

Church Calendar for Easter, March 27th, 2016

Easter Sunday, March 27 -
No Youth Group
Offering is for the Benevolence Fund

Monday, March 28~
9:00am - Classical Conversations
6:30pm - Count Committee

Tuesday, March 29~
7:30am - 4:00pm Classical Conversations
1:30pm - Staff Meeting in Room 21

Wednesday, March 30~ Spring Break, No Programs
7:00pm - 8:00pm ESL Conversation Group

Thursday, March 31~
9:00am Sew & Sew
6:00pm Joshua Station Spring Theater Event~ Lakewood Cultural Ctr.

Friday, April 1~
9:00am - Library Ladies

Saturday, April 2~
7:00am - Men's Bible Study
9:00am - 11:00am: Classical Conversations in Pit Stop

Sunday, April 3~ No regularly scheduled Programs
Pastor Joel Is Preaching
Offering is for General Fund

A sincere welcome to our Easter guests. We are glad you are here!
Please fill out a Connect Card found in the pews and on the tables.
Children's Bulletins called *Sweet Rewards* are available at the tables in back.
Coffee & Cookies can be found near the doors. Elders up front will pray and answer questions about sacraments, worship or whatever is on your heart. We will celebrate the Lord's Supper today and all who place their faith in Jesus Christ are welcome to participate. Gluten Free wafers are available up front.

Thank you to all serving this Sunday, March 27th - EASTER

Nursery: Sandie Posthumus, Sheri DeHaan, Bob Reynolds, Caleb Jonker, Cadance Vance

Children in Worship: Easter Break

Prayer Ministry Elders: Cyndi Berghuis & Joel Jonker

PPT Preparation: Jill Schreurs

Sound: David Schans **Video:** Isaac Jonker **PPT:** Brett Van den Boogaard

DVD Delivery: Grow Group #2

Coffee: Staff

Thank you to all serving Next Sunday, April 3rd

Nursery: Jessica Addink, Jon Waanders, Jack Waanders, Ann Rajewski, Lilli Vermeer

Children in Worship: Kelli Schuttinga, Caleb Jonker, James Jonker

Prayer Ministry Elders: Ed Schans & Rick Schmitt

PPT Preparation: Stephanie Den Braber

Sound: Jim De Hahn **Video:** Logan Posthumus **PPT:** Micah DeHahn

DVD Delivery: Grow Group #3

Lord's Supper Preparation on 4/10: Group 3

Coffee: Engelsman & Jonker

Thank you to all who served our community by participating in Grow Group projects ~

Serving One Another: Roundup House Projects- Various Dates

This month, we have 3 work projects at Roundup Fellowship's houses, which serve children and adults with developmental disabilities. Work will include projects such as cleaning sheds & garages, painting, raking, cleaning gutters, etc. Contact Kim Csepe for details 303.733.4936 x 103

Roundup Fellowship is hiring caring professionals to work in their group homes and also in Community Participation with people who have intellectual disabilities. Please contact Mary Anaya at mary.anaya@rup.org

A few GROW GROUP Scheduling updates for your family Calendar:

- **April 10** - will change from an IN session an UP session
- **April 17** - remains an UP
- **April 24** - remains an UP
- **May 1** - will be our grand finale - an all-church barbecue in the Pit Stop and Emerson House back yard - so no UP session. This replaces the April 10 IN session.
- **May 8** - will remain as an OUT date, but most likely no events will be planned on that date since it is Mother's Day.
- **May 15** - the beginning of summer break

The OUT opportunities will be scheduled during the month of May.

World Renew - Make a Difference Workshop - Are you looking for a Christ-centered, hands-on volunteer opportunity? Do you want to help disaster survivors by rebuilding homes, serving as a cook, organizing group mission trips, doing data entry, or interviewing survivors? Attend a **FREE World Renew Disaster Response Services workshop at Third CRC in Denver, Colo., on April 9, 2016, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** to learn how you and your church can really Make a Difference. Find out more and register at worldrenew.net/make-difference-workshop or contact Shirley Van Heukelem at First Church



**FIRST CHRISTIAN
REFORMED CHURCH**

DENVER, COLORADO

Email: connections@firstcrdenver.org #303.733.4936

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

Address: 1814 South Emerson Street, Denver 80210

Pastor Joel Schreurs, ext. 101, Minister of The Word

Shirley Van Heukelem, ext. 104, Programs & Office Administrator

Kim Csepe, ext. 103, Director of Faith Formation

Larry and Alyse Young, Custodians

Rebecca J. Schaefer, ext. 102, Administrative Assistant



**FIRST CHRISTIAN
REFORMED CHURCH**

DENVER, COLORADO

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

**Order of Worship ~ March 27, 2016
Easter Sunday**

Prelude

*Songs: *Christ the Lord* LUYH 182: 1-3,5
See, What a Morning LUYH 181:1-3

*Easter Declaration:
Alleluia! Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!
Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
He has given us new life and hope.
He has raised Jesus from the dead.
God has claimed us as His own.
He has brought us out of darkness.
He has made us light to the world.
Alleluia! Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed.
Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed.
Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

*Song: *Alleluia! Jesus is Risen* LUYH 205:1,2,4,5

*God's Greeting and Mutual Greeting

Renewal~

Song: *What the Lord has Done in Me* LUYH 800

Prayers of Intercession and Gratitude

Offering & Offertory: Benevolence

Word

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: John 20:1-18 pg. 1087
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *While It Was Still Dark*

Prayer for Application

*Song of Response: *I Know that My Redeemer Lives* LUYH 193:1,3,4,7

Table

*Thanksgiving:

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

It is right for us to celebrate this irrepressible life.

Open your hearts to the joy and wonder of infinite possibility, of unquenched hope, of eternal resurrection.

We celebrate! We raise our voices and our hearts in worship and thanksgiving to the God who lives.

With joy we praise You, gracious God, for by Your power You raised Jesus from death to life.

Through His victory over the grave

we are set free from the bonds of sin and the fear of death to share the glorious freedom as children of God.

In His rising to life You promise eternal life to all who believe in Him.

Most righteous God, we remember in this supper the perfect sacrifice offered once on the cross by our Lord Jesus Christ for the sin of the whole world. In the joy of His resurrection

and in the expectation of His coming again,

we offer ourselves to You as holy and living sacrifices.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We who have been redeemed by Him

and made a new people by water and the Spirit now bring you these gifts.

Send Your Holy Spirit upon them

that we who eat and drink at this holy table

may share the resurrection life of Christ, our Lord.

May this meal nourish us that we may go

and spread His resurrection power and redeeming love for the world.

Pour out your Spirit upon the whole earth

until all of creation is flooded with the glory of the Resurrected Lamb

and all Your people of every language, race, and nation,

may share the feast You have promised.

Together we say:

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,

all honor and glory are yours for ever. Amen.

Preparing the Bread and Cup and Invitation

The bread that we break is a sharing in the Body of Christ.

We who are many are one Body, for we all share the same loaf.

The cup for which we give thanks is a sharing in the Blood of Christ.

The cup that we drink is our participation in the Blood of Christ.

Distribution Song: *Jesus Messiah,*

Tomlin~Band

Communion:

The Body of Christ, given for you. **Thanks be to God!**

The Blood of Christ, shed for you. **Thanks be to God!**

Prayer:

God of our salvation, You have restored us to life,

You have brought us back again into Your love

by the triumphant death and resurrection of Christ.

Thank you.

Continue to heal us as we go to live and work

in the power of Your Spirit,

to Your praise and glory.

Now to Him who by the power at work within us

is able to accomplish abundantly far more

than all we can ask or imagine,

to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus

to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

***Doxology:** *Hallelujah Chorus* Words/music by G.F. Handel
All who wish to sing are invited forward. Music is available; please share your copy.

***Benediction**

***Postlude:**

Minister of the Word: Rev. Joel Schreurs

Accompanists: Barb Hogan & Christy Bol

Musicians: First CRC Band & Choir

The flowers on the organ are from the family of Rog Posthumus in memory of his entering his heavenly home on March 28, 2011.

Prayer For God's People

Praise for the healing work taking place in those recovering at home following recent surgery; pray for our home-bound members.

Praise for the new roof before the big snow storm, and for those who labored long and hard on this project. Thank you to John Buteyn for coordinating the reconstruction.

Please continue to pray for Matthew and Laura, Milt and Mary Lanser as they remember baby Aliza now in the loving arms of Jesus, and care for their family, including new baby, Ezra. Cards may be sent to:

Matthew and Laura Lanser

125 North Cornell Ave

Villa Park, IL 60181

Missionary Prayer & Celebrations:

Birthday Blessings to Margaret Njuguna March 29th, and continued prayer for the expansion project at En-Gedi Children's Home. May they feel encouragement, pace and peace as plans unfold.

First Church Upcoming Activities

CEP (Christian Education Program) Informational Meetings: Please come and Learn more about the commitment First Church has to Christian Education. Attendance at one of these meetings is required to participate in academic year 2016-2017. Meetings will be held in the Pit Stop. **Sunday: April 3** from 11-12 noon, **OR Wednesday, April 6 from 6:30-7:30 in the Room #21.** Questions welcome at cepboard@firstcrddenver.org

Mom's Playgroup Schedule for the Spring:

March 30-OFF (spring break)

April 6-OFF (spring break)

April 13-Molly Schuttinga-Hanson

Contact: alliechristians4@gmail.com to be included!

First Church men are invited to join the men of Immanuel CRC, Fort Collins, for the annual **Men's Retreat in Moab, Utah, Friday, April 29-Sunday morning, May 1.** Quite a few men arrive earlier, on Thursday. Our sites are reserved for Thursday night as well as Friday and Saturday. All First Church men and guests are welcome. Chris Lighthiser is the contact for First Church: clighthiser@gmail.com.

June 13-17, 2016 Eagle Lake Summer Camp to be held again this year at Hope Community Church. First Church is partnering with Hope and Platt Park Churches to host this fun-filled week for kids in 1st through 6th grade. Postcards are available at the back tables for you to share with friends and family. Go to <http://eaglelakecamps.com/athope> to register.

Stewardship Announcements

Benevolence Fund Report: The purpose of the Benevolence Fund of First CRC Denver is to extend God's grace and mercy in a financial manner to people connected with our church who are in need. The benevolence policy states that this fund can be used by individuals and families who attend our church, are connected to members of our church, or live in the Platt Park community. Hard copies of the current policy are available for you above the copy machine in Room 24. Members of First Church have given very generously, and many needs have been met through the Benevolence Fund in the past few months. If you have a need or know someone in need of temporary financial assistance, we encourage you to speak to your household deacon or the benevolence deacon, Maria Buteyn, about ways that we may be able to help you. *Thank you for your support of the Benevolence Fund!*

YOU ARE A HUGE BLESSING TO THE "THIRSTY" OF THE WORLD

Living Water International transforms lives by sharing the love of Jesus Christ and bringing a cup of good, safe water in HIS name, but Living Water would not be able to do this without partners like you.

You not only have supported the "thirsty" of the world with your financial partnership, but have actually gone and served. You have been going on Living Water trips since 2007. Our sincere thanks for giving your time and your talents. ~ a recent letter received from Living Water International.

Happy Easter, Jesus is risen indeed!

Requested Announcements:

March 31st - 6PM Lakewood Cultural Center ~ Joshua Station Event

Pre Show Reception featuring: Live Music by The Royal Aces, light appetizers & cash bar with door prizes! Our featured speaker for the evening will be Swanikia Ware, a recent graduate of Joshua Station! There is no charge for tickets, rather we will do a direct ask to support the Joshua Station programs. Details: milehighmin.org/springtheaterevent.

There are a few seats left for Bethany Christian Services of Colorado's "Smokey Joe's Café" on April 5, 6 p.m., at the Town Hall Arts Center, 2450 W. Main St., Littleton. Did you know the star of the current television series *Supergirl* is from our very own Littleton Theater! For ticket information, Contact Carol Willis at (303) 241-8651 or cwillis@bethany.org

Celebrate Successful Aging ~ with Aged To Perfection, the eleventh Annual fundraising event **on April 21, 2016 4:30pm-8:30pm**, at Holly Creek: 5500 East Peakview Avenue in Centennial 80121, on behalf of Christian Living Communities. Reservations requested by April 15th, go to: ChristianLivingCommunities.org/aged-to-perfection. For questions, please contact LLopez@CLCmail.org 720.974.3642.