The Lord Is Risen Indeed!

Pastor John Knoester 10:30 AM Service April 16, 2017

Please stand if you are able.

"Christ the Lord is risen today! Alleluia!"

Prelude: Marjo Rouw

- * Our Easter Song of Praise: LUYH #182:1-3 "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"
 - 1. Christ the Lord is risen today! Alleluia!

All creation, join to say: Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high; Alleluia! Sing, O heavens, and earth, reply: Alleluia!

- Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
 Fought the fight, the battle won; Alleluia!
 Death in vain forbids him rise; Alleluia!
 Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!
- Lives again our glorious King; Alleluia!
 Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
 Once he died, our souls to save; Alleluia!
 Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!
 Words: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt., P.D.; Words: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt., P.D.; Music: Lyra Davidica, 1708, P.D.; CCLI #678905
- * Welcome
- * Our Easter Shout of Praise and God's Greeting:

Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: The Lord is risen indeed!

Pastor: Glory and honor, dominion and power, be to our God for ever and ever!

People: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Pastor: God has made us alive with Christ!

People: Death has been swallowed up in victory!

Pastor: Grace and peace to you from him who is, and

who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

Amen!

(Based on Ephesians 2, I Corinthians 15, Revelation 1)

* We Greet Each Other

Take a moment to greet one another with the historic

Christian testimony: "The Lord is risen!" "The Lord is risen indeed!"

During this time the Sunday School children are invited to come forward.

"All creation, join to say: Alleluia!"

Ministry of Music: Sunday School Students

"Low in the Grave" GH #396

"Christ the Lord is Risen Today" Bell Choir

Children ages 3-first grade are dismissed to the Koinonia room for Children & Worship.

Announcements

Encounters with Our Risen Lord

The Two Marys: Matthew 28:1-10 Read by Brooke Knoester

- * Our Testimony: LUYH #181:1-3 "See, What a Morning"
 - See, what a morning, gloriously bright, with the dawning of hope in Jerusalem; folded the grave-clothes, tomb filled with light, as the angels announce, "Christ is risen!"
 See God's salvation plan, wrought in love, borne in pain, paid in sacrifice, fulfilled in Christ the Man, for he lives: Christ is risen from the dead.
 - 2. See Mary weeping, "Where is he laid?" as in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb. Hears a voice speaking, calling her name; it's the Master, the Lord, raised to life again! The voice that spans the years, speaking life, stirring hope, bringing peace to us, will sound 'til he appears for he lives: Christ is risen from the dead.
 - 3. One with the Father, Ancient of Days, through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty. Honor and blessing, glory and praise to the King crowned with power and authority. And we are raised with him; death is dead, love has won, Christ has conquered. And we shall reign with him, for he lives: Christ is risen from the dead. Words and Music: Keith Getty, Stuart Townend © 2003 Thankyou Music (PRS), admin. worldwide atEMICMGPublishing.com excluding Europe admin. by Kingswaysongs; CCLI #678905

Mary Magdalene & Peter:

John 20:1,2 Read by Michelle De Kok John 20:3-9 Read by Jordan Feddema John 20:10-18 Read by Michelle De Kok

Our Testimony: LUYH #177:1,3,4 "Oh, to See the Dawn"

Oh, to see the dawn of the darkest day:
 Christ on the road to Calvary.
 Tried by sinful men, torn and beaten, then nailed to a cross of wood.
 This the power of the cross: Christ became sin for us.

Took the blame, bore the wrath, we stand forgiven at the cross.

Now the daylight flees,
now the ground beneath
quakes as its Maker bows his head.
Curtain torn in two, dead are raised to life,
finished the vict'ry cry.
This the power of the cross: Christ became sin for us.
Took the blame, bore the wrath,
we stand forgiven at the cross.

4. Oh, to see my name written in the wounds, for through Your suffering I am free. Death is crushed to death; life is mine to live, won through Your selfless love. This the power of the cross: Son of God slain for us. What a name, what a cost, we stand forgiven at the cross. Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend, Copyright © 2005 Thankyou Music, Adm. by Kingsway Music (PRS), admin. Worldwide at EMICMGPublishing, Descant. Larry Visser © 2012 Thankyou Music, admin. EMICMGPublishing.com. CCLI# 678905

Guards, Chief Priests, Crowds: Matthew 28:4,11-15 Read by Darrel Lagerwey

- * Our Testimony: LUYH #179:1-4 "Alleluia! Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven"
 - Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise.
 Sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise.
 He who on the cross a victim for the world's salvation bled,
 Jesus Christ, the King of glory, now is risen from the dead.
 - Alleluia, Christ is risen! Death at last has met defeat.
 See the ancient powers of evil in confusion and retreat.
 Once he died and once was buried; now he lives forevermore—
 Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer, whom we worship and adore.
 - Christ is risen, Christ the firstfruits of the holy harvest yield, which will all its full abundance at his second coming yield.
 Then the golden ears of harvest will their heads before him wave, ripened by his glorious sunshine from the furrows of the grave.
 - 4. Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to God on high; alleluia! to the Savior, who has won the victory; alleluia! to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity; alleluia, alleluia! to the triune Majesty. Words: Christopher Wordsworth, 1862, alt., P.D.; Music: Thomas. J Williams, (1869-1944), 1890 P.D. CCLI #678905

Choir members are invited forward during the singing of the last verse.

Disciples: Matthew 28:16-20; Luke 24:30-44 Read by Adriana Speck & Mardick Stevens

Choir Testimony: "Resurrection Morning"

In the resurrection morning, when the trump of God shall sound, we shall rise, hallelujah, we shall rise!

Then the saints will come rejoicing, and no tears will e'er be found, we shall rise, Hallelujah, we shall rise.

Hallelujah! Amen! we shall rise, in the resurrection morning, when death's prison bars are broken.

We shall rise, hallelujah, we shall rise!

In the resurrection morning, what a meeting it will be, we shall rise, hallelujah, we shall rise!
When our fathers and our mothers and our loved ones we shall see, we shall rise hallelujah, we shall rise.
We shall rise, Hallelujah, we shall rise! Amen!
We shall rise, in the resurrection morning when death's prison bars are broken, we shall rise, hallelujah, we shall rise!

In the resurrection morning, we shall meet Him in the air, we shall rise, hallelujah, we shall rise!

And be carried up to glory to our home so bright and fair, we shall rise hallelujah, we shall rise! Amen!

We shall rise in the resurrection morning, when death's prison bars are broken, We shall rise, hallelujah, we shall rise!

We shall rise, hallelujah, we shall rise!

We shall rise, we shall rise! We shall rise!

Words & Music: J.E. Thomas; Arranged by Stan Pethel; Copyright © 1999 by Hal

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Thomas: John 20:24-29 Read by Bob Pippel

Our Testimony: GH #394:1-4 "These Things Did Thomas Count as Real"

- 1. These things did Thomas count as real: the warmth of blood, the chill of steel, the grain of wood, the heft of stone, the last frail twitch of blood and bone.
- The vision of his skeptic mind was keen enough to make him blind to any unexpected act too large for his small world of fact.
- His reasoned certainties denied that one could live when one had died, until his fingers read like braille the markings of the spear and nail.
- 4. May we, O God, by grace believe and thus the risen Christ receive, whose raw imprinted palms reached out and beckoned Thomas from his doubt. Text: Thomas H. Troeger, 1983; based on John 20:24-29; Tune: Carol Doran, 1983; Text and Music © 1984, Oxford university Press, NY CCLI #678905

We Ourselves: 1 Peter 1:3-9 Read by Dennis De Kok

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

- ⁴ and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade-kept in heaven for you,
- who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.
- ⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials.
- These have come so that your faith--of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire--may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.
- Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy,
- ⁹ for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.
- * Our Testimony: GH #402:1,2,5 "Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks" Refrain:

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name.

1. Jesus is Lord of all the earth; He is the King of creation.

Refrain

2. Spread the good news o'er all the earth; Jesus has died and has risen.

Refrain

5. Come, let us praise the living God, Joyfully sing to our Savior.

Refrain:

Text & Tune: Donald Fishel, 1971; harm. Dale Grotenhuis, 1984; Text and Music © 1973, The Word of Music.

"Raise your joys and triumphs high; Alleluia"

Scripture Reading: John 20:10-18 (pg. 1074) Read by Melba De Kok

Prayer of Illumination

Message: "I Am - Returning to my Father"

Prayer of Application (We will end our prayer together by singing:) LUYH #227:1 "He Is Lord"
He is Lord! He is Lord!
He is risen from the dead and he is Lord!
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord!

"Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!"

Offering: General Fund

* We Profess our Faith: Lord's Day 17 Q&A 45 (GH pg. 878)

Q 45. How does Christ's resurrection benefit us?

A. First, by his resurrection he has overcome death, so that he might make us share in the righteousness he obtained for us by his death.¹

Second, by his power we too are already raised to a new life.2

Third, Christ's resurrection is a sure pledge to us of our blessed resurrection.3

¹ Rom. 4:25; 1 Cor. 15:16-20; 1 Pet. 1:3-5

² Rom. 6:5-11; Eph. 2:4-6; Col. 3:1-4

³ Rom. 8:11; 1 Cor. 15:12-23; Phil. 3:20-21

* Our Commitment of Faith: (The Apostles' Creed)

Pastor: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born

of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius

Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand

of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Pastor: Do you believe in God, the Holy Spirit?

People: We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion

of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting! Amen.

- * Our Song of Faith: LUYH #199:1-4 "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain"
 - Come, you faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness!
 God has brought forth Israel into joy from sadness,
 loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters;
 led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.
 - 'Tis the spring of souls today: Christ has burst his prison, and from three days' sleep in death as a sun has risen.
 All the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying from the Light to whom we give laud and praise undying.
 - 3. Neither could the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal, nor the watchers, nor the seal, hold you as a mortal: but today, among your own, you appear, bestowing your deep peace, which evermore passes human knowing.
 - 4. Alleluia! Now we cry to our Lord immortal, who, triumphant, burst the bars of the tomb's dark portal; Alleluia! With the Son, God the Father praising; Alleluia! Yet again to the Spirit raising.

 Words: John of Damascus (ca. 675-749); tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt., P.D.;

Music: Arthur S. Sullivan, 1872, P.D. CCLI #678905

*Parting Blessing:

Pastor: Go forth in joy to love and serve God in all that you do.

People: We are sent in the name of the risen Christ.

Pastor: Let us bless our Lord!

People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

Pastor: May the God of peace, who raised to life the great Shepherd of the sheep,

make us ready to do his will in every good thing, through Jesus Christ,

to whom be glory forever and ever!

People: Amen! Alleluia!

* Parting Easter Praise: LUYH #192 (2x) "Oh, How Good Is Christ the Lord"

Oh, how good is Christ the Lord! On the cross he died for me.

He has pardoned all my sin. Glory be to Jesus.

Glory be to Jesus! Glory be to Jesus!

In three days he rose again. Glory be to Jesus.

Words: Puerto Rican folk hymn, P.D.; Music Puerto Rican folk hymn; harm. Dale Grotenhuis (1931-2012), 1985,

©1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources; CCLI #678905

Easter Welcome! He is risen! In the mighty name of our living Lord, we welcome you to this Easter service celebration. May you feel Christ's presence. Hear His Word proclaimed and be blessed and renewed. After the worship service, we invite you to join us in the fellowship hall next to the sanctuary for a cup of coffee or juice and continued fellowship.

Just a friendly reminder that there will be **no** evening held this evening. A video, "**The Disturbances**", will be shown next Sunday evening, April 23 at 6:30 p.m. This is a documentary about the genocide in Nigeria 1966 and how this affected the missionaries living in the country at that time.

Sunday School & Catechism classes will resume again next Sunday on April 23 at 9:30 a.m.

Next Sunday we will be celebrating *GEMS Sunday*. We are eager to share how God has been working in GEMS this past year, blessing us beyond our wildest dreams! GEMS will be participating in the service and a special offering will be taken to help support this vibrant ministry.

OUR CHURH FAMILY

We would like to thank our church family for their expressions of care and support during my mother's illness and passing. One of her favorite scriptures, Psalm 28:7-8, was a source of great comfort to her. *John and Dena Klunder*

New Members: At it's April 10 meeting the council had the opportunity to meet and welcome **Bob and Marty Hitchcock** as new members to our church family. The Hitchcock's recently moved to Mount Vernon from the Bellingham area where they faithfully attended the local Presbyterian church. We look forward to publicly introducing Bob and Marty at a later date, but in the meantime encourage you to personally get to know them better in the coming days and weeks!

You are invited to celebrate 60 years of marriage with *Hans & Aileen Meischke* on Saturday, April 29, from 1:00 p.m.— 4:00 p.m. at the Heather Village Community Center. No gifts please.

^{*} Postlude and Easter Fellowship



Easter Lilies & Bibles in the sanctuary were donated by in memory of: Harry & Ida Annema, Jim Bollema, Fred Boonstra, Mr. & Mrs. S. Byl, Harold De Groot, Bill Eskes, Pete & Pauline Faber, Ray Feddema, Andy & Gay Folkertsma, Leo & Josina Greidanus, Gary Haagsma, Hank Haagsma, Stan Haagsma, John & Helena Haarsma, Bill & Grace Heusinkveld, Ellsworth & June Jungquist, Greg Klunder, Jim Klunder, John & Tess Klunder, Gertrude McKee, Jan & Jo Mulder, Charles & Rena Reitsma, Mark & Katie Rouw, Otto Rouw, Carmen Sesin, Betty Stevens, Max & Willy Stevens, Ted & Hattie TeSelle, Vikki Valentine, Klaas & Patricia Van Zanten, Lyle & Evelyn Vander Pol, Henry & Alida Vander Pol, Keith Vander Pol, Andrew & Gertrude Visser, David Benjamin Visser, Lori Visser.



Today we are thankful for the hope we have in Jesus. Because He lives, we too shall live.

OUR CHURCH EVENTS

Choir will not meet for practice today, but will meet again on April 23.

The **Youth Group** will **not** today. They will meet again on April 23.

The Worship Committee will meet on Monday, April 17 at 7:00 p.m.

The *Men's Bible Study* will meet on Wednesday, April 19 at 6:30 a.m. at Shari's Restaurant in Burlington. We are studying the book of Revelation. You are welcome to join us.

GEMS will meet on Wednesday, April 19 at 6:30 p.m.

Golden Hour will meet at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 20. Study the book of Philemon.

Ladies Craft Night will be held on Friday, April 21 at 6:30 p.m. Bring something to work on and come and go as you please.

On Friday, April 21st at 6:30 p.m. we will be working on putting together the time line of photos for the **75th anniversary** party. All are welcome, no special skills needed.

Work Party Volunteers Needed! Looking for 15-20 able bodied individuals of all ages to help beautify our Church grounds by putting down Caseron weed killer and placing new beauty bark in our flowerbeds. Many hands make lighter and quicker work so more people the better. Lefeber Turf will be dumping two truckloads, or about about 50 yards of bark, on two piles.

Needs: 8 wheelbarrows, large scooping shovels, many rakes and a few heavy duty brooms.

When: Saturday *April 22* rain or shine. *Time:* 9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. A loader tractor will also be provided, that will speed up the process! Much appreciation in advance for any who are willing and able to help. This will look fabulous in preparation for our 75th Anniversary party! Please let Sylvia Van Zanten or Jim Feddema know who can come and what you will bring.

FAMILY VISITING: The following is the family visiting schedule for **March & April 2017.** If your family is included in the list, please expect a call from the listed Elder to arrange the day and time for the visit. If you have questions about the schedule please call the listed Elder or call Henry Hammingh at 360-424-3019.

	MARCH - APRIL 2017 FAMILY VISITS
Elder	Family
Dave V	Jim & Michele Feddema
Dave V	Marge Eskes
Greg A	Keith & Jean Rasmussen
Greg A	Case Lanting
Greg B	Kevin & Glenda Kok

Greg B	Marjean De Groot
Henry H	Kermit & Julie Houck
Henry H	Hans & Aileen Meischke
Darrel L	Dave Visser
Darrel L	Hank & Anjean Vander Veen
Pastor John	Shirley Boonstra
Pastor John	Michelle De Kok
Dennis D	Jill Klunder
Dennis D	Sally Reehoorn

Copies of *Today' Christian Living* are available on the walkway shelf.

ADVANCED NOTICES

On Monday, April 24 the *Elders and Deacons* will meet at 7:00 p.m.

The Cadets will meet on Wednesday, April 26 at 7:00 p.m. for a Nerf Battle and Ice Cream celebration.

The Young at Heart will meet on Thursday, April 27 at 12:30 p.m. at Denny's in Mount Vernon.

The Board of *Northwest Hispanic Ministry* invites you to a free dinner and a time to rejoice as Joe Strong shares how God is changing lives and building His kingdom here in Western Washington. Our banquet locations and times are Friday, April 28th at 6:00 p.m. First Christian Reformed Church, 701 W. Blackburn Rd., Mt. Vernon and Saturday, April 29th at 5:30 p.m. at Third Christian Reformed Church in Lynden. Reserve the date and plan to attend. Bring a friend. You will not be disappointed.

HYMN SING: COMING SOON. Sunday, April 30, at 4:00, our church will be hosting a "Hymnspiration". This will be an evening of singing Hymns for all ages. Plan to come for an evening of Praise and Worship with family and friends! Everyone is welcome!

May 7 Worship Services: On Sunday morning, May 7 we have the privilege of welcoming Steve Gumear, the cofounder of Partners Relief and Development, who will be sharing with us their current work with vulnerable people groups (internally displaced, refugees, etc.) in countries such as Iraq, Syria, and Myanmar. Steve is currently in Mosul, Iraq, but will be in the Mount Vernon area visiting friends the weekend of the 7th. ... The May 7 evening service will be a special prayer service. During this service we will pray specifically for some of our loved ones who are currently battling cancer as well as for many other important cares and concerns in our community, country, and world. Please mark your calendars accordingly!

Mark your calendars! The dates and times are set for our 75th anniversary weekend, May 12-14, 2017. We plan to begin the festivities Friday the 12th at 7:00 p.m. with a program. Our former pastors will be sharing memories, along with singing and special music. There will be a time of fellowship afterwards. Saturday afternoon starting around 3:00 p.m. we will have a soup and buns picnic in the Commons at MVC. We will start with games, a time of fellowship, and then start eating about 5:00 p.m. There will be an open mic where anyone who wants to share a story can do so. There will be a signup sheet available soon so that we can get a headcount for food preparation. If anyone has family or knows former members that would like to come, please have them rsvp with Sylvia. On Sunday, the 14th, at 10:30 a.m. we will have a celebration worship service with our former pastors involved. There will be cake served following the service. If anyone has questions, you may contact Greg Boon or Melba DeKok.

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT

It is Finished: It's easy to assume that when Jesus declares "It is finished," he means his suffering is finished. Join our Groundwork conversation on John 19:28-30 as we discuss why this is really a cry of accomplishment; his work done, he is victorious, and the triumph we proclaim at Easter is just the beginning. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

The Miracle of Easter: Have you ever wondered what it would be like to meet Jesus? Or to be in Jerusalem the very week Jesus was crucified and raised from the dead? You're invited to explore the miracle of Easter on this week's Kids Corner. Tell the story of Easter with the KC Family Easter Craft at www.kidcorner.net.

Available Free in the Digital Library: Available Free in the Digital Library - "The Best Day Ever: The Story of Easter" is available free to all in the CRC through the Digital Library (crcna.org/Library). This newly revised storybook tells the story of Easter (found in John 20:11-18) in simple words a young child can understand, a prayer, and suggestions for learning-through-play activities. This Bible storybook is one of 52 colorful storybooks designed for children ages 2-3.

Night at the Nursery (proceeds to benefit Family Promise of Skagit Valley) will be held at Skagit Valley Gardens (18923 Peter Johnson Road, Mount Vernon on Thursday, April 20, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Join us for a fun, private event featuring: Drinks, desserts & appetizers plus a cash bar, 30 % off one item the evening of the event, 20% of nursery sales will support Family Promise. Tickets are \$25.00 and can be purchase from Sylvia Van Zanten. Call 360-854-0743 for more information. Order online at at: fpnursery.brownpapertickets.com

Love INC: On Friday, May 19, 2017 Love INC will have their Annual Banquet. If you are interested in attending, or would like to host a table, please contact the LOVE INC office at 360-419-7061 or call Sylvia at the church office (336-2405).

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Camp Calvin, which is a Junior High Camp supported by Classis Columbia. They are inviting youth from our churches to participate in what has been a very successful camp ministry. For more information go www.campcalvin.wix.com/campcalvin

A.L.T.A. Dessert Theatre is presenting **You Can't Take It with You"** on May 5,6,11,12,13 at 7:00 p.m. Matinees are at 2:30 p.m. on May 7 & 14 at Alger Community Church, 1475 Silver Run Lane, Bellingham (Alger) WA.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

SUN 4:00 pm Vida Nueva

MON 7:00 pm Worship Committee Meeting
TUES 7:00 pm Vida Nueva Bible Study
WED 6:30 am Men's Bible Study

6:30 pm GEMS

THURS 1:30 pm Golden Hour FRI 6:30 pm Ladies Craft Night

6:30 pm 75th Anniversary Committee Timeline of Photos

NURSERY:

Today: Infants & Toddlers

Sue Blom, Kyler Houck, Jack Hammingh

Next Week: Infants & Toddlers

Michele Feddema, Rylee Kuipers, Hannah Van Hofwegen

GREETERS:

Today:

Rovers: Greg & Tish Ackermann

AM: Randy & Juli Oostra, Bob & Andy Pippel

Next Week:

Rovers: Rich & Elly Cuperus

AM: GEMS

USHERS

Today: Darin Kuipers, Tim van Hofwegen, Larry Greidanus *Next Week:* Henry Hammingh, Tim Hibma, Wiebe Van der Hoek

SOUND SYSTEM

Today: Tim Hibma

Next Week: Mardick Stevens

PROJECTION

Today: Devin Van Zanten

Next Week: Kendall Van Zanten

VIDEO TAPING Today: DJ Droog

Next Week: Tim Hibma

CHILDREN & WORSHIP

Today:

Teacher: Wendy Heino

Assistants: Elly Cuperus, Hannah Van Hofwegen

Next Week:

Teacher: Heather Van Hofwegen

Assistants: Johnna Van der Hoek, Devin Van Zanten

LIBRARY:

Today: Joy Faber

Next Week: Jean Rasmussen

COFFEE HOSTS

Today: Katie Jungquist, Clarence & Eleanor Klunder, Jill Klunder

Next Week: John & Dena Klunder, Kevin & Glenda Kok, Darin & Michelle Kuipers

VIDA NUEVA CHILDCARE

Today: None

Next Week: Alice De Vries, Marjean De Groot

MINISTRY OF PRAISE: None

OFFERING: April 23, 2017

AM: General Fund

AM Second Offering: GEMS **PM:** Pregnancy Choices



People to be remembered with prayers, cards, letters & words of encouragement. Call the church office at (336-2405) or e-mail: secretary@firstcrcmv.com by Thursday of each week with your prayer items.

CONTINUING CONCERNS:

Continue to pray for *Annette LeClair* as she is dealing with cancer. Pray for healing for Annette and strength for each day.

Betty Postma returned home from the hospital this past Wednesday. They are trying a new medicine to dissolve the blood clots that she has. She is feeling very weak. Pray for healing for Betty.

Continue to pray for those who have recently lost a loved one.

SHUT INS:

Nell Annema at Creekside in Burlington, **Grace Faber** at home in Mount Vernon; **Helena Kuiper** at Creekside in Burlington; **Mary Koopmans** at home in Mount Vernon; **Adrianna Swanson** at Creekside in Burlington; **Bev Van Slageren** at home in Clear Lake, **Duane Van Dyke** at Where the Heart Is in Burlington, **Chris Van Sweden** at Country Meadows in Sedro-Woolley, and **Rena Wester** at the Lynden Manor.

PRAISE:

Darrel & Sunne celebrated 30 years of marriage this past Tuesday, April 11. We give God thanks for His faithfulness. Congratulations!

Christian Reformed Home Missions: Celebration Community Church, Holland, Mich. - When Joe Ortega heard that 46 percent of the city did not have a church family, he was heartbroken and worked to start Celebration, a church plant focused on outreach to people who are both unfamiliar with church and unfriendly toward it. Many members face the challenges of neglect, gang relations, and domestic violence. Pray for Joe's leadership and Christ's impact on that community.

World Renew: Laos - The small village of Tinpha has only 32 households, but it was very unsanitary with animal and human waste scattered all around—on footpaths and under houses. There were no animal pens and no toilets. World Renew worked with the community to gather building materials, and after a month the villagers had built 36 toilets! We praise God for their progress!

Pastor Church Resources: Classis renewal - Classis renewal helps classes be as healthy and helpful as possible for the sake of local and regional ministry. Already in 2017 there have been two conferences for stated clerks and classis leaders. Pray for continued healthy conversations on the roles and functions of classes.

Back to God Ministries International: Indonesia - Our Indonesian staff have given radios and goats to members of the listener community in Sumba, providing needed income and spiritual nourishment. Praise God that through this ministry and the believers' witness in this village, three Merapu (local indigenous religion) followers have come to faith in Christ, and others are seeking God.

Prayer Alert: Egypt

Your church has been faithful supporters of Christian Reformed World Missions missionaries working in Egypt. Yesterday, two Coptic Orthodox churches in Egypt's Nile Delta suffered an attack that killed more than 40 people and injured more than 100 others during Palm Sunday services. While no CRWM missionaries were directly affected by these attacks, we ask for continued prayers for the Christian minority in Egypt and all those working with them in the aftermath of these horrific attacks.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers...Lord, in your mercy, grant us Your peace...Lord, as Jesus on a donkey entering Jerusalem, enter into the hearts of the perpetrators of this horrific attack...

Christian Reformed World Missions.