



FIRST
CHRISTIAN
REFORMED

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

August 28-September 3

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Note: One Service Labor Day Weekend!

We will be having one combined service on September 1st, Labor Day Weekend, at 9:30am

Fall Sermon Series: Life, Liberty & the Pursuit Of God Begins Sept 8.

Many are calling the upcoming election as the most "consequential" of our lifetime. Whether that is true or not, what's even more consequential is our commitment to God's Truth when the seasons of life and society and nation seem consequential in our minds. How do we stay focused as believers during such a season and discern what matters most? Who you vote for and why you vote for them is a matter of choice and conscience and impacts the temporal. What we do for God matters for eternity.

This fall we will be spending time meditating on God's Word as it speaks to the issues of our day. These issues not only factor into our decision-making for candidates for political office, but more importantly reflect our commitment to the Kingdom of God and his purposes on this earth... and in Heaven. It is critical we orient our hearts and minds to hear what God has to say FIRST, before we entertain the ever-swaying opinions of man on the issues we face as individuals and as a nation. We'll be tempted to "marry" truths and political parties but God's people must pursue truth, regardless of which political party we may have affinity or animosity for in this election season and beyond.

The most consequential decision before us this season and beyond this is: Are we "all in" for the Kingdom of God, no matter the outcome of this election and the issues of our day?

Deep Dive Discussions

We will be offering a Wednesday Night Deep Dive discussion following each sermon for this series with Pastor Steve. We will start in the Sanctuary on Sept 11 at 6:45pm. All are welcome! Groups, neighbors, & friends!

We look forward to having good "Kingdom of God" conversations that wrestle with "who are we" as followers of Christ and what difference does that make in our times. The hope is that this series will challenge us in areas we're uncomfortable to talk about, awaken us in areas that may not have our attention yet, and equip us to have a voice in a world that so desperately needs Jesus.

Wednesday Night Meals Returning Sept 18!

Join us the first 3 Wednesday Nights of the month, during the ministry season for a church wide meal from 5:30 to 6:30pm. YES! We are increasing to 3 Wednesdays a month! We appreciate you showing your support by coming to eat, being willing to serve/cleanup a couple times a year, and with your free will donations!

Come SERVE!

If you have a group that would like to serve/help in kitchen at a Wednesday Night Meal as a service or fellowship opportunity, such as bible study, elders, deacons, bell choir, etc., please contact Denae for available dates.

Transportation Ministry

We are a church that honor's God's call to Nourish growth in Faith Filled Living. This is just one part of our mission. We want people to know they belong to this family and to this church, and here, in community, they will be nourished and grow in faith. We have a number of members that cannot get here on their own, and that number will continue to increase. Would you be willing to give a ride to one or two members who needed one in your own vehicle? Would you be willing to drive our mini bus (no special license needed) if we had the need? Take a look at your schedule, could you do it once a month? If you would like more information about this opportunity please contact- al@firstchristianreformed.org

MISSIONS

Missions Team Members Needed!

Missions Team is looking to add 2-3 people to the their team! They are responsible for designating funding for our missionaries, prayerfully considering the Lent project each year and communicating with our church's missionaries. They are looking for people who are passionate about spreading the Name of Jesus around the world. Those with interest can contact the office, Pastor Steve or Leigh Roelofs

[Heytsi Newsletter](#)

CHURCH FAMILY

Caring Bridge-Darlene Walhof (CG 3) <https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/darwalhof>

Caring Bridge-Rylan Van Zee (CG 6) www.caringbridge.org/visit/rylanvanzee

Card Shower- Renzella Kempema

You are invited to shower Renzella Kempema with cards in honor of her 90th Birthday on August 30th! Place cards in her mailbox or send to her address in the directory.

FIRST KIDS

Jill Smith

We Need YOU! Sunday School Starts Sept 8!

The ministry season is upon us! We are still looking for a **6th grade Sunday School teacher & a 5th Grade GEMS Counselor** !If you are someone who has a heart for kids, and a love for building relationships, contact Jill Smith jill@firstchristianreformed.org for more information!

Do good and share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased. Hebrews 13:16

Keep Registering!

If you have not yet, register your kids ASAP! Use the buttons below or go to the church center app and choose the 'More' tab to find sign ups and registrations! Thanks for getting your kids signed up early so we can anticipate teacher and classroom needs! PLEASE remember to sign the waiver at the end!



WORSHIP

Gabby Friez

Vocal Choir Ministry

It's time to begin warming up those vocal chords! Vocal Choir rehearsals will begin, Sunday, September 8, 9:45-10:15 a.m., in the Choir Room located downstairs, ages high school and older. We sing one Sunday a month for both services September-April. The time commitment is minimal and the blessings are immeasurable. Please consider being a part of our vocal choir ministry! We'd love to have you join us! For questions or more information, contact Lex DeWit, lexron416@aol.com, 605-261-7189.

CATALYST

Will Grisham

Catalyst begins September 4th. Register your 9-12 grader here:



Faith Talk for HS will begin Sept 22. Register Here or on the App:



Big Soo Coupon Books

Big Boo Books are here! If you would like one, please drop by the office. Cost is still \$42. Proceeds to benefit Catalyst.

JUNIOR HIGH MINISTRY

Al VanDonkersgoed

JHM

Junior High kicks off Sunday, September 15 from 6:15pm to 7:45pm. Come and join us for Junior High Olympics as we kick off the year! Table ball, team obstacle relay, upstairs-downstairs-elevator and so much more.

This ministry is open to all 7th and 8th grade students and meets every other Sunday through Dec. 22 this fall, and starts up again Jan.12 through April 20 this winter and spring.

[Register for JHM](#)

Junior High Sunday School is for 7-8th graders and begins Sept 8. Register below:

[Register for Junior High Sunday School](#)

HOSPITALITY

Denae Matherly

Volunteer Fair

Mark your calendars! We're hosting a Ministry Volunteer Fair on September 8 at 9:30 AM (between services) in the gym. This is a great opportunity to explore how you can use your gifts to be a part of something bigger.

We'll also be serving cookies, so come enjoy a treat while you discover the many ways you can get involved. If you have new ideas for a group or ministry, we'd love to hear them!

Join us and find your place in our community.

BIBLE STUDIES

Cole Pleggenkuhle

Coffee Break

CoffeeBreak will begin our Bible study for women on Wednesday, September 18, at 9:45. We will have enrollment, opening brunch, and hand out books. We are excited to announce that we will be studying Romans this year. Come and join us for fellowship and a deeper understanding of the gospel of salvation through faith in Christ by grace! Women of all ages are welcome and do not have to be members of 1st CRC, we would love for you to invite friends and neighbors to join us!

Coffee Break Care Givers

CoffeeBreak Women's Bible Study is in need of nursery caregivers for our upcoming season. Hours are 9:45-11:00 Wednesday mornings. We usually have 6-8 toddlers, who love to play and read books. Please pray about being part of this ministry! Any help would be appreciated, from once a month to weekly! Please call Judy Douma 605 359 3441 if you could help.

Women's Bible Studies

Women, come for an hour of Biblical discussions and a few laughs too. It's a time of sharing experiences and insights about how we live as Christians. This season we'll delve into some of the issues we might deal with in our daily lives. Sample topics: hope, encouragement, relationships with believers and unbelievers, dealing with conflict, mental health issues, our calling as Christians, Christian character and integrity, etc. If you have questions, talk to the leader Sharon Buwalda. 605-929-0958 or jsbuwalda@sio.midco.net.

Choose the group that works best for you on the 2nd and 4th weeks of each month, beginning in September. Pick up the first lesson about HOPE in Sharon Buwalda's church mailbox.

Monday, Sept 9, 6:45 - 7:45pm;

Tuesday, Sept 10, 2:00 - 3:15pm

Men's Life Bible Study

Men's Life Bible Study begins Monday, September 9, and meets every week from 6:45 to 7:45pm in classroom 2 downstairs. All men are welcome to join us as we continue our study of Genesis. If you would like more information, contact Aaron Zylstra or Jack Gray for details.

COMMUNITY

Bible League

You are invited to attend the Bible League conference "Grip, Grit & the Gospel" in Sioux Center, IA on September 9 & 10 in Sioux Center, IA. Click below for more information and to register. Talk to Carla Kooiman if you would like to know more about Bible League!

[Bible League Conference](#)

Theater Production

Parables and Proverbs, presented by Lights Up Productions, is at the Orpheum Theater September 6-8, 13-15. A group of present-day kids and their parents discover a hidden treasure chest that takes them on a Narnia-like adventure of a lifetime. Led by a group of first-century Jewish kids, their worlds merge with many of the characters within the parables of Jesus. This musical is an eye-opening, heart-wrenching, and thrilling experience revealing secrets and many wonderful things.

<https://lightsup.org/our-shows/parables-proverbs/>

DEACON'S MINISTRY

September 1- Building Fund

The building fund is designated towards the First CRC Church building and grounds maintenance in order to preserve and provide long-term care for our facilities

Coming Up: September 8- Ministry Shares

Offering Totals from Last Week

General Fund: \$ 16,406

Ministry Shares: \$ 2,794
Faith Promise: \$ 715
Building Fund: \$ 250
Tuition Assistance: \$ 575
Needs Of The Family: \$ 4,635

Weekly Total: \$ 25,375

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28

- **Summer Send Off Party**
5:00-7:30pm

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29

- **MomCo Kick Off**
9-11am

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30

- **Church Office Closed- Labor Day Wknd**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31

- **No Events**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

- **Worship**
9:30am Combined Service

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

- **Church & Office Closed- Labor Day**

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

- **Senior Circuit**
10:30am-11:30am
- **Elder/Deacon/Lay Shepherd Meetings**
7-9pm

[Sunday Worship Folder](#)

[Watch Sermons](#)

[Submit Prayer Request](#)

[Email Church Office](#)

[Registrations](#)

[Room Reservation Request](#)

[Contact A Stephen Minister](#)