

9/8/2024

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

Call to Worship

*God's Greeting

*Songs of Worship: "O Come to the Altar" "Living Waters"

God's Will for Our Lives: Colossians 3:1-4

Song of Worship: "On That Day"

Congregational Prayer

Offerings for the Local Budget and REACH Waupun

Song of Worship: "When Morning Gilds the Sky" G438:1-3, 5

*Scripture Reading: Genesis 37

Message: "Joseph—Our Father's Focus on His Family #1: God
Intervenes in a Family Crisis"

Prayer

*Song of Dedication: "Children of the Heavenly Father" G440:1-3

*Benediction

*Closing Song: "Salvation Belongs to Our God"

*Postlude

Taking part in worship today:

- Worship Leader and Sermon:
Pastor Greg Schuringa
- Accompanist: Cara Schmitt
- Worship Team: Pastor Greg; Cara Schmitt (piana); Hanna Marra (percussion); Kim Greenfield, Abby Vree (vocalists)
- Media Team: Scott Ritzema, Lois Mulder, Rachel Hoffman
- Coffee: Al and LeAnne Holden
- Children's Worship: Lyn Mulder, Sophia Schuringa, Lenny Aalsma

- Nursery: Jenna Mulder, Jessica Ten Pass, Heidi Schaver
- Transportation: Bob Mulder
- Ushers: Ryer Greenfield, Brian O'Donovan

Missionary Letters

T Schouten to Neen & Angel*
G Schuringa 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 and the month's special offering the remaining Sundays (REACH Waupun for September), 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.



	August	Fiscal YTD (7/1 to 8/31)	YTD Budget (7/1 to 8/31)	% of YTD Budget
General Fund	\$25,220.00	\$44,954.00	\$59,172.84	75.97%
Building Fund	\$505.00	\$975.00	\$5,495.00	17.74%
Classical	\$2,355.00	\$3,000.00	\$4,155.50	72.19%
Denominational	\$765.00	\$2,690.00	\$4,166.67	64.56%
Faith Promise	\$1,846.00	\$3,278.00	\$2,400.00	136.58%
Most Needed	\$5,935.00	\$7838.00	N/A	N/A
Benevolent	\$1,013.00	\$1,223.00	N/A	N/A
One Waupun (Monthly Cause)	\$1,455.00	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total *	\$41,574.00	\$78,306.00	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:

- **Brian Bresser**, knee replacement recovery and rehabilitation.
- **Keith Buwalda**, open heart surgery recovery and rehab.
- **Ray Hofman**, chemotherapy treatments.
- **Dewey Pausma**, surgery recovery.
- **Ken Ten Pas**, increased strength and other health challenges.
- **Gregg Zonnefeld**, chemotherapy treatments.

Gluten Free? If anyone needs gluten free bread for Communion, please let Lois in the church office know.

Meal Train. If you have need for meals for a time due to sickness or recovery after surgery or having a baby (or want to make sure someone else gets some meals), please contact your care group elder or deacon or the church office. A Meal Train will get set up for you, where church members can prepare meals for you and your household, whether daily for a while, or even a couple times a week—whatever is most helpful for you.

Church News

Upcoming Worship Highlights

- October 6: World Communion Sunday, Lord's Supper in Worship.
- October 13: Baptism

Sunday School and Catechism are scheduled to start on September 22. More details to come next week.

There will be a brief meeting in the lower level after the service on Sunday, September 15, for **all members who are in any way involved with the youth** of our church (Sunday School/Catechism, nursery, children's worship, youth group) to sign a Code of Ethics meeting.

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

Youth Ministry kick off is here! We're blessed to be able to announce our high school youth group mentor teams are almost full. We're still in need one more man and two more women to join the team and help mentor our high school students and lead their 10:24 small group Bible studies! Please prayerfully consider giving of your time. For more information contact Jen Vlietstra, Bryant Greenfield, or Tyler Ten Pass. Our 10:24 Small Groups are scheduled to start next week Sunday, September 15, and if we cannot find a couple more leaders, we will need to move back our small group study start.

The high school youth group kick-off is this week Wednesday, September 11, 6:30-8:00 PM @ Bryant and Liz Greenfield's, N2639 Prairie Hill Circle, Waupun. Students bring along a lawn chair and \$20 registration fee to cover the cost of our small group study materials. Parents, please check your email inbox for important youth group information, the schedule, and a Jotform link for online registration for your son/daughter to attend the Bethel/First high school youth group.

Parents, do you have a recent high school graduate?! If your son or daughter is a post high graduate within the last five years, we'd love their contact information so that we can stay in touch with them! Please email Jen Vlietstra at youth.ministry@waupunbethelcrc.com with their mailing address and cell # so that we can bless and encourage them.

Our All-Church Leadership training and seminar is this Saturday, September 14, from 8:45 – Noon on the lower level of the church building. If you are an elder or deacon or leader or teacher in Children's and Youth ministry or a Life Group leader, this is especially for you, but it's really for everyone involved and serving in all areas of First CRC Life and Ministry. Breakfast-type snacks and food will be available when you arrive and during the event. Rev. Dave Beelen will be leading us. He is a retired CRC pastor, currently working part-time at Calvin Theological Seminary in Grand Rapids, MI, and with *Coram Deo Association*, an organization in the Reformed tradition that seeks to train and multiply leaders. He will lead us in an interactive time of team building and equipping under the theme of Servant Leadership in the Church, focusing on us being Servant Leaders together at First who are 1) Committed, 2) Encouragers, and 3) SMART Planners. **You can sign up via the link or on the registration sheet in the narthex by the coffee.**

ONE Waupun Connections Breakfast: Our next ONE Waupun Connections Breakfast will be on Saturday, September 21, from 7:30 – 8:30 AM. Since this will be our first men's breakfast of the season, we are going to have a special breakfast at a different location with a live speaker. We will be meeting at the Main Street Bistro at 5 West Main Street here in Waupun. Todd Cupery will be making us something special. Be sure to join us for this wonderful free breakfast and live speaker!

Afternoon Women's Bible Study: A continued study of Genesis, The Story of God's Promises, will begin sometime in September—date to be determined.

Coffee Break Bible Study meets every Wednesday at Bethel CRC and will be starting back up on Sept. 11 at 9 AM. We will be studying the book of John. All are welcome to join!

Wednesday Evening Women's Bible Study will begin September 25 and will meet the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8:00 PM here at 1st CRC in the upper classroom. All are welcome! This fall, we will be studying *Acts: Awakening to God in Everyday Life* by Melissa Spoelstra. Whether it's because of distractions, busyness, or a case of the blahs, we can experience a drift toward indifference in our spiritual lives. We have a need for an ongoing spiritual awakening if we want to become more aware of God's presence and activity in our everyday lives. In this 6 session study, you will journey with the first followers of Jesus and witness the birth and growth of the early church through spiritual awakening to the power of God's Spirit, message, freedom, grace, mission, and direction. Contact Sarah Schuringa by September 18 to register.

Men's Bible Study led by Pastor Greg using the book *The Titus Ten: Foundations for Godly Manhood*. We plan to begin on Wednesday evening, September 25, and go forward from there to meet most 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 6:30 – 8 PM discussing a chapter of the book—and characteristic of godly manhood—each session. Pastor Greg feels younger men in particular would grow in their faith from this Bible Study, but of course men of all ages are welcome and would benefit! Please let Pastor Greg or Lois in the office know possible if you plan to join in, so we can buy enough books for everyone.

Community News

Bargains Galore is hiring a Store Manager!

If you have a passion for retail and want to make a difference in our community, this is the perfect opportunity for you. Position Responsibilities:

- Supervision and recruitment of staff and volunteers
- Management of store operations
- Financial performance
- Competitive salary based on skill and experience
- Full benefits package

Bargains Galore Thrift Store – Waupun, WI

Contact: Steve Soodsma 920-979-7095

Join our team and make a difference at Bargains Galore!

Hawaiian Luau Countdown is On!!! The list is growing daily and the plans are being finalized as we head to the *Hawaiian Luau* Central Wisconsin Christian Harvest Auction 2024. We're excited to experience a great night of fellowship and friend/fundraising. The online silent auction will open on September 15, with the live event set for Friday, September 20. Please RSVP, order your meal, or make your donations at cwcauction.com, where you can watch the list grow and see all the details. Bake sale items can be dropped off the morning of the event prior to 11 AM. **Tickets- Required this year:** RSVP only \$0 / Meal \$15 / Meal at the door \$20. Once you RSVP or order a meal ticket, we'll prepare your personalized auction packet, which will be your ticket and have you ready to roll when you arrive. Don't miss this great night—wear your Hawaiian shirts, and take along some friends as together we impact the lives of the kids.

The Pregnancy Support Center of Dodge County is hosting its Fall Benefit 2024 on Saturday, Sept. 21, at the Juneau Community Center. The doors will open at 5 PM, dinner buffet at 6 PM, consisting of pecan crusted chicken with maple brown butter compound, roast beef with demi-glace potato medley hash, glazed carrots, strawberry shortcake, chocolate cake

pops, rolls, coffee and water. Bar and silent auction close at 7 PM. There will be guest speakers and music. This is the biggest fundraiser of the year for PSCDC. Call the Center at 920-219-9305 to register or if you have questions about how you could make a donation. More information is on the table in the narthex. The tickets for this event are \$45 per individual. If you are interested in getting a ticket, please contact Bonnie Vander Berg.

The Bethel Church of Brandon Junior High Soup Supper and Cake Auction will take place on Wednesday, September 25, from 4:30 to 7:00 PM. The cake auction will start at 6:00. Carry outs available by using drive through service. Soups: chili, stuffed pepper, cheesy potato ham, chicken noodle. Come join us for a wonderful night of fellowship and great food. All proceeds will benefit the youth group.

As summer moves into fall Peniel will host the final event of the 2024 concert series. Saturday, September 14, 2024, at 6 PM is the Noson Lawen or Merry Evening of Entertainment, Rhymes, Rhythms and Recitations. Come and share your talents, be it music, dancing, or readings. Peniel is located at W9644 County Rd FF Oshkosh, WI 54904. A free will offering will be taken. Refreshments follow the program. For more information visit www.wggaw.org or call Tom White 920-922-9424.

Calendar

Today:	9:30 AM	Worship Service
Wednesday:	9:00 AM	Coffee Break at Bethel CRC
	6:30 PM	Youth Group
Saturday:	8:45 AM	Leadership Seminar
Sunday:	9:30 AM	Worship Service

Next Week

Accompanist
Marlyce Mulder

Coffee
Steve and Heidi Smits

Children's Worship
Jenna Mulder, Adrianna Schuringa,
Jonah Mulder

Nursery
Hailey Bresser, Emily Mulder, Elsa
Homan

Livestream
Randall Greenfield

PPT
Cody Van Herwaarden

Sound System
Pete Vander Werff

Transportation
Bob Mulder

Ushers
Ben Mulder, Owen Mulder

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)

O Come To The Altar

Verse 1: Are you hurting and broken within
Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin - Jesus is calling
Have you come to the end of yourself
Do you thirst for a drink from the well - Jesus is calling

Chorus: O come to the altar - The Father's arms are open wide
Forgiveness was bought with - The precious blood of Jesus Christ

Verse 2: Leave behind your regrets and mistakes
Come today there's no reason to wait - Jesus is calling
Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy
From the ashes a new life is born - Jesus is calling

Bridge: Oh, what a Savior - Isn't he wonderful - Sing alleluia Christ is risen
Bow down before him - For he is Lord of all - Sing alleluia Christ is risen

Verse 3: Bear your cross as you wait for the crown
Tell the world of the treasure you've found

CCLI Song # 7051511 - Chris Brown | Mack Brock | Steven Furtick | Wade Joye

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Living Waters

Verse 1: Are you thirsty - Are you empty - Come and drink these living waters
Tired and broken - Peace unspoken - Rest beside these living waters

Verse 2: Christ is calling - Find refreshing - At the cross of living waters
Lay your life down - All the old gone - Rise up in these living waters

Chorus: There's a river that flows - With mercy and love
Bringing joy to the city of our God - There our hope is secure
Do not fear anymore - Praise the Lord of living waters

Verse 3: Spirit moving - Mercy washing - Healing in these living waters
Lead your children - To the shoreline - Life is in these living waters

Bridge: Ooh, Ooh, Ooh, Ooh, Ooh, Ooh

Verse 4: Are you thirsty - Are you empty - Come and drink these living waters
Love forgiveness - Vast and boundless - Christ He is our living waters

Ending: There our hope is secure - Do not fear anymore
Praise the Lord of living waters

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On That Day

Verse 1: I believe in Christ risen from the dead
He now reigns victorious His kingdom knows no end
Through His resurrection death has lost its hold
I know on that final day I'll rise as Jesus rose

Chorus: On that day - We will see You shining brighter than the sun
On that day - We will know You as we lift our voice as one
'Til that day - We will praise You for Your never-ending grace
And we will keep on singing on that glorious day

Verse 2: What a blessed hope though now tired and worn
We will spend eternity around our Saviour's throne
Though we grieve our losses we grieve not in vain
For we know our crown of glory waits - Beyond the grave

Bridge: Hallelujah what a day it will be - For at home with You my joy is complete - As I run into Your arms open wide I will see
My Father who is waiting for me

Tag: My Father who is waiting for me

Tag: And we will keep on singing on that glorious day

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Salvation Belongs To Our God

Verse 1: Salvation belongs to our God - Who sits upon the throne
And unto the Lamb - Praise and glory wisdom and thanks

Honour and power and strength

Chorus: Be to our God forever and ever - Be to our God forever and ever
Be to our God forever and ever – Amen

Verse 2: And we the redeemed shall be strong - In purpose and unity
Declaring aloud - Praise and glory wisdom and thanks
Honour and power and strength

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Beginning Again with Faith, Hope and Love

Starting year 2 in Campus Ministry
Update from Evan Tinklenberg, Geneva Campus Church

Students are back on campus, and the semester begins a few days after Labor Day. This week marks the beginning of my second year in my role as Campus Pastor at Geneva Campus Church, and I'm excited for what is coming ahead this semester.

Growing in Faith

I'm convinced that robust Christian catechesis is one of the most important things I can do on campus. This means more than teaching on Christian doctrine, of course, but certainly not less. For that reason, I've decided to devote more time and energy to Theology Breakfast, building it up from a monthly 90-minute event to a biweekly 2-hour gathering for prayer, learning, and friendship. Think of it as a crash course in Christian doctrine that aims to knit together head and heart knowledge and kindle a lifelong fidelity to Jesus.

Being ready for this level of intensification is a challenge since I've bound myself to a pattern of deep study on a short timeline. But this is a challenge I aim to meet with enthusiasm and joy. It's a lot of planting and watering, and I'll trust God with the growth. One way I'm handling the increased demand on my time is by sharing the work of prep with others; rather than going to get bagels, coffee, and fruit myself each time, I've enlisted the help of several members of Geneva to provide food. This way, I'll be freed a bit to focus on the lesson and fellowship, and the food will also be *way better*.

Of all the things going on this year, I'd especially appreciate your prayers for this ministry, in two ways in particular. First, pray for the students who come — for them to invite others and to feel welcome, for them to engage thoughtfully and deeply with Scripture and the Christian tradition's meditations on it, and for them to come away more in awe of God and more wondrously grateful for what he has done in Jesus. Second, pray for me — that I would have the wisdom to focus my study on what is most beneficial for my students, that I would bring clarity and conviction to my teaching, and that I would demonstrate my love for them through hospitality and faithful catechesis.

In addition to Theology Breakfast, I'll also be participating in various Bible studies, both formally organized and ad-hoc, and I would love for this year to be one in which my overall attention to Scripture is deepened and enriched for both my own sake and the students. In other words, I'm praying for greater correspondence between *input* and *output* (a perennial temptation for campus ministers is to let the latter run the show).

Growing in Hope

If all theology is is another academic discipline to which students are encouraged to devote time and energy; if the highest good of such a discipline is cognitive mastery (or, more commonly, a passing grade); if, in short, theology is reduced to faith's *content* (in the same way social media influencers produce *content*), then it is in vain. What is more, I won't have anyone's attention for very long. That is why I'm marrying theory and practice intentionally this year by centering monthly student lunches (hosted at various Geneva members' homes) on crafting a rule of life.



If my students come away from their time at UW-Madison not having a solid grasp of what Christians believe, that would be a significant disappointment to me. Yet, even more significant would be my disappointment if they don't even know how to *live* like a Christian! A rule of life, then, is one way for them to inhabit the Christian tradition self-consciously, in tangible ways, that will open them up to real flourishing.

The pilgrimage that such self-conscious habitation sets you on isn't an individual affair, however. It puts you in the path of other people quite intentionally and regularly. To foster a culture of vulnerability and genuine community, I'm making myself available for "office hours" at regular intervals throughout the week. It's a time for students to run into me on accident or on purpose, to bring up weighty things they need pastoral guidance on — or just chat about whatever they would like. In doing this, I aim to reinforce that they never have to walk the pilgrimage of faith alone. They are of course finally responsible for their own faithfulness, but they are invited always to share that burden with those around them.

Pray for students to feel free enough to open up, both at office hours and at student lunches, and not just opened up to me or other Christians, but to God and his Spirit at work in them. Pray for these moments to be particularly available for the Spirit's gifts, and for the students to be receptive to them.

Growing in Love

All this is directed to what Jesus calls the greatest commandment: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength...[and] love your neighbor as yourself" (Mark 12:30-31). Faith and Hope have their place, but their ultimate End (*telos*) is Love.

Sermon Notes