

The Lord's Day - December 31, 2023
Morning Worship - 9:30 A.M.
Led by: Pastor Scott Muilenburg

Welcome

Announcements

Silent Prayer

*Call to Worship: Revelation 5:12-14

*Opening Songs of Honor: #243 *"How Lovely Is Your Dwelling"* (v. 1, 3)

"In Christ Alone"

Standard of Righteousness: Deuteronomy 5:6-21

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

*Song of Thanksgiving: *"By Faith"*

Musical Offering: *"The Manger"* - Kent Van't Hof and Hailey Vis

Selected Scriptures (see bulletin)

Sermon: *"Things I'm Sure Of—Part One"*

*Song of Response: #621 *"The God of Abraham Praise"* (v. 1, 2, 4)

Prayer of the Lord's People

Offering: Alpha Center (Sioux Falls)

*Benediction

*Parting Song: #621 *"The God of Abraham Praise"* (v. 5)

Next Sunday's Offering: Sos & Kara Maletoungou- CRWM West Africa

The Lord's Day - December 31, 2023
Evening Worship - 6:30 P.M.
Led by: Pastor Scott Muilenburg

Prelude

Welcome & Silent Prayer

Expression of Dependence: Psalm 71:5-6

Pastor: For you have been my hope, O Sovereign LORD, my confidence since my youth.

People: From birth I have relied on you; you brought me forth from my mother's womb.
I will ever praise you.

*Call to Worship: Psalm 71:14-16

*Opening Song of Delight: *"O God, Beyond All Praising"*

Bible Reading: Isaiah 40:1-31 (p. 1119)

Prayer of the Lord's People

*Song of Thanksgiving: *"Speak, O Lord"*

Selected Scriptures (see bulletin)

Sermon: *"Things I'm Sure Of—Part Two"*

*Song of Response: #618 *"Jerusalem the Golden"*

Prayer for the Offering (Alpha Center, Sioux Falls)

Offertory

*Confession of the Faith: Heidelberg Catechism, Q. 27 & 28

*Benediction

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

SERMON NOTES – DECEMBER 31, 2023

THINGS I'M SURE OF- PART 1

THINGS I'M SURE OF-PART 2

REFORMATION MATTERS "What benefits do believers receive from Christ at the resurrection?" Answer - "At the resurrection, believers, being raised up in glory, shall be openly acknowledged and acquitted in the Day of Judgment, and made perfectly blessed in the full enjoying of God to all eternity." - Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q. 38

THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES:

Today 9:30 am - Morning Worship
6:30 pm - Evening Worship
Wed. 9:30 am -Coffee Break
6:00 pm -Kids of Grace
-Youth group
6:30 pm -Evening Coffee Break
7:45 pm -Chimes

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

From the Deacons: Due to the Christmas day service cancellation, we were unable to take an offering for New Life Treatment Center. For those who would still like to give towards that cause, please designate "NLTC" on your envelope or check and place in the offering this week or next week. Thank You!

1st CRC Recorder List

Deaths:

Estella Vis
Frederick Huisken
Dennis Broekhuis
William (Bill) Bleyenbergh
Howard Van Essen
Eleanor Schoolmeester
Harold DeKam

Profession of Faith:

Kalli Blom
Ava Busker
Clara Talsma
Logan Bleyenbergh
Tyson Bleyenbergh
Brooklyn Talsma
Kaitlyn Schaap
Nilson Van Hulzen
Cami VanderHaar
Jacob Masselink

Births:

Jett Hilarides
Frank Feikema
Cooper Schoonhoven
Tabitha Vis
Leah Nykamp
Vincent Schelhaas
Grace Top

Baptisms:

Wyatt Talsma
Carson Blankers
Logan Fey
Jett Hilarides
Frank Feikema
Cooper Schoonhoven
Emerson Gunnink

Profession of Faith (cont)

Victoria Prins
 Aidan Schaap
 Josh Klumper
 Lexi Gunnink

Membership Transfers:

Elizabeth Bonnema (Prins)-Out
 Morgan Schoonhoven- In
 Logan Schoonhoven- In
 Justin & Lexi Gunnink (and Owen)- In
 Leah Van Dyken- Out
 Eric & Cassandra Schelhaas- In

Weddings:

Parker Hamann & Sydney Van Hulzen
 Derrick Van Dyken & Leah Buys
 Jennifer Schelhaas & Noah Hellerud

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

From the Council - At the December 19, 2023 Council meeting, there was a motion that First CRC begin the process of disaffiliation from the CRC. After much deliberation, a new proposal was presented as a way to move forward with these discussions. This proposal contains the following four commitments -

1. Action - The First CRC Council commits to proceed with discussions about disaffiliation from the Christian Reformed Church
 - If Synod 2024 does not clearly call Neland Avenue CRC, Classis Grand Rapids East, and the other affirming CRC churches and classes to public repentance.
 - And/or, if there are no adequate disciplinary consequences for these same churches and classes if they refuse to repent.
 - And/or, if the CRC continues to allow office bearers in the denomination to take permanent exceptions to the biblical and confessional position on human sexuality.
2. Prayer - The First CRC Council commits to pray for the CRC denomination, its leadership, and its congregations on a regular basis, both in our meetings and in public worship.
3. Transparency - The First CRC Council commits to providing monthly, select Council Notes in the bulletin. We also commit to providing full (apart from confidential matters), printed minutes of our Council meetings which will be placed in the church mailboxes.
4. Conversation - The First CRC Council commits to scheduling and leading intentional, small group discussions with our congregational members about denominational concerns, questions regarding our denominational affiliation, and how we can continue to grow as a church.

This proposal will be discussed and voted on at the January Council meeting. The original motion to pursue disaffiliation was tabled until the July 2024 Council meeting.

Our Council also approved and has submitted an overture to Classis Minnkota for its spring meeting. Our overture calls for public repentance from Neland Avenue CRC, Classis Grand Rapids East, and the other affirming churches in the CRC. If there is no public repentance, the overture calls for church discipline for these churches and classes. If you have any questions, we encourage you to please speak with any First CRC Council member.

COMMUNITY & MISC

RESGEN Men's Summit 2024 will be an amazing day filled with encouragement, laughter, challenge and impact! The 2024 RESGEN Men's Summit is held Feb 3 at Central Church in Sioux Falls. The Summit will be simulcast at Bethel CRC in Edgerton from 8:00am to 1:30 pm. Men of all ages are invited and encouraged to attend. For more information or to register go to: betheledgerton.org/resources/resgen-men-s-summit-2024.cfm

The Minnkota Deacons Association is seeking applicants for the Volunteers in Mercy Coordinator position effective January 1, 2024. Responsibilities include coordinating referrals from SW MN and SE SD agencies with diaconal outreach, initiating bi-monthly MDA/VIM board meetings, and submitting Classis reports and yearly newsletters. Please contact Ray Talsma at 507-227-1660.

Come enjoy a Dueling Piano Show on Thursday, January 11 at The District in Sioux Falls featuring Andy and Ryno! This is the perfect even to enjoy some great music requested by the audience, spend a night with your friends and support Hope Haven! Doors open at 7 pm and the show begins at 8. Purchase tickets at hopehaven.org/events

Hope Haven presents Dylan Scott! Exciting news! Mark your calendars for this fun event for all ages on Thursday, March 14 at The District in Sioux Falls. Doors open at 7 pm and the show begins at 8 pm. Curb Records recording country artist Dylan Scott is a triple threat- a powerful vocalist with a deep, unmistakable drawl; an old-soul songwriter with a young spirit; and a family man with a tender heart. The ACM-nominated, multi-Platinum singer has notched three No. 1 singles-My Girl, Nobody, and New Truck, and a Top 5 hit- Hooked. Scott is a 2023 ACM nominee in the category, New Male Artist of the Year. Purchase tickets: hopehaven.org/events.

Justice For All is planning a MISSISSIPPI BUS TOUR, highlighting our ministry partners: John & Vera Mae Perkins Foundation and Voice of Calvary Ministries of Jackson, MS and Mississippi Christian Family Services of Rolling Fork, MS. The dates are April 3-10, 2024. Join us, learn, and see how God is using beautiful ministries to share HIS love and hope to those who live in communities of needs in MS. We'll also explore the rich history, culture and stories of slavery, Jim Crow, and Civil Rights. A day in Branson on the way home will round out a great trip! If you are interested or want more information, please contact Pat Vander Pol at JFA (patvp@jfa-nwiowa.org – 712-476-2804).

MEMBERS IN SERVICE

TODAY – DECEMBER 31

Nursery: AM – Carmen F, Nick & Shawna S, Lois S, Cami V, Lily M.

PM – Nicole V, Jody S, Jonathan S, Clayton B

Valet: Darrin D.

Ushers: Tyson B, Logan B, Lester S, Steve E

Sound: AM – Dean E PM – Dean E

Video: Nilson VH

Projection: Jan/Jonathan

Medical Assistant: Brenda K

Children's Worship: No lesson

NEXT WEEK- JANUARY 7

Nursery: AM – Kesley S, Ann Marie B, Evon VH, Sydni VH, Nicole S

PM – Vonda T, Becky S, Vera P, Carli S.

Valet: Mark S.

Ushers: Randy F, Del VE, John V, Owen T.

Sound: AM – Ray PM – Ray

Video: Kevin VH

Projection: Kirk/Blair

Medical Assistant: Kim V.

Children's Worship: No lesson

Praise Team: Mark & Lori B, Tadd & Erica P, Kurt & Vonda T

Keyboard: Kaitlyn S

MISSIONARIES

Margaret Njuguna

En-Gedi Children's Home,
Kenya

Sos and Kara Maletougou

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

CHURCH INFORMATION