



FIRST CHRISTIAN
REFORMED CHURCH

100 YEARS • 1923–2023

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

October 6

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call Accepted

This past Sunday October 1 we received the wonderful news that Pastor Steven Zwart has accepted the call to be our next Pastor. This information was communicated by way of prepared video from Pastor Zwart before our 10:30 service. If you were unable to attend the announcement you can view the video below. More information regarding the next steps and information pertaining to the transition for Pastor Zwart will be communicated in the days and weeks ahead. In the meantime, we request your prayers for all involved in the upcoming transition process. We praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Call Acceptance Video

Announcement from Pastor Van

One question that may be on your minds is, “What happens with Pastor Van?”

For the past year and a half, it has been a privilege to work with the staff, council and congregation to help First CRC SF to this point in its pastoral transition.

Over the past couple of months, I have received inquiries and offers to serve other congregations as their Specialized Transitional Pastor. To enable me to be prepared to move onto a new role, and in consultation with The Admin Board, I anticipate my ministry with 1st CRC to come to an end the first part of November. More details regarding the where and when will be coming out soon.

It is bittersweet to share this news. Terry and I have come to love and appreciate this congregation and we understand that God has more work for us to do.

New Carpet

New carpet has been installed in the fellowship hall and in the coffee shop and fireside room areas. There are a few side rooms that remain to be carpeted this week. Thank you for your patience during the install and your courtesy to the installers.

Library Help

We are in need of a helper or two to remove a couple of shelving units as well as the desk and distribution center from the Library for Monday, Oct. 9 starting at 6:30 pm. The new carpet will be going in the library on Tuesday 12th. In addition, we need help putting the shelves and distribution center back in Library on Wednesday, the 13th, at 6:30pm. Please connect with AI by email (al@firstchristianreformed.org) or by phone 605-321-2126.

Wednesday Night Meals

Wednesday Night Meals will be starting this week Wednesday, Oct 11! We'll be having Taco Casserole with all the toppings to go with! Mealtimes is 5:30 to 6:30pm. New this year- we will be dining in the Activity Center to make clean up easier and to preserve the new carpet! If you are present at the end of the meal, we appreciate any help to clean up quickly to get Catalyst started!

Dominican Republic Trip

We are looking for volunteers to join us in the Dominican Republic to help with our next church build project. We are in need of 10 volunteers with tentative dates for the trip being set for Feb 2-10, 2024. The volunteers are responsible for paying for their airfare. First CRC covers the rest of the expenses. Since 2013 First CRC has funded and built 7 church buildings and has funded 2 more church building projects in the Dominican Republic. Please contact Rick Vander Haar. 605-366-2794.

Church and Offices Closed Monday

Due to the holiday, the church and offices will be closed on Monday, October 9.

Women's Monday Evening Bible Study Change of Venue

NOTICE: Monday evening Bible study - change of meeting place this week due to holiday. Group will meet at Sharon's house at 6:45pm. Questions? call 605-271-3185

Men's Life Bible Study Change of Venue

Men's Life will be meeting this week at Prince of Peace. Directions to the room are in your mailbox.

Thailand Trip- Bob & Kathy Adams

Bob and Kathy Adams request prayers for their travels to Thailand October 9-19 as they plan to visit their daughter, Sarah. They will stay in Bangkok for two days and visit the Santisuk Ministry and St. Joseph's School where Sarah served for four years teaching English to children and adults as she lived for Jesus. After spending that time in Bangkok, Bob and Kathy will travel with Sarah to Chaing Rai where she is currently teaching English to 3K-6K children in a Christian school.

Bob and Kathy will bring notes with them from Megan Vander Haar's 5K class at Sioux Falls Christian and Sarah's students will send notes back to them. This exchange is very exciting, and Bob and Kathy thank Megan for making this possible. They also thank our church mission committee and everyone in our congregation who have supported Sarah through prayer and gifts. Bob and Kathy will also bring a "torchlight" bible with them to help Sarah spread the Good News of Jesus to the people of northern Thailand. Bob and Kathy thank you for your prayers and praise God for this opportunity to encourage Sarah and see God's work in a totally different culture.

Custodial/Maintenance Opportunities

First CRC is actively looking for Daytime Custodial Help between the hours of 7:30 and noon. Would you be interested in 10 hours a week or would you be willing to work a couple of Sundays a Month? Do you need a little side hustle to help take care of the amazon packages on your porch? For more information contact Al vanDonkersgoed at al@firstchristianreformed.org or in person at First CRC.

Meal Train

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

CENTENNIAL

1923-2023

Pastor John Schuurman Visit This Week

This Sunday, Oct 8, former Pastor John Schuurman and his wife Janet hope to be with us. Pastor Schuurman will bring the benediction in both services and they will be available to visit with members and friends in the Activity Center between services. There will be cookies too!

Thank You From Pastor Ken Koning

Thanks so much for your hospitality and a great weekend. It was great to be with so many friends and share in the (Centennial) anniversary celebration. Thank you to the committee for their hard work. Thank you for the sympathies expressed (in Laurie's passing) and encouragement given. God Bless.

Thank You From Pastor Stan & Ann Scripps

We just wanted to thank you again for inviting us to First CRC's Centennial celebration. Thank you for all the work and planning you put in to make the event very special. We enjoyed seeing all our brothers and sisters in Sioux Falls. Thank you with love.

Last Week's Trivia:

Q: Approximately how many volunteers are currently required to fulfill the needs of our children's ministries?
A: 263 Annually

This Week's Trivia:

Q: What year were our Lay Shepherds added to our Care Ministry Teams?

Centennial Videos

<https://firstchristianreformed.org/about-us/centennial-celebration>

Centennial Trivia

<https://search.firstchristianreformed.org/centennial-celebration-1923-2023/>

FIRST KIDS MINISTRY

Jill Smith

No Sunday School This Week!

Please Note: There is NO SUNDAY SCHOOL this week; however we will still hold Children's Church.

Children's Church Teachers Needed!

We need more children's church teachers! This is a great opportunity for anyone who enjoys working with preschoolers. We have had some amazing high schoolers come help out and love it. We would love to see more!

JUNIOR HIGH MINISTRY

Al Van Donkersgoed

Junior High Ministry

Our next meeting will be a grill out at Tuthill Park on October 15th. We will meet 12noon-2pm and grill burgers, and play disc golf. We will have water and lemonade available for drinks, as well as some veggies and fruit for sides. We will meet at the Upper Tuthill Shelter located at 3516 S. Cliff Ave. (Keep to the right at the park entrance and go up the hill). See you then!

CATALYST YOUTH MINISTRY

Will Grisham

Serve Coordinators Needed!

Preparations for Sioux Falls SERVE 2024 are already underway and we want YOU to join the coordinator team! The coordinator team helps lead every aspect of SERVE from the kitchen to the worksites. We have a few specific positions that need to be filled before November 10th.

2 Worksite Coordinators: The Worksite Coordinators help decide and plan all of our service projects. They connect with the people we are serving, finding out exactly what service they require and what jobs our students

will be doing. During the actual week of SERVE, they will go to all of the different worksites and stay in communication with the community to make sure the job is getting done.

1 Food Coordinators: The food coordinator leads the kitchen team in ensuring every student and leader receives a good breakfast, lunch, and dinner during the week of SERVE.

Tacos, Tacos, Tacos!

Save The Date! Catalyst's annual Taco Feed Fundraiser is scheduled for November 1! More details to come soon!

Taco Feed Organizer

Are you an organizer, and/or foodie, and looking for a way to serve? We are looking for two people to serve as co-chairs for the upcoming youth group taco feed on November 1st, who will then take over as chairs next year. It involves a commitment to get the donations from the youth group organized, some of the food preparation done ahead of time, and helping to organize the work on the night of the event. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Will Grisham, Shelly Van Peurseem or Kari Davelaar.

Fatih Talk for High School

Stay turned for details and a start date! If your high schooler is looking for somewhere to get involved in the meantime, Children's Church could use your their with leading singing or leading a lesson, or just help with the kids! They can do it as a team or individual, so contact Jill Smith if your teenager would be a good fit to help out occasionally.

Big Soo Coupon Books Available!

We have Big Soo Coupon books for the 2023-2024 year in stock. On sale for \$42, the books contain over \$8000 in savings. They are available at the office during the week. Make checks payable to First Christian Reformed Church. Proceeds benefit Catalyst.

HOSPITALITY

Denae Matherly

Our Directory is Bare!

As part of our process to welcome our new pastor, We'd love our online directory to show more of your beautiful faces! Our directory is missing a lot and has a lot of outdated snaps! Has your hair changed color? Do you have more children than are in your picture? Brian Beck will be taking photos in the family room (across from the library) again **next** Sunday, Oct 15, between services. He even has fancy LED lights to make you look more amazing! Plan to stop in quick next week to have your picture taken if you need an update, or don't have a picture!

Already Have a Family Photo to Use?

Taking that Christmas card photo soon? Got a great snap from a summer vacation? You can email us any family or church related photos at (connect@firstchristianreformed.org), text photos to (605-321-8363), or upload it to the Church center app on your profile page. Photos don't need to be professional. They can even be selfies with your cat, dog or favorite houseplant. We just want to be able to put a name to a face!

WORSHIP

Gabby Friez

Fall Hymn Sing

Come join us this Sunday evening, Oct 8, at 5 pm for our Fall Hymn Sing! What will we sing? You decide! All are welcome and encouraged to join us in the Sanctuary for an evening of hymn favorites and fellowship.

Centennial Hymn of the Month

October's Centennial hymn of the month at the 8:30 service is "Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God". Published in 2006, it was written by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend, two leaders who are at the forefront of the contemporary hymn movement. They have written other hymns that we sing in our services such as "How Deep the Father's Love for Us" and "In Christ Alone". "Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God" is a beautiful prayer inviting the Holy Spirit to breathe new life again in us. Traditionally used as a song of preparation before the message, this song boasts a comprehensive biblical worldview as we approach the living word of God.

Song of the Month

October's song of the month at the 10:30 service is "Praise His Name (Psalm 148)". This song explores the sovereignty of God through the lens of creation and parallels Psalm 148. It was written and recorded by Sovereign Grace Music (Marc Willerton and Nathan Stiff) in 2022. With a memorable chorus and picturesque lyrics, this song is a great way to begin a service as we orient our hearts toward our sovereign God and King!

COMMUNITY

Friendship Ministry

Friendship Ministry was directed by a member of First CRC in Sioux Falls (Darlene Walhof) for many years. Shalom CRC was invited to be part of that ministry and has hosted it for many years. Currently, Friendship Ministry meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday evenings of each month, September through April, from 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm. We have approximately 70 friends and approximately 55 mentors. We would love to have one mentor for each friend. If this is something you feel God leading you to help out with, please contact Dave Heilman at 712-360-0140 or sign up using this link: [Friendship Volunteer](https://forms.gle/BwF8aeU9GJ3cuipQ9)
<https://forms.gle/BwF8aeU9GJ3cuipQ9>

Justice For All

Justice for All invites you to our annual auction and meeting event on Thursday October 26, 2023. It will be held at the Parkview Event Center in Rock Valley, IA. Dinner starts at 5p, short business meeting at 615p, live auction at 630p. Come out to support Justice for All ministry, hear about highlights from the past fiscal year and what God has been doing through JFA in 2023! There will be an online portion of the auction as well. We hope to see you there.

Hills Christian School

You are invited to the Hills Christian School Fall Auction on Friday, November 3, 2023. The doors open at 6:30 PM and the Auction starts at 7:00 PM. Refreshments will be served. Join us for an evening of fellowship and fun while supporting HCS. New and homemade donations will be accepted. Thanks for your support!

DEACON'S MINISTRY

October 8: 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.

October 15: Offering of the Day –Needs Of The Family

The Needs of the Family Fund at First CRC provides financial assistance to those within our own congregation who need temporary help. The deacons coordinate this financial assistance for individuals and families to provide a support system to reach out to our church family.

Offering Totals- Week Ending Oct 1

General Fund: \$21,451
Ministry Shares: \$960
Faith Promise: \$770
Building Fund: \$637
Tuition Assistance: \$385
Luke Society: 2,191

Weekly Total: \$26,394

CALENDAR

FRIDAY 10/6

10:30am Senior Circuit

SATURDAY 10/7

7:30am Men of Integrity

SUNDAY 10/8

8:30am & 10:30am Worship
9:45am Sunday School
9:45am Choir Rehearsal
5:00pm Fall Hymn Sing

MONDAY 10/9

Church & Offices CLOSED

TUESDAY 10/10

10:30am Senior Circuit
2:00pm Women's Bible Study

WEDNESDAY 10/11

6:30am Men's Bible Study
9:45am Coffee Break
10:30am Collision Meal
5:30pm Wednesday Night Meal
6:30pm GEMS
6:30pm Handbell Practice
6:30 Women's Bible Study
7:00pm Prayer Meeting
7:00pm Catalyst

THURSDAY 10/12

8:50am MOPS
6:45pm Book Club Study

FRIDAY 10/13

10:30am Senior Circuit

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