

**THE LORD'S DAY – SEPTEMBER 3, 2023**  
**MORNING WORSHIP - 9:30 A.M.**  
Led by: Pastor Scott Muilenburg

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Prayer

\*Call to Worship: Psalm 86:5-7

\*Opening Songs of Adoration: #244 *"God Himself Is with Us"* (v. 1, 3)  
*"In Christ Alone"*

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

Standard of Righteousness: 2 Corinthians 8:7-9

\*Song of Thanksgiving: #497 *"How Vast the Benefits Divine"*

Scripture: Acts 4:32-5:11 (p. 1697)

Sermon: "Generous and Godly"

\*Song of Response: #288 *"Take My Life and Let It Be"* (v. 1-4, 6)

Prayer of the Lord's People

Offering: Word and Deed Ministries

\*Benediction

\*Parting Song: #620 *"By the Sea of Crystal"* (v. 3)

**Next Sundays Offering:** Christian Education

**THE LORD'S DAY – SEPTEMBER 3, 2023**  
**EVENING WORSHIP – 6:30 P.M.**  
Led by: Pastor Scott Muilenburg

Prelude

Welcome & Silent Prayer

Expression of Dependence: Psalm 42:11

**Pastor:** Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me?

**People:** Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

\*Call to Worship: Colossians 3:1-2

\*Opening Song of Honor: #183 *"With Grateful Heart My Thanks I Bring"*

Bible Reading: 2 Kings 17:7-20 (p. 600)

Prayer of the Lord's People

\*Song of Gratitude: *"Speak, O Lord"*

Scripture: Psalm 137 (p. 973)

Sermon: "Longing for the Highest Joy"

\*Song of Response: #543 *"Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer"*

Prayer for the Offering (Word and Deed Ministries)

Offertory: *"Abide With Me"* - Nicole Sjaarda

\*Confession of the Faith: The Apostles' Creed

\*Benediction

\*Closing Song: #632 *"To God Be the Glory"*

**SERMON NOTES – SEPTEMBER 3, 2023**

**GENERGOUS AND GODLY**

Text: Acts 4:32-5:11

**LONGING FOR THE HIGHEST**

**JOY**

Text: Psalm 137

**REFORMATION MATTERS:** "What is God's will for you in the ninth commandment?" - "...I should avoid lying and deceit of every kind; these are devices the devil himself uses, and they would call down on me God's intense anger. I should love the truth, speak it candidly, and openly acknowledge it. And I should do what I can to guard and advance my neighbor's good name." - Heidelberg Catechism, Q. 112

**THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES:**

- |       |         |  |
|-------|---------|--|
| Today | 9:30 am | - Morning Worship                          |
|       | 6:30 pm | - Evening Worship (combined service)       |
| Mon.  | 7:30 am | - SWC Pancake Breakfast                    |
| Tues. | 7:00 pm | - Council, Elder, & Deacon meetings        |
| Wed.  | 5:30 pm | - LCSS Pork Loin Supper                    |
|       | 6:00 pm | - Kids of Grace Kickoff at Rock River Park |
| Sat.  | 8:30 am | - SWC Tractor Ride                         |
|       | 9:00 am | - LCSS Golf Scrambler                      |

**FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES:**

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| September 10 | - Catechism teachers meet with their students in their assigned rooms after the AM service                                |
| September 10 | - Prayer Warriors meet  |
| September 12 | - Growing Inward-Reaching Outward Conference  |
| September 13 | - New (4 <sup>th</sup> grade) Cadet orientation at Bethel at 6:30,<br>- Edgerton Cadet Counselor planning meeting at 7:30 |
| September 17 | - First day of Kid's Praise & Sunday school & Catechism & Choir   |
| September 27 | - Cadet Season kickoff - Hotdogs and Game night at the Park.  |
| October 11   | -First Regular Cadet Meeting at Bethel CRC Edgerton.  |

**OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

Thank you for all the prayers and cards that I received in the loss of my son! I am happy to be a part of this caring church and community. – LaVonne VanEssen

We want to say a heartfelt Thank You for your kind words, calls, meals, and especially your prayers for our family during Jamie's surgery & current recovery, and also throughout his dad's illness & passing. Through it all, we praise our Heavenly Father for His unending grace.  
- Jamie, Brigette & children

The family of Howard (Chic) Van Essen is grateful for your acts of love and compassion following Howard's fall and passing. He was a member of this church for many years and enjoyed worshipping with all of you. Thank you to Pastor Scott and Pastor Lee for reading scripture and praying with us throughout this journey. We appreciate you all so much. – Judy Van Essen, Deb & Rod Christians, Lori & Mark Boeve

## **CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Council is seeking an individual who desires to fill the Church Secretary position. This role includes but isn't limited to producing and printing the weekly bulletin, creating multiple quarterly schedules, setting up the weekly power points, ordering office supplies, editing the website, etc. Please contact Ryan Blom or Ron Nykamp if you are interested in filling this position.

There will be a combined worship service this evening here at First. The service will begin at 6:30 PM as we gather to worship the True and Living God together.

Prayer Warriors: We will do our kickoff on September 10 immediately after church before students meet with catechism teachers. You will have a sheet of questions in your mailbox on that day to help you connect with your prayer partner. Thanks!

The upcoming Classis Minnkota meeting will be taking place on September 14 in Volga, SD. Volga CRC is calling a new minister and he will be examined on that day. Please pray for Volga CRC, their candidate, and for the business of classis.

Kid's Praise will resume when Sunday school begins September 17 right after AM church for 3 year olds-2<sup>nd</sup> grade. We meet in the basement fellowship hall north side before Sunday school each week.

Adult bells will meet Wednesday, September 20 7:45-8:30 in the front sanctuary for the first practice of the season.

If anyone is interested in joining the bell group or would like to play for PM introit/offering, please contact Priscilla Pater.

PM (6:30) Coffee Break Bible study will resume when AM Coffee Break begins in September.

## **SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Southwest Christian invites you to a morning of fellowship on September 4, 2023 from 7:30 am to 10:00 am as Circle #2 hosts the annual pancake breakfast located at the high school. Come join us and support our students as we start a new school year, it is a freewill donation. Hope to see you there, God bless our new school year.

LCSS Pork Loin Supper will be Wednesday, September 6th, 2023 from 5:30-7:30. Pork Loin or Hamburgers, tea rolls, cucumber salad, potato salad and ice cream will all be served! Sign up sheet for food and to order pork loins will be out soon on the Fellowship hall table!

The Annual SWC Tractor Ride will be held on Saturday, September 9. We'll be starting at the Jasper City Park. Rolls and coffee will be served beginning at 8:30am. We'll hit the road at 9:30am and as we get into Edgerton, we will parade around Edgebrook. A noon meal will be served at the

SWC high school cafeteria. We will then continue our ride which will conclude at Terry Rodman's windmill collection where coffee and fresh ollie bollen will be served! This event is free will donation - a donation box will be available at each location. If you can only ride part of the ride, or you don't have a tractor but would like to join in the parade, take your pick-up or UTV. You are also welcome to just come for the noon meal and see the tractors, or just come to the windmill collection and have afternoon coffee. With questions or to pre-register, call Kendra Kuipers at 507-227-0488.

LCSS Golf Scrambler Fundraiser will be Saturday, September 9, 2023 at the Luverne Country Club. Shotgun start at 9:00 a.m. It is a best ball tournament. Teams of 4 are needed with \$75.00 entry fee per player, golf cart not included. Please call the Luverne Country Club (507)-283-4383 to get your team registered. Contact Shawn Vis with any questions (507)-301-2885

## **COMMUNITY & MISC**

Join us Tuesday, September 12 at Bethel CRC in Sioux Center for the Growing Inward-Reaching Outward conference for men and women. Best-selling author, Carol Kent's life turned upside down when their only child was sentenced for murder. Carol shares from God's Word and her family's life experience in growing an enduring faith and impacting the world for Christ. Registration and more information can be found at [Bibleleague.org/tickets](https://Bibleleague.org/tickets).

There will be a Red Cross blood drive at the First Reformed Church in Edgerton on Tuesday, Sept. 19 from 12:30 until 6:30. Please call Betty at 507-227-8416 or [fbhuisken@gmail.com](mailto:fbhuisken@gmail.com) to make or confirm an appointment. There is a constant need for blood. Anyone 17 yrs. or older and in good health is able to donate. Thank you!

High School (9th-12th) Students - You are invited to First Reformed Church for a Community Youth Event on Wednesday, September 20 at 6:30pm. We will be having a meal, followed by listening to speaker, Trenton Bass. Trenton was paralyzed his senior year of high school at Hills-Beaver Creek during their second football game on September 8, 2017. He will be sharing his story and how his faith has carried him through adversity and helped him persevere through such a tragic and life changing event. We hope you can join us!

Hope Haven Talsma ATV & Horse Ride Benefit: Ready for an adventure? Bring your ATV's, side by sides, dirt bikes, or horses and join Hope Haven for their Talsma Benefit Ride at Talsma's Trail Park on Saturday, September 16. Talsma's Trail Park is an ATV park located along the Missouri River in SE South Dakota. Trails range from easy to extreme, and include creek crossings, scenic river bluffs, open prairies, river bottom terrain, and more. Don't miss this fun opportunity to support Hope Haven International Ministries! Sign up today by visiting [hopehaven.org/events](https://hopehaven.org/events).

## MEMBERS IN SERVICE

### TODAY:

Nursery: AM – Carmen F, Karen F, Jody S, Nicole V, Kevin VH, Zachary M  
PM – Lois S, Christa B, Makenzie P, Kaitlyn S

Valet: Jonathan S

Ushers: Randy F, Del VE, Corey V, Owen T

Sound: Ray S

Video: Grant B

Projection: Lorelei/Blair

Medical Assistant: Kim V

Children's Worship: No Children's Worship

### NEXT WEEK – SEPTEMBER 10

Nursery: AM – Nick & Shawna S, Ann Marie B, Evon VH, Kalli B, Victoria P  
PM – Vonda T, Rebecca V, Sawyer S, Kaden S

Valet: Dave B

Ushers: Randy F, Del VE, Corey V, Owen T

Sound: Jesse VH

Video: Nilson VH

Projection: Orey F/Jody DK

Medical Assistant: Gord P

Children's Worship: Melissa & Lilyana M

Praise Team: Brittany F, Haley V, Jennifer H, Brooklynn M

Keyboard: Karrie J

## MISSIONARIES

### **Margaret Njuguna**

En-Gedi Children's Home,  
Kenya

### **Sos and Kara Maletoungou**

Christian Reformed World Missions  
West Africa

### **Rev. William & Aletha Green**

Latin Amer. Fellowship of Reformed  
Churches, Costa Rica

### **K & K**

Global Serve International  
Central Asia

### **Cornerstone Prison Church**

Sioux Falls, South Dakota