

Church Calendar

Welcome guests and visitors! Elders will be up front with prayer nametags after the service, to answer any questions and pray with you. Please fill out a Connect Card (found in the pew Bibles). You can return the Connect Card to the Elder up front.

Sunday ~ January 5: Grow Group Meals

Pastor Joel is preaching: "Ask a Better Question: What is your priority?" Offering is for **JAMLAC** (part of Mile-High Ministries) working to provide holistic support and legal representation to impoverished people within the metro Denver community.

11:00am-1:00pm Grow Group Meals.

Monday ~ January 6: Office is closed

Tuesday ~ January 7:

1:30-3:00pm Staff Meeting

Wednesday ~ January 8:

9:30am – Ladies' Morning Bible Study in rm. 12/13

6:45pm - Beloved of God Yoga in Fellowship Hall

Thursday ~ January 9:

9:00am – Sew & Sews

Friday ~ January 10:

9:30am-11:30am Library

Saturday ~ January 11:

10:00am – Circle of Hope in rm. 21

8:00am – 12:00pm Private Event

Lord's Supper Sunday ~ January 12: (Kyle Cooper on Vacation 1/12-20)

11:00am Age specific Sunday School resumes today, with a new class for Adults *Growing With*. Offering is for CEAF (Christian Education Assistance Fund)

For more information, please contact:

Keith Bol: kmbol@hotmail.com

Troy Newcombe: troynewcombe@gmail.com

Laurie Sanderson: lsanderson@denverchristian.org

Thank you to all serving this Sunday, January 5

CIW: Becky Vermeer, Logan Posthumus, Wyatt Vermeer

Nursery Leader: Gina Van Byssum, Jeremy Waanders, Nancy & Ari Waanders

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

Prayer Ministry Elders: Fred Ritsema, Cathy VanDonselaar

Coffee: Young/Schaefer

Thank you to all serving next Sunday, January 12

CIW: Laurie Sanderson, Denali & Trevin Schmitt, Katherine Elgersma

Nursery Leader: Jessica Cleveland, Eleana Draijer, Bob Reynolds, Annika DeBoer

Camera: Adam DeBoer **Lyrics:** Gabe Zoetewey **Sound:** Logan Posthumus

Prayer Ministry Elders: Dave Cady & Jim DeHaan

Coffee: DeBoer/Kats

January 12th Lord's Supper: Cal Van Heukelem & Suzanne Natelborg

Reimbursements: Financial reimbursement forms, for personal expenditures on ministry items (Sunday School, Gems/Cadets, media center, etc.) can be found above the office door in the green folder labeled *Financial Reimbursement Forms*. Simply attach your receipt and return the form to the main office. We will turn it into the Treasurer for a check to be issued.

Ministry Leaders: Please send the office a list of your 2020 meetings, so we can advertise the dates/locations correctly (especially for our new people). When you send your list, please let the office know who the contact person is, and if you would like your group to be on the First CRC web site calendar. *Thank you!*

Missions Update:

See the Missions Table behind the sound booth, for the latest Newsletters from each of our Mission partners, locally and abroad.

For 20 years, Quiet Waters Ministry (a ministry formed by the Denver area CRC and RCA churches after Bethesda Hospital closed its doors) has provided excellent intensive counseling in a retreat home setting. Pastors and other Christian leaders find healing and restoration as well as skills for their future ministry through their experiences with licensed counselors. At this time, the ministry is busier than ever and they need help in two important ways:

1. **New Board members**, wise, experienced, leaders who have compassion for those who serve in ministry and who possess the skills to help organizations flourish.
2. **"Host Couples"** who have time to donate a week at a time to live in the QW Retreat House in Parker, CO alongside our clients who are there for intensive counseling sessions. These Host Couples cook and provide a homey atmosphere. They do not have to do the grocery shopping or the cleaning and training is provided to orient them to the responsibilities. Host Couples are the heartbeat of this ministry and those who serve in this capacity say that they are deeply blessed by the experience. Contact Pastor Joel for more information - joel@firstcrcdenver.org

Grow Group Meal Locations for January 5:

North: Church Fellowship Hall 1814 S. Emerson St., Den 80210

Northeast: Morningside Clubhouse: 7100 E. Hamilton Place 80224

Northwest: Troy & Jill Newcombe's: 2158 S. Clarkson, Denver 80210

South: Van Donselaar's: 3736 East Easter Cir. S., 80122

Southeast: Jeremy & Karen Waanders': 4175 S. Sidney Court, Den 80237

Southwest: Ed & Kay Schans': 9801 S. Johnson St., Littleton 80127

Newcomers (not yet in a Grow group) and guests, are invited to enjoy lunch downstairs immediately following service on January 5th. Kids always welcome!

January 15th is the First Family Night of 2020!

5:45pm: Family Night Meal served

6:30pm: Council Meeting, GEMS/Cadets, Coffee Break, Movie Discussion

Our Movie Discussion group will meet on January 15 during Family Night. We will be discussing the movie "The Public" starring Emilio Estevez. For more information please talk to Pastor Bret.

Avalanche Fans: Looking for a fun family or Grow Group outing?

First CRC is considering a second annual *Faith & Family Night*: Colorado Avalanche vs. Vancouver Canucks on **March 13 at 7pm** at the Pepsi Center. Tickets start at \$35 (no extra fees or taxes) Price includes a post-game concert. A deposit is required to save seats, so we would like to see how many of you are interested! Contact connections@firstcrcdenver.org by January 31st.

First Christian Reformed Church #303.733.4936

1814 South Emerson Street, Denver 80210

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

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



A Family of God, Living our Faith and Growing by:

Joyfully surrendering to Jesus, Freely sharing our lives and Humbly embracing the hurting...

January 5, 2020 ~ Grow Group Sunday

Gathering

Prelude
Welcome
Processional

*Call to Worship: Psalm 95:1-2 and Psalm 90:1-2
Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;
let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.
**Let us come before Him with thanksgiving
and extol Him with music and song.**
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.**

*Song: *Everlasting God*

*Reading: 1 Kings 8:56-58
Praise be to the Lord, who has given rest to His people,
just as He promised.
**Not one word has failed of all the good promises
He gave through His servant Moses.**
May the Lord our God be with us as He was with our ancestors;
may He never leave us nor forsake us.
May He turn our hearts to Him,
**to walk in obedience to Him and keep the commands,
decrees and laws He gave our ancestors.**

*Song: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* LUYH 348

*God's Greeting

Renewal

Prayer for Renewal with *The Steadfast Love of the Lord* 347
Offering: Justice and Mercy Legal Aid Center
Offertory

Word

Children In Worship Sending
Delval, Marie-Hélène, and Arno. Psalms for Young Children. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans for Young Readers, 2008. Print.

Leader: When I listen to You, God,
I am like a tree planted by a river, a tree full of fruit
with leaves that are always green.
Congregation: **The Lord be with you.**
Children: **And also with you.**

Song: Wisdom and Grace

Scripture: Mark 1:35-39 Pg. 1002

Sermon: *Ask a Better Question: What's Your Priority?*

Panel Discussion

Sending

Sending: Proverbs 3, Psalm 37, Psalm 127, Psalm 90
Trust in the Lord with all your heart
and lean not on your own understanding;
in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight.
We will commit our way to the Lord.
**We will trust in Him and He will make our righteous
reward shine like the dawn.**
Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.
May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us;
establish the work of our hands for us—
yes, establish the work of our hands.

*Sending Song: *I Will Follow* (Tomlin)

*Blessing

*Postlude

Minister of the Word: Pastor Joel Schreurs
Director of Faith Formation: Dr. Bret Lamsma
Worship Coordinator: Kyle Cooper with First CRC Band & Christy Bol

2019 Roll Call:

Births:

Calvin Cady	2/13
George Schwager	4/1
Caleb Keyes	5/30
Hayes Ruter	9/26

Baptisms:

Kian Husa	3/17
Nikalina Van Andel	3/31
Marion Gardner	5/19
Zoey Timmer	6/30
Annelies Shivley	8/25
Kaleb Shivley	8/25

New Members:

Dyhr Family: Jonathan, Lise, Lydia, Ezra	2/19
Husa Family: Matt, Ruchika, Divya & Kian	2/19
Armani: Jan	3/19
Amidon Family: Tyler, Nicole, Jeffrey, Kara	5/19
Gardner family: Matt, Cari, Marion	5/19
Keyes Family: Jeff, Karen, Evelyn, Audrey,	12/19
Benjamin, Caleb	

Deaths:

Rita Buys	1/02/19
Joy Smit	3/22/19
Matt Wassenaar	4/03/19
Edna Houtkooper	5/15/19
Marge Rozendaal	9/03/19
Jack Allen	10/31/19
Helen Armani	12/16/19

Up ~ Prayer and Praise

In January/February we will pray as a church for persecuted believers in Eritrea. Government security forces have continued to conduct numerous raids on Christians and house churches and have arrested hundreds of Christians who are being held by the government in miserable conditions. Christians are being forced to join the armed forces. Protestants, in particular, face serious problems with accessing community resources, especially social services provided by the state.

Pray for provision, protection and peace for those in war torn countries.

Pray for successful surgery and smooth recovery.

Pray for re-entry for administrators, teachers, parents and students.

Please pray for the Bylsma family, as they celebrate Elsie's life and mourn her loss. Esie Bylsma died peacefully early in the morning on December 27th. Visit her tribute page at: <https://www.heflebowerfuneralservices.com/obituaries/Elsie-Bylsma/>.

IN ~ Events & Upcoming Activities

Women's AM Bible Study meets every other Wednesday. The next meeting is **January 8th at 9:30am** in room 12/13, to study "*Cultures in Conflict*" by Ray Vander Laan. Led by Walt Ackerman.

Coffee Break ~ Women's Evening fellowship, prayer and Bible Study meets Wednesdays at **6:30pm** in the Emerson House next to church. Everyone is welcome! Led by Beth Posthumus.

Beloved of God Yoga will meet **January 8, 22 and 29** downstairs at 1st CRC 6:45 pm. Our focus is strengthening and renewing bodies and minds through Christ-centered prayer and movement to restore us to do God's work in the world.

Men's Wed. AM Bible Study in the Emerson House South of church, coffee is on at **7:30am** on Wednesday; Study begins at 8:00am. Led by Cal Van Heukelem.

Men's Sat. AM Bible Study in rm 21, *every other* Saturday **7AM**, next meeting: **January 18**. Led by Rod Osterhouse.

Sew & Sews: *Sew & Sews* next meeting is **January 9th, from 9-12n**, in room 12/13. Led by Joey VanderArk.

Card Stampers: Card Stamping Group is meeting **January 25th from 1-3pm** in rooms 12/13. Led by Carol Kats.

From January 12-February 2 Pastor Bret will be leading a discussion on the book "Growing With" during the Sunday School hour. Books are available in the back of church. Please help yourself to a book and sign up in the back of church. For more information, please talk to Pastor Bret.

Coffee Serving Team needs You: Do you live relatively near the church? Do you love the smell of coffee brewing, or have the gift of hospitality? Our coffee serving team could use a few more helpers. Individuals and families enjoy this simple way to serve. The commitment can be one time every 6-8 weeks.

OUT ~ Serving & Sharing

Joyfully Surrendering To Jesus ~

Church Leadership, A Home-Rebuilding Opportunity - Do you wonder how your church offerings to World Renew Disaster Response Services make a difference? Have you wanted to experience what it is like to repair disaster-damaged homes? **Consider volunteering Monday – Friday, March 23-27, in North Carolina** and find out for yourself! This is a week specifically for pastors and/or church staff leaders to work together and get directly involved in this ministry. Contact Chris Gibson at cgibson@worldrenew.net or 800-848-5818.

Freely Sharing Our Lives ~

The Journey of Longmont, CO will celebrate their 20th Anniversary on **January 26, 2020** at the 10:07 am service. You are invited to join us!

Humbly Embracing The Hurting ~

Family Promise: Thank you to everyone; and bless all guests to our church home. Next Family Promise week is: **February 9-16**.

Circle of Hope confidential encouragement group, for those with loved ones navigating mental health issues, meets the second Saturday of the month: **January 11**, from 10:00am-12:00pm in room 21.

Council News:

In their December meeting, the Council discussed the process and possible replacements for outgoing Deacons (James Timmer and Aaron Buys) and Elders (Anne Buteyn and Cal VanHeukelem) this summer. First Church is blessed to have so many gifted individuals called to serve in this way and we look forward to ongoing conversation and encouragement. If you feel called to serve at First CRC in the role of Elder or Deacon, or know of someone who is gifted in these areas, please contact a Pastor, the Clerk of Council or any Elder or Deacon, we would love to hear from you!

The January Series: www.crcna.org cultivates deep thought and conversations about important issues of the day in order to inspire cultural renewal and make us better global citizens in God's world. We invite you to join us at this FREE 15-day lecture series that takes place each January on the campus of Calvin University. Our 2020 series will take place on weekdays from **January 8–28, 2020 from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. EST**. Save the dates and we hope you can join us onsite, at any one of our 60+ remote sites, or online for LIVE audio streaming! **Denver Christian** is the site for our area:

Contact: Steve Kortenhoven
3898 S. Teller St
Lakewood, CO 80235
(303) 733-2421

www.denverchristian.org

Note: 10:30 a.m. start time (Mountain Standard Time)