

Will you prayerfully consider **Celebrating Western** with a year-end gift? Info. has been placed in church mailboxes, and on our website: www.westernchristianhs.com. Funds raised will support the General Fund and be allocated for capital improvements. You can contribute to Western through various means, including checks, gifts of grain, stocks/bonds, or the minimum distribution from your IRA. Thank you to everyone who has already given! Together, we are partnering to train the next generation to build His Kingdom!

Community Announcements:

- **Red Cross Blood Drive** – Fri., Dec. 6, 10 AM – 4 PM at 1st CRC in Sheldon. Call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter:SheldonIA to schedule an appt. Walk-ins welcome! Every 2 seconds someone needs blood.
- **Christmas Bake Sale** for Conquering Cancer 4 O'Brien Cnty Sat., Dec. 7, 9 am at Sheldon Hy-Vee. Donations of baked goods are welcome. Freewill donation.
- **Medicare Open Enrollment ends Dec. 7** – SHIP counselors are available to help you with your Medicare Part D & Medicare Advantage plans. Those plans change every year. Your current plan may not be the most cost-effective plan for you in 2025. Volunteer SHIP Counselors provide free, unbiased, objective info. They can determine your most cost-effective plan and help you enroll. To set up an appointment O'Brien County residents call (712) 957-5579, Sioux County residents call (712) 722-8137, Lyon/Osceola County residents call 800-351-4664.

A Different Kind of King

As Jesus himself taught, denial of ourselves leads us to find ourselves (Matt. 16:24-25). The crucifixion is the ultimate expression of such self-denial. The all-powerful God of the universe submitting willingly to having all power stripped away. How could that be imaginable? Even more, how could that be true?

And yet it was. For Jesus, as for us, this is what it means to steward our power well. Jesus' death was not just a necessary price for humanity's failure and restoration. It was that, of course. But it was also the incomparable and ultimate demonstration of what God-like power looks like in its expression of self-restraint.

--Uli Chi, *The Wise Leader*

Sunday, November 24, 2024

Today we celebrate *Christ the King*, who declared to Pilate, "My kingdom is not of this world" (John 18:36). May we be open to his countercultural rule. Welcome!

Today at First

Pastor Brian Dunn leads us in worship today. C.G. #1 hosts coffee time.

Next week, Pastor Brian Dunn will lead our services. We will have the privilege to witness the sacrament of Holy Baptism, as it is administered to **Peyton Leigh Hengeveld**, daughter of Jason & Staci Hengeveld. C.G. #2 hosts coffee time.

Our Church Family

We thank the **Buyert family** for providing cookies for our coffee time last week. There were enough cookies leftover to use for this week's coffee time as well.

Nursery Today Devin/Elissa D.J., Junior M. **Thanksgiving** Phil/Courtney L., Maci K.
Dec. 1 Dallas & Jamie Granstra, Boden Kats

Valet Parking Today Lance H. **Thanksgiving** Cory Jansen **12-1** Jevon Klyn
Sound Today Heynen/Jacob/Josh **Dec. 1** Cory/Jackson/Ben
Security Today Dolan Granstra **Dec. 1** Jon Nieuwendorp

Praise Team 11-24 Missy, Angela, Jevon, Dave **11-28** Rachel, Laura, Arlo, Shane
Dec. 1 Ashley, Laura, Shane, Alivia

Cookies Dec. 1 Patty N., Chris P., Joellen S. **Dec. 8** Kathy V., Helen V.D., Jill V.E.
December Ushers: Norm Scholten, Ben Granstra, Tom Van Dyke, Phil Lammers

Offerings only for: Gen. Fund, Christian Ed., Above Quota Missions & Classical Min. Shares. Put in offering box, Treasurer's box, or mail to church (901 9th Street).

First CRC Announcements:

- **Reverse Offering for Love INC Food Pantry** – bring back items **today!** Thanks!
- **Church Office Hours this week** – Mon & Tues. (Nov. 25 & 26) 9 – 5; Wed., Nov. 27 9–12. Bulletin announcements due Mon., Nov. 25 @ 9 a.m. Thanks!
- **Christmas Devotionals** – please take one per family.

Activities This Week

Sun.	10:45 AM	High School Catechism Classes meet
	11:00 AM	Choir Practice
	10:50-11:30 AM	Pre K – 8th Grade Program Practice
	5:00 PM	Evening Worship Service
Thur.	9:30 AM	Annual Thanksgiving Worship Service – No Coffee time

First CRC Announcements Continued...

- **Please use your own envelope for the Thanksgiving Offering. Please mark your envelope!** Organizations for offering consideration include, but are not limited to: Benevolence Fund, Justice For All, Love INC, World Renew, Samaritan's Purse, Ethnos 360 Aviation. Please consider giving to these missions or any that is on your heart. The Love INC pantry is running low on items, it would be great to fill it back up this thanksgiving!
- **Hengeveld Diaper Table** – we want to welcome another covenant child into our fellowship, **Peyton Leigh**, born to Jason & Staci on Oct. 19. Bring diapers/wipes.
- **Sunday Morning Cookie List** – a new cookie list will be printed before Dec. 22. If you would like to be added/deleted, please call/email secretary. Thanks!
- **College Student Care Packages** – please remember the college students in our congregation with your prayers and with a favorite Bible verse/passage, notes, or treats. The envelopes will be set up on a table in the narthex. College students - Jacob Christians, Amelya Dunn, Maci Kats, Dylan & Jadyn Petitt, J.D. Petitt, Alexa Klyn Turnage, Ty Van Essen, Brayden Van Meeteren, Carson Van Meeteren, Julia Vanden Berg. **Have care packages ready by Wed., Dec. 4.**
- **Book Club** – **“The Five Wishes of Mr. Murray McBride”** by Joe Siple. The international bestselling novel about Murray McBride, a lonely 100-yr-old man who's outlived just about everyone he's ever loved. But when he meets a boy awaiting a heart transplant, Murray may learn something about finding meaning in life again... Join us as we read this book and meet to discuss.
- **Sign up sheet** on the welcome desk for those willing to make a dessert for the Christmas program on Dec. 8. Please bring dessert in a jelly roll or 9 x 13 pan.
- **Hey Kids!** Take crayons and the activity sheet on the welcome desk to color.
- Wed., Nov. 27 - **No Coffee Break.** Only one meeting in Dec., Wed., Dec. 11.
- Wed., Dec. 4, 6 pm - **Congregational Mtg & Smoked Meat Supper & Sides** provided, make plans to attend.

In your mailbox, 2025 Budgets, Congregational Mtg Agenda and Keypad Usage Info. Sheet (purple). Please fill out purple form, return to Ryan Kats mailbox.

Holiday Services News:

- **The Christmas Program** will be Sun., Dec. 8 during the p.m. service. Following the program, there will be desserts, coffee/juice served in the fellowship hall.
- On Sun., Dec. 22 there will **only** be a morning worship service.
- There will be **no Catechism or Sunday School Classes on Dec. 22 & 29**, Catechism and Sunday School Classes will resume on Sun., Jan. 5.
- Wed., Dec. 25, 9:30 am – **Our Annual Christmas Day Service**, no coffee time
- Sun., Dec. 29 - **regular am & pm worship services.**
- Wed., Jan. 1, 2025 – **no New Year's Day service.**

Randy & Norma Geels have freshly roasted dark & medium roast coffee from Danny & Christa for sale. If you would like to purchase some, call/text Norma Geels (712) 348-0297. The coffee is \$20 for a 17.6 oz. bag.

Sheldon Christian School Announcements:

- **Monthly Caesar's Pizza Order** – Pizza orders must be turned into the office by the 1st of the month. This is an easy, quick meal that you can have in the freezer for these busy school nights. Order forms on welcome desk. Pick up orders 2nd Wed. of the month 3-5 p.m. at SCS. Payment due when order placed. Make checks to: SCS Roots Fundraiser. Questions, call Wendy De Kam, 324-1977.
- **NICSTO** – Please consider a contribution to SCS through NICSTO helping us reach our \$71,000 goal for tuition assistance. NICSTO contributions due **Dec. 1.** Contributions are vital for affordability to many of our families through this tuition assistance program. Questions, call Marlin Schoonhoven at SCS.
- **New SCS Apparel is ready to order!** There are many new designs to choose from. **The online store is open until Mon., Nov. 25.** The turnaround is about 2 weeks – so orders will be ready to pick up at school the week of Dec. 10. We will let you know when the orders are ready.

Unity Middle School Open House – Mon., Nov. 25, 7-8:30 p.m. All middle school students/parents are invited. Meet in Knight Ctr. 7-7:30 pm., break into sections.

November 24, 2024

Morning Worship – Pastor Brian Dunn

9:30 AM

November 24, 2024

Evening Worship – Pastor Brian Dunn

5:00 PM

Opening Service

Call to Worship – Psalm 93 Responsive

Opening Prayer

*Opening Hymn: **“Behold Our God”**

*God’s Greeting/Mutual Greeting

*Song of Praise: **“Only a Holy God”**

Service of Reconciliation

God’s Will for Life - Responsive

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon – 1 John 1:5-9

Children’s Message

Service of the Word

Song of Preparation: **“The Church’s One Foundation”**

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading: **Genesis 3:1-24**

Sermon Title: **“Into Exile”**

Prayer for Application

*Song of Praise: **“Christ Our Hope in Life and Death”**

Service of Dedication

Congregational Prayer

Offering

*Song of Dedication: **“Cornerstone” vs. 1-3**

*Benediction

*Doxology: **“Cornerstone” vs. 4**

**Please stand, if able.*

We Gather to Worship

Call to Worship – Psalm 132:1-12

Silent Prayer

*Opening Hymn: **“Once in Royal David’s City”**

*God’s Greeting

Responsive Affirmation of Faith: **Nicene Creed**

*Song of Praise: **“Have Thine Own Way, Lord”**

Pastoral Prayer

We Hear God’s Word

Hymn of Preparation: **“I Surrender All”**

Scripture Passage: **2 Timothy 1:1-2**

Sermon Title: **“Paul’s Last Letter: An Introduction”**

Prayer of Application

We Respond in Faith

*Song of Dedication: **“He Leadeth Me”**

*Benediction/Blessing

*Doxology: **“Glory Be to the Father”**

**Please stand, if able.*