

## Council Updates

The Elders met via Zoom this month, spending time together in prayer and discussion. With Pastor Joel, the Elder team is working through (and being blessed by) reading and discussing *Strengthening the Soul of Your Leadership: Seeking God in the Crucible of Ministry* by [Ruth Haley Barton](#).

- We welcome Pastor Craig Broek who will be preaching for us on **October 18**, while Pastor Joel takes his quarterly Sunday off. Pastor Joel will be in the office and available if needed throughout the week. Please continue to pray for restoration and renewal for Pastor Joel, and his family, as he takes this small break to continue his school work and enjoys some down time with Jill and the kids.
- The Elders have determined that given the situation with the Covid pandemic, First Church will not meet together as a congregation on Thanksgiving Day this year. We will continue to join together the Sunday prior and after Thanksgiving for time of gratitude and worship together.

This Sunday, October 11, is **Pastor Appreciation Day** and we have the blessing of honoring three staff members: Pastor Joel, Pastor Bret, and our worship coordinator Kyle Cooper. We are so thankful for the many ways that they have provided thoughtful leadership and worship this year in challenging and ever-changing circumstances! Please take a moment to thank them by writing an email, sending a card or gift card to church, or saying thank you in person (at a safe distance) at an upcoming service.

## Deacon News

Dear First Church,

*We hope you had a wonderful weekend and start to this beautiful week! Thank you sooo much for all your help and to the deacons who helped with our successful blood drive at First Christian Reformed Church last week. On Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> we had **26 donors** who registered to give and **25** who were able to give, including one donor who gave a double unit of red cells. These precious gifts were taken back to our center at Lowry and separated into red cells, plasma and platelets that have the potential to save the lives of **74 Colorado patients!** We also had **SIX** first-time donors which is amazing.*

*Please pass along our appreciation to everyone who participated in this community event. Sarah Miller and the Vitalant Team*

*Council and staff are praying for our college and career members this Fall...join with us in prayer (please let us know if we need to add anyone):*

Kara Amidon	October 5	Trinity
Zachery Blahnik	October 6	CCU
Savannah Blohm	October 7	
Marissa Bol	October 8	Mesa State
Katherine Elgersma	October 9	Augustana
Logan Posthumus	October 12	Dordt
Wyatt Vermeer	October 13	Community College Aurora
Lauren Zuiderveen	October 14	Calvin
Halle Zuiderveen	October 15	Calvin
Nathan Wolinka	October 16	DU
Eli Vermeer	October 19	Auto Tech
Torre Blohm	October 20	Dordt
		Arapaho Community
Hannah DeBoer	October 21	Calvin
Jeffery Amidon	October 22	Calvin
Isaac Jonker	October 23	Calvin
Josh Youngsma	October 26	Calvin
		Washington State
Tyler Schroder	October 27	
Noah VanDenBoogaard	October 28	
Gracie Hansum	October 29	
Carter Sanderson	October 30	
Hayden Posthumus	November 2	Dordt
Ashleigh Bol	November 3	Montana State
Jack Waanders	November 4	Trinity
Carissa VanDonselaar	November 5	Calvin
Brett VanDenBoogaard	November 6	
Caleb Jonker	November 9	Biola
Chloe Hansum	November 10	Dordt



**FIRST CHRISTIAN  
REFORMED CHURCH**  
DENVER, COLORADO

*Sunday, October 11, 2020*

*A Family of God Living Our Faith and Growing by Joyfully surrendering to Jesus, Freely sharing our lives and Humbly embracing the Hurting... We sense God leading us to: Disciple in place, Stay connected and Act Locally.*

*Welcome to worship! If you are new to First Church, thank you for joining us! We would love to connect with you more. Please text "visitors" to 94000.*

## Gathering

Prelude: Instrumental

Welcome and Announcements

\*Call to Worship: Psalm 106:1-5

Praise the Lord.

**Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;  
His love endures forever.**

Who can proclaim the mighty acts of the Lord  
or fully declare His praise?

**Blessed are those who act justly,  
who always do what is right.**

Remember us, Lord, when You show favor to Your people,  
**come to our aid when You save them,**  
that we may enjoy the prosperity of Your chosen ones,  
**that we may share in the joy of Your nation  
and join Your inheritance in giving praise.**

\*Song: *How Firm A Foundation* LUYH 427

\*God's Greeting

## Renewal

Prayer for Renewal: based on Psalm 46

Song: *I Will Look Up*

**Offering: CEAF Christian Education Assistance Fund**

If you would like to give to the ongoing ministry of First CRC as a part of your worship today, you can do so by mailing a check to First CRC, through the "Church Center" App, or by texting any amount to **84321**. Offering plates are available at the Welcome tables and downstairs in the overflow area.

## Word

Scripture: Exodus 32:1-14

The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God**

Sermon

## Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**It is right for us to give thanks and praise.**

With joy we praise You, gracious God,  
for You have created Heaven and earth,  
made us in Your image, and kept covenant with us—  
even when we fell into sin.

We give You thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
who by His life, death and resurrection  
opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
Therefore we join our voices with all the  
saints and angels and the whole creation  
to proclaim the glory of Your name.

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

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.

Therefore we proclaim our faith  
as signed and sealed in this sacrament:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Creator God, be present with Your life-giving Word  
and Holy Spirit, that we and Your entire church  
may be called out and made whole through this supper.  
Grant that all who share the communion of the body  
and blood of Your Son may be united in Him.  
And may we all remain faithful in love and hope  
until we feast joyfully with Christ at the coming of the Kingdom.  
Amen

Song: *In Christ Alone* LUYH 770

Communion

## Sending

Sending Prayer:

O God,

You have so greatly loved us, long sought us,  
and mercifully redeemed us.

Give us grace, that in everything we may yield ourselves,  
our wills, and our works, a continual thank-offering to You,  
through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

\*Sending Song: *Here On Jesus Christ I Will Stand* LUYH 708

\*Blessing

\*Postlude

## UP~ Stay Connected

**Persecuted Believer's Prayer Focus:** October 11-17 we pray together for converts to Christianity in **Ethiopia**. Pray especially for safety of new believers in marriages where converting to Christianity is grounds for divorce, separation from family, or punitive action. Persecuted Believer's prayer meets Oct. 12th.

We continue to pray for former members of First CRC: **Zinah Dupree and her children Jake and Addison** (now residing in Tennessee), grieving the loss of father and friend, Nick Borgia.

At the end of October, Jack Allen will have been in his heavenly resting place for one year. We pray for our dear friend, **Jean Allen**, doing well with caregivers helping her. We pray for their sister-in-law, **Betty Klap**, as this October also marks the four year anniversary of Henry's home going.

Please continue to pray for healing and safety for **Amy Blahnik**, recovering from an auto accident, and for Gabriella returning to Texas. Amy is undergoing PT and feels like there is progress with this doctor: *"I am so thankful for the prayer shawl to wrap around my shoulders and know people are praying for me. I am so grateful for cards, emails, food, rides and prayer. I'm feeling very loved."*

## Worship Updates

We want to encourage you to sign up and attend one of our worship services with your kids. Their noise and squirming is more than welcome and loved by this church community! But if you'd rather attend in a different setting we have set up a space in the Fellowship Hall at church for families. We will show a video feed live from the sanctuary and will have tables set up for your family, with activities and nursery toys available for your kids. Please sign up on the sign up genius for the **overflow/family** space. Director of Faith Formation, *Pastor Bret Lamsma*  
**Link for Today's Service:**

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2pKBRog6bWCI2Sgl9VHa\\_g/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC2pKBRog6bWCI2Sgl9VHa_g/videos)

**Signup for Indoor Worship: 9am or 10:30am Service and Overflow downstairs:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044aaca72eabfe3-sunday>

## IN ~ Disciple IN Place

You are invited to join Pastor Joel for "Spaghetti Sessions" on the **second** and **fourth Wednesdays** of the month from **7pm to 8 pm**. These gatherings will be held via Zoom, and will be a time when we can dig deeper into Sunday's Scripture text together, ask questions about the sermon, and prayerfully discern how God might be asking us to live in light of His Word. Please join us online for the **October 14th & 28th** sessions:

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82154853629?pwd=NnpDVmk3RGYrbFIBS2J2TE5Wb3VXZz09>

Meeting ID: 821 5485 3629 Passcode: 287764

Pastor Bret's Class on the **Color of Compromise** will meet **October 30th**, during two time slots to accommodate a group in rooms **12/13 at 6:30pm**; and a second group in **Fellowship Hall**, from **7:30pm to 8:30 pm**. Contact Bret if you have any questions: [bret@firstcrcdenver.org](mailto:bret@firstcrcdenver.org).

**Sunday School** Videos and Lessons for last week Lesson 1.2 & this week: *Promises Video & Printable Lesson 1.3:* <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1coYTwZxWNzkzJ09mQYKiBbzT17U2i6GMq100ENgoRB4/edit?usp=sharing>

## OUT ~ Act Locally

**Help Claire Help Kids:** **Green Collection bin is at the South Welcome area.** YFC Chaplain Claire Froehlich still needs **Halloween Candy** and activities for kids at *Mt. View* (ages 13-20) and *Devereux* (ages 8-15) Correctional facilities:

Women's basketballs, Women's sized footballs  
Softball gloves and softballs  
Sidewalk chalk, Tie-dye kits

School supplies:

Individual packs of markers, crayons, Erasers  
College rules lined paper, Poster board  
Construction Paper, Water color paints  
Paint brushes, Dry erase markers  
[claire@yfcdenver.org](mailto:claire@yfcdenver.org) #720-771-0517.

**Global Bazaar News:** We will not be able to host our Global Bazaar this year, but we will still sell *banket* (Dutch almond pastry) and *pigs-in-the-blanket*. Profit from the sales go to mission partner, Margaret Njuguna, at En Gedi Children's Home in Kenya: [www.en-gedichildrenwithhope.org](http://www.en-gedichildrenwithhope.org)

Pre-sold baked goods will be made as orders are placed. The price remains the same as last year: \$25/dozen pigs-in-the-blanket and \$8/stick of *banket*. Place your orders for both of these items **until November 15** by contacting Shirley at [shirley.vanheukelem@gmail.com](mailto:shirley.vanheukelem@gmail.com) or 303-419-8254.