First Christian Reformed Church



We welcome our guests and hope that you will be blessed by worshiping 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 Facebook and later from our website as well as view the bulletin there. 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.



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

*Advent Song: "O Shepherd, Hear and Lead Your Flock"

*God's Greeting

*Songs of Worship: "He Shall Reign Forevermore"

"Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)"

God's Will for Our Lives (G1017)

Congregational Prayer by Elder Bob Mulder

Offering: Local Budget and Operation Christmas Child

"What Child is This" R281

Profession of Our Faith (Lord's Day 14)

Children ages 3-6 are invited to Children's Worship at this time

*Scripture: Ruth 3

Message: "Ruth Revealed #5: Embracing the Redeemer"

Prayer

*Song of Response: "Sing We Now of Christmas" R275

*Benediction

*Doxology: "Advent Doxology"

*Postlude

Taking part in worship today:

- Worship Leader and Sermon:
 Pastor Greg Schuringa
- Advent Participants: Life Group #2, Randall and Kim Greenfield
- Accompanist: Marlyce Mulder
- Piano and Vocals: Cara Schmitt
- Vocalists: Aubryn DeJager, Kim Greenfield, Josie Venhuizen
- Media Team: Tyler Ten Pass, Carter Slings, Gregg Zonnefeld
- · Coffee: Kim Greenfield

- Children's Worship: Arent Venhuizen, Emma Hoffman, Kolten Buwalda
- Nursery: Hailey Wagner, Becca Vree, Troy Hoffman
- Ushers: Arent Venhuizen, Neil Venhuizen

Missionary Letters

R Buwalda to Neen*
N Coda 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 month's special offering (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 go to our website and click on "Give" at the top of the page. Please talk to a deacon if you want more information about giving to First CRC.

November Giving Report

- Total Regular Offerings: \$37,854.91, for all funds and organizations as designated
- Amount for Monthly Cause (Waupun Food Pantry): \$1,801.26, not including amounts collected on Thanksgiving
- Special Thanksgiving Offering: \$18,153.00

Our Family

As you pray this week, please remember the following:

- Harold Greenfield, Kathy Kamphuis, Larry Pluim, and Laura Ten Pass, all dealing with cancer.
- Lori Venhuizen, recovery after surgery on Wednesday.

Church News

Upcoming Dates

- December 18, 9:30 AM: Advent #4, Ruth series, Children's Christmas Program, no Sunday School. There will be catechism for 11th and 12th graders.
- December 25, 9:30 AM Christmas Day Worship, no Sunday School or Catechism
- January 1, 9:30 AM New Year's Worship with Al Venhuizen preaching, no Sunday School or Catechism

If you are planning on completing the Organ Survey, either online or on paper, please complete it by Monday, Dec. 12.

First CRC will be ringing the **Salvation Army Bell** at Piggly Wiggly again this year on Dec. 16 and 17. Please contact Arky Navis (920-324-2859) if

you are willing to cover a two-hour slot between 10 AM and 6 PM either of those days.

Anyone interested in taking the Profession of Faith class please reach out to Scott Ritzema and let him know so materials can be ordered. We will start after the first of the year. This is open for any and all ages. I'm excited for our body to continue to grow and mature in our faith!

We are still in need of adults to help with the **SWaT middle school youth group**. SWaT only meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month. Do you have just a couple of hours a month to spend time with these youth? **Please consider** helping with this important ministry.

Amazon Shoppers: We have an **Amazon Smile account** for the church. This means that when you choose us as your charity Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible smile.amazon.com purchases to First CRC!

Young Couples Gathering: Pastor Greg and Sarah plan to host a get together for couples in their 20s and 30s on Friday, January 13. Please reserve that evening and plan on joining us!

Starting January 4, a **women's study of The Gospel of John** by Dr David Jeremiah will begin. We will be meeting the first and third Wednesday afternoons at 1:00. If interested, please contact either Linda Pausma or Sue Buwalda by Dec. 12, so we can get the materials ordered and handed out on time.

SWaT will be celebrating Christmas at their meeting this week Wednesday, Dec. 14, at Bethel CRC from 6:30-8:00 PM. If you have an ugly Christmas sweater or fun Christmas clothing/accessories, feel free to wear it if you'd like. We will be serving pizza, playing games and have a \$5 gift exchange. If you would like to volunteer to bring beverages or Christmas goodies, the SignUp Genius link is:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080b45afad28a1f49-swat

High school youth group will be celebrating Christmas at their meeting this week Wednesday, Dec. 14, at First CRC from 6:30-8:30 PM. We'd love to see your Christmas cheer if you'd like to wear an ugly Christmas sweater or cheesy Christmas accessories/clothes. We will be serving pizza, playing games and have a White Elephant gift exchange. If you would like to donate Christmas goodies or beverages for the evening, the SignUp Genius link is: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080b45afad28a1f49-bethelfirst

Community News

Central Wisconsin Christian Middle School & High School Christmas Concert: Start your Christmas celebrations with us! The Middle School and High School bands and choirs, along with the New Generation Singers will begin our Christmas celebration on Monday, Dec. 12. The concert is held in the Crusader Centre and begins at 6:30 PM.

CWC Elementary Christmas Program: Our elementary students are working hard on preparing their Christmas Program! We will be sharing 'The Christmas Story" with musical arrangements by Teresa & Paul Jennings on Tuesday, December 20, at 9:00 AM and 6:30 PM. Please come to whichever time works best for you. We look forward to seeing you and sharing our music with you!

Waupun Churches Ecumenical Festival of Seven Lessons and Carols. We are invited to a special Christmas service with other congregations in Waupun TODAY at 5 PM in the City Hall Auditorium. It will be a time of Scripture readings and song.

The Community Table is in urgent need of church groups, clubs, small groups, or even families to provide a meal on Fridays from 11-1. Presently, no one is signed up for any Fridays in 2023. Please help us provide this service to our deserving community members. To sign up for a week or two, call Terri Respalje at 920-324-4000 between 9 and 3:00, Monday-Thursdays. For information about numbers to prepare for or any other questions, call Ron Schaalma at 920-948-8069.

"The Voices of Christmas" Candlelight Carol Service: All are invited to a special time of worship by candlelight at Second Christian Reformed Church in Randolph this evening at 6:30 PM. Through song and original monologues by Lakeisha Heeringa, we will enter the experience of Abraham, Elizabeth, Mary, Joseph and more. We'll meet at the manger and worship our newborn King. Hot cocoa bar to follow.

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 Sunday, Dec. 25. To allow for ongoing COVID concerns, we will serve buffet style and seating will be spaced for safety. We will serve at 11:30 AM and 12:45 PM. Please call 920-928-3310 for reservations...and state which time slot you want to attend. There is no charge for the dinner.

Calendar

Today: 9:30 AM Worship Service

10:45 AM Sunday School and Catechism

Wednesday: 9:00 AM Coffee Break at Bethel CRC

6:30 PM SWaT Christmas Party @ Bethel CRC6:30 PM Youth Group Christmas Party @ First CRC

Sunday: 8:30 AM 11th/12th Grade Catechism

9:30 AM Worship Service

Next Week

Accompanist Livestream

Cara Schmitt Jake Vander Werff

Children's Worship PPT

Emily Mulder, Cassidy Ritzema, Katie DeJager

Jonah Mulder

Coffee Scott Ritzema

Bob and Michelle Mulder

Ushers

Nursery Brad Schouten, Tom Jonker

Casey Homan, Phylicia Coda,

Heidi Schaver

Group	<u>Elder</u>	<u>Deacon</u>
1	Keith Buwalda (2025)	Todd Schouten (2024)
2	Denny Vande Berg (2023)	Tyler Jansen (2025)
3	Bob Mulder (2025)	Todd Schouten (2024)
4	George Aalsma (2024)	Mitch Vree (2025)
5	Dan Scheuers (2025)	Tyler Jansen (2025)
6	Steve Smits (2023)	Noah Mulder (2023)
7	Ben Homan (2023)	Pete Vander Werff (2023)
8	Ray Hofman (2024)	Tyler Ten Pass (2024)

Honor God Serve Others Transform Lives



O Shepherd Hear And Lead Your Flock

Verse 1: O Shepherd hear and lead your flock - As lambs we crave your care What strength on earth approaches yours - What mercies can compare Restore O God your favor - The radiance of your face

To lighten and reveal the gift - Of your redeeming grace

Verse 2: Our selfish prayers deserve God's wrath - Our pride a sudden burst We have but stones to serve as bread - And tears to quell our thirst Restore O God Almighty - The radiance of your face To lighten and reveal the gift - Of your redeeming grace

Verse 3: God's lineage like a vine once spread - And flourished in the land But now the vineyard fails the fruit - Lies withered in the sand Restore LORD God Almighty - The radiance of your face To lighten and reveal the gift - Of your redeeming grace

CCLI Song # 5978036
Michael Morgan
hurch In North America)

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He Shall Reign Forevermore

Verse 1: In the bleak mid-winter - All creation groans For a world in darkness - Frozen like a stone Light is breaking - In a stable for a throne

Chorus: (And) He shall reign forevermore forevermore And He shall reign forevermore forevermore Unto us a Child is born - The King of kings and Lord of lords And He shall reign forevermore forevermore

Verse 2: If I were a wise man - I would travel far If I were a shepherd - I would do my part But poor as I am - I will give to Him my heart

Bridge: Here within a manger lies the One - Who made the starry skies This baby born for sacrifice - Christ the Messiah Into our hopes into our fears - The Savior of the world appears The promise of eternal years - Christ the Messiah

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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
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Advent Doxology (Tune of "Angels We Have Heard on High")
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! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Sermon Notes