

Church Calendar

Sunday ~ May 26: Graduation Celebration!

Monday ~ May 27

6:30pm - Count Committee

Tuesday ~ May 28

Wednesday ~ May 29

8:00am - Men's Morning Bible Study in Emerson

9:30am - Ladies AM Bible Study in 12/13

9-3 - Staff Retreat off-site: Joel/Bret/Shirley/Kyle; Office open

6:30pm - Coffee Break in Emerson

Thursday ~ May 30

9-12 - Sew & Sews in 12/13

4-8pm - Visitation for Edna Houtkooper at Bullock Mortuary

7:00pm - Band Practice in Sanctuary

Friday ~ May 31

9:00am - Library

11:00am - Memorial Service for Edna Houtkooper

Saturday ~ June 1: Cadets at Long Scraggy thru Sunday am

Sunday ~ June 2 Jonathan Cady preaching

10:45am - Congregational Meeting/vote

11:30am - Mission partner luncheon for Jonathan & Marian Cady

Thank you to all serving this Sunday, May 26

Children in Worship: Davinia Lyons, Laurie Sanderson, Charlotte Reynolds, Matthew Jonker

Nursery: Sandra Posthumus, Lynn Roberts, Bob Reynolds, Trevin Schmitt

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

Prayer Ministry Elders: Fred Ritsema & Nancy Waanders

Coffee: Ed Schans/staff

Thank you to all serving next Sunday, June 2

Children in Worship: Becky Vermeer, Hannah & Annika DeBoer, Wyatt Vermeer

Nursery Leader: TBD **Adult Helpers:** Paige Cady & Walt Ackerman

Camera: Mieke Waanders **Lyrics:** Ari Waanders **Sound:** Jon Waanders

Prayer Ministry Elders: Cal Van Heukelem & Anne Buteyn

Coffee: DeBoer/Kats

Welcome guests and visitors: First CRC is grateful to have you here with us! Please fill out a Connect card in the pew pocket so we know how best to support and encourage you. Elders are up front for you after each service.

Women's Retreat Applications - Applications for Sept. 27-29, 2019

Women's Retreat in Breckenridge, CO are available online:

<https://forms.gle/XEWVgBQjGTLJPN9N8>

Applications and payment are due on or **before July 21**. There will be a few copies of the application on a table in the foyer, and a flyer.

Contact Shirley Van Heukelem, or Julie Lamsma for more information.

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

Council News

Council met on May 15, and here are some of the highlights of our meeting:

- Council approved the amount requested by the Christian Education Assistance Fund committee.
- We reviewed and approved the budget. Copies are available in the foyer.
- We considered a request for First CRC to call Pastor Hannah Guan, pastor of a Korean church in Aurora, and mother to Rev. Hope Lee, whose credentials are currently being held by our church. The executive committee will schedule a meeting with Pastor Guan to discuss.

Upcoming June 2nd Congregational Meeting

- Council is grateful for God's faithfulness in providing leaders in our congregation willing to serve. During the congregational meeting on **June 2nd** we will request the congregation ratify the following individuals to serve 3 year terms:

Elder:	Deacon:
Cathy Vandonselaar	Donn Hansum
Jim DeHaan	Craig Lohmann
Sandie Posthumus (Clerk)	
- Council will ask the congregation to approve the General Fund budget for the coming fiscal year.
- In addition, Council will request that the congregation approve and support the requests for Christian Education assistance for the coming year in the amount of \$109,478 supporting 11 families. As a reminder, the process for supporting Christian Education has changed for the coming budget year and our financial support for Christian Education will no longer be a part of the General Fund. Instead, a separate account has been established to assist with the cost of tuition on a needs basis.

Message from the Deacons on Budget Deficit

As we, as a congregation, look forward to the approval of a new budget next month, we must also reflect on the current budget and how far behind we are in budgeted giving. As of the end of April, we are \$52,463 behind our budgeted giving expectations. This is not only a significant shortfall behind projected giving for the current fiscal year, but also behind previous years' giving.

The practice of generosity is a faith discipline; growing in generosity is the mark of a developing faith and a deeper walk with Christ. As a congregation we are not only seeking to be fed spiritually, but also with God's help, to be a family of God, doing kingdom work!

Please keep our church in prayer as we move toward discerning what financial gifts we will make in the coming year. Thank you all for your continued financial support, which make a difference in the life of our church. ~ Deacons of First CRC

Proverbs 3:9 Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops.

Missionary Celebrations: June

Birthdays ~

Judah Starkenburg - 9th

Cora Broek - 17th

Asher Starkenburg - 21st

Anniversary ~

Jonathan & Marian Cady - 27th



FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

DENVER, COLORADO

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

Sunday ~ May 26, 2019

Gathering

Prelude

Welcome

Processional

Call to Worship: from Psalm 67

May the peoples praise You, God;
may all the peoples praise You.
May the nations be glad and sing for joy,
**for You rule the peoples with equity
and guide the nations of the earth.**
May the peoples praise You, God;
may all the peoples praise You.

*Song: *O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing* LUYH 590

*Reading from Psalm 40

I waited patiently for the Lord;
He turned to me and heard my cry.
He lifted me out of the slimy pit,
out of the mud and mire;
He set my feet on a rock
and gave me a firm place to stand.
He put a new song in my mouth,
a hymn of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear the Lord
and put their trust in Him.

*Song: *Everlasting God*

*God's Greeting and Mutual Greeting

Renewal

Call to Confession: Psalm 40:11-13, 17

Prayer of Confession:

Song of Confession: *Lord I Need You*

Assurance of Pardon: Romans 5: 6, 8

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.

God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

*Song of Assurance: *Man of Sorrows, What A Name* LUYH 170

Offering: General Fund

Offertory: *Grace Alone*

Word

Children In Worship Dismissal

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

Scripture: John 5:1-9 pg. 1067

Sermon: The Un(Deserving) Poor

Prayer for Application

*Song of Response: *God of Grace*

Sending

Graduation celebration and 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 and First CRC Band
Accompanist: Christy Bol

Up ~ Prayer and Praise:

*Our Persecuted Believer's prayer focus for **May** and **June** will be for our brothers and sisters of **India**, including **Sri Lanka**. Please take a prayer sheet by the silver message board, or take a phone picture, 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 believers who have sustained trauma and great loss.*

Update from Van Otterloo Family:

We have been incredibly blessed to be a part of this congregation for the past several years. You have supported and encouraged us in such a variety of ways, and we are grateful for the family you have been to us. We are so sad to say goodbye to you at the end of this month when our family moves back to the Iowa City area. Our New address is: 260 Whitman Ave., North Liberty, IA 52317 the Van Otterloo's

Update from the van Vliet Family: *As some of you know, we are moving to Fort Collins; our last Sunday worshipping with you will be June 2. We are thankful for the love, support, and teaching we have received here. We will miss our church family, and request prayer as we find a new church home and adjust to the changes in our life. Our door is always open should you find yourself up north! Our new address is: 1208 Hillside Ct. Fort Collins, CO 80524. With our love, Jevon, Becky, Ireyana, William, and Anneke van Vliet*

We pray God's blessing and guidance for all of the **graduates**, from pre-school/kindergarten to graduate school, seminary and technical programs. May God's grace flow through each person to serve God's kingdom in whatever way is needed most. May there be joy in the offering!

We praise God for new treatment options and hope for cancer treatment. We pray for those who continue to battle cancer of all kinds.

Our Sister in Christ, **Edna Houtkooper**, passed away early, Wednesday, May 15. We give thanks for our hope of salvation in Jesus Christ. There will be a visitation for family and friends on **Thursday, May 30th**, from **4-8pm** at Bullock Mortuary: 1375 East Hampden Avenue, ENG 80113. You are invited to the memorial service on **Friday, May 31 at 11am**, at First CRC, with a light lunch following. We pray comfort for her family. Cards may be sent to Edna's children and grandchildren in care of Mike Houtkooper: 14708 east 135th Avenue, Brighton, CO 80601

IN ~ Events & Upcoming Activities

Men's Wed. AM Bible Study 8:00 in the Emerson House South of church, coffee is on at 7:30am. Contact: Joel.jonker@gmail.com

Men's Sat. AM Bible Study in rm 21, *every other Sat.*, next mtg. **May 25**. Contact Rod Oosterhouse: rodohouse@comcast.net

Ladies' Wed. AM Bible Study in rm 12/13, **May 29th** at 9:30am. Contact study leader Walt Ackerman: wackerman@comcast.net

Ladies' Coffee Break Summer Schedule: June 12 & 26 at 6:30pm in Library. **July 10** in Library; **July 24** in Emerson House. August Pot Luck - TBD
Contact Betty Eyser: b.eyser@comcast.net; or Beth@firstcrcdenver.org

Sew & Sews meets every other Thursday in rm 12/13. Next mtg. **May 30th**. Contact Joey Vander Ark for more information: joeyvanark@aol.com

Save The Date! Long Scraggy All-church picnic off-site: Sunday, **August 25th**. Call John at Long Scraggy to make your weekend camping reservations: 303.838.7770
More details to follow. Let us know if you have any suggestions, or want to help.

OUT ~ Living Our Faith & Growing by

Joyfully Surrendering To Jesus ~

As we finish our preschool year, we want to again express our gratitude for your continued care for Platt Park Children's Center. We appreciate your prayers and financial support! We are seeking additional teaching staff for the 2019-20 school year. We are a part day preschool program serving children 2.5-5 years old. If you have a love for young children and would like more information, please email Cheryl Schmitt, Director at ppcc@plattparkchildrenscenter.com. Thank you!
1601 S. Clarkson St., Denver, CO 80210 #303-282-7722, #303-733-1567 fax

Freely Sharing Our Lives ~ An Update from Kyle Cooper

Hello First CRC family!

As many of you know, I have a vision disability called Retinitis Pigmentosa, which means I have no night vision and limited peripheral (among other things). This is a genetic disorder that scientists have been working hard to cure for most of my lifetime. This research has only been in testing and not a viable option for me...until now!! I learned a few months ago that a gene therapy called Luxturna is now FDA approved. Long story, but it was not likely that I would be a candidate for this treatment, but I sent in my DNA test as a shot in the dark (pun intended), and alas, I am a candidate!

After many adventures of figuring out insurance and logistics, **my surgery is scheduled for June 11th and July 9th** (each eye is done separately). There is no guarantee of what results will be, but there seems to be real hope that it could help me, or at least keep my vision from declining because of RP. I go back and forth regularly, trying to temper my expectations, and wondering what it would be like to sing *Amazing Grace* in a whole new way. Whatever happens, I know the Lord is good and you all have been a tremendous support. Thank you so much to all of you who have been praying for me throughout this process. It has been amazing to experience your love and care. ~ Kyle Cooper

Humbly Embracing The Hurting ~

Foster Care: Bethany Christian Services of Colorado has a heart for children, and we equip families to be the answer for children in need. With offices in Denver and Colorado Springs, our staff works to bring and keep families together through our services that include foster care, adoption and pregnancy support. Foster care continues to be our largest program, as Colorado's need for foster families is high. If you are interested in becoming a licensed foster parent, we would love to connect with you: Bethany.org/Denver #303-221-0734

Missions Update From Margaret Njuguna ~

Lavency and Angel have returned home to live with their families! Lavency's young mom was home bound for 3 years caring for disabled Lavency and her sister's children, in exchange for rent. She now has her dream office job, due to Margaret's support, and can afford care for Lavency. Angel (with no arms/hands or legs/feet) stayed with Margaret for 3 years while her parents held factory jobs. They moved back to Kenya to fully accept little Angel into their family.

En-gedi Children's Home welcomes Mwangi James, a 6.5 year old boy, malnourished with cerebral palsy. A second boy, Mwongela, also with cerebral palsy and chest complications, has been embraced by Margaret and the staff. For prayer requests, please find a Spring edition Newsletter on the Missions table.

Reception for Jonathan Cady: Sunday, June 2, 11:30-12:30pm

Our Resonate Global Mission Partner will be preaching on **Sunday, June 2nd**. First CRC will host an authentic Chinese luncheon after the Congregational meeting, for all who RSVP by *Wednesday, May 29th*. Come and learn more about Jonathan's mission, ministry and heart for the people they serve. Contact Rebecca at: #303.733.4936; or connections@firstcrcdenver.org