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: "Come O Redeemer Come"

*God's Greeting

*Song of Worship: "Christmas Offering"

Congregational Prayer

Children's Christmas Program

Offering: Local Budget and Operation Christmas Child

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" G353

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

*Scripture: Ruth 4

Message: "Ruth Revealed #6: The Essence of Covenant Faithfulness"

Prayer

*Song of Response: "How Great Our Joy" R269:1-2

*Benediction

*Doxology: "Silent Night! Holy Night!" G344:1, 3

*Postlude

Taking part in worship today:

- Worship Leader and Sermon:
 Pastor Greg Schuringa
- Advent Participants: Life Group #4, Joe and Hailey Bresser
- Violin Prelude: Aubryn DeJager, Nikki Durni, Adrianna Schuringa
- Accompanist and Vocals: Cara Schmitt
- Media Team: Scott Ritzema, Katie DeJager, Jake Vander Werff

- Coffee: Bob and Michelle Mulder
- Children's Worship: Emily Mulder, Cassidy Ritzema, Jonah Mulder
- Ushers: Brad Schouten, Tom Jonker

Missionary Letters

G DeJager to Neen
J DeJager 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.

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.

Pastor Greg and Sarah will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary on Tuesday, Dec. 20. The congregation has recognized them with a gift certificate to the Fireside Dinner Theatre. Please join us in congratulating them! "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." I Cor. 13:13.

A Huge "Thank You" to Nikki Durni and Lyn Mulder for directing the Children's Christmas Program!

Church News

Upcoming Dates

- 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

There is no Sunday School or catechism after the service today.

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.

If you submitted a receipt to Keren Derksen for dish soap and coffee and wonder why you haven't received a check, please talk to her. There was no name on the receipt. Thank you.

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!

There will be no specific church office hours for the next three weeks. Please feel free to reach out to Lois if you have any questions or need to get into church.

Reminder to all committees and life groups: If you are meeting at church, please make sure to let Lois know so it is on the calendar and we don't have more than one group planning to use the basement.

Community News

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!

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, Monday-Thursdays. For information about numbers to prepare for or any other questions, call Ron Schaalma at 920-948-8069.

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.

<u>Calendar</u>

Today: 9:30 AM Worship Service

Wednesday: 9:00 AM Coffee Break at Bethel CRC

Sunday: 9:30 AM Worship Service

Next Week

Accompanist

Laura Ten Pass

Coffee

Karen Aalsma

Nursery

Emily Mulder, Kaytlin Smits, Kolten Buwalda

Livestream

Mike Vander Berg

PPT

Lois Mulder

Sound System

Pete Vander Werff

Ushers

Brian O'Donovan, Gene Hofman

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



Come Oh Redeemer Come

Chorus: Come oh Redeemer come - Grant us mercy

Come oh Redeemer come - Grant us peace

Verse 1: Father enthroned on high - Holy holy

Ancient eternal light - Hear our prayer

Verse 2: Lord save us from the dark - Of our striving faithless

And troubled hearts - Weighed down

Verse 3: Look now upon our need - Lord be with us

Heal us and make us free - From our sin

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Christmas Offering

Verse 1: Over the skies of Bethlehem appeared a star
While angels sang to lowly shepherds
Three 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 1: 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

Chorus 2: We bring an offering of worship to our King No one on earth deserves the praises that we sing Jesus may You receive the honor that You're due Oh Lord we bring an offering to You

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Paul Baloche
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Sermon Notes