

Church Calendar

Sunday ~ March 3rd –

Pastor Joel is preaching; Offering is for World Renew

11:00am Age-specific Sunday School,

Chaplain Jensen's class in Emerson House

12 noon Teacher Appreciation Lunch

Monday ~ March 4th

Tuesday ~ March 5th

1:30-3:00pm – Staff meeting

Ash Wednesday ~ March 6th: Family Night

8:00am – Men's Breakfast Bible Study in Emerson House

9:30am – Ladies' AM Bible Study

5:15pm Ash Wednesday Service in Sanctuary

6:30pm – Elder's Mtg., GEMS/Cadets, *Beloved of God*/Coffee Break

Thursday ~ February March 7th

9-12noon - Sew & Sews in rm. 12/13

Friday ~ March 8th - Library is staffed/ PLIA Group: **3/8-3/16.**

Saturday ~ March 9th

7:00am – Men's Morning Bible Study

10:00am - *Circle of Hope* (family support for mental illness issues), rm.21

9-12noon – Family Promise Sewing Project in 12/13

Lord's Supper Sunday ~ March 10th - Daylight Savings Time

Pastor Joel preaching, Offering is for General Fund

11:00am – 12noon: Chaplain Jensen's class in Emerson, Sunday School.

11:00am – 1:00pm Family Promise Training

5-7pm - Youth Group

Thank you to all serving this Sunday, March 3

Children in Worship: Jill Schreurs, Karen Waanders, Charlotte Reynolds, Matthew Jonker

Nursery: Cheryl Schmitt, Erin Reynolds, Melanie Jonker Sam Waanders

Camera: Owen Vermeer **Lyrics:** Lilli Vermeer

Sound: Cory Vermeer

Prayer Ministry Elders: Fred Ritsema & Nancy Waanders

Coffee: Buteyn

Thank you to all serving next Sunday, March 10

Children in Worship: Kelsie Ruter, Laurie Sanderson

Eli Reynolds, Lilli Vermeer

Nursery: Charys Youngsma, Denali Schmitt, Dale Sanderson

Adam DeBoer

Camera: Isaac Jonker **Lyrics:** Davis Addink

Sound: Logan Posthumus

Prayer Ministry Elders: Cal Van Heukelem & Anne Buteyn

Coffee: Sander/Staff

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. *Lord's Supper will be celebrated next Sunday 3/10. Baptized believers who place their faith in Jesus Christ for salvation are invited to receive communion.*

The elevator will be out of service again this Sunday. Service should be restored by Tuesday. Sorry for the inconvenience. Please request assistance as needed.

Freely Sharing Our Lives:

Family Promise Update: Plans for our first Family Promise host week (**April 7-14**) are going well. If you have any questions about volunteering or about the program, contact:

- Bret Lamsma (bret@firstcrcdenver.org) - Overall Coordinator
- Chris/Amanda Lighthiser (clighthiser@gmail.com)- Grocery Coordinators
- Ed Schans (ejs-62@comcast.net) - Transportation Coordinator
- Jill Schreurs (jill.schreurs@gmail.com) - Meal Coordinator
- Mary Lanser (marylanser@gmail.com) - Facilities Coordinator
- Melanie Jonker (melanie.jonker@gmail.com) -Overnight Coordinator

Only One Training date left! **Sunday March 10 from 11 am -1 pm.** *Everyone who will have contact with our guests MUST ATTEND ONE MEETING!* **Family Promise staff will be at each of the meetings** with members of our leadership team to talk about how Family Promise will work at our church.

*Thanks to everyone who contributed so generously to the request for the Family Promise items we need! Our most pressing needs now are comforters, room dividers, and pak-n-play baby beds. Contact Mary Lanser if you have any questions. Please bring donated items to church **by next Sunday, March 10th.***

Family Promise at First CRC needs a few volunteers in the next few days. **FIRST**, we are inviting people who like to **sew** to join us in room s 12/13 at First CRC next Saturday *March 9 at 9 AM* to make simple window coverings. **SECOND**, we are also looking for a few specific colors/patters of of cotton or cotton blend **fabric** (under 1.5 yds). Please inquire for details if you have a fabric stash that you might be willing to share a few pieces **THIRD** we are looking for one or two people who like to **shop** for a few basic items we need to make our church into a home for a week. Please respond to marylanser@gmail.com.

Lent Devotional - Lent is a season to focus on the hope of Jesus Christ. Receive a *free Today* devotional email series to help you refresh, refocus, and renew your faith during Lent. Or download the ebook! Subscribe at TodayDevotional.com/Lent.

Canto Deo Concert of Abiding Blessings: A Musical Conversation with Saints through the Ages Directed by Jonathan Brown
Concerts are free and open to the public. Donations truly appreciated.
Friday, 3/15/19 @ 7:30pm St. Elizabeth of Hungary
1060 St. Francis Way (Auraria Campus)
Denver, 80204

Sunday, 3/17/19 @3:00pm Bethany Lutheran Church
4500 E. Hampden Ave, Cherry Hills Village 80113

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.*

March 3rd, 2019 Gathering

Prelude
Welcome
Processional

Call to Worship: Psalm 34:1-5

I will extol the Lord at all times;

His praise will always be on my lips.

I will glory in the Lord;

let the afflicted hear and rejoice.

Glorify the Lord with me;

let us exalt His name together.

I sought the Lord, and He answered me;

He delivered me from all my fears.

Those who look to Him are radiant;

their faces are never covered with shame.

*Song: *O For A Thousand Tongues To Sing* LUYH 590 (verses 1,2,3,5,7)

*Psalm 34:8-10

Taste and see that the Lord is good;

blest is the one who takes refuge in Him.

Fear the Lord, you His holy people,

for those who fear Him lack nothing.

The lions may grow weak and hungry,

but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

*Songs:

This Is My Father's World LUYH 21

How Great Thou Art LUYH 553

*God's Greeting and Mutual Greeting

Renewal

Call to Confession:

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Psalm 103:2-5

Praise the Lord, my soul,

and forget not all His benefits—

who forgives all your sins

and heals all your diseases,

who redeems your life from the pit

and crowns you with love and compassion,

who satisfies your desires with good things

so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

*Song of Assurance: *Christ Is Enough*

Offering: World Renew--DRS

Offertory

Word

Children in Worship Dismissal: *Children ages 3 to Kindergarten are invited to hear God's Word downstairs. 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 11:7-12:14 pg. 671

Sermon: *Last Words*

Prayer for Application

*Song of Response: *I Will Follow*

Sending

*Sending: Ecclesiastes 3:11-14

God has made everything beautiful in its time.

He has also set eternity in the human heart;

yet no one can fathom what God has done

from beginning to end.

I know that there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live.

That each of them may eat and drink,

and find satisfaction in all their toil—this is the gift of God.

I know that everything God does will endure forever;

nothing can be added to it and nothing taken from it.

We will fear God and keep His commandments,

for this is the duty of all mankind.

*Sending Song: *Doxology*

*Blessing

*Postlude: *I Will Follow* instrumental

Minister of the Word: Rev. Joel Schreurs

Director of Faith Formation: Dr. Bret Lamsma

Worship Coordinator: First CRC Band

Accompanists: Jack Waanders

Up ~ Prayer and Praise:

Our Persecuted Believer's prayer focus for March and April will be for our brothers and sisters of Latin America. Please take a prayer sheet by the silver message board for strategic prayer ideas. As you watch the weekly news, continue to pray for provision, protection and a sense of our Lord's divine presence for our neighbors being uprooted, starved and persecuted.

We continue to pray for **Joy Smit**, being treated for a life-threatening skin disease. Praise God for the compassionate wisdom of her medical team. Please pray for sustaining grace for Ina.

Remember our dear friends in senior/assisted living facilities. Pray for strengthened faith/hope in Christ and encouraging conversations with others.

Remember our little ones at home, in pre-school and in Sunday school. May they come to know, love and serve Jesus even as He watches over them.

We pray for men and women (boys and girls) who are without a safe place to sleep, clean water, nourishing food or warm shelter during the bitter cold weather in metro Denver.

IN ~ Events & Upcoming Activities

*The congregation is invited to start the season of Lent with a brief **Ash Wednesday Service** before our Family Night meal this coming Wednesday. The service will begin at **5:15pm**, but come whenever you can! Hillcrest CRC and Hope Fellowship CRC will join us for this service.*

March Family Nights: March 6 & March 20

5:15pm Ash Wednesday Service;

5:45pm ~ Meal is served

6:30PM: GEMS/Cadets/Coffee Break/ Beloved of God

3/6 – Elders meet in rm 24

3/20 - Council meets in rm 24

Adult Education: We are excited to be offering week 2 of a 4-week adult class on Sunday mornings entitled "*Death as a spiritual event with medical implications.*" This will be a conversation about faith, sickness, death, and medical decisions led by Rev. William Jensen, palliative chaplain at the University of Colorado Hospital. We will be meeting in the Emerson House immediately following service.

Men's Wednesday Am Bible Study 8:00 in Emerson, coffee is on at 7:30am.

Ladies' Wed. pm weekly Coffee Break at 6:30pm in Emerson House.

Ladies Wed. Morning Bible Study in Rm .12/13, March 6 & 20.

Circle of Hope encouragement group for families supporting a loved one receiving care to live life with mental illness. This group meets monthly on the 2nd Saturday (March 9th), in room 21. Newcomers welcome to contact Cathy: czoetewey@comcast.net, to learn more.

Council Updates:

Council met February 20th, and here are some of the highlights of their meeting:

- Worship Coordinator Kyle Cooper, and Elder Dave Cady reported on their time at the Worship Symposium. It was a refreshing time of learning and reflection for both of them, and they are grateful to First Church for the opportunity to attend this conference.
- John and Mary Ella House have requested that their membership be transferred to St. John's Cathedral. We are thankful for their time with us and pray for God's blessing on them in their new church home.
- We are delighted to welcome Matt Husa and his children, Divya and Kian, Tyler and Nicole Amidon and their children, Jeffrey and Kara, and Anneliese Shively and her grand children Dameon, McKinley and Kaleb. We are grateful to God that they are joining our church family.
- Council spent time considering a proposal to change the makeup of our Grow Groups to reflect the geographical locations of our homes. We will continue to discuss the pros and cons of this idea in future Council meetings. As always, elders and deacons welcome your feedback.

OUT ~ Living Our Faith & Growing by

Joyfully Surrendering To Jesus ~

Shirley Van Heukelem will be traveling to Kenya for a World Renew board member site visit **March 13-24**. Prior to the time with World Renew, she will be visiting our Mission Partner in Kenya, Margaret Njuguna, at the En Gedi Children's Home near Nairobi.

Margaret has asked for hand-knit slippers (adult-sized) and cloth diapers. If you would like to contribute either of these items, please bring them to the church office by **March 12**. Thank you!

Humbly Embracing The Hurting ~

Quiet Waters: *Do you enjoy making people feel welcome and at ease? Are you able to serve for a week or two at a time? This may be the perfect opportunity for you!* Quiet Waters Ministries is a local organization providing one and two week counseling intensives for pastors, missionaries and para-church leaders at a Retreat Home in Parker. They are looking for more volunteer couples to serve as Retreat Center Hosts, preparing meals and caring for clients during their stay. Visit qwaters.org/get-involved/host-couple, or contact Shannon at info@qwaters.org or #303639-9066 if you are interested!

Join the East Africa Climate Witness Project Trip! - Are you passionate about climate justice? Do you want to be at ground-zero with those who are on the front lines of climate justice? Or do you know someone in your church who would welcome an opportunity like that? This trip is for you or for that person you are thinking of! Since the Climate Witness Project is a joint effort between World Renew and the CRC Office of Social Justice, we have the opportunity to bring a group of nine participants on a trip through Kenya and Uganda. Climate Change affects us all, but people who live in long-term poverty are experiencing it first and most. This ten day journey will stretch you and your fellow travelers to learn, grow, and act on behalf of those are experiencing climate change now. Learn more and sign up for the trip at bit.ly/EastAfricaCWP