

Church Calendar for the week of:

Please send the office your ministry schedule of meetings for 2017, so we can update our office calendar and web-site information.

January 1, 2017 ~ New Year's Day

Donut Sunday ~ New Year's Day morning Service at 9:30am

Chaplain William Jensen is preaching; No regularly scheduled programs

Monday ~ January 2

Offices are closed

Tuesday ~ January 3

1:00pm ~ Staff Meeting

7:00pm ~ Elder's Meeting

Wednesday ~ January 4: Family Night on Winter Break

No Ladies am Bible Study today

10:30am ~ January Series begins at Denver Christian

Thursday ~ January 5

9:00am ~ Sew and Sews sewing group in Rooms 12/13

Friday ~ January 6

9:00am - Library Ladies

Saturday ~ January 7

7:00am ~ Men's Bible Study

Sunday ~ January 8, 2017

Grow Groups Meet today! Check easels in the Foyer for locations.

Donuts for a Dollar on New Year's Day! Start the year off with a *melt-in-your mouth* donut; provide Spring planting supplies for The Table Ministry.

Welcome to all of our visitors and guests! Please fill out a *Connect Card* found in the pews. Children's Bulletins called *Sweet Rewards* are available in back for kids to draw on, and return for a surprise. Elders are up front and would be honored to pray with you, or answer any questions. Fair trade coffee and hot tea are ready for you in the back of the church.

Thank you to all serving January 1, New Year's Day 2017

Nursery: Allie Christians, Lea Gunnett, Lynn Roberts, Logan Posthumus, Micah Den Braber

CIW: On Break

Prayer Ministry Elders: Cyndi Berghuis & Rick Schmitt

Coffee: Vander Ark

Lord's Supper Prep & DVD Delivery: **Grow Group 1**

Thank you to all serving next Sunday, January 8th

Nursery: Jill Schreurs, Dave Cady, Jevon van Vliet, Hannah De Boer, Denali Schmitt

CIW: Samuel, Samuel! Christine Nibbelink, Andy Van den Boogaard, Torre Blohm

Prayer Ministry Elders: Ed Schans & Sheri DeHaan

Coffee: Van Heukelem/Schaefer

Lord's Supper Prep & DVD Delivery: **Grow Group 1**

2017 January Series - Coming in January for the 30th year, Calvin College presents the 2017 January Series – the award-winning free liberal arts education begins on **Wednesday, January 4 and continues through January 24 at 10:30 MT** with topics ranging from re-imagining healthcare, closing the gender gap in technology, global poverty and violence, vocation and calling, race and reconciliation and so much more, by top experts in their fields. **Denver Christian School will once again host** the live feed webcast. For more information about the speakers, topics, remote sites and listening options visit our website at www.calvin.edu/january.

Available Free in the Digital Library - "*Signs & Wonders*" is available free to all in the CRC through the Digital Library (crcna.org/Library). This book reexamines biblical teaching on the work of the Holy Spirit, with respect to such gifts as speaking in tongues, miraculous healing, and spiritual warfare.

Missions News

Walt and Carol Ackerman, with Sharon Engel, will be headed to Livingstone Parish (near Baton Rouge, LA) for a World Renew Assessment, training and evaluation. Please hold them in your prayers for safety and guidance from the Holy Trinity.

Grow Group News

We will start the new year out NEXT WEEK, **January 8, 2017**, with our Grow Group UP/IN meal and fellowship time. The location of each Grow Group meeting place is listed below:

1. **Berghuis/Bol** Grow Group - Newcombe's home, 2158 S. Clarkson Street, Denver 80210
2. **Waanders/Lighthiser** Grow Group - Van Heukelem's home, 2319 S. Columbine St., Denver 80210
3. **DenBraber/Buteyn** - Eric DenBraber's home, 7337 S. Platte Canyon Drive, Littleton, 80128
4. **Schmitt/VandenBoogaard** - Pit Stop garage, directly south of church building, 1826 S. Emerson St., Denver 80210
5. **DeHaan/Van Andel** - Rooms 12/13 in the church basement
6. **Schans/Nibbelink** - Fellowship Hall in the church basement

Your elder/deacon team will contact you directly with specific instructions. Which Grow Group you are in? Contact Shirley@firstcrdenver.org.

Sunday School & Family Night Schedule

Mark your Calendars: Age-specific Sunday School will begin again on **January 15** and Family Night will start up again on **January 11**.

First Christian Reformed Church

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

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

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



***Celebrating, Seeking, Sharing
abundant life in Jesus...***

**Order of Worship
January 1, 2017**

We Gather Together

Prelude and Processional: *I Will Look Up*

Welcome Chaplain William Jensen

Call to Worship

*Songs:

Joy to the World LUYH 92 verses 1,2,4

Once In Royal David's City LUYH 87 verses 1-4

*God's Greeting and Mutual Greeting

We Look Back and See That You Are Faithful

Offering: General Fund

Offertory: *I Will Look Up*

Offertory Prayer

Message, Reflection, Prayer: *Difficulties of the Past*

Song: *When Peace Like A River* LUYH 451

Prayer of Confession and Assurance

Song of Assurance: *Blessed Assurance* LUYH 363

We Look Ahead, Believing You Are Able

Reflection and Prayer: *Uncertainty of the Future*

Song: *God Our Help in Ages Past* LUYH 405 verses 1,2,3,6

Reflection and Prayer: *Hope, Anticipation and Expectation*

*Song: *Everlasting God*

Sending

Roll Call:

the **Arrivals** of...

Bentley Kyle Van Andel 8/25/16

Mayli Ann Ruter 11/12/16

George Zachariah Potherican 12/3/16

Anneke Aurora van Vliet 12/10/16

the **Baptisms** of...

Carter Paul Buys 3/13/16

Kolston David Ruter 4/17/16

Bentley Kyle Van Andel 11/20/16

the **Professions of Faith** of...

on 1/17/16

Shawna Zachman Schroder

Mason Smith

Bode Blohm

Andrew Van den Boogaard

LilliAnn Vermeer

on 11/27/16

Marissa Bol

the **Passing away of...**

Margaret Zigterman 1/31/16

Louise Vera Lont 4/28/16

Johanna Ham 5/5/16

John Reppert 5/7/16

Henry Klap 10/21/16

Ted Steensma 12/20/16

Mildred Miedema 12/24/16

*Heidelberg Catechism Q & A

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. **That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.**

He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.

He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven;

in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to Him,

Christ, by His Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life

and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

*Sending Song: *By Faith*

*Blessing and Postlude: *I Will Look Up*

Postlude

Minister of the Word: Chaplain William Jensen

Worship Coordinator: Kyle Cooper

Musicians: First Church Band

Prayer and Care for God's People

Many thanks to those who brought kind words, cards and gifts to the staff this past month. It is a joy to serve alongside this faithful body of Christ.

Pray for Fred and Kathy Ritsema and family as they celebrate the life and grieve the loss of her mother, Mildred Miedema, who went to be with Jesus on Christmas Eve.

Ted Steensma passed away in his sleep on December 20. Please pray for his daughter and family. Ted's family is grateful for the faithfulness of his First CRC friends over the years.

Please pray for Craig Broek and family, as they travel to attend Gertie Bonnema's funeral services in Sioux Center, Iowa. Craig's grandmother, Gertie, went to be with Jesus on December 27th.

Pray for our friends spending the winter in a warmer climate, may they find abundant health and good Christian fellowship until they return to us.

Stephen Ministers are here for you when Christmas seems more overwhelming than joyful due to grief, loss or transition. Contact Cyndi@firstcrcdenver.org if you would like someone to listen.

First Church is blessed to have a group of women who meet regularly for prayer. *If you have something for which you would like **confidential prayer** offered, please send your prayer requests by email to: Cyndi@firstcrcdenver.org or mddeboer@juno.com*

The final numbers of the 2016 Global Bazaar are in. It is with **deep gratitude** to God and a **heartfelt thank you** to all the volunteers, vendors, and shoppers that we can report the following:

- Total Sales: \$16,838.49 - that is the most we have sold at the Global Bazaar since we first held it in 2008.
- More than \$7,200 was purchased from fair-trade non-profit vendors and \$9,600 from for-profit vendors (many of whom sell fair trade products) who all donated at least 20% of their proceeds to non-profit agencies.
- Through the sales of these items, all who participated were able to help people around the world in their pursuit of economic and social justice.

Count Committee Update: 12/18 & 12/25

Council appreciates your continued support of God's work through ministries, programs and daily operations of First Church.

General Fund: \$63,812.46

En-Gedi: \$32,000.00

Benevolence: \$696.00

First Church thanks Troy Newcombe, Karen Soodsma, Benevolence Deacon Maria Buteyn, our Count Committee and all who encourage us in godly stewardship of our resources.

First Church Opportunities to Connect and Serve

Kids Hope USA / McKinley Thatcher Elementary school

5 of us are currently spending time with a child every week at the school for one hour. Marj DeBoer, Laurie Sanderson, Ed Schans and myself are with kids at McKinley Thatcher, and Fred Ritsema followed his boy to Grant Middle school after several years with him in his elementary years. 26 different adults in our church have been a mentor in this program over the last 10 years. Many of them continued with their child until they graduated from 5th grade. The principal tells us she would welcome more lovely 1st CRC people to work with their kids. She has several 3rd graders that could benefit from a relationship with a caring adult. Please let us know if you would like to consider helping a child in this way. *Bob DeMasters*

Twenty Somethings Group: The twenty-somethings of First CRC and Hope Community Church meet **Tuesdays at 7:15pm** at 1826 S Emerson St. Denver (house next to First Church). We are a group of about 10 people who meet weekly to study Scripture together (just completed John's Gospel) and enjoy Christian community. We have a casual atmosphere and would love for you to join us! If you would like more information about the group, just email kylecooper@firstcrcdenver.org. Please note – we'll begin meeting again January 3rd.

Bible Study Opportunities in 2017:

There are Bible Studies meeting off-site throughout the year. If you would like to start one, or join a small group already in process, please call the office #303-733-4936.

During Family Night on Wednesdays, beginning again on January 11th, a women's Bible study and fellowship group called *Coffee Break* meets in the Emerson House (next door to church) at 6:30pm following our meal time, served from 5:45-6:15 in the Fellowship Hall (\$2.50 per person). Contact Beth Posthumus #303-947-1085.

Men from First Church gather every other Saturday morning, in Room 21, for a true Bible Study and prayer time. Contact Rod O. #303-471-9370.

Requested Announcements:

Update: Sea to Sea Bicycle Tour - *Sea to Sea* is looking for 35 more registered riders by the end of December. Kitchen volunteers are also needed. Are you one? Whether you are up for the full coast-to-coast ride or you prefer to join for part of the trip, *Sea to Sea* is for everyone with a heart for service and a sense of adventure. Get involved! Call us today at: 1-888-CRC-BIKE!

Platt Park Children's Center Registration:

New family registration for the 2017-2018 school year begins on Tuesday, January 17. Please see our website or call 303-282-7722 to schedule a tour in January. We offer classes for children 2 ½ -Jr Kindergarten and would love to visit with you!

Updated Contact information:

Don Gesink *for the winter months
5013 Merritt Brown Way
Panama City, Florida 32404
#303-752-3501

Elaine Sara Lim
3384 Prescott Cove
Memphis, TN 38111