UP In Order TO GIVE

SIMDEL Children's Education Ministry

Thank You for Giving up to Give for SIMDEL during LENT. If you need to turn in your envelope yet, please place it the offering plate by Sunday April 7!

OUR MISSIONARIES

Missions Team

April Missionary Spotlight

Vasya and Maranda Heytsi



Vasya & Maranda Heytsi
New Life Church, Ukraine

Spring 2024

Fall 2023

April 2023

January 2023

Heytsi Updates

To get to know the Heytsi Family and the work God is doing in the Ukraine and through New Life Church, please read their newsletters from the past year.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS

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

April 3- Pizza

April 10: Grilling Hamburgers and Brats

Do you love BACON? Better Question-Who doesn't love bacon? We'd love to make our burgers next week on the LAST Wednesday night meal of the year into BACON Cheesburgers, so we are seeking BACON donations to make this final meal special. If you are interested in donating some bacon, please contact [Denae](#) by Sunday!

FIRST KIDS

Jill Smith

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!

SCUBA VBS

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

VBS Donations

Needed to make under the sea decorations:

Cardboard boxes of any size, Cardboard Egg cartons, Cardboard tubes (Toilet paper/paper towel/wrapping etc), Plastic lids (pop, juice, milk etc)

Please bring these downstairs to the marked area!

Ministry Season End Dates

The last day of Sunday School will be April 21st. Thank you to all of our Sunday School teachers who have helped with this ministry.

The last day of Children's Church will be May 19th. Thank you to all who have helped with this ministry.

Christian Illusionist Matt Adams- Registration OPEN!

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 is open NOW. Cost is \$5 person, ages 5 and under are free.

Christian Illusionist Sign Up

JUNIOR HIGH

Al Van Donkersgoed

JHM

We meet Sunday April 14 to serve floats after the Hymn Sing. Students will meet at 5pm to start preparing and should be done by 6:45pm. Come enjoy the Hymn Sing, drop your student at the Activity Center, sing praise to our King, and then enjoy an old fashioned root beer float, coke float, arctic orange float, and great fellowship afterwards.

Our final official meeting is April 28th at Thunder Road! Details in next weeks News.

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 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

Denae Matherly

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. Try it out! You only have to put in your phone number and can print out your whole family. 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.

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!

Stay for Old Fashioned Floats!

Come and enjoy an old fashioned float after the Hymn Sing! The Junior High Ministry will be serving coke floats, root beer floats, arctic orange floats, chocolate and strawberry cream soda floats and of course the purple cow. See you then!

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

Community Concert at Dordt

Community Choral Worship Service with Dan Forrest, Thursday, April 11, 7:00 p.m., BJ Haan Auditorium, Dordt University, Sioux Center, IA. The evening will be a time of worship through choral music, scripture readings, litanies, meditations and other musical reflections. Some of our First CRC choir members will be singing in the community choir.

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.

New Roots

What do you think about helping new American adults get their driver's license? It meets a huge need for individuals and their families, the city appreciates safe drivers, and friendships are developed. New Roots Ministry empowers immigrants and former refugees in various ways, including lining up volunteers to bless people with driver training. Those being trained must provide an insured, running vehicle, and a special brake is available, all to improve safety. Please text or call Fred at (605)376-6330, or email him at fnewroots@gmail.com, if you are interested or have questions.

DEACON'S MINISTRY

April 7: Offering of the Day – General Fund

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

Coming Up: April 14- I.T.E.M.

Offering Totals from Last Week

General Fund: \$ 16,434
Ministry Shares: \$ 730
Faith Promise: \$ 380
Building Fund: \$ 210
Tuition Assistance: \$ 535
SIMDEL- Give Up to Give: \$ 8,619
St. Francis House: \$ 4,529
World Renew: \$ 1,786

Weekly Total: \$ 33,223

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, APR 3

- **Wednesday Night Meal**
5:30–6:30pm
- **Cadets**
6:30–8:30pm
- **Prayer Meeting**
7–8pm
- **Catalyst Youth Movement**
7–9pm

THURSDAY, APR 4

- **MOPS**
8:50–11am

FRIDAY, APR 5

- **Senior Circuit**
10:30–11:30am
- **Bingo & Pizza Care Group 10**
6–8pm

SATURDAY, APR 6

- **Josh Bierma Funeral**
10am–2pm

SUNDAY, APR 7

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

MONDAY, APR 8

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

TUESDAY, APR 9

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

Sunday Worship Folder

Watch Sermons

Submit Prayer Request

Email Church Office

Registrations

Room Reservation Request