

Community Announcements Continued...

- **JFA 2025 Service/Learning Opportunities:** Harvest Hands Min., Juarez, MX Jan. 17-25; JVMPerkins FNDN., Jackson, MS Feb. 1-7; Voice of Calvary Min., Jackson, MS Feb. 8-14; Grace Covenant Min., Annville, KY Mar. 1-7; Grace Reigns, Colorado City, AZ Apr. 4-12.
- **Paul's Missionary Journeys in Greece – Mar. 28-Apr. 8** Travel bus (7 ds), cruise ship (3 ds) to sites connected with Paul's 2nd & 3rd missionary journeys, as well as other major sites. Dr. Jeff Weima, Prof at Calvin Theo. Sem. hosts tour. For info. Call Dr. Weima, (616) 328-3110 or email weimje@calvinseminary.edu.

Second Fiddle

A fan once asked conductor Leonard Bernstein what instrument is hardest to play. "Second fiddle," he quickly replied. "I can always get plenty of first violinists, but to find one who plays second violin with as much enthusiasm ... now that's a problem. And yet if no one plays second, we have no harmony."

The church certainly needs both leaders and followers. And everyone should be flexible and ready to pivot quickly.

It's also important to have other arrows in our quiver – something biblical figures often demonstrated, according to Pastor Frank Ramirez. Although Amos was a high-profile prophet, he probably intended to return to being a shepherd and tending sycamore trees. Nehemiah, the emperor's cupbearer, had a second chapter helping to restore Jerusalem's walls and greatness. The apostles also had multiple roles, with careers in fishing and tax collecting before they left to follow Jesus.

What might your next life-chapter look like? How can you use it to bring glory to God?

Young at Heart

I like to walk with Grandpa and Grandma, Their steps are short like mine.
They don't say, "Now hurry up." They always take their time.

I like to walk with Grandpa and Grandma, Their eyes see things like mine do...
Wee pebbles bright, a funny cloud, Half-hidden drops of dew.

Most people have to hurry, They do not stop and see.
I'm glad God made Grandpa and Grandma, Unrushed and young like me.

Sunday, September 22, 2024

God told Moses to raise a bronze serpent on a pole so people who were sick could look at it and be healed. (Numbers 21:4-9). Likewise, we look to Christ, raised up on a cross, and our souls are healed. Welcome to worship.

Today at First

This morning, Pastor Brian Dunn leads us in worship. C. G. #4 hosts coffee time. **This evening**, there will be a post classis pulpit exchange, Rev. John Klompfen from Calvary CRC in Orange City will lead us in worship, while Pastor Brian will be at Hope CRC in Hull. Pastor Brian will be on vacation this week, if you have any pastoral concerns, please contact your Care Group Elder listed in the directory.

Next week, as Pastor Brian was on vacation, our morning service will be lead by one of our missionaries to Papua New Guinea, Rev. Eric Schering, and our evening service will be lead by Dr. John Hartog. Care Group #4 hosts the coffee fellowship.

Nursery Today Julie H., Maci K., Boden K.

Sept. 29 Brian & Kristin H., Junior M.

Valet Parking Today Devin De Jong

Sept. 29 Jake Granstra

Sound Today Kassy/Olivia/Amelya

Sept. 29 Heynen/Jacob/Josh

Security Today Dolan Granstra

Sept. 29 Jon Nieuwendorp

Praise Team 9-22 Ashley, Alivia, Arlo, Gus **9-29** Missy, Laura, Jevon, Dave, Lacey

Cookies Sept. 29 Linda VM, Maria VV, Brenda B. **10-6** Karen C., Lori DJ, Amy D.

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:

- **Listening devices** are on the welcome desk.
- **The Reflector will be printed this week.** If you have any articles you would like to include, please email or put them in the secretary's box by **Tues., Sept. 24.**
- **Would you like to purchase a 2025 Yearbook?** A regular copy is \$13.20 plus shipping, a spiral copy is \$14.30 plus shipping. Please call Julie at 324-2374 or email firstcrc@hotmail.com and place your order. Order deadline: Oct. 1.

Activities This Week

Sun.	10:45 AM	Sunday School & Catechism Classes meet
	11:00 AM	Choir Practice – meet in the sanctuary
	5:00 PM	Evening Worship Service – Rev. John Klompfen leads worship
Wed.	9:30 AM	Coffee Break Bible Study meets

First CRC Announcements Continued...

- **Coffee Break Bible Study** - Wed., Sept. 25, 9:30 a.m. We will study 1 Samuel. If you would like to join us, please sign up on the sheet on the welcome desk.
- **The Love INC Food Pantry** needs more volunteers to help one Thur. night a month, 7:30-8:30 when people come to get groceries. If you would be willing to help, call Helen Van Dyke (712) 348-5322, or call Love INC at 324-9707.
- **Fall Bible Study – “The Great DeChurcing: Who’s Leaving, Why Are They Going, and What Will It Take to Bring Them Back”** by Jim David & Michael Graham. We will begin on Mon., Oct. 7. Please sign up on the welcome desk and indicate whether you prefer to meet Mon. mornings or Mon. evenings. Also, indicate if you would like us to order a book for you.

Cadets – We will be going to the Pumpkin Patch for the meeting on Wed., Oct. 2. Please meet at the 1st CRC at 6:30 p.m.

Sheldon Christian School Announcements:

- **Hot Lunch Helpers** – Call Amber at 324-2429 to check for openings.
- **SCRIP Orders due:** Mon. by 9. **SCRIP Pickup:** Friday.

Community Announcements:

- **Red Cross Blood Drive** – Wed., Sept. 25, 1-6 p.m. here at 1st CRC. Call 1-800-733-2767 or visit RedCrossBlood.org & enter: SheldonIA to schedule appt.
- **Coats for Kids** – bring good, used coats to Love INC until Nov. 14. Coats given away Oct. 10 & Nov. 14 at Living Water Church. Sponsored by Minis. Assoc.
- Feeling uneasy about sharing the Gospel? **Everyday-Ambassadors Practicum** of New Roots Ministry in Sx Falls is a 5-hr, fun workshop where we learn/experience having spiritual conversations. Last session this yr: Sat., Sept. 28, 9 am-2 pm. To sign up, text (605) 376-6330, email sfnewroots@gmail.com or visit www.sfnewroots.com/our-ministries, including to learn more.

Community Announcements Continued...

- **Conquering Cancer 4 O’Brien County** is holding a **Celebration of Life** on Tues., Oct. 1, at Crossroads Pavilion in Sheldon. Doors open 6, and a freewill donation catered meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. This celebration will be honoring survivors of cancer and those who have passed from this life. We will be awarding the money for this year. There will be a silent auction of desserts for our fundraiser. We will be holding a remembrance service for those survivors and those lost to cancer with a flower toss around the pond. If you have given to this organization, were a part of Relay for Life in the past, or ever been touched by cancer, we urge you to attend. Please call/text Sheryl Storm (712) 230-0069 by **today** if you plan to attend, to give the caterer a number.
- **“Evening of Praise”** - Sat., Oct. 5, 7 p.m. at the BJ Haan Aud. at Dordt. The Ensemble Royale and The Klaasens will be performing. A freewill offering will be received for the Bible League International Ambassadors. Please invite friends and family to join you. Everyone is welcome!
- **JFA Annual Mtg** – Tues., Oct. 22, 5 p.m. at Rk Vllg Evnt Cntr. A business meeting, and a meal will be served. RSVP for the meal, call (712) 476-2804 or emailing joeldw@jfa-nwiowa.org by Oct. 15. JFA will not hold their fall auction so that businesses/individuals can get back on their feet. JFA will host a panel of area ministries who will share their ministry. Please join us as we celebrate JFA ministry! An offering will be received for JFA ministry.
- **Men & Young Men - “How Deep is Your Bench?”** - Thur., Nov. 7, 7 p.m. at MOC-FV High School. MOC-FV Bball Coach, Chris Yaw, will be sharing his story of heartache/hope. Mendistry is an area Men’s ministry seeking to bring small groups of men together for Bible study, Prayer, and Relationships. It has been serving men in our area for the past 3 yrs. The event will be a time of music, a testimony about Mendistry, and a speaker, Chris Yaw. Chris is presently the Principal at the MOC-FV Middle School, as well as the Head Girls Bball Coach at MOC-FV. He is also the past Women’s Bball Coach at Northwestern. Chris will be sharing about his daughter, Claire’s journey with leukemia, her strong faith, and how that experience is affecting his faith walk. You may have seen the “Claire Strong” t-shirts being worn in this area. More info. Coming in Oct. We believe the men/young men of your church will be positively affected by this event. Questions, contact Don (712) 441-1360 dsjalton@midlands.net.

Sept. 22, 2024

Morning Worship – Pastor Brian Dunn

9:30 AM

Sept. 22, 2024

Guest Pastor – Rev. John Klompien

5:00 PM

Opening Service

Call to Worship – Psalm 54 Responsive

Opening Prayer

*Opening Hymn: **“As the Deer”**

*God’s Greeting/Mutual Greeting

*Song of Praise: **“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”**

Service of Reconciliation

God’s Will for Life – Exodus 20:1-17

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon – Psalm 103:6-14

Children’s Message

Service of the Word

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

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading: **Genesis 1:26-31**

Sermon Title: **“It Was... Very Good, (Part 2)”**

Prayer for Application

*Song of Praise: **“How Firm a Foundation”**

Service of Dedication

Congregational Prayer

Offering

*Song of Dedication: **“This Little Light of Mine”**

*Benediction

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

**Please stand, if able.*

We Gather to Worship

Call to Worship

Silent Prayer

*Opening Hymn: **“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”**

*God’s Greeting

Responsive Affirmation of Faith: **Apostle’s Creed**

*Song of Praise: **“When We Walk With the Lord”**

Pastoral Prayer

We Hear God’s Word

Hymn of Preparation: **“The Ends of All the Earth Shall Hear” vs. 1, 2, 4**

Scripture Passage: **Judges 3:12-30**

Sermon Title: **“Ehud – One of God’s Irregulars”**

Prayer of Application

We Respond in Faith

*Song of Dedication: **“Tell Your Children” vs. 1, 3**

*Benediction/Blessing

*Doxology: **“Now Blessed Be the Lord our God”**

**Please stand, if able.*