

# REFLECTIONS

First Christian Reformed Church  
Orange City, Iowa

December 2023



## Reflections

Please forgive any errors or omissions. We'd be grateful if you would call them to our attention. Thank you for submitting news articles-without your help, there would be no newsletter! Thank you to the volunteers who help each month.

## Members unable to worship with us on a regular basis:

### **Prairie Ridge Care Center**

Helen Anderson, Elizabeth Dykstra,  
Lois De Beer, Arlys Feenstra,  
Otto & Pris Huizenga,  
Arie & MaryLou Noteboom,  
Irene Pennings

### **Landsmeer Assisted Living**

Henrietta Jeltema, Leona Noteboom

### **Royale Meadows**

Joan Den Hartog

### **Whispering Heights (Rock Valley)**

Jake Van Den Hul

## Transportation

If you need a ride to a church service or another activity in church, please contact Darrell Schuller or Matt Van Schouwen.

## *Hospitality*

If you are in need of assistance, or know of someone who is, please contact your care unit deacon.

## Upcoming Events

December 3 – Post High Meal, 11:45 a.m.

December 8 – Faith Fellowship Christmas Party,  
6:00 p.m.

December 17 – Sunday School Christmas Program,  
3:00 p.m.

December 24 – Candlelight Service, 6:00 p.m.

December 25 – Christmas Day Worship, 9:30 a.m.



## **Children and Worship**

December 3 – *The Prophets and Mary & Joseph* – Leader: Lindsey Van Schepen, Flag Greeter: Jennifer Mulder

December 10 – *The Shepherds and the Magi* – Leader: Shari Visser, Flag Greeter: Reagan Noteboom

December 17 – *Christmas-The Christ Child* – Leader: Christina Zuiderveen, Flag Greeter: Nancy Kroeze

December 24 – *Off for Christmas*

December 31 – *Off for New Years*

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## **Media**

December 3 – Jon Hellinga, Austin Van Donge, Ryan Van Schouwen

December 10 – Ryan Raines, Ryan Noteboom, Grant De Groot, Shannon Schuller

December 17 – LeRoy De Jager, Mike Byker, Riley Mulder, Carson Noteboom

December 24 – Greg De Groot, Matt Van Schepen, Linda Ver Steeg, Nicholas Noteboom

December 25 – Greg De Groot, Matt Van Schepen, Phil Kuiken, Nicholas Noteboom

December 31 – Gary Jeltema, Mike Byker, Ryan Van Schouwen

January 1 – Gary Jeltema, Mike Byker, Shannon Schuller

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## **Sunday Evening Greeters**

December 3 – SE-Ryan & Jennifer Noteboom, FHW-Brent & Anita Nykamp

December 10 – SE-Don & Ruth Post, FHW-Caleb & Sarah Pluim

December 17 – SE-Arlan & Marcia Scholten, FHW-Ryan & Shanelle Raines

December 24 – SE-Shane & Denise Schuller, FHW-Doug & Audrey Schuller

December 31 – SE-Shannon & Bethany Schuller, FHW-Don & Bev Snieder

January 7 – SE-Kevin & Janna Van Donge, FHW-John & Judy Van Kalsbeek

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## **Sunday Morning Refreshments**

December 3 – Kevin & Janna Van Donge, Carol Noteboom & Marla Vande Kamp

December 10 – Matt & Lindsey Van Schepen, Matt & Karen Van Schouwen

December 17 – Doug & Audrey Schuller, Shane & Denise Schuller

December 24 – Harlan & Linda Ver Steeg, Marlyn & Esther Visser

December 31 – Shari & Becky Visser, Tunis & Kathy Vollink

January 7 – Pete & Laura Zomermaand, Nate & Christina Zuiderveen

January 14 – Mark & Gina Zylstra, Curt & Pat Ahrenholz

January 21 – Ken & Dawn Beukelman, Ross & Amy Bolkema

January 28 – Gordon & Pat Bruxvoort, Grant & Heidi De Groot

## **High School Servers for Sunday School**

December 3 – Reagan Noteboom & Kyra Van Schouwen

December 10 – Wyatt Nykamp & Tyce Van Donge

December 17 – Ruby Zylstra & Haley Schuller

December 24 & 31 – No Sunday School

January 7 – Riley Mulder & Drew Noteboom

# thank you

I have so much to be thankful for. First to my heavenly Father who was with me during this very difficult time. Thanks to Pastor Jordan & Elder Doug De Haan for their visits. Thanks to the congregation for cards, food, prayers and visits. Thanks to the youth group for raking my lawn. Thanks to everyone who came to the special celebration for us on our 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. I am grateful for all these blessings.

--Ann Van Hill

Thanks for all the cards and expressions of sympathy, during the loss of my brother, Earl. You are all a very caring congregation.

--Carol Noteboom

Thank you to our young people for raking my yard. Thank you for the pumpkin pie. Thanks to everyone for birthday wishes, cards and gifts, and for coming to our birthday celebration. Most of all, thanks to God for all his blessings.

--Alice Lund

Thank you for the pumpkin pies. They were delicious!

--Kathy Schuller

Thank you to all who came to Kayla's senior flute and piccolo recital at Dordt University a few weeks ago. We were blessed to be able to see and talk to many of you. Thank you for the continued love and support you give our family. We hope you have a blessed Thanksgiving and a wonderful Christmas.

--The Vande Zande Family

Thank you so much for your concern, cards, meals and prayers when I broke my arm. Healing continues and I'm grateful to the Lord and so grateful for each of you. Blessings to you all!

--Judy De Jong

Thank you for all the wishes, birthday cards, prayers, the unknown prayer heart given to me on my 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. It was a wonderful celebration! I love my church family and feel so blessed. Above all, I thank my Heavenly Father for His love. God's blessings to all of you.

--Mary Obbink

To the Youth Group,  
Thank you for raking our lawn. You did a great job!

--John & Claretta Lobbes

Thank you very much for helping me celebrate my birthday! It was wonderful to receive all those nice cards & expressions of kindness! God has been good-in health and giving me a caring church. Thanks also for the very kind donation of the wonderful pumpkin pie! We enjoyed it a lot!

--Murt Vogel

### **Valet Parking**

December – Trevor Mulder

January – Jon Hellinga

### **NURSERY WORKERS**

DECEMBER 3 AM-SHAWNDRRA KUIKEN, CHRISTINA ZUIDERVEEN,  
JANELLE ZUIDERVEEN

PM-ANITA JELTEMA, HALEY SCHULLER, PARKER MILLS

DECEMBER 10 AM-AUDREY SCHULLER, SARAH PLUIM, AUTUMN KROEZE  
PM-MARIA NOTEBOOM, CARISSA REINDERS, JOEL HAMMING

DECEMBER 17 AM-KRISTA OOLMAN, KRISTI REINDERS, RUBY ZYLSTRA  
PM-JAYDEN MULDER, LAUREN NOTEBOOM, HENRY ZYLSTRA

DECEMBER 24 AM-JODY DE JONG, JANICE HAMMING, MADISON SCHULLER  
PM-DENISE SCHULLER, KYRA VAN SCHOUWEN, BEAU HELLINGA

DEC. 25 AM-KAREN VAN SCHOUWEN, BECKY VISSER, GARRETT DE GROOT

DEC. 31 AM-ANGELA DE GROOT, LEIANNA HELLINGA, LINDSEY DE GROOT  
PM-JENNIFER MULDER, SABRINA TIMMERMANS, CONNOR SCHULLER

JANUARY 1 AM-JILL JACOBSMA, JANNA VAN DONGE, KARLI NOTEBOOM

JANUARY 7 AM-PATTY TIMMERMANS, AMY BOLKEMA, GAVIN MILLS  
PM-GINA ZYLSTRA, REAGAN NOTEBOOM, BRENNIA BOLKEMA

JANUARY 14 AM-BETHANY SCHULLER, MARCIA SCHOLTEN, CARTER SCHULLER  
PM-SHARI VISSER, JULIA DYKSTRA, CLAIRE HELLINGA

JANUARY 21 AM-HEIDI DE GROOT, CONNIE LEFEVER, AUTUMN CLARK  
PM-MELISSA DYKSTRA, AYVA VAN SCHOUWEN, JOSIAH HELMING

JANUARY 28 AM-JENNIFER NOTEBOOM, NANCY KROEZE, CALVIN REINDERS  
PM-COMBINED WORSHIP AT IMMANUEL FOR CADET SUNDAY

### **Bulletin Delivery**

December 3 – Don & Ruth Post

December 10 – Gary & Anita Jeltema

December 17 – Ed & Ethel Kruid

December 24 – Brian Kroeze

December 31 – Doug Hamming

January 7 – Gordon & Pat Bruxvoort

### **Ushers:**

December: SW-Logan Dykstra

SE-Alan De Jong

Center-Tyler Kroeze, Don Snieder

January: SW-Josh McBrayer

SE-Rod De Groot

Center-Brent Nykamp, Wade Haarsma

**Luke 1:30-31:** "The angel said, 'Don't be afraid, Mary. God is honoring you. Look! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus.'"

**Luke 1:35:** "And the angel answered and said unto her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.'"

**Luke 2:7-9:** "And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them."

**Luke 2:12-14:** "And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!'"

## November Council Report

- The council reviewed the minutes of the September classis meeting held at Immanuel CRC, Orange City. Three congregations in the classis recently received pastors – Rev. Cody Statema at Immanuel CRC, Orange City; Rev. Lee Khang at Ocheyedon CRC; and Rev. Aaron Greydanus at First CRC, Hull. Classis passed a classical ministry share of \$115.75 per member. Pastor Jon Keyzer sustained classis' examination for his ordination as a commissioned pastor at Northern Lighthouse Church, Lincoln. Classis requested the churches select a safe church contact – Brian Kroeze has agreed to be our church's safe church contact.
- A report on pulpit supply was given. We give thanks for Trevor Mouw's regular pulpit supply over the last ten months and wish him the best as he spends more time with his family. The council greatly appreciates the work of Pastor Jordan Helming in our church as well as other pastors who preach for us.
- Church Order Article 44 was reviewed. A classis may take counsel or joint action with its neighboring classis or classes in matters of mutual concern.
- Committee reports were given. The council appreciates those who filled an Operation Christmas Child box. The council approved the request to have a Christmas tree as a prop for the Christmas program.
- Search committee gave a progress report. The committee continues to make contacts with possible pastors.
- The financial reports for September and October 2023 were reviewed.

In His Service,

Curt Ahrenholz, Clerk

### Offering Schedule

December 3 AM

*One Body One Hope*

*December Mission of the Month*

December 3 PM

*Building Fund*

December 10 AM

*Reframe Ministries*

December 10 PM

*Unity Christian General Fund*

December 17 AM

*Bethesda Christian Counseling*

December 17 PM

*Samaritan's Purse*

December 24 AM

*Benevolent Fund*

December 24 PM

*Genesis House*

December 25 AM

*Alpha Center*

December 31 AM

*Siouxland Habitat for Humanity*

December 31 PM

*New Roots*

**\*The second offering every Sunday morning is for Christian Education**