

December 31, 2023

Morning Worship

GATHER

Prelude

Welcome and Call to Worship

*Song: **How Great Our Joy vs 1-4**

*God's Greeting

*Song: **Angels from the Realms of Glory vs 1, 4 & 5**

RENEWAL

God's Will For Our Lives

Song: **O Sing a Song of Bethlehem vs 1 & 4**

Congregational Prayer

*Song: **O Little Town of Bethlehem vs 1, 3 & 4**

WORD

Scripture: *Micah 5: 1-5*

Message: ***Little is Much When God Is In It***

Prayer

SENT

*Benediction

*Song: **A Birthday of a King vs 1-2**

*Postlude and Christian Fellowship

Guest Pastor: Rev. Jeff McCleary

Accompanist: Kim Byker

Welcome!

*If you have a prayer request or you would like to know more about us, please fill out the Welcome Card and place in one of the Connection boxes as you leave the sanctuary.
To view our services online go to: firstcrchudsonville.org and click the link at the top of the page.*

THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Micah 5:1-5 Message: ***Little Is Much When God Is In It*** Join us as Guest Pastor Rev. Jeff McCleary leads us in worship. God often uses the humble, little noticed things and people of this world to do extraordinary things according to His purposes. Although we don't typically view ourselves as special, could it be that God might use us to accomplish significant things for Him?
Offering: First CRC Kids Hope

PM: 1 Timothy 1: 12-17 Message: ***A Year of Grace and Patience*** Guest Pastor Rev. Tom Pettinga leads us as we conclude 2023. Paul's testimony demonstrated the way God in Jesus Christ deals with sinners like us - all is by his underserved, "poured out" grace and with his "unlimited patience." He came into the world to save sinners with that grace and patience. The question arises: Do I really trust that he is still being patient with me and that his grace is enough for a rebel like me? Will I exercise grace and patience with the people around me in the coming days with all the turmoil in the world? What will it look like if we mimic God in Christ with that grace and patience?
Offering: Starlight Ministries

NEXT WEEK:

AM: Psalm 23 Series: Directionally Challenged Message: ***He Leads Me*** Life is often compared to a journey, filled with twists, turns, and crossroads. At times we feel uncertain of the path ahead or we wrestle with the choices we need to make. In this 4 part sermon series, we'll find God's Word to be our essential guide for decision-making and discernment.
Offering: Faith Promise

PM: Matthew 6: 25-34 Series: Directionally Challenged Message: ***God's Will and My Worry*** Our evening message next Sunday will be part 2 of this 4-part series on discernment and decision-making. Special Musical Guests: The Dordt University Orchestra
Offering: Dordt University Orchestra

Evening offerings for the month of **December** will go to Starlight Ministries.
Evening offerings for the month of **January** will go to Degage.
Offerings may be placed in the boxes located at the sanctuary entrances.

*Congregation stands if able

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Dave will be on vacation December 26- January 1. If you have any pastoral needs, please contact your Care Group Elder.

Use of Church Facilities - Outside of regularly scheduled meetings (i.e. Cadets, GEMS, Pop!, Bible studies) please be sure to contact Betty Velderman. Even if it's a quick meeting, she needs to know so you don't interfere with other group meetings and for cleaning purposes. Thanks - Council.

Sunday Adult Education on the book of 1 Peter will NOT meet December 24 or December 31.

Are you 20-35 years old? We are trying to start a young adult group for both singles and married couples and are looking for people to join and or help start it up! There will be a meeting on January 7 after the morning service in Pastor Dave's office to help get ideas and kick start this opportunity! If you have any ideas of what you would like to see in a young adult group or would like to help start it please come to this meeting or contact Alyssa Horstman at (616) 581-0544

The church website has a new look! Please contact Cheri Huisman if you have any issues with using the site.

South Elementary Support - We will, again, be collecting snacks for South Elementary students. Please purchase individually wrapped items (granola bars, small bags of pretzels/cookies/crackers, fruit and grain bars, cracker and cheese packs) and place them in the labeled tote in the foyer. Contact Cheri Huisman with questions.

Save the Date! The next Euchre game night will take place on January 20. Sign up sheet and more info coming soon!

December Missionary Highlight:

Ray and Angie DeLange, Church Planting Catalysts with East-West Ministries

Prayer Items:

- Pray that Angie finds relief from her back pain.
- Pray for physical and spiritual protection for the students and staff at Pars Theological Centre.
- Pray for the Middle Eastern people group to whom the DeLanges are ministering.

Nursery: The Nursery is open for morning services.

This Week: Andrea Matthyse, Cheryl Brouwer, Evie Hoezee

Next Sunday: Kelsey Brouwer, Alissa Stuive, Natalie Groenendyk

Ushers for December:

AM: Dave Aukeman, Andrew Bard, Zac Byker, Alan Groenendyk

PM: Dan Helms, Dan Los, Cal Palmbos

Ushers for January:

AM: Jeremy Matthyse, Ron Moelker, Mike Krikke, Tony Cadahia

PM: Eric Laansma, Andrew Power, Ray Ponstein

Coffee Server: This Week: Jo Victory

Next Week: Judy Ponstein

PRAYING FOR EACH OTHER

Concerns and Praises:

- **Mentors and students of Kids Hope** as they navigate this holiday break and the change in routine being out of school.
 - **Prayers of comfort** for all those who are feeling lonely or isolated this holiday season.
- Shut-ins: Wilma Johnson, Juliana DeYoung, Gert Holwerda, Arlene Krikke.**

If you have any needs or prayer requests, please contact your Care Group Elder/Deacon or Pastor Dave.

Our Prayer Coordinator, Tammy Schnyders, produces a monthly prayer sheet, "Partners in Prayer", sends out prayer emails, and regularly updates the Praise and Prayer Line [669.5548]. If you have a prayer need contact Pastor Dave, your Care Group Elder, or Tammy Schnyders.

Dear Church Family, I want to thank you for all your love and prayer support the last few months. Thanks for the food, visits, texts and phone calls. Your love and genuine care is very overwhelming. You have been such a blessing in our life. Thanks, **Mic Jurgens**.

FROM THE DENOMINATION

Kids Corner: Big Plans - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Do you like to make plans? By making plans, you can be excited about what's coming and anticipate what you may need to prepare. But did you know God has made even bigger plans for you? Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like KC's The Bible in One Year Plan.

COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS

Unity Christian High School has several teaching positions open for the 2024-25 academic year. If you or someone you know is looking for a new teaching opportunity, please visit Unity's website (www.unitychristian.org/connect/EmploymentOpportunities) for more details and instructions on how to apply. Positions available are: Full time – Science, Spanish, STEM; Part time – Industrial Arts, Art.

The Dordt University Chamber Orchestra from Sioux Center, Iowa, invites you to a concert at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 6, 2024, at the Central Reformed Church in Grand Rapids. This free concert is part of a winter tour with performances scheduled in Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, and Iowa. Under the baton of Associate Professor of Music and Director of Instrumental Activities Dr. Onsby C. Rose, the Dordt University Chamber Orchestra will perform a wide variety of repertoire ranging from the Romantic era with Tchaikovsky's *Serenade for Strings*, to music by living composers, such as *Only Light* by Minnesota native Aaron Perrine. Join us for an evening of music for the Glory of God! The concert is free, with a freewill offering received to help defray tour expenses.

FROM LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

Bilingual Volunteer Needed as Teacher/Liaison The Life Skills Program at Love Your Neighbor is a highly effective program for transforming the lives of families and individuals who are eagerly trying to overcome financial difficulties. To allow more community members into the program, we are seeking a bilingual (Spanish/English) speaking individual who can teach an 8-week, financial literacy class and walk along with a Spanish-speaking family as they navigate through the program.

- Monday nights for two hours, for 8 weeks, starting January 8, 2024.
- Class materials are provided and available in Spanish and English
- The location will be the Pinewood Elementary School in Jenison For more information, please contact Brian or Emile at 616-662-3300 or email brianh@lovewm.org

December 31, 2023 - Evening Service

GATHER

Prelude

Welcome and Call to Worship

*Songs: **O Come, O Come Immanuel vs 1, 2, 4 & 7**

*God's Greeting

*Confession of Faith: Titus 3: 3-8

*Song: **Good Christian Friends Rejoice vs 1-3**

PRAYER

Congregational Prayer

Song: **Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise vs 1-4**

WORD

Scripture: *I Timothy 1: 12-17*

Message: **A Year of Grace and Patience**

Prayer

SENT

*Benediction

*Song: **Before the Throne of God Above vs 1-3**

*Postlude and Christian Fellowship

Guest Pastor: Rev. Tom Pettinga

Pianists: Tonia Westmaas and Idelle Wagner

*Congregation stands if able