

# Church Calendar

**Sunday – November 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday School on Winter Break**

Pastor Joel preaching; General Fund offering;

**Monday ~ November 26<sup>h</sup>**

**6:30pm** – Count committee

**Tuesday ~ November 27<sup>th</sup>**

**1:30pm** - Staff Meeting, rm. 21

**3:00 ~10:00pm** – Classical Conversations

**Wednesday ~ November 28<sup>th</sup>**

**7:30am** – Men’s Bible Study in the Emerson House

**6:30pm** – Coffee break; **6:45pm** Beloved of God

**Thursday ~ November 29<sup>th</sup>**

**9:00-11:00am** – Sew & Sews

**Friday ~ November 30<sup>th</sup>**

**9:30am-11:30am** – Global Bazaar Set-up

**Saturday ~ December 1<sup>st</sup>**

**7:00am** Men’s Morning Bible Study

**9-12pm** Global Bazaar

**First Sunday of Advent ~ December 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Pastor Joel Schreurs; offering is for Benevolence

**5-7pm** Youth Group

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## Thank you to all serving next Sunday, November 25<sup>th</sup>:

**Children in Worship:** Christine Nibbelink, Jessica Cleveland, Jacob Van Donselaar, Ari Waanders

**Nursery:** Cristin Buys, Kyle Van Andel, Lea Gunnett, Owen Vermeer

**Camera:** Mieke Waanders **Lyrics:** Gabe Zoetewey **Sound:** Jon Waanders

**Prayer Ministry Elder:** Cal Van Heukelem & Anne Buteyn

**Coffee:** Buteyn

## Thank you to all serving next Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>:

**Children in Worship:** Kelsie Ruter, Gracie Hansum, Andy Vanden Boogaard Savannah Blohm

**Nursery:** Cheryl Schmitt, Hannah Grafton, Jeremy Waanders, Ari Waanders

**Camera:** Ian Reynods **Lyrics:** Charlotte Reynolds **Sound:** Bob Reynolds

**Prayer Ministry Elder:** Dave Cady & Sheri DeHaan

**Coffee:** Vander Ark

*Elevator: Our elevator is back in service! Thank you for your patience over the last few weeks.*

**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 for you to fill out, and let us know how best to help you connect to the faith family at First Church.

## **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

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## Advent and Christmas:

**December 1<sup>st</sup> 9-2pm ~ Global Bazaar Fair Trade Market**

- **GLOBAL BAZAAR** *volunteer sign-ups* are in back of church.

**December 11<sup>th</sup> ~ Senior Moments Christmas Party in Fellowship Hall beginning at 9:30am; catered lunch at 12.**

**December 2, 9 & 16<sup>th</sup>,**

~ Advent Series: on the **Book of Ruth** and *Live It Out* Activities for all! Sign up TODAY so we have enough supplies for everyone.

## Christmas Day Service at 9:30am

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**GEMS:** A huge THANK YOU to everyone who donated baked items and donated to the GEMS bake sale on Thanksgiving Day. We raised a lot of money for the GEMS organization, the Esther School and our local GEMS club.

Thanksgiving season is a wonderful opportunity to show our gratitude for where we have witnessed God’s providence throughout the year. The Deacons encourage you to show your gratitude by offering your financial gifts to specific Mission Partners with First CRC, Volunteers in Action, the First CRC Benevolence fund, or the First CRC general fund.

*Checks can be made out to First CRC with the name of the organization in the memo line.*

- **First CRC General Fund** supports the ministries, staff and upkeep of First CRC as well as the administration and ministries of the Christian Reformed denomination.
- **First CRC Benevolence** is used to extend God’s grace and mercy in a financial manner to people connected with our church who are in need.
- **First CRC Mission Partnerships** include several agencies and people within the greater Denver area and around the world that minister to specific needs. Our mission partners are Cascade of Hope/Victor and Sandra Perez, Denver Area Youth for Christ Juvenile Justice Ministry/Claire Froelich, The Table/Craig and Jeanine Broek, En Gedi Children's Home/Margaret Njuguna, Nicaragua Christian Academy/Liam and Jessica Starkenburg, and Mission Partners in China/Jonathan and Marian Cady.
- **Volunteers in Action (VIA)** is a Denver-based organization that serves the community by providing Christians the opportunity to enhance the lives of others by connecting them with underserved people in one-on-one relationships. [www.volunteersinaction.info](http://www.volunteersinaction.info)

## Count Committee Report: 11/4 & 11/11

*Council of First CRC is grateful for your tithes and offerings:*

General Fund	\$33,327.01
World Renew/World Huger	2,952.00
Benevolence	150.00

*The anticipated offering for a two-week count, in order to maintain the 2018/19 Budget, is \$31,924.52.*



## 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.*

## Gathering ~ November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Prelude

Welcome: Christ the King Sunday

Processional

\*Call to Worship: Ephesians 1:20-22

After God the Father raised Christ from the dead He seated him at His right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. **And God placed all things under His feet and appointed Him to be head over everything for the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills everything in every way.**

\*Song: *All Hail the Power of Jesus Name* LUYH 601 (verses 1,3,4)

\*Prayer:

We praise you, great God, for You are Ruler of the universe and have sent Your Son to be King of kings. We rejoice that He has triumphed over all the powers of this world and governs the nations in justice and righteousness. We celebrate His victory in His life, death, resurrection, and ascension to honor and might at Your side. By Your Spirit, claim our complete loyalty, establish Christ’s rule in every land and in every heart. Accept our homage as we offer our lives in the service of Christ’s kingdom. He is Lord forever and ever. Amen.

\*Song: *Revelation Song*

\*God’s Greeting

People of God, from where does your help come?

**Our help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.**

Grace, Mercy and peace be yours in the name of the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen**

\*Mutual Greeting

## Renewal

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Song of Confession: *I Surrender All* LUYH 739

Assurance of Pardon: Matthew 11:28-30

Jesus says...

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

\*Song: *Amazing Grace / My Chains Are Gone, Amazing Love / You Are My King*

Offering: General Fund

Offertory

## Word

Children In Worship

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: Psalm 127 pg. 617

Sermon

Prayer for Application

\*Song of Response: *This Is My Father's World* LUYH 21

\*Sending: Psalm 91:1-2, Isaiah 40:28-31

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

**I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust."**

The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

**He will not grow tired or weary, and His understanding no one can fathom.**

He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

**Even youths grow tired and weary, but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.**

They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, **they will walk and not be faint.**

\*Sending Song: *Everlasting God*

\*Blessing

\*Postlude: band reprise *Everlasting God*

Minister of the Word: Rev. Joel Schreurs

Director of Faith Formation: Dr. Bret Lamsma

Worship Coordinator: Kyle Cooper, First CRC Band & Brass

Accompanist: Hannah DeBoer

## Up ~ Prayer and Praise:

*Our Persecuted Believer's prayer focus will be for the country of Pakistan during November and December. Please look for a prayer sheet by the silver message board with strategic prayer requests and links to more information.*

- Blessings and prayers for **Jack and Jean Allen**, celebrating 71 years of marriage on November 26<sup>th</sup>!
- **We thank God** for the church family and community we are so grateful to be a part of.
- **Marge Rozendaal** is recovering after a fall on Sunday. She has returned to Harvard Square and is doing well. We continue to pray for the Rozendaal family.
- We praise and thank God for **new babies!** We pray for grace and wisdom for parents of these tiny miracles.

## IN ~ Events & Upcoming Activities

**Senior Moments:** Mark your calendar for **December 11th** for our annual Christmas party. **Coffee time begins at 9:30 a.m.** Lunch is at 12:00.p.m. games, sing along with Kyle and gift exchange. Please see the flyer for details. Remember to sign up if you plan to join us. We need our final count by December 9<sup>th</sup>, for our caterer. Questions: Betty K. 303-514-6251.

**Beloved of God** class will be meeting every Wednesday Night at **6:45pm** in Room 12/13, except for Family Night (when we will meet in the Fellowship room after meal time). Pamela Hansum is the contact person: [dphansum@q.com](mailto:dphansum@q.com) if you have any questions.

**Platt Park Children's Center** With grateful hearts we say a big thank you for the offering received for Platt Park Children's Center. Your continued support blesses so many children in our community! Work on your Christmas list while supporting a great preschool! Join the Platt Park Children's Center Book Fair at the Barnes and Noble on Colorado Blvd on **Monday, December 3**. Look for a flyer with details and a voucher in your box soon. Thank you. ~ *Cheryl Schmitt*

**Denver Christian School** will be hosting a CommUNITY event Parenting series on: Technology (exploring today's tech culture; video games, Amino Apps & Twitch.tv) with the guidance of the counseling department. You are welcome and invited: **Monday, December 3rd at 7:00pm**, 3898 S. Teller St. Lakewood 80235

## Coming in December - Live It Out!

For Advent this year we are offering intergenerational activities during our Sunday School hour that will allow us to put our faith into action. We have six options for you to choose from:

1. Intergenerational choir and possibly orchestra
2. Visual arts for the sanctuary using the Advent theme from Ruth
3. Readers theater based on the book of Ruth
4. Christmas cookies for the home-bound
5. Wish List and/or Move-in Packets for Family Promise
6. Ornament craft on the Advent theme from the book of Ruth

These groups will meet for **3 weeks, Dec. 2, 9, & 16**. Everyone - from 3 to 103 - is encouraged to sign up today on the sheets available in the back of church.

## Council Report: November 2018

The Council met on Tuesday evening. Following are the highlights of our meeting:

- Roger opened our meeting with a reading from *Firstfruits*, a book about stewardship and he facilitated the discussion. In the next few months we will be learning more about how to model and encourage stewardship in our church.
- We discussed the recruitment process of new elders and deacons. In July 2019, deacons Chad Nibbelink and Roger Vanden Boogaard, and elders Sheri DeHaan and Nancy Waanders will be retiring. Karen Waanders' term as the clerk will also be ending. Spiritual gifts needed on the elder team are: a passion for prayer, a unifying presence, shepherding and hospitality. The spiritual gift needed by the deacon team is administration. We welcome the nominations of individuals who possess these leadership qualities. Please email Karen Waanders at [kwaanders@firstcrcdenver.org](mailto:kwaanders@firstcrcdenver.org) or contact your elder/deacon team. At our December meeting, we will create a list of people for our elders and deacons to approach to serve our church body on Council.
- Our treasurer reported that currently giving is \$58,000 below budget year-to-date. The Council asks that you remember the First CRC general fund as you consider your year-end giving.
- Council discussed how to better communicate with our congregation about the ongoing work of the Council. We have decided that the Connections is the best place to give more detailed information regarding what we are talking about each month. Please feel free to reach out to your Deacon/Elder team with comments or questions.

## OUT ~ Living Our Faith & Growing by

### Joyfully Surrendering To Jesus ~

Deforestation is a serious, present-day issue affecting the people and the environment of Haiti. This community-driven initiative combats deforestation by education and action. The project educates the community on the dangers of slash-and-burn farming, and the importance of protecting/planting trees and other vegetation. The project reduces food insecurity and provides income for families by growing fruit trees and vegetables in community gardens.

**Dates: January 26 - February 4, 2019** Interested in participating? Contact Andrew at [globalvolunteer@worldrenew.net](mailto:globalvolunteer@worldrenew.net)

### Freely Sharing Our Lives ~

Bankat will be prepared and ready for Grow Group delivery to shut-in First CRC members by December 16<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to visit a shut-in member of your Grow group to deliver a bankat and holiday cheer, please let the office know. We have lovely Christmas cards from our card stamping group.

### Humbly Embracing The Hurting ~

#### **Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm, Southern Gables Church**

Wreath of Light provides Bibles & Christmas presents to kids in jail. You can help by donating funds for the over 1,000 young people in our city who will spend Christmas apart from their families. Contact: Claire Froehlich, Chaplain with YFC <https://dayfc.givingfuel.com/wreath> \$25 buys one gift bag and Bible) Help us pack 140 gift bags for the kids at *Mt. View Youth Services Center* (located behind Southern Gables) and learn some of the reason kids get locked up.