

### 2020/2021 Elders and Deacons:

Leaders who can help us walk with Christ are one of God's good gifts to us. Click [here](#) to watch the video and to be introduced to our new elders and deacons. If you missed this video, please take a few minutes to watch it! Pray for our humble Elder/Deacon teams. They have committed 3 years to serving our congregation and caring for us, with God's help:

#### ELDER

#### DEACON

Call the office if you do not know which Grow Group you are in, or email [mrippetoe@firstcrcdenver.org](mailto:mrippetoe@firstcrcdenver.org).

<b>GG# 1 North:</b>	William Jensen	Suzanne Natelborg (Service)
<b>GG #2 NE:</b>	Milt Lanser	Donn Hansum (Chair)
<b>GG #3 SE:</b>	Dave Cady	Craig Lohmann (Secretary)
<b>GG #4 South:</b>	Cathy Van Donselaar	Davinia Lyon (Vicar)
<b>GG #5 SW:</b>	Jim DeHaan	Beth Posthumus (Deacon Fund)
<b>GG #6 NW:</b>	Fred Ritsema	Jill Newcombe CEAF)
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Kyle Van Andel	<b>Clerk:</b> Sandie Posthumus

### OUT ~ Act Locally

#### Local Ministry Opportunities:

**Virtual High Fives to GG Southeast and contributors of all ages**  
What a BLESSING your time, attention, love and concern made to the staff and families of Joshua Station. Thirty boxes were distributed to family apartments with notes of encouragement, activities, food, cleaning products, toiletries and books. All but two were single parent families. Each box and family were prayed for. You were the hands and heart of Christ. Thanks to Sew & Sews for the jammies, and Ina Smit for school supplies and bags.

**Ministry Shares:** Please find a letter with a bit more information and clarification on ministry shares:

Dear First CRC Denver,

Thank you for First CRC's recent gift to ministry shares.

**You are a Blessing!** Thank you for your church's gift to ministry shares. Your gift makes it possible for us to share God's story of grace, hope and love. We could not impact the world through missions, media, and church development without your incredible and faithful support. To learn more about the work you support visit [crcna.org/ministryshares](http://crcna.org/ministryshares).

Jeffrey Bolt

Director of Advancement

[Christian Reformed Church in North America](http://ChristianReformedChurchinNorthAmerica.org)

Office: (616) 224-0817 or (toll-free) 877-272-6204

Cell/Text: (616) 218-3198

To **Apply For** or **Support** the [Covid 19 Church Engagement Fund](#)  
**For more information on the CRCNA's response to COVID-19 please visit our website [crcna.org/covid19](http://crcna.org/covid19)**



# FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

DENVER, COLORADO

*Sunday, July 26, 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 at home today, take a few moments to still your heart and mind and to sit in silence. In the silence, ask the Holy Spirit to help you pay attention to God.*

Call to Worship: Psalm 105:1-4

Give praise to the Lord, proclaim His name;

**make known among the nations what He has done.**

Sing to Him, sing praise to Him;

**tell of all His wonderful acts.**

Glory in His holy name;

**let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.**

Look to the Lord and His strength;

**seek His face always.**

Song: [Praise the Lord, Ye Heavens Adore Him](#)

## Renewal

Call to Confession: As we seek to follow God and honor Him with our lives, we often are confronted with our weakness and tendency to stray. In Romans 7, Paul describes his struggle of doing what he does not want to do, and not doing what he does want to do! He then says, "What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!" Right after this, we receive the assurance that "there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." With this good news, let us come to our gracious God and confess our sins.

Prayer of Confession:

Merciful God,

We confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,

and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved You

with our whole heart and mind and strength.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

In Your mercy forgive what we have been,

help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be,

so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name.

Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Song of Assurance: [Amazing Grace](#) LUYH 691

Offering: *As we worship God and thank Him for His great love for us, we give our tithes and offerings to Him. 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.*

*You are also invited to designate your offering for Family Promise. Their mission is: To form relationships with families at risk of experiencing homelessness by providing shelter, meals, and a spectrum of supportive services as they attain permanent stability. You can find an update on their ministry in the Connections Newsletter.*

## Word

Scripture: [Genesis 29:15-30](#)

Message: "[Character Check](#)" DFF Dr. Bret Lamsma

Reflection and Prayer:

Take a few minutes to reflect on the following questions. Talk about them with others if you are worshiping with your family or a group of people.

1. Have you ever had a time when you needed a character check in your life to help you refine yourself into more of what God intended for you?
2. Are you currently in need of God and His people to help you overcome some flaw in your character? How can others around you help restore you gently and carry your burdens as Galatians 6 says?
3. Where have you seen God bring about something beautiful through a messy situation?

End by praying for each other for God to change our characters and to make us more *Christlike* each day.

## Sending

Sending Song: [Mighty to Save](#)

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 neighbors.

## Up ~ Stay Connected

**We finish July, targeting prayer for Persecuted Believers in the Middle East:**

**July 26-August 2:** *Pray for teen mental health classes, and families in vocational training in the Middle East at 19 Centers of Hope.*

We pray for **Dorothy Triemstra**, following surgery to insert a pin in her left leg. Mrs. T is in rehabilitation now, praying for mobility and healing. Thank you for your continued prayers for both Dorothy and Grace. Her phone number is #720-974-3872. Her Address is:  
Clermont Park  
2480 S Clermont St #184  
Denver, CO 80222

We pray for a smooth recovery and abundant health for **Doug Buys**, following an abdominal procedure at Porter this weekend.

We pray for shelter for people living on the streets in the severe heat.

We pray blessings of provision, protection, peace and pace for the families and staff at Joshua station and Mile Hi Ministries new affordable condos: <https://www.milehighmin.org/>

We pray for families awaiting decisions regarding returning to school and work. We pray for mental health and well-being for children.

## IN ~ Disciple in Place

All of our **Post High/college** and career members are invited to a gathering at the Jonker's house (3690 East Dartmouth Ave, Denver) at **6:30pm on Thursday, July 30**. Food and games will be provided. Please RSVP to Pastor Bret if you can make it: [bret@firstcrcdenver.org](mailto:bret@firstcrcdenver.org).

**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](mailto:ppcc@plattparkchildrenscenter.com) or 303-282-7722. Thank you!

Cheryl Schmitt Director  
Platt Park Children's Center  
1601 S. Clarkson St.  
Denver, CO 80210  
303-282-7722  
303-733-1567 Fax

**Bible Studies in Pit Stop:** 10 participants.

Monday - 3DM Huddle

Wednesday – Morning Men's Bible Study at 7:30am.

Wednesday – Coffee Break (once more on August 12<sup>th</sup>)

Saturday – Men's Saturday morning Bible Study – Bi-Weekly

If you would like to start a small Bible Study, or plug into one, contact DFF Bret Lamsma [bret@firstcrcdenver.org](mailto:bret@firstcrcdenver.org).

**Family Promise Update** - The Family Promise guests are still being housed in a local hotel. There is some hope that a few of the families will be able to move into a church in Lakewood in the next month, but Family Promise is also applying for grant funding that would allow them to shelter families in hotels for the rest of the year. A return to the normal congregational housing rotation that we are a part of might not happen for quite some time. Please keep Family Promise in your prayers as they navigate these difficult times while continuing to provide housing for families in need. Specific prayers for positive responses to their grant applications would be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions about Family Promise or would like to know more about their programs please contact Pastor Bret.

## **Worship at Denver Christian on August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020.**

After our first in person worship service last week, the elders and staff talked extensively about how it went. We have decided to do another in person service at **Denver Christian on August 9<sup>th</sup>**. 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*. Guidelines will be redistributed next week, and we look forward to being in person again soon. 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!