Welcome to

First Christian Reformed Church



We welcome our visitors and hope that you enjoy worshipping with us. If you are presently seeking a church home, we welcome you to join our fellowship. You will find a visitor card in your pew. Please fill one out and place it in the offering bag. If you would like further information about our church, check out our website at www.waupuncrc.com or contact the church office (324-2898).

Large-print bulletins and **children's bulletins** are available from an usher or in the rack at the back of the sanctuary.

You can listen to sermons from our website as well as view the bulletin. Website address is www.waupuncrc.com

Our Core Values: We show Christ's love through continual learning and discipleship, compassionate fellowship, dynamic public worship, and impactful service and outreach.

Church Office Hours
Tuesdays from 9:00–12 Noon

All announcements due in the office by 12:00 noon Thursday Phone: 920-324-2898 email: waupuncrc@gmail.com

Pastor Hary: 616-402-1342

9:30 AM Worship Service (*Please stand if you are able)

The Community Gathers

Prelude

Call to Worship

Gathering Songs of Praise-

"Be Still for the Presence of the Lord"

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

"As We Gather"

Greetings

To Renew Commitment

Confession and Affirmation of Faith (responsively)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, our Lord.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

When the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption.

Jesus suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell, (moment of silent prayer) The third day he rose again from the dead.

The Lord has risen indeed!

He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

Accompanist

AM: Anna Nunnenkamp &

Lois Mulder PM: Lois Mulder

Children & Worship

Jessica Ten Pass Jolie Schouten Jaxon Buteyn

Elder/Deacon Greeters

Gary DeJager Brian Van Herwaarden

Fellowship Coffee

Mike & Bonnie Vander Berg

Greeters

Louis & Nancy Wierenga

Nursery

Jen Ritzema Carlie Jansen Tirzah Ritzema

Sound System

Glen Greenfield

Transportation

Bob Mulder (382-0926)

Ushers

Arent Venhuizen Brad Schouten Glen Greenfield Tyler Ten Pass

Video Projection

I eAnne Holden

Missionary Letters

B Bresser to Daryl Pfantz J Bresser to Neen+ J Bronkhorst to Chaplain Pete+

At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

I believe in the Holy Spirit.

Jesus said: You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be my witnesses.

I believe a holy catholic church.

And we are his witnesses.

The forgiveness of sins.

And we are his witnesses.

The resurrection of the body.

And we are his witnesses.

And a life with God which lasts forever.

For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

Congregational Prayer Offering

To Hear the Word

*Scripture Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4 and 2:1-4

Message: Making It Plain

Song of Response: "Forever He is Glorified" by Anna Nunnenkamp and Joe

Venhuizen

To Disperse in Mission

*Benediction

*Doxology: "Forever He is Glorified"

Postlude

6:00 PM Worship Service (*Please stand if you are able)

Prelude

Call to Worship

*God's Greeting

Opening Songs led by Toni Hoffman

Prayers of the People led by Merle Schouten

We Study God's Word: 2 Corinthians 2:14-17; "Triumph in Christ"

*Affirmation of Faith: HC Q&A 1

*Song of Response: "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee"

*Benediction

*Closing Song: "Bless His Holy Name"

*Postlude

Worship Notes

This morning Pastor Steve Venhuizen will lead us in worship as we look at Habakkuk. This evening Bill Zuhlke will lead our worship.

Deacons Report

All loose cash offerings will go to the month's special offering, while any loose and undesignated checks will go to the local budget.

Last Week's Offerings

Local Budget: \$9,271

Elim: \$384

December Cause is Elim Christian School: Through its four major program areas on its main campus in Palos Heights, IL, and in 15 Discovery locations, over 300 servants work each day to bring 800 persons with disabilities beyond their potential to become the living testimonies God created them to be.

Upcoming evening and special services

Dec. 31 – 7 PM New Year's Eve service at Bethel CRC

Jan. 5 – PM Worship with Pastor Harv

Jan. 12 - PM Worship - Video

Jan. 19 – PM Worship with Pastor Harv

Jan. 26 – PM Worship - Video

Our Family

Please remember to contact your Elder for any concerns that arise. The Elders and Deacons by Care Group are listed in the bulletin.

December Birthdays		January Birthdays	
Keren Derksen	29	Jenni Morgan	1
Dave Venhuizen	29	Rich DeMaa	2
Brian Van Herwaarden	30	Heidi Schaver	3
Lori Venhuizen	31		

As you pray this week, please remember these people:

- Janet Ver Hage as she is on a new trial drug.
- Carlie Jansen, as she recovers from surgery.
- Laura Ten Pass as she continues with cancer treatments.
- Leanne Johnson, continue to pray for healing.
- Paul Vande Kolk as he is receiving treatment for lung cancer.
- Carol Navis, that she continues to do well.
- Karen Aalsma, as she is receiving treatment for cancer.

- Kathy Kamphuis, as she recovers from surgery.
- Erin Stroede's sister Cassie as she has been diagnosed with cancer.

It can be easy to forget about those that we don't see every week, so we are including a list of shut-ins within our congregation. We hope that you will take some time to visit, send cards, and pray for these members of our family. As Romans 12:10 says, "Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves."

- Joyce Haan
- Wilma Navis
- Jeanette Tjepkema

Church News

The **Search Team** would like to invite members to attend a round-table session to discuss important characteristics and strengths of our next pastor. We will compile feedback to use in our search. Please see the handout in your mailbox for additional details. The Round-Table Sessions will be held in the church basement on:

- Sunday, January 5, at 10:45 a.m.
- Monday, January 6, from 5:00–6:30 p.m.

Please contact a Search Team member with any additional questions.

PRAYER: We have prayer groups praying through the transition process at First CRC and we want to invite the entire church specifically into prayer with us. We ask that you pray that we will all be led by the Holy Spirit as we seek to discern God's will. We also invite all to attend the Tuesday AM prayer time at 8:00 at the church or the Sunday morning prayer time in the church basement at 8:45. Thank you for your prayers.

There is no Sunday School today.

DENOMINATION NEWS

Church Leadership, A Home-Rebuilding Opportunity - Do you wonder how your church offerings to World Renew Disaster Response Services make a difference? Have you wanted to experience what it is like to repair disaster-damaged homes? Consider volunteering Monday – Friday, March 23-27, in North Carolina and find out for yourself! This is a week specifically for pastors and/or church staff leaders to work together and get directly involved in this ministry. Contact Chris Gibson at cgibson@worldrenew.net or 800-848-5818 to learn more.

Thank you for sharing God's Love this Advent - We give gifts to each other, remembering Jesus Christ who brings us salvation and tells us to share His great gifts with others, especially those in need. If you would like to know more about the life-changing difference your gifts to World Renew can make in ending poverty, please visit worldrenew.net. Thank you.

Calendar

Today: 8:45 AM Prayer Meeting in church basement

9:30 AM AM Worship Service 6:00 PM PM Worship Service

Tuesday: 8:00 AM Prayer Meeting

Thursday 6:45 PM Christian Fellowship

Sunday: 8:45 AM Prayer Meeting in church basement

9:30 AM AM Worship Service6:00 PM PM Worship Service

Next Week

Accompanist
Brenda Hofman

Children & Worship

Leader: Mackenzie Mulder

Cassidy Ritzema Kolten Buwalda

Elder/Deacon Greeters

Dan Montsma Eric Schaver

Fellowship Coffee

Michael & Danielle Jansma

Greeters

Gregg & Kristi Zonnefeld

Musical Praise

Toni Hofman

Nursery

Emily Mulder Amanda Buteyn Jolie Schouten

Offering: Local Budget

January Cause: Dodge County Pregnancy Resource Center

PM Prayer

Al Venhuizen

Sound System

Glen Greenfield

Ushers

Ben Mulder Jesse Buteyn Neil Venhuizen Al Holden

Video Projection

Lois Mulder

Group	<u>Elder</u>	<u>Deacon</u>
1	Joe Durant (2022)	Jon Mulder (2021)
2	Merle Schouten (2020)	Joe Bresser (2020)
3	Keith Venhuizen (2022)	
4	Gary De Jager (2021)	Brian Van Herwaarden (2022)
5	Dan Montsma (2022)	Eric Schaver (2022)
6	Tom Jonker (2020)	Randall Greenfield (2020)
7	Steve Homan (2020)	
8	Kevin Buwalda (2021)	Andy Schlieve (2021)

Worship Notes



Proclaiming Evidence for Truth

THIS WEEK'S CREATION MOMENT

The Never-Fail Bat Alarm



Plead my cause, and deliver me: quicken me according to thy word. (Psalm 119:154)

The swiftly moving bat cuts almost invisibly through the darkness, silent to all but those who can hear its ultrasonic radar. What chance does a poor night-flying

cricket - prized as a tasty bat snack - have?

Let's treat this problem as if you were the Creator, faced with the problem of giving your night-flying cricket a chance against its predator. You could design the cricket so that it would stay in its hiding place at night, but then you wouldn't have a night-flying cricket. You could give the cricket the ability to hear the bat's radar, but that alone won't help the cricket if he can't get to safety.

The solution our Creator has invented to help the cricket preserve its life is another example of His engineering excellence. He has built the cricket with a single-celled bat detector that is wired into the cricket's nervous system. The detector is triggered by the frequency that bats use for navigation. When triggered, the cell fires off up to 500 impulses per second. These impulses automatically cause the cricket to steer away from the source of the ultrasound. The most impressive engineering fact about this bat detector is that it only works if the cricket is in flight and, therefore, vulnerable to bats. When crickets are safe from bats – resting, hiding, eating or preening – the bat detector cell doesn't fire any warning at all!

The precise elegance that the Creator has designed into the cricket for its protection is a witness to His wisdom in caring for all that He has created. Learn more about that wisdom in the Bible.

Ref: Shreeve, James. 1985. "The great cricket escape." Science 85, May, p. 83. Image: Public domain.

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