

First Christian Reformed Church



Who We Are

Welcome to First CRC! We're glad you're here to worship with us today! By God's grace, we're a family of believers that has been gathering to worship God and serve others for some 100 years. We were established out of nearby Alto CRC, in 1921, and later in 1961, Bethel CRC in Waupun, started from members of First.

At First CRC, in Sunday worship and during the week, you'll find many historic and biblical practices of the Christian faith. Our leadership, elders and deacons and pastor, seek to keep these vibrant and relevant to Christians living in today's world.

Child Care and Student Ministries on Sunday Mornings

During worship, we have nursery care for children ages 0-2, and Children's Worship for children ages 3 through 4K. Children's Worship kids are dismissed halfway through the worship service. After worship parents should pick up their children on the upper level where these ministries take place. If you need to take a child out of the worship service for a bit, you may go to our Lower Level where there are two couches and a nearby bathroom. By the couches a TV is playing the service live.

Sunday School and Catechism classes for K – 12th graders meet after the morning worship service.

What We Believe

We subscribe to the historic Christian faith; the Bible is our final authority in faith and life; we also look by grace through faith alone to Christ alone for our salvation. For more details about what we believe and how we live out the faith, please visit our website (waupunrc.com) or our denomination's website (crcna.org).

Our worship services are broadcast on our YouTube channel. Regular, large-print, and children's bulletins are available from an usher. Contact Lois Mulder in the office (waupunrc@gmail.com) or Pastor Greg Schuringa (pastorgreg@waupunrc.com) for anything else related to First CRC, including membership, our ministries, as well as what we believe and practice. Please join us for coffee and conversation near our main entrance each Sunday before and after worship.

9:30 AM Worship Service

* Please stand if you are able.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Reading and Candle Lighting

*God's Greeting

*Songs of Advent: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" G329
"Christmas Offering" "Unspeakable Joy"

Children's Christmas Celebration

Song of Worship: "What Child is This?" R281:1, 3

Congregational Prayer

Offerings for the Local Budget and Operation Christmas Child

Children ages 3 through 4K are invited to Children's Worship

*Scripture Reading: John 1:1-14

Message: "Christ's Birth—Our Rebirth"

Prayer

*Song of Response: "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" G356

*Benediction

*Doxology: "Advent Doxology"

*Postlude

Taking part in worship today:

- Worship Leader and Sermon:
Pastor Greg Schuringa
- Accompanist: Cara Schmitt
- Advent Reading: Kirk, Lauren,
Emmett and Otto Van Buren
- Worship Team: Pastor Greg; Cara
Schmitt (piano); Grace Bruins,
Rachel Hoffman (vocalists)
- Coffee: George and Karen Aalsma
- Media Team: Tyler Ten Pass, Beth
Schlieve, Scott Ritzema
- Children's Worship: Grace Bruins,
Adrianna Schuringa

- Nursery: Lynnae Franken, Jenna
Mulder, Heidi Schaver
- Transportation: Bob Mulder
- Ushers: Tom Jonker, Noah
Mulder

Missionary Letters

K Zonnefeld to Neen/Angel
Geoff Aalsma to Chaplain Pete*

*Pray especially for this
missionary family this week.

Giving to First CRC

If you feel led to give to our church's ministry, please place your donation in the offering bags passed by the deacons during the service. All loose cash offerings will go to the Faith Promise Fund the first Sunday of the month and the month's special offering the remaining Sundays (Operation Christmas Child for December), while any loose and undesignated checks will go to the local budget. Budget envelopes will go to the designated funds. Online giving is also available, just scan the QR code here. Please talk to a deacon if you want more information about giving to First CRC.



	November	Fiscal YTD	Budget YTD	% of YTD Budget
General	\$43,467.10	\$181,761.63	\$168,282.70	108.00%
Most Needed	\$4,442.50	\$19,451.50	N/A	N/A
Faith Promise	\$1,921.24	\$8,933.00	\$6,500.00	137.43%
Classical	\$1,333.32	\$6,511.08	\$10,833.33	60.10%
Denominational	\$2,883.36	\$7,276.39	\$10,833.33	67.16%
Benevolent	\$1,513.72	\$5,693.27	N/A	N/A
Total*	\$55,561.24	\$229,626.87	N/A	N/A

*Total is all offerings received including designations to specific funds not listed above

Our Family

As you pray this week, please remember the following:

- **Ruth Buwalda**, prayers her eyesight remains stable after surgery.
- **Dan Montsma**, knee surgery recovery.
- **Peter Montsma**, in hospice care.
- **Ken Ten Pas**, health.
- **Nancy Wierenga**, good surgery, but additional severe pain still undiagnosed.

The congregation is invited to an Open House to celebrate the **90th birthday of Carol Greenfield**. Saturday, December 27, from 1:30-4:00 PM at First CRC.

Church News

Upcoming Worship Highlights

- December 24, 6:30 PM, Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- December 28, Old Year's Sunday, Al Venhuizen preaching
- January 4, New Year's Sunday: **Do You See What I See? Zechariah #12: Will Holiness Be Your Focus in 2026?**

A Night in Bethlehem: Our church is excited to once again host “**A Night in Bethlehem**” TONIGHT from **4:30–6:00 PM!** This special outreach event brings the story of Jesus’ birth to life as we recreate the streets of Bethlehem for our community to experience. Together, let’s share the wonder and joy of that holy night with our neighbors!

If you are interested in **profession of faith**, please contact Scott Ritzema.

If you are interested in **membership at First CRC**, please contact Pastor Greg Schuringa.

There are LOTS of bowls and Tupperware-type items on the counter in the kitchen. If you provided food for anything recently, please stop down and see if any of them belong to you. If they are not picked up this week, we’ll take them to Bargains Galore.

Copies of the Pregnancy Support Center Winter Newsletter are available in the narthex.

Community News

2026 Easter Cantata - Randolph Community Choir will begin practicing for "Echoes of Easter-The Hope of the Cross", on Sunday, January 4, 4:00-5:30 PM, at First Reformed Church in Randolph.

Calendar

Today:	9:30 AM	Worship Service
	4:30 PM	A Night in Bethlehem
Wednesday:	6:30 PM	Christmas Eve Candelight Service
Sunday:	9:30 AM	Worship Service

Christmas Eve Service

Accompanist

Brenda Hofman

Nursery

Jessica Ten Pass, Hailey Wagner,
Elsa Homan

Livestream

Mike Vander Berg

PPT

Kim Greenfield

Sound System

Scott Ritzema

Transportation

Bob Mulder

Ushers

Owen Mulder, Brian O’Donovan

Next Week

Accompanist

Anna Nunnenkamp

Coffee

Steve and Heidi Smits

Children's Worship

Becca Vree, Morgan Buwalda

Nursery

Aubryn DeJager, Emily Mulder,
Morgan Buwalda

Livestream

Brad Mulder

PPT

Jake Van Herwaarden

Sound System

Scott Ritzema

Transportation

Bob Mulder

Ushers

Kolton Buwalda, Brad Schouten

Care Group	Elder	Deacon
1	Ken Homan (2028)	Adam Franken (2027)
2	Brian O'Donovan (2026)	Cayden Ruis (2028)
3	Joe Durant (2028)	Mike Hoffman (2026)
4	Mike Vander Berg (2027)	Eric Schaver (2028)
5	Steve Homan (2028)	Andy Schlieve (2027)
6	Al Venhuizen (2026)	Mike Hoffman (2026)
7	Brad Schouten (2026)	Kirk Van Buren (2026)
8	Darrall Schaver (2027)	Andy Schlieve (2027)

Office hours: Thursdays, 10 AM to 2 PM

All announcements are due in the office by noon Thursday

Phone: 920-324-2898 - email: waupuncrc@gmail.com

PO Box 32, Waupun, WI 53963

Monthly Ministry Report from Brother Bob Philippines

Greetings in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

I would like to give you an update about the help we are extending to the typhoon victims in some parts of Negros Occidental. They want you to know how grateful and blessed they are for your assistance.

Your support has been a tremendous help, especially given their difficult circumstances. Many are working to rebuild their homes, which were destroyed by the typhoon and damaged by the flooding. Though the task is extremely challenging as most of them are also struggling financially, they are doing everything they can to have a roof over their heads. If you could see them in person I'm certain your heart would ache for them. Some had spent years building their homes, only to see them destroyed in an instant by storm and floods.

They are deeply thankful, that despite the distance, we took the time to reach out and help them. Thank you so much for your love and concern for our people—we could not have done this without you. Some of them are elderly, sick, disabled, or living with mental illness. We prayed for them and wished them a Merry Christmas, as Christ is the Center of this season. Several were even moved to tears as they thanked us for sharing these blessings with them.

I'll be sending you some pictures showing the beneficiaries and the work we are doing here.

Thank you so much for everything you do for us and the ministry. May the Lord return all these blessings to you and your family a hundredfold.

Have a very blessed and Merry Christmas to you and your loved ones.

In Christ,
Neen and Angel

Thought for this month: For unto us a Child is born, unto us a son is given and the government shall be upon his shoulders. And his name shall be called wonderful Counselor, mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6

Our email address: neenbobphilippines@yahoo.com

Christmas Offering

Verse 1: Over the skies of Bethlehem appeared a star

While angels sang to lowly shepherds

The wise men seeking truth traveled from afar

Hoping to find the child from Heaven - Falling on their knees

They bowed before the humble Prince of Peace

Chorus: I bring an offering of worship to my King

No one on earth deserves the praises that I sing

Jesus may You receive the honor that You're due

Oh, Lord I bring an offering to You

Verse 2: The sun cannot compare to the glory of Your love

There is no shadow in Your presence

No mortal man would dare to stand before Your throne

Before the Holy One of Heaven

It's only by Your blood it's only through Your mercy - Lord, I come

Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)

Verse 1: Joy to the world the Lord is come - Let earth receive her King
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room - And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and nature sing - And heaven and heaven and nature sing

Verse 2: Joy to the world the Savior reigns - Let all their songs employ
While fields and floods rocks hills and plains - Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy - Repeat, repeat the sounding joy

Chorus: Joy, unspeakable joy - An overflowing well
No tongue can tell - Joy unspeakable joy
It rises in my soul - Never lets me go

Verse 3: He rules the world with truth and grace - And makes the nations
prove - The glories of His righteousness - And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love - And wonders, wonders of His love

CCLI Song # 5607039

Chris Tomlin | Ed Cash | George Frideric Handel | Isaac Watts | Matt Gilder
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Wondrously Made Songs

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Advent Doxology

Praise to God the Father sing, - Praise to God the Son, our King,
Praise to God the Spirit be - Ever and eternally.
Gloria in excelsis Deo (2X)

(words of verse by Ambrose of Milan (d. 397 AD); tune: Angels We Have Heard on High)

Sermon Notes