

REFLECTIONS

First Christian Reformed Church
Orange City, Iowa

February 2024



*Clothe yourself
in love.*

Love is what
holds you all together
in perfect unity.

Colossians 3:14

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

February 7 – GEMS/Gents Night at OCCS, 6:00 p.m.

February 21 – Youth Group Mystery Mix-Up
Fundraiser, 5:30 p.m.

February 25 – Post High Meal, Sunday School
Lesson at 11:00 a.m., meal to follow



Children and Worship

February 4 – *The Great Pearl* – Leader: Lindsey Van Schepen Flag Greeter: Jill Jacobsma
February 11 – *The Sower* – Leader: Jenn Mills, Flag Greeter: Amy Bolkema
February 18 – *The Good Samaritan* – Leader: Shari Visser, Flag Greeter: Ayva Van Schouwen
February 25 – *The Great Banquet* – Leader: Kristi Reinders, Flag Greeter: Sabrina Timmermans
March 3 – *Jesus and the Children* – Leader: Lindsey Van Schepen, Flag Greeter: Kyra Van Schouwen

Media

February 4 – Ryan Raines, Ryan Noteboom, Grant De Groot, Carson Noteboom
February 11 – LeRoy De Jager, Mike Byker, Riley Mulder, Shannon Schuller
February 18 – Greg De Groot, Matt Van Schepen, Nicholas Noteboom, Phil Kuiken
February 25 – Gary Jeltema, Jon Hellinga, Austin Van Donge, Linda Ver Steeg
March 3 – Ryan Raines, Ryan Noteboom, Grant De Groot, Ryan Van Schouwen

Sunday Evening Greeters

February 4 – SE-Greg & Angela De Groot, FHW-Rod & Sondra De Groot
February 11 – SE-Alan & Jody De Jong, FHW-Grant & Heidi De Groot
February 18 – SE-Bob & Carla De Jong, FHW-Irwin & Judy De Jong
February 25 – SE-Doug & Janice Hamming, FHW-Warren & Ruth Dekkers
March 3 – SE-Jim & Marilyn Goslinga, FHW-Loren & Melissa Dykstra

Sunday Morning Refreshments

February 4 – Doug & Kathy De Haan, Irwin & Judy De Jong
February 11 – Alan & Jody De Jong, Rod & Sondra De Groot
February 18 – Bob & Carla De Jong, Warren & Ruth Dekkers
February 25 – Loren & Melissa Dykstra, Wade & Aletha Haarsma
March 3 – Doug & Janice Hamming, Jon & Leianna Hellinga
March 10 – Justin & Stephanie Hellinga, Mark & Cindy Huizenga
March 17 – Gary & Anita Jeltema, Arlin & Karen Klein
March 24 – Brian & Nancy Kroeze, Ed & Ethel Kruid
March 31 – Bruce & Connie Lefever, Jeremy & Jennifer Mills

High School Servers for Sunday School

February 4 – Carson Noteboom & Reagan Noteboom
February 11 – Carissa Reinders & Ryan Van Schouwen
February 18 – *No Sunday School or Catechism*
February 25 – Sabrina Timmermans & Ruby Zylstra
March 3 – Julia Dykstra & Kyra Van Schouwen

Valet Parking

February – Ryan Raines

March – John Van Kalsbeek

NURSERY WORKERS

FEBRUARY 4 AM-MARIA BYKER, CHRISTINA ZUIDERVEEN,
AUDREY ZUIDERVEEN

PM-JENNIFER MILLS, COLLIN DYKSTRA, JOSIE NYKAMP

FEBRUARY 11 AM-ANITA JELTEMA, SHAWNDR KUIKEN, LILIA VAN SCHEPEN
PM-SARAH PLUIM, CARISSA REINDERS, KYLIE DE GROOT

FEBRUARY 18 AM-AUDREY SCHULLER, KRISTA OOLMAN, HALEY SCHULLER
PM-MARIA NOTEBOOM, KYRA VAN SCHOUWEN, DAVID BOLKEMA

FEBRUARY 25 AM-ANGELA DE GROOT, ALLI TIMMERMANS,
KALEB DE GROOT

PM-KRISTI REINDERS, RUBY ZYLSTRA, AUTUMN KROEZE

MARCH 3 AM-JODY DE JONG, JAYDEN MULDER, LAUREN NOTEBOOM
PM-JANICE HAMMING, KYRA VAN SCHOUWEN, JANELLE ZUIDERVEEN

MARCH 10 AM-LEIANNA HELLINGA, JENNIFER MULDER, MADISON SCHULLER
PM-JILL JACOBSMA, REAGAN NOTEBOOM, LINDSEY DE GROOT

MARCH 17 AM-DENISE SCHULLER, AMY BOLKEMA, AUTUMN KROEZE
PM-JANNA VAN DONGE, KARLI NOTEBOOM, CARTER SCHULLER

MARCH 24 AM-MELISSA DYKSTRA, CONNIE LEFEVER, PARKER MILLS
PM-HEIDI DE GROOT, AYVA VAN SCHOUWEN, JOEL HAMMING

MARCH 29 PM-BETHANY SCHULLER, AUTUMN CLARK, DAVID BOLKEMA

MARCH 31 AM-MARCIA SCHOLTEN, SHARI VISSER, JULIA DYKSTRA

Bulletin Delivery

February 4 – Gary & Anita Jeltema

February 11 – Ed & Ethel Kruid

February 18 – Brian Kroeze

February 25 – Doug Hamming

March 3 – Gordon & Pat Bruxvoort

Ushers:

February: SW-Eli Raines

SE-Tyce Van Donge

Center-Brice Kroeze, Ryan Mulder

March: SW-Ken Beukelma

SE-Justin Hellinga

Center-Clayton Reinders, Shane Schuller

Lights for the Ukraine-

Some of you have been asking about the lights for the Ukraine Project.

Dave Nonnemacher will speak on the evening of March 6, and then we will have the opportunity to assemble the lights to be sent to the Ukraine.

In March 2023, Dave Nonnemacher (New Horizons – USA – Romania) returned from the border of Moldova and Ukraine, having brought 10 of the solar light kits to be tested to verify functionality in the area, and then sent out to be put into use.

Each unit, once charged by 8 hours of sunlight, can provide 10+ hours of light for one room or a dim nightlight for a week. They also have the very important ability to slowly charge a cell phone. Currently in the Ukraine there are only about 2 hours of power sources available per day in communities with some infrastructure intact, nothing for rural areas.

Assembling these light kits is personal, tangible way of giving graciously to the Ukrainian people.

If you are interested in helping assemble the lights, please sign up in the fellowship hall by February 18, so we have enough light kits on hand. If you are interested in contributing financially, please contact a deacon.

*thank
you*

Dear First CRC Church family,

Thank you for all the love, support, and prayers. Without our church family, this opportunity would not have been possible. We both can say without a doubt that this trip has impacted our walk of faith. We are thankful for the prayers while we were on this two-week "vision" trip. Thank you to all those who donated your finances to sponsor our travels.

Favorite Memories:

Raeleigh: During the Mbuguni clinic outreach day, another team member and I were in charge of giving out glasses to the Maasai people, a local tribe. While reading one lady's reasons for why she needed glasses, she wrote "to read the Bible." It was impactful to me to be the reason one person can have a deeper and closer relationship with the Lord. Another favorite memory was the second outreach day in Arusha. During this day I got to deliver a baby. While delivering the baby, I had an overwhelming feeling of calling. I've always known I wanted to be a mom and have a family, but this moment just set in stone for me the calling God has bestowed upon me. Shayla and I (the other girl from our group also in the delivery room) started crying during the delivery from the coolness of bringing a child into the world. Both Rae and Lucy's favorite day was visiting the village of lepers. We both were amazed by God's wonders. While meeting these amazing people, we had an overwhelming feeling of being the hands and feet of Jesus. In the Bible, Jesus interacted many times with lepers. In this moment we felt extremely close to Jesus as we were participating in something He did many years ago.

Lucy: A special memory to me from the trip was going to a Maasai tribe's Christian church service on the first Sunday afternoon we were there. They let us participate in the worship of the Lord with them. They taught us how they sing and dance to give glory to God and expressively celebrate His majesty. It was powerful to hear their joyful voices in a new language that I couldn't understand, but I knew God could. I was in awe of God's infinite creativity in culture and language. I am a minuscule fraction of this world, and I experienced a glimpse of heaven when I was part of a larger group of saints who worship God from every tribe, tongue, and nation. Upon arriving in Tanzania, I was distraught at the brokenness and poverty I was encountering that first Saturday. I found myself asking God where He was in this place. But that next day, He woke me up and put it right in front of me, and for the rest of the trip, I was keenly aware of God's presence everywhere I went.

- Lucy Zylstra and Rae Raines
(Dordt AMOR trip to Tanzania)

We would like to thank our church family for prayers, cards and visits in the past several months. Special thanks to Pastor Jordan for his calls and visits. Arnie has been blessed with improved health which we are most grateful for.

--Arnie & Marge Van Gelder

Thank you for your support for our mission trip by buying desserts at the cornhole tournament. We appreciate and are thankful for your generosity!

--2024 Guatemala Mission Team

We would like to thank the congregation for all the cards and calls for our 60th anniversary.

Also a big thank you for the poinsettia and to the youth group for the goodies.

We are blessed to be a part of a caring church.

--Harold & Gladys Hoekstra

We would like to express our sincere thanks to your church for the prayer support and the generous financial gifts you have given to us again over this past year. We are so grateful for you and are so privileged to serve as your missionaries. For the next three weeks we will be teaching another online media course to national students from Nigeria. Pray that God will enable them to learn the skills necessary to dub Scripture videos into the languages in their country. Thank you for being a vital part in this ministry!

-Lauren and Connie Runia

CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

January 17 was a fun night of food, fellowship and fun! The Congregational Life Committee hosted a Cornhole Tournament at OCCS. Everyone was invited to bring an appetizer to share. As you can imagine, there was a wide variety of delicious appetizers! The competition was great, with ups and downs for everyone. 😊 The Guatemala Team provided many delicious desserts as a fundraiser for their trip in June 2024. Enjoy a few pics from a great night!





IN LOVING Memory

ALICE LUND



Alice Lund passed away on January 23, 2024, at her home. Alice was born on November 3, 1943, in Orange City, the daughter of Albert and Hattie (Mulder) Van Hill. She was raised in Orange City, where she attended the Orange City Christian School and graduated from the Western Christian High School in Hull.

On July 17, 1964, she married Curtis Kermit Lund in Orange City, where they were members of the First Christian Reformed Church. Alice was employed on the production line at Aalfs Manufacturing in Sheldon, and with Otis and K-Products, which later became Staples, both in Orange City. Curtis passed away on December 30, 2016, in Orange City, after more than 52 years of marriage.

Alice enjoyed being a part of the Blocks-n-Knots Quilters at the First Reformed Church, in Orange City, and she liked taking walks, reading, and listening to gospel music and concerts. She took pride in keeping her garden and lawn looking nice and looked forward to spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, especially during their family camping trips.

Survivors include her two children and their spouses, Dave and Tami Lund, of Boyden, and Laura and Pat Wurth, of Remsen; six grandchildren, Amy, and her husband, Bret Tiedeman; Kyle De Jong; Kayla De Jong, and her husband Marcus Barron; Kristina Lund, and her fiancé, Mason Gustafson; Brandon Lund; and Andrew Lund, and his partner, Marilyn Wingo; two step grandchildren, Kellsie, and her husband, Garrett Schoen, of Le Mars; and Jayden Wurth, of Kingsley; eight great-grandchildren, Tayden, Taije, Kandyn, and Kruze Tiedeman; London and Baylor Barron; Amara Lund; and Alice Clark; three sisters, Ann Van Hill, of Orange City; Esther, and her husband, Jim Bouwman, of Rock Valley; and Milly Chapman, of Le Mars; two sisters-in-law, Mary Van Hill, of Le Mars; and Deloris Lund, of Orange City; and a brother-in-law, Stanley Lund, of Fullerton, California; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by a brother, John Van Hill; three brothers-in-law, Marc Chapman, Roger Lukken, and Julius Lund; and three sisters-in-law, Allie Hackett, Cecelia Oldenkamp, and Shirley Lund.

January Council Report

- Classical credentials were completed for the Classis Heartland meeting scheduled for March 9 at Hull First CRC. Delegates are Elders Mark Kuiken and Darrell Schuller and Deacon Matt Van Schepen.
- Church Order Article 46 was reviewed, which explains when and how synod functions.
- Committee reports were given. Mission Emphasis is scheduled for the first week of March. Fellowship reported on the upcoming corn hole tournament. Building and Grounds reported that Immanuel CRC's pastor has purchased a home and will be moving out of our parsonage in the near future.
- Search Committee gave a progress report. The committee continues to make contacts with possible pastors.
- The financial reports for December 2023 were reviewed.
- Our church continues to be blessed each week with the preaching of God's Word. A special thanks to Pastor Jordan leading many services over the Christmas season and Old and New Year's services.

In His Service,

Curt Ahrenholz