

Church Calendar

Sunday ~ January 20

Age-specific Sunday School. Offering is for Benevolence.

Monday ~ January 21: MLK Day

Tuesday ~ January 22

1:30-3:00pm – Staff meeting

3:00-10:00pm – *Classical Conversations* Home-school group

Wednesday ~ January 23

7:30am – Men's Breakfast Bible Study in Emerson House

6:30pm - Women's Bible study in Emerson House

6:30pm – Family Promise Team meeting

6:45pm - *Beloved of God Yoga*

Thursday ~ January 24

9-12 noon: Sew & Sews in rooms 12/13

Friday ~ January 25

Library is staffed

Saturday ~ January 26

1-3pm - Stamp Class

Sunday ~ January 27

Age-specific Sunday School. Offering is for the General Fund.

Will you please email Connections@firstcrdenver.org with your First CRC meeting schedule for the New Year? If you prefer, leave a flyer or list of dates with updated contact information on the receptionist's desk. Indicate if you would like your meetings or events listed on the website calendar. We want to be certain we reserve the space you need as we incorporate Family Promise weeks.

Thank you to all serving this Sunday, January 20th

Children in Worship: Jill Schreurs, Denali Schmitt, Evy Keyes, Trevin Schmitt

Nursery: Kelsie Ruter, Dave Cady, Davis Addink, Natalie Roberts

Camera: Owen Vermeer **Lyrics:** Lilli Vermeer **Sound:** Cory Vermeer

Prayer Ministry Elders: Fred Ritsema & Nancy Waanders

Coffee: Young/Schuttinga

Thank you to all serving next Sunday, January 27th

Children in Worship: TBD

Nursery: Jessica Cleveland, Jill Newcombe, Keith Bol, Madisyn Hunt

Camera: Isaac Jonker **Lyrics:** Aaron Elgersma **Sound:** Logan Posthumus

Prayer Ministry Elders: Cal Van Heukelem & Anne Buteyn

Coffee: Schaefer

Newcomers, guests and visitors: Hot tea, cocoa and coffee are available in back; prayer elders are available up front to support you on your faith journey. We have *Connect cards* in the pew pockets to help us to communicate with you.

Reading the Moravian Text together in 2019. Pastor Bret has ordered 2019 devotionals. Donations to offset the cost are appreciated: \$10 for the small books & \$15 for the Journal. Books will be on a table in the foyer. You can place your offering in the green box. Please access the Moravian Church web site if you would like to learn more about their history, or to receive the Daily Scripture readings via email: www.moravian.org.

Save The Date: March 15th at 7:00pm: First Christian Reformed Church *Faith & Family* night for the **Colorado Avalanche Hockey Game** at the Pepsi Center with Danny Oertli concert. \$25 Ticket price includes game, concert and \$10 food/beverage credit.

Visit: Avalanche.KSETickets.com/FCR to reserve seats (no fees or taxes). *Handicap seating available by calling Will Kelley #303.405.6197.*

Mission Opportunity:

Dear Friends:

This is the time of year for thanksgiving, reflection and planning for another trip to Honduras. This is thirteenth (13) year we have, under the direction of *Living Water International* (LWI), taken drill/hygiene teams to Central America. We are thankful for the opportunities and experiences many of us have had providing clean water for poor communities and schools.

In 2019 we are planning another drill/hygiene trip November 2-9 in northeast Honduras. The cost for the trip is \$1950 per person which includes transportation, food and lodging upon leaving the Houston airport. Fifty percent (50%) of the cost is due six (6) months before the trip or by May 2, 2019. The balance will be due two (2) months before our trip. Suitable passports and immunization shots are required. The age range for team members is from 14 to 88 with 14 and 15 year olds accompanied by a parent.

All applications to register must be completed on-line six (6) months before the scheduled trip. Prior to registration a security check costing about \$50 is necessary. The registration and security link for Honduras is obtained from Living Water International's Honduras Trip Coordinator, Kim Rathgeber #877 594 4426. Her email is kim@water.cc.

We accept team members on a first come, first serve basis. Please notify me, Al Wassenaar, awassenaar@cox.net when you register. Anyone needing more information, please call Kim or me at 720.530.0907, or go on line to LWI website www.water.cc The need for clean, safe water is emerging countries still exists for over 600 million people. A high percentage of Hondurans do not have access to clean and safe drinking water. Consider joining the LWI team for a vacation with a purpose by drilling a clean water well for the poor. If you have any questions or need additional information please contact Al Wassenaar at awassenaar@cox.net

Missionary Birthdays:

2019 January

Belen Starkenburg - 20th

Erick Perez - 27th

2019 February

Claire Froehlich - 4th

Help Needed

Edna Houtkooper would like to hire additional help for late afternoons, from 3-5 or 4-6pm. She needs companionship to prepare her evening meals and get her ready for bed. *CNA is not necessary, but might be helpful.* Please call Edna at #303.300.4503

First Christian Reformed Church #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



First Christian Reformed Church

*A Family of God, Living our Faith and Growing by:
Joyfully surrendering to Jesus, Freely sharing our lives,
and Humbly embracing the hurting.*

January 20, 2019 Gathering

Prelude

Welcome

Processional

*Call to Worship: Psalm 90 and Deut. 33

Lord,

You have been our dwelling place

throughout all generations.

**Before the mountains were born
or You brought forth the whole world,
from everlasting to everlasting You are God.**

There is no one like our God

who rides across the heavens to help us

and on the clouds in His majesty.

**The eternal God is our refuge,
and underneath are the everlasting arms.**

*Songs:

10,000 Reasons LUYH 559

Great Is Thy Faithfulness LUYH 348

*God's Greeting

People of God, from where does your help come?

**Our help comes from the Lord,
the Maker of heaven and earth.**

Grace, Mercy and peace be yours in the name of the Triune God:

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen

*Mutual Greeting

Renewal

Call to Confession
Prayer of Confession
Assurance of Pardon

*Song of Assurance: *Your Grace Is Enough* LUYH 698

Offering: Benevolence
Offertory
Offertory Prayer

Word

Children In Worship: *Children ages 3-Kindergarten are invited to participate in interactive Bible study together downstairs with adult leaders. Parents and guardians are always welcome.*

Leader: We are God's family.
We joyfully surrender to Jesus.
We freely share our lives.
We humbly embrace the hurting.

People: **The Lord be with you.**
Children: **And also with you.**

Prayer for Intercession and Gratitude

Sung Prayer for Illumination: *Ancient Words* LUYH 762

Scripture: Ecclesiastes 3

Sermon

Prayer for Application

*Song of Response: *God Our Help In Ages Past* LUYH 405 (verses 1,2,3,6)

Sending

*Sending: Lord's Day 1

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

*Postlude

Minister of the Word: Rev. Joel Schreurs
Director of Faith Formation: Dr. Bret Lamsma (on vacation through 1/22)
Worship Coordinator: Kyle Cooper with Kevin Roberts & First CRC Band

Council Update:

The Council met on Wednesday evening. Below are the highlights of our January meeting:

- The Council is excited that the new sound and audiovisual equipment are being installed this week. We are thankful that this project was possible because of a grant from CRC Properties, Inc.
- Council approved a revised and updated version of the Protection policy that is in place to protect the vulnerable among us. Many thanks to Shirley Van Heukelem for her work in revising this policy.
- Council encourages all families who are planning to apply for assistance through the new Christian Education Assistance Fund, to be sure to apply for financial aid through their schools. Many of those financial aid deadlines are fast approaching. Members of the CEAP committee are: Keith Bol, Troy Newcombe and Laurie Sanderson. Please keep your eyes out for more CEAP information coming in the near future.
- Council is thankful for the faithful support of the First CRC General Fund. We praise God for your generous support of the ministries of our church here in Denver and around the world.

Count Committee Report: 1-6 & 1-13

General Fund: \$32,163.00

JAMLAC: 365.00

Up ~ Prayer and Praise:

*Our Persecuted Believer's prayer focus will be for the country of **Yemen** during January/February. Please look for a prayer sheet by the silver message board with two prayers written by Yemen believers. Yemen Christians are being denied food and water relief distributed by local mosques in conjunction with Islamic State.*

We continue to pray for sustaining grace for **Jack and Jean Allen** and family.

We pray for complete healing for **John Kline**, Rebecca Schaefer's son-in-law, recovering from several mini-strokes and heart issues, complicated by football injuries (former lineman for the Iowa Hawkeyes).

Sonja Sander was able to return home on Thursday after a week-long hospital stay with for respiratory illness. Please pray for ongoing recovery.

We pray for those among us struggling to breathe due to issues with lungs, hearts or limited oxygen.

We ask for restored vision for those with eye problems, and upcoming surgery.

Please continue to pray for **Annelies Shively** and family, grieving the loss of her mother.

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

IN ~ Events & Upcoming Activities

Save the Date!!! Women of First CRC: we have a date, venue and speaker lined up for our 2019 Fall Retreat. Put **September 27-29** on your calendars. We will meet in Breckenridge Friday evening through noon on Sunday. More details to follow. We are looking for a few more women to serve on the committee, so if you are interested contact Shirley Van Heukelem at shirley@firstcrcdenver.org.

Ladies Morning Bible Study will meet **January 23rd, 2019 at 9:30am**, in Room 12/13 for a study of *Ecclesiastes*. Please contact Walt Ackerman if you have any questions: **#303-916-5246**.

Coffee Break Ladies Bible Study will meet every **Wednesday evening** at **6:30pm** in the Emerson House next to church. Contact Betty Eyser #303.770.6949, or Beth Posthumus: beth@firstcrcdenver.org.

Beloved of God Yoga: Christ-Centered, Restorative and Strengthening. **Every Wednesday night at 6:45** downstairs. Contact Pamela Hansum at dphansum@q.com for questions.

Sew and Sews will meet **Thursday, January 24th from 9-12noon**, with coffee time at 10:30am. This faithful fellowship sews for local hospitals and global mission organizations. They plan to meet every other Thursday in the New Year. Contact Joey Vander Ark if you would like more information: joeyvanark@aol.com

Sunday School Teachers - SAVE THE DATE - **Sunday, March 3, noon to 1:30** for a thank-you luncheon. We'd love to have you all there!

Men's Morning Bible study meets routinely Wednesday mornings at **7:30am** in the Emerson House (next door) with breakfast. Please contact Kyle Cooper kylecooper@firstcrcdenver.org, or Cal Van Heukelem cal@firstcrcdenver.org if you would like to *plug-in* to a Men's study.

Men's Saturday morning group meets every other Saturday at **7:00am** in room 21. Next meeting is **February 2nd**, for Bible study, fellowship and prayer: rodohouse@comcast.net.

OUT ~ Living Our Faith & Growing by Joyfully Surrendering To Jesus ~

Our **Children in Worship** ministry has an urgent need for more lead teachers. Curriculum and other activity ideas are part of the program, so it just takes some preparation time and set up. If this is something that you feel led to do, please contact Kelsie Ruter (kelsieruter@gmail.com).

Do you have the gift of **Hospitality and welcoming** others? We would love to have a few more people on the coffee committee, and to greet visitors! This is a great way to become involved at First CRC (low time commitment of about 1 hour every 6-8 weeks). Call or email the office for details connections@firstcrcdenver.org

Freely Sharing Our Lives ~

Families of College Students: The First CRC staff would like to update our College student's mailing address list in order to encourage and pray for the students in our faith family. Will you please email: connections@firstcrcdenver.org with the current address, email and cell number for your student? We can also add them to our *Mail Chimp* list if they would like to receive Connections Newsletter electronically.

Humbly Embracing The Hurting ~

Volunteers in Action has started a new ministry effort, **Heart Connections**, which connects individuals and families with children of all ages to visit care facility friends who do not receive many visitors. A flier with more information is in your box today. Our goal is to alleviate loneliness and isolation, and equip families to serve and live on mission in our city. We are partnering with two care facilities, Rowan Community and Canterbury Gardens. Please pray if God is calling you to this type of relational ministry. If you are interested contact Emily at Volunteers in Action, 303-713-9144 or emilyd@volunteersinaction.info