



FIRST CHRISTIAN
REFORMED CHURCH
100 YEARS • 1923-2023

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

August 25

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Services

August 27: 8:30 am & 10:30am Services led by Pastor Zwart
September 3: 9:30am Combined Service (Labor Day Weekend)
September 10: 8:30 & 10:30am Centennial Services

* Please consider attending the 10:30 service on the 27th or 10th as the 8:30 is expected to be very full on both weeks.

You are invited to Q&A with Pastor Zwart

The congregation is invited to a Question and Answer session with pastoral candidate Steve Zwart on Sunday, August 27 from 2:00-3:30pm in the sanctuary. Refreshments will be served.

Budget Update from the Deacons

Looking forward to the upcoming ministry season we would like draw attention to the General Fund which has **decreased over several months to \$37,852** or about 2 weeks of the total General Fund Budget. **This number is very low and typically is closer to \$105,000** or a month of total expenses. We are grateful for the financial support we have received this year and would ask that you consider continuing your support of the the General Fund.

Thanks You Chris & Heather!

Please join us on Sunday between services for cookies in the Activity Center as we thank Chris Kielman and Heather Buys for the work they have done here at First CRC.

Custodial/Maintenance Opportunities at First CRC

First CRC is actively looking for Daytime Custodial help. This position would include up to 20 hours per week between the hours of 7:30am and noon. The work would include cleaning windows, floors, and bathrooms, as well as vacuuming, dusting and some light set up and take down. We also have some weekend opportunities available which would include Sundays from 7-noon as well as an occasional Saturday. Sundays would include prepping the church for worship Sunday morning, intermittent cleaning of the bathrooms, taking care of spills, garbage and closing the church for the day.

Persons interested in this opportunity or who would like more information should contact Al vanDonkersgoed by email al@firstchristianreformed.org, by phone 605-321-2126 or in person at First CRC.

Transportation Ministry

We are looking for a few individuals who would be willing to pick up a few of our senior members on Sunday mornings prior to the 8:30 Service. If interested, contact Al Van Donkersgoed, or check out the Volunteer section of the Groups tab on the app.

Vocal Choir

Vocal Choir rehearsals begin Sunday, September 17. We meet 9:45-10:15 a.m. in the Choir Room located downstairs. We sing once-a-month at both morning services, October-April. Senior high school students to adults of all ages are welcome!! Come sing with us!! Lex DeWit, Choir Director, lexron416@aol.com

SIMDEL Children's Education Ministry

We ask your prayers that the love of Christ Jesus and the light of the Gospel will be experienced by the children and families of Togo, West Africa during this year's ministry trip. Simplice Noutsougan and Ron De Wit will be leaving Sioux Falls on Monday, September 11th to facilitate the ongoing work of SIMDEL by providing: tuition support, uniforms, backpacks and school supplies for the children who are unable to cover the cost of these basic expenses. This year we will also be providing for the construction of a concrete floor for the school, as well as the building of many new desks. We especially ask your prayers that the Holy Spirit will use the distribution of the Torch Solar Powered Audio Bibles to bring men, women and children to a saving faith as many will hear the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ for the first time. Simplice and Ron are scheduled to return on Tuesday, September 26th. Thank you for the generous financial and prayer support this congregation has provided to make this ministry possible.

Meal Trains

Steensmas: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/0ey359>

Paula Mesman: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/g619ze>

Patty Veurink: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/ekqzw1>

BIBLE STUDIES

Men of Integrity

Our Saturday morning Men of Integrity Bible Study invites men of all ages to join us. We will continue our study of "Where Do We Go From Here" by Dr. David Jeremiah. We meet at 7:30 am beginning Saturday, Sept. 16, in the gym. If you have any questions please contact Stan Ter Horst, 605-941-3374 or checkout the Men's Groups under the Groups tab in the Church Center app.

Men's Life

Men meet from 6:45 to 7:45pm Monday evenings to study Genesis beginning September 18. All ages of men are welcome. For more information contact Jack Gray or checkout the Men's Groups under Groups tab in the app.

Coffee Break is Back!

Are you looking for a place to gather and engage in Bible Study with other women? We are happy to announce that we are starting a Coffee Break Ministry on September 13. This Bible Study is open to women of all ages, and childcare will be provided. We will take time to worship, fellowship, and break into small groups for more in-depth Bible study.

Who: Women of all ages

What: Coffee Break Bible Study

When: Wednesday mornings, 9:45-11:00 a.m.

Registration Due: September 3, Start Date September 13

Where: First Christian Reformed Church, Fireside room

Why: To grow your relationship with Jesus and others

Register on the table in the back of the fellowship hall or click here:

[Register For Coffee Break](#)

Nursery Helpers for Coffee Break

Is this you?? What are your gifts? Do you love hanging out with God's littlest creations? Maybe you love to rock babies or read stories to kids. We would love to see your smiling face in the nursery during our Coffee Break Bible Study on Wednesday mornings. The time commitment is low, but the emotional reward is high.

Visit Kaye Sjaarda or Judy Douma at the back of the fellowship hall to sign up or get more details. Or [click here to register](#).

[Register to Be a Coffee Break Nursery Helper](#)

CENTENNIAL

1923-2023

Help Me Sign Up For The Centennial!

Are you having trouble registering for the Centennial Celebration? If you haven't been able to register for the centennial online, please visit the table in the back of church between services or use the following link: <https://FirstCRC100years.eventbrite.com>

Centennial Schedule

A detailed schedule of times and events, as well as tips for the day is available in your mailbox as well as linked below. Check it out and plan your day! Please sign up a reserve a meal if you plan on joining us for the evening meal at 5pm that day!

Menu:

Pulled pork or brisket on a bun
Cheesy hash browns
Baked beans
Coleslaw
Ice cream
Water or lemonade

Centennial Tips

- Cherry Rock Park is located on Southeastern Avenue just north of 18th Street
- Shuttles will be available from the First CRC parking lot beginning at 12:30 PM and run throughout the afternoon.
- Please drop off passengers at Cherry Rock Park before driving to the First CRC parking lot for the shuttle.
- Parking is quite limited in the park but there is on street parking available in the area and passengers can be dropped off at the park before finding parking.
- Please bring your own seating (blankets, lawn chairs, etc.). All meal service, including utensils will be provided.

Centennial Schedule

Be a Part of the Centennial Video Wrap Up!

Would you like to be part of the wrap up video as we celebrate our centennial?

We will be filming Saturday, Sep 9 at Cherry Rock park and would love to record people reading our centennial theme verse: Psalm 100:5 "For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations."

We will also have a filming location set up at church on Sunday, Sep 10, and would love to get your response to this question. "What is your hope for our church in the next 100 years?"

Please look for the signs or contact Josh Nyenhuis if you would like to participate. All ages welcome!

Centennial Vocal Choir

Calling all present and past choir members, family and friends who will be attending our centennial celebration, anyone (HS&older) who would like to sing in the choir for this historical event in our church. Rehearsal will be Saturday, September 9 at 10:00am in the Sanctuary. We are looking forward to giving thanks to God as we join our voices in song! Contact Lex De Wit with questions at lexron416@aol.com.

Save The Date

If you would like to invite someone, such as family, friends, or former members to our Centennial Celebration, there are extra Save the Date Cards and schedules on the Information Wall across from the mailboxes.

Centennial Videos

If you've missed one of the Centennial Videos or simply want to view it once again, they are now available on the website at <https://firstchristianreformed.org/about-us/centennial-celebration>, or by clicking the Centennial Celebration icon at the very top of the home page on the website.

Last Week's Trivia:

Q: How many actual classrooms are found in the lower level of our current facility?

A: 22

This Week's Trivia:

Q: What Year did the church library open?

Centennial Trivia

You can now play the Centennial Trivia game online! If you've missed any of the past categories -- or want to check the time and accuracy of your memory, play this multiple choice Trivia Challenge at <https://search.firstchristianreformed.org/centennial-celebration-1923-2023/>

HOSPITALITY

Denae Matherly

Are You Feeling Creative?

Do you know how to run a Cricut vinyl cutter? Or would you like to learn? We are getting ready to add signage to our church building. I am looking for a couple of people who would love to help me use the

Cricut to cut the vinyl and then help install it on the walls. This is a fun way to build community while making our building more inviting and accessible to all who enter.

Get The App!

Download Church Center from the app store today. On it, you can find the directory, your specific volunteer schedule, the whole church calendar, and the ability to give your donations online. You will also see your care group and scheduled church events, have access to registration for our ministries, and the ability to sign up for open volunteer slots. If you need help getting it set up, please get in touch with Denae at denae@firstchristianreformed.org

Church Life Photos:

You can email us any church related photos at (connect@firstchristianreformed.org), text photos to (605-321-8363), or text to request a link for our photo circle sharing information.

WORSHIP

Gabby Friez

Join The Worship Team!

We have immediate needs for drummers, guitarists, bassists, piano players, and vocalists at our 10:30 service. If you have any level of experience in any of these areas and are interested in learning more about these opportunities, please reach out to Gabby at gabby@firstchristianreformed.org. We have some great training resources and are happy to start with beginners, people who used to play but haven't for a while, or people who are used to playing in a more traditional style. Come and join the Worship Team - an exciting and rewarding way to serve the congregation!

Centennial Hymn of the Month

As we move towards the end of our Centennial year, we begin to focus more on the future. Our hymns of the month for the 8:30 service for the remainder of the year reflect choices of songs that fit into the category of contemporary hymns (songs with a hymn structure but written within the last 50 years). September's hymn of the month was published in 1977. "The Servant Song" was popular in the early '90s but has recently made a resurgence in churches due to its melodic simplicity, theme of serving those around us, and clear connection to scripture.

The song of the month for the 10:30 service has become exceedingly popular on Christian radio and within the contemporary style of worship over the past three years. Published in 2020, "Hymn of Heaven" has the classic combination of story-telling verses and a soaring chorus that Phil Wickham has become known for. This song points us to the hope that we have in Christ and allows us to dream of what the new heaven and the new earth will be like. With these lyrics captivating our imaginations, we are sure to enjoy joining the thousands of generations that have come before us and the heavenly angel chorus as we sing, "Holy is the Lord".

FIRST KIDS MINISTRY

Jill Smith

Register for Children's Ministries

Registration for all of our [children's and youth ministries](#) is now available! Please register your child for the ministries they will be attending as this greatly helps us plan! Also available in the App under Events.

[Register for Children's Ministries Here](#)

Volunteers Needed!

We are excited for the fall ministry season to begin and have lots of places that we are looking for volunteers. Whether you can give a little time on Sundays or a few hours on Wednesday nights, there are many ways to get involved and make a difference in the lives of our kids. Check out the details by clicking below, or sign up on the app under Groups, then Volunteers.

Contact heather@firstchristianreformed.org for more information!

[Volunteer Opportunities](#)

JUNIOR HIGH MINISTRY

Al Van Donkersgoed

JHM

Register your 7th or 8th Grader for a fun year of Junior High activities happening every other Sunday night from 6:15-7:45pm during the ministry season. The season's first meeting will take place on September 17th.

[Register for Junior High Ministries Here](#)

CATALYST YOUTH MINISTRY

Will Grisham

[Register for Catalyst Here](#)

Catalyst Leaders Needed!

Looking for an opportunity to have an impact? More Catalyst team members are needed for next fall, especially women, to give our HS girls some wonderful female mentors. Come hang out with our high schoolers, play games, lead small group discussions, and eat like a teenager! Wednesday nights, 7-9pm during the school year, with a few other events here and there. Interested? Contact Will at

will@firstchristianreformed.org

PASTORAL CARE

Cole Pleggenkuhle

Interested In Starting A Bible Study?

If you are interested in starting a new small group Bible study in the Fall, please feel free to reach out to Cole for resources and ideas. cole@firstchristianreformed.org

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 Ministers equipped to listen.

If you need a Stephen Minister, contact our Director of Pastoral Care:
Cole Pleggenkuhle cole@firstchristianreformed.org

COMMUNITY

Bible League Conference

You are invited to Bible League Conference on Tuesday, September 12 at 9:00am. Taking place at Bethel Church in Sioux Center, IA, you are invited to join hear speaker Carol Kent as she shares her life experience in growing an enduring faith and impacting the world for Christ. For more information, speak to Carla Kooiman, check the information board for more details, or register online at bibleleague.org/tickets

DEACON'S MINISTRY

August 27: Offering of the Day – 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.

September 3: Offering of the Day – 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 August 20

General Fund: \$ 53,986

Ministry Shares: \$568

Faith Promise: \$671

Building Fund: \$140

Tuition Assistance: \$665

Bible League \$279

Sioux Falls Christian: \$1,682

Weekly Total: \$ \$57,991

CALENDAR

FRIDAY 8/25

10:30am Senior Circuit

SATURDAY 8/26

SUNDAY 8/27

8:30am & 10:30am Worship

2:00pm Q&A Pastor Zwart

MONDAY 8/28

10:30am Senior Circuit

TUESDAY 8/29

10:30am Senior Circuit

WEDNESDAY 8/30

6:30pm GEMS Counselor Mtg

7:00pm Prayer Meeting

7:00pm Catalyst

THURSDAY 8/31

9:00am MOPS Kick-off

FRIDAY 9/1

10:30am Senior Circuit

[Sunday Worship Folder](#)

[Watch Sermons](#)

[Search Committee](#)

[Submit Prayer Request](#)

[Email First CRC Office](#)

[Candidate for Pastor](#)