

Church Calendar for week of: Dec. 31 – Jan.7, 2018

Sunday ~ December 31st, Pastor Bret Lamsma is preaching; offering is for Benevolence, CIW and Sunday School on Break.

Monday ~ January 1 ~ No services, office is closed.

Tuesday ~ January 2 ~ Holiday Break, office is closed.

Wednesday ~ January 3 ~ Coffee Break is on Winter Break

Thursday ~ January 4

9:00am – Sew & Sews Sewing Group in Room 12/13

Friday ~ January 5: Library ladies.

Saturday ~ January 6 ~

7:00am - Men’s Bible Study in Room 21,

8-12noon - Classical Conversations

Sunday ~ January 7 – Intergenerational Sunday School!

11:30-1:30pm: Grow Group Sunday

Thank you to all serving this Sunday, December 31st 9:30am

Children in Worship: on Winter Break

Nursery: Charys Youngsma, Roger Van Den Boogaard, Josh Youngsma, Owen Vermeer

Prayer Ministry Elders: Ed Schans & Sheri DeHaan

Coffee: Schans/DenBraber

Thank you to all serving next Sunday, January 7th 9:30am

Children in Worship: Allie Christians, Carter Sanderson, Annika DeBoer & Marissa Bol

Nursery: Davinia Lyon, Micah DenBraber, Keith & Erica Bol

Prayer Ministry Elders: Cyndi Berghuis & Cal Van Heukelem

Coffee: VanderArk

Happy New Year to our guests and visitors. We are so glad you chose to worship with us today. Elders are available up front to answer questions and pray. Coffee, Tea and fellowship are served in the foyer! If you are interested in learning more about membership, or the Christian Reformed Church, please contact Bret@firstcrdenver.org.

Grow Group Sunday, January 7, 2018 –

As you look back at the last year or so, how have you seen God’s faithfulness in your life in times of:

- Celebration or Gratitude...
- Loss, Lament or Failure...
- Surprise or Transition...

Grow Group Meal Locations for January 7th:

GG #1 Newcombe’s Home – 2158 South Clarkson, 80210

GG #2 To Be Determined

GG #3 Van Heukelem’s Home – 2319 South Columbine St., 80210

GG #4 First Church – 1814 South Emerson St, 80210

GG #5 Van Andel’s Home – 2935 South Akron St., 80231

GG #6 Ed & Kay Schan’s Home – 9801 South Johnson St., 80127

Next Grow Group: February 11th

March 25th

May 8th - **All Church Picnic Celebration**

Sermon Notes:

First Christian Reformed Church: 1814 South Emerson Street

Email: connections@firstcrdenver.org #303.733.4936

Church Office Hours: Tuesday ~ Friday 9:00am to 3:00pm

Address: 1814 South Emerson Street, Denver, CO 80210

Pastor Joel Schreurs: Minister of the Word ext. 101

Shirley Van Heukelem: Programs & Office Admin. ext. 104

Kyle Cooper: Worship Coordinator ext. 103

Bret Lamsma: Director of Faith Formation ext. 105

Larry Young: Custodial & facilities #303-582-4039

Rebecca J. Schaefer: Communications & Admin. ext. 102



**Order of Worship
Worshipping in the New Year
December 31, 2017**

Gathering

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Processional

Call to Worship

God is here! **The Messiah has come!**

We open our eyes to see Him and lift our hearts to worship Him.

We have come to exalt the name of Jesus, our Savior and King, and to bring glory to God the Father.

In our worship we demonstrate the mind of Christ in declaring to God that He is the supreme authority in our lives.

We bow before Him in submission to our Lord and King.

Come, worship the Lord!

*Songs:

Angels from the Realms of Glory LUYH 81 (verses 1,4,5)

Hark the Herald Angels Sing LUYH 80

*Prayer:

All glory to You, great God,
for the gift of Your Son,
light in darkness and hope of the world,
whom You sent to save us.

With singing angels
let us praise Your name
and tell the earth His story,
that all may believe, rejoice, and bow down,
acknowledging Your love
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Song: *Of the Father’s Love Begotten* LUYH 78 (verses 1,2,4,5)

*God’s Greeting

Renewal

Call to Confession

Today we celebrate that Jesus, Our Lord, came to earth as a human, just like us but without sin. He came so that we who sin may be freed from sin. With the peace that comes from knowing Jesus came, let us confess our sins and be forgiven.

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared His holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God. People of God, through the coming of Jesus Christ, whose birth we celebrate, the Lord has comforted and redeemed us too! In Christ we receive the salvation of our God.
Glory to God in the highest!

Song of Assurance: *What Child Is This* LUYH 95

Offering: Benevolence

Offertory

Prayer for Intercession and Gratitude

Word

Scripture: Luke 2:21-40

Sermon: *What Are You Waiting For?*

DFF Pastor Bret Lamsma

*Song of Response: *As With Gladness Men of Old* LUYH 105 (Verses 1,3,4)

Sending

*Sending:

Almighty God, You have poured upon us the new light of Your incarnate Word:
Grant that this light may shine forth in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.

*Sending Song: *Good Christian Friends Rejoice* LUYH 98

*Blessing

*Postlude

Minister of The Word: Pastor Joel Schreurs
Director of Faith Formation: Rev. Bret Lamsma
Worship Coordinator: Kyle Cooper; First CRC Band
Accompanists: Barb Hogan, Jack Waanders

First CRC has a group of women that faithfully and confidentially pray for your requests. If you are in need of prayer support, email Cyndi Berghuis at Cyndi@firstcrcdenver.org, or Marj at mddeboer@juno.com.

Stephen Ministers are also available for distinctively, confidential Christian care. Contact Beth P. #303.947.1085 for more information.

Prayer and Care for God's People:

Rejoice with **Russ and Judy** in the good news that the recent PET scan was characterized as *stable with slight Improvement*. That means no change to our current regime of an infusion every three weeks and even more importantly, no additional chemicals need to be added to the infusion. Thanks to everyone for the prayers and the cards of encouragement. They are so important to us!! *The DenBrabers*

We pray for several **members having breathing difficulties**, as well as those with heart and lung issues. We ask for healing and abundant health.

Miriam Zoetewey is scheduled for knee surgery on January 8th. Please pray for successful surgery, and good wisdom for her doctors.

We are grateful that those hospitalized during Christmas are now recovering at home. **Joy Smit** has returned home and continues to do well following a seizure. **Ariadne Soodsma** continues to recuperate at home. Thank you for the prayer care, cards and spiritual support.

Please pray for physical, spiritual and emotional healing for **Daniel** and **Joseph** (First church member's sons), and ask for true forgiveness and reconciliation of family relationships.

We pray for the Van Heukelem family as they await the arrival of their newest grand child. We ask for smooth and safe delivery, with good rest for mom, dad and baby.

The First Church staff would like to extend a heart-felt thank you for: *blanket*, cookies, cards, gift certificates, popcorn, candy and holiday treats!

Current Events & Activities

January Series 2018 - Coming this January to Denver Christian School. For the 31st year, Calvin College presents the 2018 January Series This year the series begins on **January 3rd** and continues weekdays through **January 23rd from 10:30 – 11:30 p.m. MT.** with topics ranging from millennials and faith to restorative justice, confident pluralism, radical generosity and so much more by top experts in their fields. Thousands in west Michigan will join us on Calvin's campus for the daily lectures, others will join the conversation by watching the live feed at more than 50 remote webcast, while others will listen online. For more information about the speakers, topics, remote sites and listening options, visit our website at www.calvin.edu/january. Please note: Denver Christian School is our Denver area host this year.

Our new Adult Faith Formation Class will begin on January 14.

The class is entitled "Live Justly" and focuses on issues surrounding social justice in our world. The curriculum was jointly put together by World Renew and Micah Challenge and involves video and discussion books. Please sign up in the back of church so that we have an idea of how many books to buy. If you have any questions please contact Pastor Bret.

Scheduling of Events:

The office is getting some requests for use of our building. In order to better assess each request, we would really like to get your church activities booked into the 2018 Calendar first. Please send your 2018 ministry, meeting and activity schedules to: connections@firstcrcdenver.org as soon as possible. *Thank you!*

Opportunities to Help and Serve:

Coffee Serving Team: The new **2018 coffee serving** schedule was in your mailboxes this past week. Please take a look at the dates, and let the office know if you are available for the days scheduled. We already have a few edits, so changes will be incorporated and a final 2018 will be circulated. Please check your contact number to be sure we have this listed correctly.

We are looking for a little more help on this team, so *invite someone to serve coffee with you* to see if they might like to join the Hospitality team. This is a wonderful, simple way to serve, welcome a stranger and support our staff. Call #303-733-4936 Tuesday -Friday.

Thank you for baking Christmas Cookies Magnify & for serving them, Julie Lamsma! They were delicious.

Cascade of Hope Community Resource Center invites you to help teach ESL, Citizenship or computer literacy Wednesday or Thursday evenings January 17-March 22. See the flyer in your box today for details. No experience necessary.

Year End Giving

The deacons would like to thank you for your support of 1st Church. At this point we are about \$46,000 below budgeted expectations. As you plan your year-end giving, please consider a gift to the 1st CRC General Fund. Thank you!

Over Christmas...

Found: Purple glasses in the Sanctuary.
Lost: Opal ring likely outside near church.
Please contact the office #303.733.4936.
Check the lost and found behind the Library for your missing items.

Roll Call 2017

Installation of...

DFF Bret Lamsma 2/26/17

The Baptisms of...

Anneke Van Vliet 3/12/17

Mayli Ruter 4/02/17

The passing away of...

Ruth Vanden Broeke 3/17/17

Joanna Pearson 6/01/17

Ruth Lameris 8/16/17

Ron Zoetewey 8/11/17

Jack Vente 9/15/17

Roland Buteyn 11/17/17

Jean Natelborg 12/07/17
