

We continue prayer for speedy and full recovery for **Doug Buys**, following a recent abdominal procedure.

Please pray for **Bob Palma**, brother of Sandy Kieft, who is receiving hospice care back home in Michigan. Pray for his comfort and peace through this time, and for his wife Mary and their families, as they spend time together and hold hope of the resurrection.

We pray safety for those traveling this week for work and recreation.

Update from Dorothy and Grace Triemstra:

*"Hi Everyone,
Mom had an appointment with her Orthopedic Doc this morning. The doc is satisfied with her progress so far and the x-rays indicate that the hardware has stayed in place, and healing is happening. Real physical therapy in the gym can start. I'll be able to visit her in person with a mask and 6 feet between us. Mom and I express our thanks for all the prayers, cards, calls, support and surprises that are coming our way! We request that prayers continue so she can return home soon!
Grace*

Her phone number is #720-974-3872.

Her Address is: Clermont Park
2480 S Clermont St #184
Denver, CO 80222

"Thank you for cards, prayer, kind phone calls and connection during the loss of Cal Smit." *Ina Smit*

We pray blessings of provision, protection, peace and pace for the families and staff at Joshua station and Mile Hi Ministries:

<https://www.milehighmin.org/>

IN ~ Disciple in Place

Opportunity to Disciple in Place: Platt Park Children's Center is in need of part time assistant teachers in our 2's and 3's classrooms for the 2020-2021 school year. If interested in joining our teaching team, please contact us at ppcc@plattparkchildrenscenter.com or 303-282-7722. Thank you!

OUT ~ Act Locally

Blood Donation: Between March 1 and June 30, 2020, the American Red Cross experienced **800,000 cancelled blood donation appointments** as a result of COVID-19 impact on communities nationwide. And, we currently have an urgent need for blood drive hosts. While donors continue to be eager to help, schools and businesses that hosted blood drives in the past may be unable to do so amid coronavirus mitigation efforts. But the need for blood to treat disease, chronic illness and unexpected trauma doesn't stop, even for global pandemics.

We really need your help. **If you have a space to hold a blood drive and can recruit 40-50 blood donors and volunteers, we want to hear from you!** You could be a hero to patients and their families during this unprecedented time of needing one another. We're here to help **with tools and expertise** to make it a rewarding experience.

Rest assured, per the Center for Disease Control (CDC), **Red Cross blood collection is an essential service** that must continue, and we follow CDC-recommended **safety protocols** at our blood drives to ensure the health of all involved.

VIA Update

Long Term Volunteer Opportunity: Gentleman near 32nd and Wadsworth would like help with grocery shopping and reading mail. Contact Sheri for details at sherid@viadenver.org or call 303-713-9144.

Cookie Bakers needed: VIA is partnering with Jesus on Colfax once again. JOC volunteers bring your homemade cookies as they knock on motel doors and offer to pray with the residents. Drop your cookies off at the VIA office at 9185 E. Kenyon Ave. #130 or call Sheri at 720-441-2858 for other pick up options.

Sheri DeHaan
Volunteers In Action Volunteer Coordinator
9185 E. Kenyon Ave. #130
Denver, CO 80237
303-713-9144 Office
720-441-2858 Cell

Worship at Denver Christian on August 9th, 2020, at 9:00AM.

After our first in person worship service in July, the elders and staff talked extensively about how it went. We have decided to do another in person service at **Denver Christian on August 9th, and begin earlier, at 9:00am.** We still have some details to figure out, including the technology aspect.

Our goal is to be able to provide both a quality in person experience, as well as a quality live stream (or recorded) experience, for those that can not join us in person *for whatever reason.* Current guidelines will be distributed, as we look forward to being in person again. Thank you to everyone for: your participation in person or online, your patience as we try to figure things out, and your prayerful feedback. It is all greatly appreciated! Volunteers sign up here:

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

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**FIRST CHRISTIAN
REFORMED CHURCH**
DENVER, COLORADO

Sunday, August 2, 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.*

Home Liturgy

As you gather, take a few moments to still your heart and mind, and sit in silence. In the silence, ask the Holy Spirit to help you pay attention to God.

Call to Worship: (From Psalm 145)

Psalm 145 says, "One generation commends Your works to another; they tell of Your mighty acts. They tell of the power of Your awesome works—and I will proclaim Your great deeds." As we gather to worship, let us follow the Psalmist's instruction and tell of the ways we have seen God's work in our lives and in our world this week.

[Take a few moments to praise God by naming specific ways you have seen His work in your lives this week. Conclude by reading aloud the words of Psalm 145 printed below.]

**All Your works praise You, Lord;
Your faithful people extol You.**

They tell of the glory of Your kingdom
and speak of Your might,
so that all people may know of Your mighty acts
and the glorious splendor of Your kingdom.
**My mouth will speak in praise of the Lord.
Let every creature praise His holy name
for ever and ever.**

Song: [All Creatures of Our God and King](#): Vs. 1,2,5,6

All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice with us and sing:
Alleluia, alleluia!
O burning sun with golden beam,
And shining moon with silver gleam,
O praise Him, O praise Him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

O rushing wind so wild and strong,
White clouds that sail in heaven along,
Alleluia, alleluia!
New rising dawn in praise rejoice;
you lights of evening find a voice:
O praise Him, O praise Him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

All you who are of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part;
Alleluia, Alleluia!
All you who pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on Him cast your care:
O praise Him, O praise Him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship Him in humbleness,
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One:
O praise Him, O praise Him,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Renewal

Prayers for Renewal *The following prayer is based on Psalm 145. You may use this prayer as written, or pause after each section to add specific requests of your own. You are encouraged to read this prayer slowly, allowing sufficient space for silent reflection and meditation.*

Loving God:
You are good to all, and have compassion on all You have made.
You are trustworthy and keep Your promises,
And faithful in all You do.

Faithful God,
We need You.

The eyes of all look to You, and You give them their food at their proper time. Nourish the bodies of all those whose stomachs are empty today, and nurture the souls of all who hunger for the Bread of Life. Grant encouragement to those who are lonely, healing to those who are sick and comfort to those who are afraid. Open Your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

Faithful God,
We need You.

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and Your dominion endures through all generations. Bring forth Your kingdom in our world today. Where there is division, bring unity. Where there is oppression, bring justice. Where there is hatred, bring love. Where there is sorrow, bring joy.

Faithful God,
We need You.

You uphold those who fall down, and lift up those who are bowed down. When we stumble and fall in our walk with You, pick us up and dust us off again. When we are stooped over with shame and regret, restore us with the promise of Your love and grace. Teach us Your ways, O Lord, and help us to walk with You.

Faithful God,
We need You.

Lord, hear our cry and save us.
Give us all we need today,
Through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen**

Song: [Lord I Need You](#)

Lord I come, I confess.
Bowing here, I find my rest.
And without You, I fall apart.
You're the One that guides my heart.

Chorus: Lord, I need You, oh, I need You.
Ev'ry hour I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness;
Oh, God, how I need You.

Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more.
Where grace is found is where You are.
And where You are, Lord, I am free.
Holiness is Christ in me. Holiness is Christ in me.

Chorus: Lord, I need You, oh, I need You.
Ev'ry hour I need You.
My one defense, my righteousness;
Oh, God, how I need You.

Bridge: So teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way.
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You.
Jesus, You're my hope and stay.
And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You.
Jesus You're my hope and stay. Chorus.

Assurance: (From Psalm 145:18-19)

We are assured that God will give us all that we need with these words from Psalm 145: "The Lord is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth. He fulfills the desires of those who fear Him. He hears their cry and saves them." In Jesus, God has heard our cry; He has saved us!

Thanks be to God!

Offering: *We give thanks to the God who has met all our needs by giving our financial gifts and offerings. 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. Today, you are invited to designate offerings for Brother's Redevelopment:*
<https://brothersredevelopment.org/>

Word

Scripture: Read [Genesis 32:22-32](#) before watching today's message.

Message: [The Wrestler](#)

Reflection: *Take a few minutes to reflect on today's message using the following questions as your guide.*

- What is one thing that keeps you up at night? What would it look like to wrestle with God as you wrestle with this challenge in your life?
- Is there a time you've wrestled with God in the past? How did your time of wrestling change your relationship with God?

Prayer:

God of Israel, when we are tossing and turning in the night, wrestling with the things that weigh on our hearts, help us to remember that our true business is with You. Grant us strength, perseverance, and grace to be faithful in the struggle. And when the morning comes, may we see You, know You, and love You more and collapse into Your eternal embrace. In the name of Jesus, Amen.

Sending

Song: [By Faith](#)

By faith we see the hand of God
In the light of creation's grand design,
In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness,
Who walk by faith and not by sight.
By faith our fathers roamed the earth
With the pow'r of His promise in their hearts,
of a holy city built by God's own hand,
a place where peace and justice reign...

Chorus: We will stand as children of the promise;
We will fix our eyes on Him, Our soul's reward.
Til the race is finished and the work is done,
We'll walk by faith and not by sight.

By faith the prophets saw a day
When the longed-for Messiah would appear
with the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death
and rise triumphant from the grave.

By faith the church was called to go
In the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost.
To deliver captives and to preach good news
In ev'ry corner of the earth. **(Chorus)**

By faith the mountains shall be moved
and the pow'r of the Gospel shall prevail.
For we know in Christ all things are possible
For all who call upon His name. **(Chorus)**

Blessing:

God will go before you to lead you and guide you,
He will go behind you to protect you and defend you,
He will go beneath you to support you,
He will go beside you to befriend you.
Do not be afraid, but let the blessings of the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit rest upon you always.
Do not be afraid, but go in peace to love God and serve your neighbor.

Up ~ Stay Connected

August 1-8: Let's focus our prayer for Persecuted Believers on the region of Libya (#4 on the World watch list). <https://www.opendoorsusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/August-2020-PFA.pdf> Pray for secret converts to be strengthened in faith and grow in the knowledge of Scripture.

Update on Mary Anne McLaughlin: Mary Anne arrived safely in Washington (near Tacoma). Her daughters have been extremely helpful during the relocation. She should be in her new home Monday. She will be visiting the Tacoma CRC church. Thank you for your prayers as she adjusts to location and climate changes.

Please pray for **Walt Ackerman**, undergoing an out-patient hernia repair surgery on Monday in Boulder. This will be the first of two procedures. We pray for Carol as she provides tender loving care for her husband.