



FIRST
CHRISTIAN
REFORMED

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

March 20-26

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Services:

March 24: Palm Sunday

March 29 (7pm) Good Friday Service

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

Senior & Friends

Senior and Friends will meet in the Fireside Room at 1st CRC on Saturday, March 23, 2024 at 9:30 AM for coffee and doughnuts. Our guest speaker will be Fred Wilgenburg, Director and Pastor at New Roots Ministry and Chaplain at Smithfield Foods. Fred will share about his work with new and established immigrants in both of these roles. Join us for an eye opening presentation about the reach-out aspects of this ministry. There are at least 3700 immigrants at Smithfield alone.

Caring Bridge- Rylan Van Zee

visit: www.caringbridge.org/visit/rylanvanzee

MEMBER UPDATE

From the Elders

At the March 5 Council meeting the Elders are pleased to welcome the memberships of the following individuals/families. Please join us in welcoming them to the First CRC family!:

Samuel and Brenna* Bender, Jonathon (accepted Feb 6) and Marissa De Jager, Lucas and Morgan* Jacobsma, and Rev. Steven Zwart**

*Finalizing paperwork

**Rev. Zwart's family will transfer this summer after school is out

The Elders are pleased to have heard the profession of faith of **Max Matherly, Levi Davelaar, and Isaac Davelaar**. Please welcome them into full participation in the First CRC family!

The Elders also officially noted Brothers and Sisters in Christ who are worshipping in new faith communities. Prayers and blessings for:

Terry and Dana Boon and children Davis and Brooks, Chad and Kristin Pater and child Trey

Rev. Cal and Carla Hoogedoorn (Feb 6). The Council also approved the request of transfer of Rev. Hoogedoorn's ministerial credentials to Shalom CRC, Sioux Falls.

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.

SIMDEL Children's Education Ministry – Building projects:

Upon arrival at the school in 2022, Simplice found that one of the school buildings (shelters) had been destroyed in a recent storm. Due to the fact that the government was no longer requiring payment of tuition, SIMDEL was able to assist in the first phase of construction of a new building by installing support poles and a metal roof. This year (2023) SIMDEL was able to provide the needed finances to complete construction of the building hiring local men and women for the construction. Through your financial assistance we were able to pay for and oversee the construction of partial concrete block walls, a concrete floor and 75 new desks, seating on average 3 children per desk. Dirt floors with no walls continues to be the educational environment of many students and teachers at the school.

OUR MISSIONARIES

Missions Team

March Missionary Spotlight Sadée Van Ruler- Global Service Network



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

From Sadée Van Ruler:

Another joy I have is to encourage ministry workers that are called to a variety of different mission fields. I am in touch regularly with several campus ministers, Filter of Hope staff, an OMF single staff woman, and missionaries in Nigeria. It is a privilege to pray with them and to look for ways to intentionally come alongside them in their ministries.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS

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

April 3 & 10: TBD

FIRST KIDS

Jill Smith

No Sunday School or Faith Talk March 24, 31

There will be NO Sunday School or Faith Talk on March 24, or 31.

Also, NO children's church on the 31st. The nursery will be unattended on Easter Sunday (31st).

We NEED Nursery Volunteers!

Our youngest church attenders need volunteers to help take care of them so their parents can worship free of distraction from time to time. If you are able to help out in this way, and are 10 years old or above please click on the button below to join on the church center app, or send email to jill@firstchristianreformed.org. Volunteers should only need to serve once over 2-3 months.

Volunteer For Nursery

SCUBA VBS

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

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!

Youth And Young At Heart Tonight!

Once again, Catalyst Youth Movement is inviting everyone 60 years or older to join us TONIGHT, Wednesday, March 20th from 6:30-7:30 PM for our Youth and Young-At-Heart event! Join us for games, blanket-making, and more!

Save the Date!

Join us for a JOINT outdoor worship service at the Levitt At The Falls on Sunday, July 21, 2024 to kick off SERVE Sioux Falls. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more details!

HOSPITALITY

Denae Matherly

Be Seen & Known!

As we welcome Pastor Steve & family, we are excited to continue our journey toward familiarity and community. Please continue to look for name tag stations in various locations. In order to get name tags for your entire family, just send 1 person over to the station and they can print the tags for the whole family by punching in your phone number, search, then selecting all the persons in your family to print tags for. We are tweaking this process every week, but will have hand written tags available well if you prefer. Thanks for helping name tags make a comeback!

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

March's hymn of the month at the 8:30 service is Christ, the Life of All the Living. This hymn text was originally written in German by Ernst Homburg in the mid 17th Century and translated into English by Catherine Winkworth in 1863. It wasn't until the late 18th century that the text and tune (composer unknown) were married as we see in our hymnal today. This is a Lenten hymn referencing the crucifixion and anguish in the garden while also promoting hope and thankfulness. The refrain at the end of each verse is pleasantly stored in my head from childhood and I am confident that we can join together to sing, "thousand, thousand thanks are due, dearest Jesus, unto you".

Song of the Month

March's song of the month at the 10:30 service is Crowns by Hillsong Worship, published in 2016. This song, perfect for this Lenten season, is a celebration of our salvation brought to us by Christ's sacrifice on the cross. As Christians, our identity is found through Christ and his sacrifice on the cross. It is in His sacrifice that we boast. We surrender all of our wealth, achievements, and notoriety at the foot of the cross because our wealth is found through Christ alone. I pray that as a congregation we will continue to daily surrender ourselves and our worship to Christ during this season of Lent and always.

PASTORAL CARE

Cole Pleggenkuhle

TECHNOLOGY

Paul Mobley

COMMUNITY

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. 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

DEACON'S MINISTRY

March 24 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.

Coming Up: March 29-Good Friday Offering- World Renew

March 31- Easter Sunday- St. Francis House

Offering Totals from Last Week

General Fund: \$ 20,446

Ministry Shares: \$ 465

Faith Promise: \$ 450

Building Fund: \$ 155

Tuition Assistance: \$ 2,645

SIMDEL- Give Up to Give: \$ 875

Weekly Total: \$ 25,036

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, MAR 20

- **Ad Board Meeting**
6–8pm
- **Handbell Choir Practice**
6:30–8pm
- **Cadets**
6:30–8:30pm
- **Youth & Young at Heart**
6:30–8:30pm
- **Prayer Meeting**
7–8pm
- **Catalyst Youth Movement**
7–9pm

THURSDAY, MAR 21

- **MOPS**
8:50–11am

FRIDAY, MAR 22

- **Senior Circuit**
10:30–11:30am |

SATURDAY, MAR 23

- **Men of Integrity**
7:30–8:30am

SUNDAY, MAR 24

- **Worship**
8:30 & 10:30am
- **No Sunday School or Faith Talk**
- **Vocal Choir Rehearsal**
9:45–10:15am

MONDAY, MAR 25

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

TUESDAY, MAR 26

- **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

Heytsi Newsletter