

Church Calendar for week of: March 25th, 2018

Palm Sunday ~ Pastor Joel Preaching, Lord's Supper,

Offering is for the Benevolence Fund to extend God's grace and mercy in a financial manner to people connected with our church who are in need.

11:00am: GROW GROUPS Today! 5-7pm Youth Group Game Night!

Monday ~ March 26th: Office is Closed

6:30pm ~ Count Committee

Tuesday ~ March 27th:

11:00n - Senior Moments to IMAX: Jerusalem Movie

1:00pm - Staff meeting in rm 21

6-9pm - Training in Fellowship Hall

Wednesday ~ March 28th

Thursday ~ March 29th:

9-11am - Sew & Sews

Good Friday ~ March 30th:

9-11am - Library ladies

6:30pm - Good Friday Service with Nursery

Saturday ~ March 31st:

7:00am - Men's Bible Study

9:30am - Dance Rehearsal in Sanctuary

1-3:00pm - Stamp Class

Easter Sunday ~ April 1st

Pastor Joel is preaching for our Easter Celebration!

Thank you to all serving this Sunday, March 25th

Children in Worship: Jill Schreurs, Jessica Cleveland, Logan Posthumus, Sam Lamsma

Nursery: Allie Christians, Melanie Jonker, Beth George, James Jonker

Prayer Ministry Elders: Ed Schans & Sheri DeHaan

Coffee: Vermeer Family **Lord's Supper Prep: Grow Group 3**

Thank you to all serving on Good Friday, March 30th at 6:30pm

Thank you to all serving Easter Sunday, April 1st

Children in Worship: Allie Christians, Gracie Hansum, Andy Vanden Boogaard

Nursery: Charys Youngsma

Prayer Ministry Elders: Cyndi Berghuis & Cal Van Heukelem

Coffee: Engelsman /Jonker

Welcome guests and visitors. Elders are available up front for prayer. It is Lord's Supper Sunday, and all baptized believers who place their faith in Jesus Christ are welcome to participate in the Sacrament. Today is our Grow Group Meal and fellowship day; head downstairs after worship for lunch, and be our guests! We will have plenty of food for everyone.

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

Missions Update:

Update on Offering for Sarah Baker/Wájaro Foundation

The deacons would like to gratefully acknowledge the generosity of the congregation in supporting Sarah Baker's mission work in Colombia. The final offering total was \$5,057! Sarah has sent the following note of thanks:

Dear First Church,

A BIG hello from Bogotá, Colombia! I wanted to take a moment to say thank you for your generosity. I was told to expect a couple hundred dollars from the special offering you took up for me, but you went way beyond that. It's a blessing to be part of a community that gives their resources freely as an outpouring of the abundant love that Christ has for us. I'm excited to share this news with our Wayuu brothers and sisters and know that they will be equally blessed by your generosity.

Peace on the journey,

Sarah

Walt & Carol Ackerman from our congregation will be volunteering with World Renew Disaster Response Services on a Needs Assessment team in Victoria County, TX from **March 28 - April 14** due to Hurricane Harvey - Fall 2017. They will be interviewing vulnerable residents (the elderly, disabled, low-income, etc.) to make their needs known to case workers, ensuring their needs are met and that they do not fall through the cracks. Please support them as a congregation with your prayers while they are on this assignment. Pray for safety, good health, a meaningful experience with opportunities to touch and give hope to hurting people in this relief ministry. ~ *Offices of World Renew/DRS*

Living Water Drill and Hygiene Trip:

This notice is for anyone interested in joining our Drill/Hygiene Trip **November 3-11 to Honduras**. These trips are organized and directed by Living Water Int'l (LWI). This is the eleventh year First CRC has taken a mission team drilling for clean water to Central America.

The cost for the trip is \$2,000 per person and 50% of the cost is due by May 3, 2018. Expense assistance is available through the Church Treasurer, Chris Lighthiser (clighthiser@gmail.com). Registration and security clearance for Honduras is obtained from LWI's Honduras Trip Coordinator, Kim R. (877-594-4426). Her email is kim@water.cc. Anyone needing more information please call Kim, or Al Wassenaar at 720-530-0907 or go on line to the Living Water International web site www.water.cc.

LWI serves the poor who are thirsty for clean water and the Gospel of Jesus Christ. They partner with local churches and pastors as much as possible. Volunteer team members typically drill and develop a well, teach hygiene and have an opportunity to share their faith, all in a short week. Come and join us on a drill/hygiene trip for a vacation with a purpose.

You are invited to Platt Park Children's Center's Silent Auction on Friday, April 13!

For your convenience, below is an online link to reserve tickets.

We hope to see you there as we celebrate the 5th anniversary of our wonderful preschool!

<https://events.blackbirdsvp.com/ppcc-auction>

Platt Park Children's Center

1601 S. Clarkson St.

Denver, CO 80210

303-282-7722

Living The Cross-Shaped Life



Sixth Sunday of Lent, March 25th, 2018

The season of Lent (February 14-March 31) is a time when we focus together on the cross of Jesus and reflect on what it means to follow a crucified Lord. As a part of our worship during this special season, we will be celebrating the sacrament of communion each Sunday. At First CRC, all baptized believers--regardless of age--are invited to receive this sacrament as a gift of nourishing and sustaining grace. While we encourage God's children of all ages to find creative ways to prepare for worship each week, picture and activity books may be an especially helpful resource for parents and younger children. Materials to borrow, like "At the Table" are available for you in the foyer. If you have other questions about receiving communion, or would like to be baptized, please contact a pastor or elder.

Gathering

Prelude: Barb and Christy

Welcome

*Song: *Hosanna Loud Hosanna* LUYH 145

*God's Greeting

Children In Worship Dismissal

Stories of The Cross

Shirley Van Heukelem share

*Song: *Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)* LUYH 693

Matt Ruter share

Song: *Man of Sorrows*

Joel Jonker share

*Song: *The Wonderful Cross* LUYH 176

Isaac DenBraber Profession of Faith

Explanation of God's Promises

Profession of Faith

Promise of Commitment

Sending

*Congregational Promise

With God's help, we promise you our love and encouragement by sharing the gospel, by being examples of Christian faith and character, and by giving the strong support of God's family in fellowship, service, and prayer.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Song: *Christ Is Enough*

Word and Table

Offering: Benevolence

Offertory

Message: *The Cross & Your Obituary*

Words of Institution:

We give thanks to God the Father that our Savior, Jesus Christ, before He suffered, gave us this memorial of His sacrifice, until He comes again. At His last supper, the Lord Jesus took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me." In the same way, He took the cup after supper and said, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this in remembrance of Me." For whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

Prayer for the Work of the Spirit

Living God,
Send Your Holy Spirit upon us
as we share Your heavenly meal;
nourish us with Your grace
so that we are strengthened
to do Your work in this world;
unite us with You so that we are renewed;
and join us with Your covenant people
throughout time and space
so that all divisions will be healed.
May we gratefully and joyfully remember that Jesus, our Savior,
lived, died and rose to give us new life
and make us new creations in Him.
May we live in the hope
we discover through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Invitation and Instructions

Distribution Song: *In Christ Alone* LUYH 770

Communion

Prayer

*Sending Song: *Let It Be Said of Us*

*Blessing

Postlude

Minister of The Word: Rev. Joel Schreurs
Director of Faith Formation: Dr. Bret Lamsma
Worship Coordinator: Kyle Cooper with First CRC Band
Accompanist: Barb Hogan & Christy Bol

Up ~ Prayer

Our March/April Congregational Prayer Focus for Persecuted Believers features 10 specific ways to pray for a rapidly growing, but highly targeted group: **Muslim Background Believers**. See the display on the silver board and pick up a copy of the accompanying prayer sheet.

We praise the Lord for His faithfulness and appreciate all the prayers, gifts, cards and get well wishes. **Betty Eyser** is doing well with hand surgery recovery. *Happy 60th Anniversary Don & Betty! Birthday Blessings to Betty!*

Together, **we thank God** for His tender mercies to each of our loved ones recovering from surgical procedures, medical treatments and hospitalizations.

Please continue to pray for comfort, pain management and wise treatment options for **Chris Vanden Broeke**. An **update from Chris in Florida:** *I wanted to let all of you know I have met a specialist here in Florida, and visited the Cancer Institute. After much discussion and helpful information from him, I have decided to do Immunology treatments that can take up to a year (sometimes longer) doing them every 2-3 weeks! I am scheduled to start here in Florida on April 4th! I hope to return for Easter Sunday to be with my Denver family, and to see my First CRC friends, before returning to Florida on April 2! Blessings CVB*

In ~ Events & Activities

Today's Grow Groups Meal locations:

GG #1: Newcombe's House: 2158 S. Clarkson 80210

GG #2 & #4: (combined): Fellowship Hall Downstairs – If you are a guest today, come on downstairs for a pot-luck style meal and fellowship!

GG #3: Van Heukelem's Home: 2319 S. Columbine St. 80210

GG#5: Monroe's Home: 2920 South Logan, ENG 80113

GG#6: Paul & Beth DeBoer's home: 3940 S. Tamarac Ct. 80237

High School Youth Group will meet **tonight from 5-7** for a game night in the Fellowship Hall. Dinner will be provided.

The next movie for our Film and Ethics class will be "Captain Fantastic" starring Viggo Mortensen. It should be available at your local library, or talk to Pastor Bret about where you can find this movie. We are looking forward to another great discussion about the morals, ethics, and deeper themes of this film on **Wednesday, April 4.**

Church Family Night Meals in April are April 4 & 18th at 5:45pm:

Meal is served until 6:30pm. Enjoy fellowship from 6:30pm to 8:00pm:

- GEMS girl's club rm 12/13, Cadet boys club in Pit Stop garage
- Nursery available downstairs for ages 5 and under.
- Movie Discussion group in the Library
- On 4/4 Elders will meet in rm 24, Council will meet on 4/18.
- *Discover Prayer* with Coffee Break Women's Bible study in Emerson

Senior Moments

We have met our sign up quota for the 15 tickets to the IMAX film "Jerusalem" We will not take more names at this time. If we find that someone who signed up needs to cancel we can fill that canceled ticket. If you are interested in attending, let Betty K. or Beth P. know, and we will let you know if there is an extra ticket. This could be a last moment decision. We need to leave church by **11:00am**, in order to arrive at the theater in time for the show. Questions: Betty K. [303-514-6251](tel:303-514-6251) or Beth P. [303-947-1085](tel:303-947-1085).

Ladies Morning Bible Study Group **will not** meet on **April 4th** ~ Walt will be on a DRS assessment trip. Please mark your calendars.

May 6th will be our All-Church PICNIC! Our special guest is Margaret Njuguna from En-Gedi Children's Home in Nairobi, Kenya.

Out~

Holy Week Prayer Walk offered by Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church.

The prayer walk is a drop-in, self-service spiritual formation experience with interactive stations of reflection, prayer and worship. The prayer walk will be open Monday-Friday, **March 26-30th, from 7:00am to 9:00pm**. The church is located at: 10150 East Belleview Ave., Englewood, CO 80111.

Mile High Ministries: Community Matters Workshop *Poverty in Mile High City*. What is the face of poverty in our city? Jeff Johnson, Executive Director, will help us better understand myths and stereotypes of being poor in Denver Metro. **March 29, 11:30-1:00pm** lunch included. RSVP to vortiz@milehighmin.org, or contact Virginia Ortiz #303-586-5992: 913 North Wyandot Street, Denver 80204

Be The Story...a FREE one-hour inspiring lunch experience shares the vision of **Youth For Christ**, and raises funds to sustain and expand the ministry. Meet YFC President, Dan Wolgemuth, and enjoy heart-warming stories from kids whose lives have been changed through the work of YFC. **April 5, 12noon**, Curtis Ballroom@Comedy Works south. RSVP directly at www.yfcdenver.org or contact Claire Froehlich for more information.

Holy Week Schedule:

Palm Sunday–March 25, 9:30am Grow Group Stories & Song Service with Grow Group Fellowship Meals afterward from 11:30-1:30pm.

Good Friday–March 30, 6:30pm Evening Service with Child care

Easter Sunday – April 1st, 9:30 am with Child Care