

The Lord's Day - January 7, 2024
Morning Worship - 9:30 A.M.
Led by: Pastor Scott Muilenburg

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Prayer & Silent Prayer

*Call to Worship: 1 Timothy 1:17

*Opening Songs of Honor: *"Only a Holy God"*
"Awesome God"

Standard of Righteousness: Deuteronomy 10:12-13

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

*Song of Thanksgiving: *"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"*

At this time, children ages 3-5 may be dismissed for a Bible lesson,
located downstairs in Room 4.

Scripture Reading: Acts 11:1-30 (p. 1711)

Sermon: "The Christ-Centered Church"

*Song of Response: #469 *"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"*

Installation of New Elders and Deacons

Prayer of the Lord's People

Offering: Sos and Kara Maletoungou (West Africa)

*Benediction

*Parting Song: *"To Worship You"*

Next Sunday's Offering: Christian Education

The Lord's Day – January 7, 2024
Evening Worship - 6:30 P.M.
Led by: Pastor LeRoy Christoffels

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Prayer

Expression of Dependence: Psalm 121:1-2

Pastor: I lift up my eyes to the hills – where does my help come from?

People: My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.

Call to Worship – Psalm 150:1-2

*The Lord's Greeting

*Opening Song of Praise: 444 "Greet Now the Swiftly Changing Year"

Confessional Reading: Canons of Dort, I, Art. 10-11 "Election Unchangeable" (p. 929)

Congregational Prayer

*Song of Thanksgiving: 358 "As With Gladness Men of Old"

Scripture: Job 32-33

Sermon: **ELIHU: FORE-RUNNER AND EVANGELIST**

*Song of Response: 434 "God Moves in a Mysterious Way"

Offertory Prayer

Offering and Offertory: *"Silent Night"*- Hans and Clara Talsma

*Confession of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

*Benediction

*Doxology: 223:1,4 "For the Glories of God's Grace"

SERMON NOTES – JANUARY 7, 2024

THE CHRIST-CENTERED CHURCH
Acts 11:1-30

ELIHU: FORE-RUNNER AND
EVANGELIST
Job 32-33

REFORMATION MATTERS "Yet, O Lord, in the obedience of your commandment, and confident in your endless mercy, we appeal from your throne of justice to your throne of grace, where mercy reigns to pardon abounding sin. From the bottom of our hearts we humbly ask you to forgive our offences and misdeeds. By the virtue of the precious blood of Jesus Christ, may our sins, original and actual, be cleansed, so that they may never have power to rise up in judgment against us." - Prayer of Lewis Bayly, in *"Into His Presence"*

THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES:

Today 9:30 am - Morning Worship
 6:30 pm - Evening Worship
Tue. 7:00 pm - Council, Elder & Deacon meetings
Wed. 9:30 am - Coffee Break
 6:00 pm - Kids of Grace
 6:30 pm - GEMS & Cadets
 6:30 pm - Evening Coffee Break
 7:45 pm - Chimes
Thur. 9:30 am - Christian Fellowship

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

The family of Harold De Kam would like to thank the congregation, Pastor Scott and Pastor Lee for their many expressions of support through words of encouragement, prayers, cards, food, and other gifts given as his health declined and as he left his earthly home for his "home, home" in Heaven. God's love poured out through others is a beautiful gift.

We extend our sympathies to Cindy Spronk and her family after the recent death of her mother, Opal Vander Woude. Our prayer is that Christ, the Good Shepherd who is the hope of glory, would care for the Spronk family during this time of mourning.

We grieve with and pray for Bud Vis and his family after the recent car accident and death of his brother, Peter Vis Jr. May the Lord, who is good and does good (Ps 119:68), grant his surpassing peace in the risen Lord Jesus to the Vis family. Please pray also for Peter's wife, who is hospitalized and in critical condition.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayer Warriors: We will meet next week, January 14, for prayer warriors after the morning service. Please let your prayer partner know ahead of time if you will not be there. Thanks!

This morning, we will be installing new elders and deacons. The incoming elders are Ray Schelhaas, Arlan Schmidt, and Kirk Van Hulzen. The incoming deacons are Brett Kroeze, Corey Vis, and CJ Veldhuizen. We also wish to thank our outgoing elders and deacons for their love of and service to First. The outgoing elders are Jon Schmidt, Cody Top, and John Top; the outgoing deacons are Phil Feikema, Orey Fey, and Nick Sjaarda.

If you need to make any changes to your church directory information or update your photo, please contact Kirk Van Hulzen.

There will **NOT** be a Men's Society Meeting on Monday evening.

SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Save the date - Black and Gold Banquet will be February 10, 2024. Social hour at 5:45, devotion at 6:15. Are you interested in hosting a table of 8? If you are interested in hosting, would like to reserve seats, or need more information about the event contact Ashley at 507-442- 4471 or email at astoel@swcschools.org.

COMMUNITY & MISC

Happy New Year Greetings from ATLAS for Life with thanks for the many forms of support the ministry received in 2023 including your prayers and financial gifts throughout the year. One area of continued need is preparing a meal for the weekly Treehouse Ministry (teen connection/support ministry). If you would be willing to help with this ministry in this way (it could be once a year or more often – whatever your schedule allows) or if you would like to explore other ministry opportunities, please contact the ATLAS office at 562-5777 during our regular office hours on Tuesday or Thursday. We would be happy to answer any questions and plug you to a ministry serve connection to use the gifts God has given you. Praise be to God for his overflowing blessings!

Justice for All is hiring! Full time warehouse/transportation manager. Join the staff at JFA to further the ministry. Coordinate shipments, organize donated items, and build relationships with volunteers and ministry partners. CDL encouraged, but not required. Join a ministry that has been providing opportunities, building relationships, and redistributing resources through caring and sharing in Christ's name for over 40 years. Discover the way God uses JFA to meet the needs of those in our area, around the country, and around the world. Send cover letter and resume to Joel De Wit at joeldw@jfa-nwiowa.org or contact for more information and full job description at 712.739.0055

From the Abide Project: There will be a regional gathering on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, from 6:00-9:30p CST at First CRC in Sheldon, Iowa. Dinner will be available starting at 5:00p. Feel free to join for all or part of the evening. All those in agreement with the CRCNA's position on human sexuality (as confirmed by Synods 2022 & 2023) please join us in Sheldon for the evening. We will be having a meal followed by some guided discussion, encouragement, and prayer. The cost is \$10/person and can be paid when you arrive at the event. Please register at <https://www.abideproject.org/p/iowa-midwest-regional-gathering>

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 – 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

NEXT WEEK- JANUARY 14

Nursery: AM – Beth S, Kala T, Macy H, Nilson VH, Max VH
PM – Daci M, Ashley Sch, Grant B, Carson V

Valet: Jonathan S.

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

Sound: AM – Jesse VH PM – Jesse VH

Video: Jacob M

Projection: Orey/Jody

Medical Assistant: Gord P

Children's Worship: Carmen F & Lilyana M

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

CHURCH INFORMATION