

Community Announcements Continued...

- **Paul's Missionary Journeys in Greece** – Mar. 28-Apr. 8 Visit sites connected w/Paul's 2nd & 3rd missionary journeys. Dr. Jeff Weima, Prof at Calvin Sem. Hosts tour. For info. Call Dr. Weima, (616) 328-3110 or weimje@calvinseminary.edu.
- **Paul's Missionary Journeys in Turkey & 7 Churches of Revelation** May 27-June 8: Visit sites connected w/Paul's 1st, 2nd, & 3rd missionary journeys; and the 7 churches to whom John wrote the Book of Rev. Dr. Jeff Weima, Prof. at Calvin Sem. Hosts tour. Call Dr. Weima (616) 328-3110 or weimje@calvinseminary.edu.
- **The Association for the Advancement of Dutch American Studies (AADAS) 2025 Conference**, Hope College, Holland, MI June 26-28, '25. **Post-WWII Dutch Immigration to North America** – We are looking for immigrants and their children to recollect, research, assemble, write, & share their individual/family immigration stories, while we still can. What things stand out in your mind? What items from the Netherlands do you or your family still have and why? Get out those letters, photos, and immigration artifacts; talk to those who shared your experiences to affirm/test your recollections; compare *your immigrant journey and life against published immigration accounts*. How is your family story both representative and personal? We are also looking for research papers on topics related to the conference theme. Possible topics are listed in the Call for Papers, together with other info., on the AADAS website: <https://dutch-americans.org>. Submit an abstract (250 words) of your memoir or research paper to henk.aay@gmail.com before Feb. 1, 2025.

Common Ground

“Christianity was never intended to be a solo walk with God,” says pastor Jeremy Basset. “A conversion to Christianity is also incorporation in the body of Christ, the church.”

That's a fitting reminder as we observe Holy Communion today. Christians don't take Holy Communion alone; the very name of this sacrament refers to unity with God and others. We don't baptize ourselves. We don't learn Scripture or Christian theology and history alone. We can't have Christian fellowship by ourselves.

The New Testament is clear that one cannot be a solitary Christian. We are members of Christ's body (Ephesians 5:30) and “belong to the family of believers” (Gal. 6:10). As you gather for worship and receive Holy Communion, thank God for “our common salvation” (Jude 3) granted to all followers of Jesus.

Sunday, October 20, 2024

Beloved of Christ, welcome to worship, faith education and Christian fellowship this day. May you sense the embrace of God's love through the people you interact with here.

Today at First

Pastor Brian Dunn leads us in worship today. We will celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Reminder: inner circle – grape juice, two outer circles – wine. Gluten-free wafers available. Care Group #5 hosts the coffee fellowship.

Next week, Pastor Brian Dunn will lead our services. C.G. #5 hosts the coffee time.

Nursery Today Amy D., Andrea H., Mya H.

Oct. 27 Meghan G., Helen VD, Aftyn H.

Valet Parking Today Mike De Kam

Oct. 27 Drake Granstra

Sound Today Kassy/Olivia/Amelya

Oct. 27 Heynen/Jacob/Josh

Security Today Jevon Klyn

Oct. 27 Lance Hoekstra

Praise Team Today Ashley, Laura, Shane, Alivia **10-27** Missy, Laura, Arlo, Dave, Lacey

Cookies Oct. 27 Lori G., Rachel G., April H.

Nov. 3 Sharon H., Julie H., Connie H.

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:

- **Church Potluck** – Sun., Oct. 27. We will celebrate **Pastor Appreciation Month** with a potluck in the fellowship hall. Each family is asked to bring a **large hot dish** and a **large cold dish** to share. Singles may bring buttered rolls, if desired. Table service, beverages and dessert is all provided. We have a few high chairs for the littles. Everyone is encouraged to attend!
- **Combined Reformation Day Service** – Sun., Oct. 27, 6 p.m. at the Sanborn CRC. The congregations from Ocheyedon, Sibley, Sheldon 1st and Sheldon Immanuel are also invited. Mark your calendar and make plans to attend.
- **The Reflector** will be printed this week, if you have any articles to include, please email them to church, firstcrc@hotmail.com by Tues., Oct. 22. Thanks!

Activities This Week

Sun.	10:45 AM	Sunday School & Catechism Classes meet
	11:00 AM	Choir practice
	5:00 PM	Evening Worship Service
Mon.	6:15 AM	“The Great De-Churching” Fall Bible Study meets
	6:30 PM	“The Great De-Churching” Fall Bible Study meets
Wed.	9:30 AM	Coffee Break Bible Study meets

First CRC Announcements Continued...

- **Care Groups Serving Coffee/Cookies** on Sunday mornings...**please** wipe the kitchen counters, and tables after coffee is served. Also, someone needs to take home the dishcloths/towels, wash and return them to the kitchen. Thanks!
- **Operation Christmas Child** – please feel free to take one (or more) of the boxes and other supplies available on the table in the narthex. Last year, our church filled **25** boxes in less than 2 weeks. Now, there is 5 weeks to fill your boxes. The goal set for our church is **30** boxes. Remember that your shoebox gift may be the only gift the child receives. This is a great project for a Sunday School Class, Catechism Class, family, Cadets or GEMS service project. The deadline for bringing back filled shoeboxes is: **Sun., Nov. 17.**

Unity Fall Concert – Mon., Oct. 21, 7 p.m. in the Knight Ctr. Large ensembles performing – Chorale, Concert Choir, Orchestra, Symphonic Band. Free-will offering.

Explore Western – Tues., Nov. 19, 7 p.m. Families with students of all ages are invited to attend our fall showcase, **Explore Western**. Our goal is to share an authentic, relational, and enjoyable experience for prospective families as they learn about “Who We Are” and “What We Do” at Western Christian High School. If you plan to attend, have questions, or would rather schedule an individual tour, please email/contact Brad Vis (605) 359-5704 or brad.vis@westernchristianhs.com.

Community Announcements:

- **Sheldon Free Unity Meal** – Mon., Oct. 21, 5:30-6:30 p.m. You are invited to join us for a **free meal and groceries to take home** at the Living Water Com. Ch.
- **JFA Annual Mtg** – Tues., Oct. 22, 5 p.m. at Rk Villy Evnt Cntr. Business meeting and meal served. Join us as we celebrate JFA ministry! Freewill offering for JFA.

Community Announcements Continued...

- **Hospers CRC Soup & Pie Supper** – Tues., Nov. 5, 5-7 p.m. Serving soup, pie, sandwiches, carry out available. Freewill offering received, proceeds for Chr. Ed.
- **Sioux County Oratorio Chorus** is kicking off a new and exciting season next month, and all are welcome to come sing. This season features a special guest conductor and a first for the chorus as we present Brahms *Requiem*. Due to a conflict with NISO our first rehearsal will begin Wed., Nov. 6, 7:30 p.m. in DeWitt Music Hall on Northwestern’s campus with normal Tuesday rehearsals resuming the following weeks. Please contact Mike Ochsner mkchsnr@gmail.com with any questions. We look forward to making music with you in the new year!
- **Coats for Kids** – Your donation of clean/in good repair coats are needed! Drop off coats at Love INC until Nov. 14. Coats given away on Nov. 14 at Living Water.
- **Men & Young Men** come to hear Chris Yaw, share about the faith challenge and adversity he faced when his daughter, Claire faced leukemia. Join the men at MOC-FV High School Gym Thur., Nov. 7, 7 p.m. Sponsored by Mendistry.
- **Sheldon Mobile Food Bank Delivery Date** – Thur., Nov. 14, 4:30-6 p.m. (Also Coats for Kids at the NE door).
- **Sheldon Free Unity Meal** – Mon., Nov. 18, 5:30-6:30 p.m. You are invited to join us for a **free meal and groceries to take home** at the Living Water Com. Ch.

Pastors Appreciate Your Prayers

October is Pastor Appreciation Month, an observance that some clergy don’t publicize. It’s an ideal time to thank pastors for their dedication to God’s people and the ministry. A written note, a card or even a free meal is a nice gesture of appreciation. But if you were to ask pastors what they’d like or what they need, most would probably reply, “Pray for me.”

That’s what the apostle Paul requested throughout his letters. To the church at Rome, he urged, “Join me in earnest prayer to God on my behalf, that I may be rescued from the unbelievers in Judea and that my ministry to Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, so that by God’s will I may come to you with joy and be refreshed in your company: (Romans 15:30-32).

As you appreciate and encourage your pastor, remember them in your prayers. Then let them know you’re doing so!

October 20, 2024

Morning Worship – Pastor Brian Dunn

9:30 AM

October 20, 2024

Evening Worship – Pastor Brian Dunn

5:00 PM

Opening Service

Call to Worship – Psalm 91:9-16

Opening Prayer

*Opening Hymn: **“Within the Shelter of the Lord”**

*God’s Greeting/Mutual Greeting

*Song of Praise: **“Ten Thousand Reasons (Bless the Lord)”**

Service of Reconciliation

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon – Isaiah 1:16-18

Children’s Message

Service of the Word

Song of Preparation: **“Shout to the Lord”**

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading: **Genesis 2:18-25**

Sermon Title: **“A Suitable Helper”**

Prayer for Application

*Song of Praise: **“Lead Me, Guide Me”**

Service of Dedication

The Lord’s Supper – The Teaching, The Institution, The Memorial,

Preparation of the Elements

Song of Praise: **“There Is a Redeemer” vs. 1**

Congregational Prayer

Offering

*Song of Dedication: **“There Is a Redeemer” vs. 2 & 3**

*Benediction

*Doxology: **“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

**Please stand, if able.*

We Gather to Worship

Call to Worship – Psalm 104:1-9; 35

Silent Prayer

*Opening Hymn: **“O Worship the King”**

*God’s Greeting

Responsive Affirmation of Faith: **Article 7 Belgic Confession**

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

Pastoral Prayer

We Hear God’s Word

Hymn of Preparation: **“Spirit of the Living God”**

Scripture Passage: **Psalm 18:25-30**

Sermon Title: **“The Perfect Word”**

Prayer of Application

We Respond in Faith

*Song of Dedication: **“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”**

*Benediction/Blessing

*Doxology: **“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

**Please stand, if able.*