

12/8/2024

First Christian Reformed Church



We welcome our guests and hope that you will be blessed by worshipping the Lord together with us today. If you are presently seeking a church home, we welcome you to join us here at First CRC! You will find a guest card in your pew. Please fill one out and place it in the offering bag during the service so we can reach out to you. If you would like further information about our church, please visit us at www.waupuncrc.com or call (920-324-2898) or email the church office (waupuncrc@gmail.com). Pastor Greg Schuringa would be happy to connect with you after the service or during the week as well: pastorgreg@waupuncrc.com.

Large-print bulletins and **children's bulletins** are available from an usher.

You can watch our services live on YouTube (First CRC Waupun) and view the bulletin on our website: 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.



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

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

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Reading and Candle Lighting

*God's Greeting

Children's Christmas Program

"Holy Ground" R138

"Surely the Presence" R219

"He is Here" R220

"O Come All Ye Faithful" R249

"Angels We Have Heard on High" R278:1

"Angels We Have Heard on High" R278:2

"Joy to the World" R270:1, 2, 4

Congregational Prayer

Offering for the Local Budget and Operation Christmas Child

Song of Worship: "What Child is This?" R281

Children ages 3-6 are invited to Children's Worship

*Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:6

Message: "Isn't This Child Wonderful? #2: El Gibbor!"

Prayer

*Song of Worship: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" G329

*Benediction

*Doxology: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" G345:1

*Postlude

Taking part in worship today:

• Worship Leader and Sermon:

Pastor Greg Schuringa

• Advent Participants: Ben Homan
and Joy Mulder (Sunday School)

• Children's Christmas: Sunday
School and Children's Worship with
Toni Hofman, Nikki Durni, Katie
DeJager (accompanist)

• Accompanist: Lois Mulder

- Media Team: Pete Vander Werff,
Ryer Greenfield, Gladys Montsma
- Coffee: Steve and Heidi Smits
- Children's Worship: Kim
Greenfield, Jenna Schouten, Jules
Mulder
- Nursery: Andrea Buwalda, Casey
Homan, Troy Hoffman
- Transportation: Bob Mulder
- Ushers: Ben Mulder, Brian
O'Donovan

Missionary Letters

Geoff Aalsma to Neen/Angel

George 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. On-line 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.



Our Family

As you pray this week, please remember the following:

- **Gary Bossenbroeck**, perhaps will move to a VA Home until the infection clears.
- **Brian Bresser**, health.
- **Ray Hofman**, chemo five days per month.
- **Faith Miedema**, therapy after surgery at home.
- **Dewey Pausma**, health and strength.
- **Ken Ten Pas**, health.
- **Gregg Zonnefeld**, MRI and doctor visit past week—no changes.

The Schuringa Life Group is planning a time of Christmas Caroling this Wednesday, December 11. We will meet in the church parking lot at 5:45 PM with those who are joining us and enjoy some treats at church afterwards.

Church News

Upcoming Worship Highlights

- December 15, 9:30 AM: Baptism in worship
- December 24, 6:30 PM: Christmas Eve Worship
- December 29, 9:30 AM: Old Year's Sunday, Al Venhuizen preaching.

There will be no Sunday School or Catechism for 4K through 10th grade until January 5.

If you are interested in making profession of faith, please contact Scott Ritzema soon. He is hoping to start a class in the new year and wants to order books.

You'll find in your mailbox today a letter with an important update from Council about our Children's Ministries.

Calling all men! Something to think about...we would like to organize a Men's Choir for the Easter season. The time involved will be two practices after church and singing on Good Friday.

Missing your favorite water bottle or travel coffee mug, or maybe a dish from your kitchen? The counter in the kitchen here at church is starting to fill up. Please check to see if anything there is yours.

The choir will be singing during the Christmas Eve Service, singing Silent Night/Peace. Please let Toni Hofman (920-960-2748) know if you can't sing. Thanks!

Thank you to all who attended and supported the SWaT Dinner & a Movie night last Friday so that we could raise money to purchase gifts for kids in our community through Waupun Holiday Help. With your help, we were able to support three families and get Christmas gifts for ten kids!

High School Youth Group Families, please check your email as we have emailed you a link to a **Google Feedback Form**. We, the youth ministry leaders and church education team, would really appreciate you filling that out **today** so that we can make an informed decision on how to best shepherd our students in their discipleship journey at our meeting tonight.

High School Youth Group Christmas Party and Caroling is today from 4-6 PM @ Bethel. Please bring a \$5 white elephant gift and if you enjoy baking, a Christmas snack to share.

SWaT Middle School Youth Group Christmas Party & Caroling is Wednesday, Dec. 11, from 6-8 PM @ Bethel. Please bring a \$5 white elephant gift and if you enjoy baking, a Christmas snack to share.

Community News

CWC High School Christmas Concert: Start your Christmas celebrations with us! The High School band and choirs, along with the New Generation Singers, will begin our Christmas celebration on Monday, Dec. 9. The concert is held in the Crusader Centre and begins at 6:30 PM.

The next ONE Waupun Connections Breakfast will be on Saturday, Dec. 15, from 7:30 - 8:30 AM at the Main Street Bistro. We will enjoy a warm breakfast, some praise and worship and then be blessed with a message from Gregg Zonnefeld.

CWC Elementary Christmas Program: Our elementary students are working hard on preparing their Christmas Program! We will be sharing "Journey to Bethlehem" by Anna Laura Page & Jean Anne Shafferman. A Christmas musical that will take you through the sights and sounds of the journey to Bethlehem. Also featuring the Hallelujah chorus from Handel's Messiah. Join our 4K-5th grades on Friday, Dec. 13, at 9:00 AM and 6:30 PM in the Crusader Centre. Please come to whichever time works best for you. We look forward to seeing you and sharing our music with you!

CWC Middle School Christmas Concert: Start your Christmas celebrations with us! The Middle School band and choirs will finish our Christmas celebration on Tuesday, Dec. 17. The concert is held in the Crusader Centre and begins at 6:30 PM.

Christmas Carol Sing Invitation: First Reformed Church (422 W. Franklin Street, Waupun) will be hosting their annual Christmas Carol Sing on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 6:00 PM. Join in an evening of singing Christmas Carols and enjoying performances by a variety of soloists, choirs and ensembles from the Waupun area. A free will donation will be received to support the Waupun Holiday Help program.

Emanuel Lutheran Church in Brandon (107 S Prairie St) is having a Christmas Bake Sale on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 9 to 1 in their basement.

Immanuel United Methodist Church in Ripon (401 W Fond du Lac St) is hosting a Christmas Cookie Walk on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 9 – noon.

Bethel Church in Brandon (305 W Main St) will be presenting their Children's Christmas Program "The Wish" and a choir cantata "This is Christmas" on Sunday, Dec. 15, at 3 PM.

"When Christmas Comes," a Christmas concert cantata: A World Premiere Concert Event! There will be two presentations on Sunday, Dec. 15: 2 PM at Grace Lutheran Church in Ripon (430 W Griswold St) and 7 PM at Immanuel UMC in Ripon (401 W Fond du Lac St).

The Unexpected GIFT: A Candlelight Carol Service - It's time to dim the lights and raise our voices. Let's celebrate the greatest of gifts! **Sunday, December 22, 6:30 PM at Second CRC, Randolph.** Singing, narration, special music, candles and treats. A rousing celebration of the incarnation. Bring your friends and neighbors!

CHRISTMAS DINNER! We invite anyone who has no plans for Christmas to join us for a home-cooked meal at the Wesley Center in Waupun on Wednesday, Dec. 25. The dinner will be served buffet style, from 12:00–

1:30 PM. **Please call 920-928-3310 for reservations.** There is no charge for the dinner.

SAVE THE DATE - The ONE Waupun Annual Men's Conference is scheduled for Saturday, March 8, at the Green Lake Conference Center. Be sure to mark your calendars! To learn more or to register early, you can go to <http://conference.onewaupun.com>.

Denominational News

A Unique Mission Trip for Teenagers - Join a group of teenagers from multiple countries on a trip across three Central American countries (Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Guatemala) to learn more about these countries' histories and learn how local ministry leaders are working to meet the needs of communities in difficult realities. This is a great opportunity to grow in your faith and understanding of mission! Learn more and apply online at www.resonateglobalmission.org/encounter.

Kids Corner: Advent Week 2: The Servant - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. This week, read the story of Mary in Luke 1:26-45. God had an important role for Mary. She responded, "I am the Lord's servant! Let it happen as you have said." Whatever God has for us to do, let our reply be the same as Mary's. No matter how young or old we are, God will give us everything we need to be a faithful servant. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Bible Story Podcast The Birth of Jesus.

Groundwork: Jesus: Our Mighty God - The prophet Isaiah next calls the coming Messiah "Mighty God." Join Groundwork as we explore Isaiah 9:6, Isaiah 10:21, Acts 1:6-8, and Revelation 5:6, 11-14 to discover what this title communicates to us about Jesus. Together, we'll discuss how his presence as a helpless baby displays the awesomeness of God's power and gives us hope as we anticipate his return. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - "Rejoice, Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel." This refrain from the beloved Advent hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" calls us to rejoice—not because of our immediate circumstances but because of the promises we have in Jesus Christ. Ponder a few things that cause you to rejoice. Offer them up to God in gratitude. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive.

The January Series - The January Series of Calvin University returns January 20 through January 31. From Paralympians to historians, adventurers, and innovators, we have a topic for you to deepen your curiosity. Join us in the Covenant Fine Arts Center on the campus of Calvin

University or online. More information can be found at www.calvin.edu/january-series.

Calendar

Today: 9:30 AM Worship Service
4:00 PM HS Youth Group Caroling and Christmas Party at Bethel CRC

Wednesday: 9:00 AM Coffee Break at Bethel CRC
1:00 PM Women's Bible Study – 11 (upper room)
6:00 PM Middle School Youth Group Caroling and Christmas Party at Bethel CRC

Sunday: 8:30 AM 11th/12th Catechism
9:30 AM Worship Service

Next Week

Accompanist

Lois Mulder

Livestream

Brad Mulder

Coffee

Mike and Bonnie Vander Berg

PPT

Katie DeJager

Children's Worship

Kim Greenfield, Heidi Schaver, Troy Hoffman

Sound System

Joe Bresser

Nursery

Hollie Ganz, Jenna Mulder, Adrianna Schuringa

Transportation

Bob Mulder

Ushers

Brian and Cody Van Herwaarden

Care Group	Elder	Deacon
1	Keith Buwalda (2025)	Adam Franken (2027)
2	Brian O'Donovan (2026)	Tyler Jansen (2025)
3	Bob Mulder (2025)	Adam Franken (2027)
4	Mike Vander Berg (2027)	Mitch Vree (2025)
5	Dan Scheuers (2025)	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)

Sermon Notes