

REFLECTIONS

First Christian Reformed Church
Orange City, Iowa

January 2024



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

- January 10 – Service at the Pioneer Home by CU 7
(Kroeze/Van Schepen), 7:00 p.m.
January 17 – Corn Hole Tournament, 6:30 p.m.
January 21 – Service at PRCC by CU 8
(Huizenga/Zuiderveen), 2:30 p.m.
January 28 – Combined Worship at Immanuel CRC
for Cadet Sunday, 5:00 p.m.

FOR GOD
has not given us
a Spirit of fear
but of
POWER
LOVE
& self-discipline.
2 Timothy 1:7

Children and Worship

January 7 – *The Boy Jesus in the Temple* – Leader: Jenn Mills, Flag Greeter: Stephanie Hellinga

January 14 – *Jesus Is Baptized* – Leader: Shari Visser, Flag Greeter: Sarah Pluim

January 21 – *Jesus in the Wilderness* – Leader: Kristi Reinders, Flag Greeter: Angela De Groot

January 28 – *The Mustard Seed* – Leader: Lindsey Van Schepen, Flag Greeter: Bethany Schuller

Media

January 7 – Ryan Raines, Ryan Noteboom, Grant De Groot, Carson Noteboom

January 14 – LeRoy De Jager, Mike Byker, Riley Mulder, Linda Ver Steeg

January 21 – Greg De Groot, Matt Van Schepen, Nicholas Noteboom, Phil Kuiken

January 28 – Gary Jeltema, Jon Hellinga, Austin Van Donge, Ryan Van Schouwen

February 4 – Ryan Raines, Ryan Noteboom, Grant De Groot, Shannon Schuller

Sunday Evening Greeters

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

January 14 – SE-Ken & Dawn Beukelman, FHW – Pete & Laura Zomermaand

January 21 – SE-Ross & Amy Bolkema, FHW-Gordon & Pat Bruxvoort

January 28 – *Combined Worship at Immanuel CRC – Cadet Sunday*

February 4 – SE-Greg & Angela De Groot, FHW-Rod & Sondra De Groot

Sunday Morning Refreshments

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

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, Dennis & Margene Eekhoff

High School Servers for Sunday School

January 7 – Riley Mulder & Drew Noteboom

January 14 – Julia Dykstra & Ayva Van Schouwen

January 21 – Kaleb Hamming & Sabrina Timmermans

January 28 – Logan Dykstra & Lauren Noteboom

February 4 – Carson Noteboom & Reagan Noteboom

thank you

Thank you so much for the poinsettia. It is so vibrant and lights up my room!

Thank you to the youth group for the goodies they delivered. They are appreciated!

--Leona Noteboom

I wish to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, and visits during my hospital stays in the past number of months.

My doctor thinks that after about three months of treatments we finally have ridded my body of the infection that caused my stays in the hospital. I am feeling a lot better now. Thank God for his healing mercies.

---Jerry Goedhart

We would like to thank the Young People and sponsors for the beautiful and delicious tray of Christmas goodies. Also, thank you for raking our lawn this fall. It was so appreciated. We are blessed to have such a wonderful, caring group of young people in our church. May God continue to bless you in the new year!

--Jerry and Carolyn Goedhart

I would like to thank our church family for the prayers, cards, visits, calls, and food that you brought to me. A special thanks to Pastor Jordan for your visit. God has blessed me with healing which I am very thankful for.

We also thank the generosity of the pumpkin pie which was delicious and also the youth group and their leaders and parents who made all the treats that they brought over for us to enjoy.

We certainly are blessed with a caring church family.

--Jim and Marilyn Goslinga

Thank you to the young people for the goodies and for raking my leaves.

--Jo Gesink

Thank you to everyone who remembered me with flowers, Christmas goodies, and cards. Thank you to all who provided us with special music and to the children who gave a fine program. We are truly blessed with so many people who give their time and talent for our church. Thank you again and have a blessed New Year.

--Kathy Schuller

I want to say thank you for the delicious pumpkin pie I received at Thanksgiving. Also thank you for the beautiful poinsettia and to the youth of our church for the goodies. It was all very much appreciated!

--Delores Smit

A belated thank you for the delicious pumpkin pie we received, the smoke off night was great – a lot of fun! The freezer meal pick-up was so well organized and now a thank you to the youth group for bringing the delicious treats. We are so thankful for such a loving and caring congregation, we are so blessed.

--Henry & Joyce Dykstra

We'd like to thank the young people for the plate of goodies and popcorn which they brought for Christmas. We enjoyed every bite.

--Warren & Ruth Dekkers

A great big hearty thank you to Janice Hamming and the 1st/2nd grade class for the card with all their names, wishing me well as I moved to the Pioneer Home.

Thank you to First CRC for the poinsettia.

Thank you to the youth group for the plate of delicious goodies!

--Jim De Boer

To the Youth Group and Council:
Thank you so much for the delicious popcorn and plate of cookies you gave me at Christmas.

Thank you for the beautiful poinsettia you gave me to Christmas. Truly appreciate your kindness!

--M. Vogel

Thanks to the young people for the plate of goodies. Thanks, too to Pastor Jordan and Darrell Schuller for their visit. We appreciated the cards and notes we received. Thanks to God for such a caring church.

May God bless you in the new year ahead.

--Marv & Beth Vander Veen

A belated "thank you" for the delicious pumpkin pie and cool whip at Thanksgiving, and now for the beautiful poinsettia from the Council, the delicious plate of Christmas treats from our young people.

Just recent, a thank you for your prayers, hugs, cards, visits and food in the passing of my brother. I'm truly blessed and loved by my church family. God bless everyone at First CRC.

--Mary Obbink



The Congregational Life Committee is planning a Corn Hole Tournament on January 17, 2024. We will have 2 divisions – Adults (13- 100) and Juniors (1 – 12). A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

We would like for you to bring your favorite appetizer (hor d'oeuvres). With your appetizer we would ask you to have the recipe on a card to place by the appetizer so others can take a picture of it if they really like it and want to make it for themselves sometime. A great way to share and get more recipes!

The Guatemala Mission Team will have desserts to sell to raise funds for the trip. There will be individual pieces of dessert for eating that night and also whole desserts to take home for later. These desserts can be bought for a free will donation.

We will be holding this event at the OCCS gym from 6:30 to approximately 8:30. Plan now to attend!

Valet Parking

January – Jon Hellinga

February – Ryan Raines

NURSERY WORKERS

JANUARY 1 AM-JILL JACOBSMA, PATTY TIMMERMANS, KARLI NOTEBOOM

JANUARY 7 AM-JANNA VAN DONGE, 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

FEBRUARY 4 AM-LINDSEY VAN SCHEPEN, CHRISTINA ZUIDERVEEN,

AUDREY ZUIDERVEEN

PM-JENNIFER MILLS, COLLIN DYKSTRA, JOSIE NYKAMP

FEBRUARY 11 AM-ANITA JELTEMA, SHAWNDR A KUIKEN, LILIA VAN SCHEPEN

PM-SARAH PLUIM, CARISSA REINDERS, KYLIE DE GROOT

FEBRUARY 18 AM-AUDREY SCHULLER, ANGELA DE GROOT, HALEY SCHULLER

PM-MARIA NOTEBOOM, KYRA VAN SCHOUWEN, DAVID BOLKEMA

FEBRUARY 25 AM-KRISTA OOLMAN, ALLI TIMMERMANS, KALEB DE GROOT

PM-KRISTI REINDERS, RUBY ZYLSTRA, AUTUMN KROEZE

Bulletin Delivery

January 7 – Gordon & Pat Bruxvoort

January 14 – Arlin & Karen Klein

January 21 – Rod & Sondra De Groot

January 28 – Don & Ruth Post

February 4 – Gary & Anita Jeltema

Ushers:

January: SW-Josh McBrayer

SE-Rod De Groot

Center-Brent Nykamp, Wade Haarsma

February: SW-Eli Raines

SE-Tyce Van Donge

Center-Brice Kroeze, Ryan Mulder

Why save used postage stamps? Good question, right?

Creative recycling of stamps results in Sunday School material being made available in many South American countries.

How does that work?

Read the information posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall to find out.

Thank you to those who have already started to support this ministry. A box labeled USED POSTAGE STAMPS is provided under the mailboxes.

Note: Please trim your stamps, leaving at least $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$ inch of envelope if possible.



December Council Report

- Church Order Article 45 was reviewed. This article explains what synod is and the representation of delegates from the classes. (There are a total of 49 classes.)
- Committee reports were given. The new curriculum being used for catechism was reviewed. The annual property insurance coverage review was recently completed.
- Search committee gave a progress report. The committee continues to make contacts with possible pastors.
- The financial reports for November 2023 were reviewed.
- Thank you to those who led and participated in the Sunday school Christmas program and to those who participated in leading the advent reading.
- As I write this report, the year 2023 is coming to a close. The council truly appreciates the support of the congregation as we lead without a senior pastor. We are thankful for the faithful preaching of God's Word each week from many pastors, and for each person in our congregation as we all work in serving together in our church. As God is faithful, may we continue to be faithful in the New Year. May we continue to run the race set before us as we carry out our mission here on earth.

In His Service,

Curt Ahrenholz, Clerk

Offering Schedule

January 7 AM

Katelyn's Fund

January Mission of the Month

January 7 PM

OCCS General Fund

January 14 AM

World Renew

Benevolent Fund

January 14 PM

Building Fund

January 21 AM

Dordt University

January 21 PM

Orange City Sack Pack

January 28 AM

Cadets International

January 28 PM

Orange City Cadets

Combined Worship at Immanuel

February 4 AM

Sioux City Gospel Mission

February Mission of the Month

February 4 PM

Orange City Food Pantry

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