

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!

Guest Pastor Joe Strong

April 2, 2017

10:30 A.M. Worship Service

* Please stand if you are able.

“Savior, like a shepherd lead us; much we need your tender care.”

Prelude: Jill Klunder

Welcome and Announcements

* Call to Worship:

Leader: Come, let us bow down in worship,

People: let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;

Leader: for he is our God

**People: and we are the people of his pasture,
the flock under his care.**

—Psalm 95:6-7, NIV

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* Opening Hymn: LUYH #330:1-4 ***“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”***

1. Savior, like a shepherd lead us;
much we need your tender care.
In your pleasant pastures feed us,
for our use your fold prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have bought us, yours we are.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have bought us, yours we are.
2. We are yours; in love befriend us,
be the guardian of our way.
Keep your flock, from sin defend us,
seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
hear your children when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
hear your children when we pray.
3. You have promised to receive us,
poor and sinful though we be;
you have mercy to relieve us,
grace to cleanse, and power to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
early let us turn to you.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
early let us turn to you.

4. Early let us seek your favor,
early let us do your will;
blessed Lord and only Savior,
with your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have loved us, love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,
you have loved us, love us still.

Words: Hymns for the Young, 1836; attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, P.D.;
Music: William B. Bradbury, P.D.; CCLI #678905

* God's Greeting: Jude 1b-2

* We Greet Each Other

* Opening Songs of Praise:

Psalm 80:1-3

"O Shepherd, Hear and Lead Your Flock" LUYH #64:1-3

1. O Shepherd, hear and lead your flock,
as lambs we crave your care;
what strength on earth approaches yours,
what mercies can compare?
Restore, O God, your favor,
the radiance of your face
to lighten and reveal the gift
of your redeeming grace.
2. Our selfish prayers deserve God's wrath,
our pride, a sudden burst;
we have but stones to serve as bread,
and tears to quell our thirst.
Restore, O God Almighty,
the radiance of your face
to lighten and reveal the gift
of your redeeming grace.
3. God's lineage, like a vine, once spread
and flourished in the land;
but now the vineyard fails, the fruit
lies withered in the sand.
Restore, LORD God Almighty,
the radiance of your face
to lighten and reveal the gift
of your redeeming grace.

*PSALM 80; Words: Michael Morgan © 1999, 2011 Michael Morgan, admin.
Faith Alive Christian Resources Music: Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908), P.D.;
CCLI #678905*

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is" LUYH#824:1-4

1. The King of love my Shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
and he is mine forever.

2. Where streams of living water flow
my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feedeth.
3. Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.
4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.

Psalm 23; Words: Henry Williams Baker, 1868, P.D.; Music: Ancient Irish Melody, P.D. CCLI #678905

“In your pleasant pastures feed us, for our use your fold prepare.”

Call to Confession: Psalm 28:1-2

Sung Call to Confession: ***“I Call to You, My Rock”*** LUYH #649:1

1. I call to you, my Rock:
Lord, hear my earnest prayer—
if you ignore my plea,
how can I not despair?
As I reach out, make this the place
of fresh encounters with your grace,
of fresh encounters with your grace.

Words: Martin Leckebusch © 2002, 2011 Kevin Mayhew Ltd;
Music: John D. Edwards, ca. 1840, P.D.; CCLI #678905

Prayer of Confession

Sung Prayer of Confession: ***“I Call to You, My Rock”*** LUYH #649:2

2. May I be spared the fate
of those who cling to sin,
whose friendly words belie
malicious thoughts within—
would ruin not be my reward
if I should disregard you, Lord,
if I should disregard you, Lord?

Words: Martin Leckebusch © 2002, 2011 Kevin Mayhew Ltd;
Music: John D. Edwards, ca. 1840, P.D.; CCLI #678905

Words of Assurance: Psalm 28:6-9

Song of Assurance: ***“I Call to You, My Rock”*** LUYH #649:3

2. But you have heard my prayer;
in you I will be strong:
since I rely on you,
my heart is filled with song.
Yes, Lord, I sing to you, my Rock:
eternal Shepherd, guard your flock,
eternal Shepherd, guard your flock.

Words: Martin Leckebusch © 2002, 2011 Kevin Mayhew Ltd;
Music: John D. Edwards, ca. 1840, P.D.; CCLI #678905

*During the singing of the last verse, children ages 3-first grade
are dismissed to the Koinonia room for Children & Worship.*

Offering: General Fund

Congregational Prayer: Led by Elder Greg Ackermann

* Song of Preparation: LUYH #369:1-3 ***“My Shepherd Will Supply My Need”***

1. My Shepherd will supply my need;
the LORD God is his name:
in pastures fresh he makes me feed,
beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back,
when I forsake his ways;
and leads me, for his mercy’s sake,
in paths of truth and grace.
2. When I walk through the shades of death
your presence is my stay;
one word of your supporting breath
drives all my fears away.
Your hand, in sight of all my foes,
shall still my table spread;
my cup with blessings overflows,
your oil anoints my head.
3. The sure provisions of my God
attend me all my days;
O may your house be my abode,
and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest,
while others go and come;
no more a stranger or a guest,
but like a child at home.

Psalm 23; Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), 1719, alt., P.D.;
Music: W. Walker’s *Southern Harmony*, 1835; harm. Dale Grotenhuis (1931-2012);
© 1990 Dale Grotenhuis; CCLI #678905

“Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us, yours we are.”

Scripture Reading: John 10:1-21 (pg. 1062)
(Read by Kendall Van Zanten)

Message: ***“I Am – The Good Shepherd”***

Prayer of Application

Ministry of Music: ***“The Lord’s My Shepherd”*** Kevin & Glenda Kok

The Lord’s my shepherd, I’ll not want;
He makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
His goodness restores my soul.
*And I will trust in You alone,
And I will trust in You alone,
For Your endless mercy follows me,
Your goodness will lead me home.*

He guides my ways in righteousness,
And He anoints my head with oil,
And my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on His pure delights.

And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
For You are with me, and Your rod and staff
Are the comfort I need to know.

Words & Music by Stuart Townend; Copyright © 1996 Thankyou Music; CCLI #678905

“Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you bought us, yours we are.”

* We Confess our Faith Together:

Leader: The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.

**People: He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul.
He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.**

Leader: Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff,
they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence
of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

**People: Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

—Psalm 23, NIV

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* Hymn of Application: LUYH #440:1-3 ***“He Leadeth Me”***

1. He leadeth me: O blessed thought!
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate’er I do, where’er I be,
still ’tis God’s hand that leadeth me.

Refrain

*He leadeth me, he leadeth me;
by his own hand he leadeth me:
his faithful follower I would be,
for by his hand he leadeth me.*

2. Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom,
sometimes where Eden’s flowers bloom,
by waters calm, o’er troubled sea,
still ’tis God’s hand that leadeth me.

Refrain

3. Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine,
nor ever murmur nor repine;
content, whatever lot I see,
since ’tis my God that leadeth me.

Refrain

Words: Joseph H. Gilmore, 1862, P.D.; Music: William B. Bradbury, 1864, P.D.

* Benediction

* Doxology: LUYH #440:4 **"He Leadeth Me"**

4. And when my task on earth is done,
when, by thy grace, the victory's won,
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee,
since God through Jordan leadeth me.

Refrain

Words: Joseph H. Gilmore, 1862, P.D.; Music: William B. Bradbury, 1864, P.D.

* Postlude

Welcome! As we unite in worship today, we extend a warm welcome to each one present. May we together experience the presence of God. After joining us in worship, join us in the fellowship hall next to the sanctuary for a cup of coffee or juice and continued fellowship.

We welcome **Pastor Joe Strong** to our morning service as he leads us in our worship. Pray for God's Spirit to work in each of our lives.

Sunday School & Catechism will not meet on April 9, 16. They will resume again on April 23 at 9:30 a.m.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Council Announcement: Recently the elders received a request from Tim and Heather Van Hofwegen indicating a desire for their daughters **Hannah and Kayla** to be able to participate in the celebration of the Lord's Supper (In 2011 the Synod of the CRC approved the following guidelines: "*All baptized members are welcome to the Lord's Supper for age- and ability-appropriate obedience to biblical commands about participation, under the supervision of elders*). Two elders then met with Hannah, Kayla and their parents, had the joy of hearing their age-appropriate testimony, and then made the recommendation to council that they approve this request. At its March 27 meeting the council did this joyfully and with thanksgiving to God for the grace of Christ evident in Hannah and Kayla's life.

Thank you to those who gave of their time and donated blood this past Monday. You helped save a life!

OUR CHURCH EVENTS

Following the service there will be a **Church Potluck** in the Fellowship Hall. If you are visiting with us today, we would like to invite you to join us for lunch.

Today you will have opportunity to sign up to bring a casserole or dessert for the **Friendship House** on Wednesday, April 12. Servers are also needed. There will be a table in the Fellowship Hall where you can sign up and pick up a recipe. Monetary donations are accepted also. Any questions? Give Glenda Kok a call.

Choir will meet for practice this morning following the church potluck.

The **Youth Group** will meet at 7:45 p.m. today in the Youth Group Room.

The **Building Committee** will meet on Tuesday, April 4 at 7:00 p.m.

The **Men's Bible Study** will meet on Wednesday, April 5 at 6:30 a.m. at Shari's Restaurant in Burlington. We are studying the book of Revelation. You are welcome to join us.

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

A reminder to those parents that are registering their children with **Mount Vernon Christian School** for the school year 2017-2018 and participate in the Christian Education Fund. The registration form must indicate that First CRC is your "support group." Pledge forms for 2017-2018 will be distributed shortly and should be returned by May 14, 2017. Also all pledges for school year 2016-2017 need to be paid in full by May 31, 2017. If you have any questions please contact Katie Jungquist (428-3818).

Easter Lilies and Bibles: Once again members are invited to place an Easter lily or a Gideon Bible in memory of a loved one. If you would like to order a lily please call or leave a message for Sylvia at the church office (336-2405) by Monday morning, April 9. Cost for the lily is \$9.00. Bibles can be ordered through Tuesday, April 11, and can be purchased for \$5.00. Make checks payable to the First Christian Reformed Church and turn the money into the church office. Lilies may be taken home after the Easter services.

Church Library Survey: Please complete the survey about our church library. Put the completed survey in the box on the shelf by the mailboxes designated 'Church Library Survey' by April 9. Your answers and comments will be greatly appreciated.

Copies of the **Sidelights**" from Salem Christian Homes is available for you to pick up on the walkway shelf.

ADVANCED NOTICES

The **Youth Group** will not meet next Sunday, April 9.

The **Council** will meet on Monday, April 10 at 7:00 p.m.

The **75th Anniversary Committee** will meet on Tuesday, April 11 at 7:00 p.m.

Cadets will meet on Wednesday, April 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Save the Date: Our **Good Friday Service** will be a combined service with Faith Community Fellowship. It will be held on Friday, April 14 at 7:00 p.m. at First CRC. Childcare will be available.

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

Today, you have opportunity again to bring your donations of canned and non-perishable items for the food drive for **"Neighbors in Need"**. Please bring your donations in and place them in the baskets located in the foyer and the Fellowship Hall.

I Thirst: How does this simple human request make it to the permanent record of the gospel? Why does John want to be sure we remember that Jesus expressed thirst as he hung dying on the cross? Join our Groundwork discussion on John 19 as together we discover the deep theological meaning expressed in thirst. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Bruno' Back in Town: In this brand new episode Bruno LeVaire, the international art thief, may be back in town to get his revenge on Liz and Grandpa Anole, but he's not the only one to shock the Terrene Community! An old friend returns to help out, but is that a good thing? Tell the story of Easter with the KC Family Easter Craft giveaway at www.kidscorner.net.

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.

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENT

On April 6, 2017, Thursday, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm **"Dealing with Bad Attitudes and Anger in Children"** will be presented by Dr Scott Turansky and Joanne Miller, RN, BSN at: Skagit Adventist Academy, 530 N Section Street, Burlington, Washington 98233. A children's program is provided to complement what the parents are learning. The cost is \$20 per adult, \$30 per couple. For more information or to register, call (360) 755-9261. To register online: [Copy this url into your web browser:](#)

<http://www.biblicalparenting.org/productcart/pc/viewPrd.asp?idproduct=760&adminPreview=1>. Here is a **link** to help you get to know us. You can download 38 pages of our book **Parenting Is Heart Work**. You may download it here using the link on the left side of the page: <http://www.biblicalparenting.org/partnership.asp>

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

SUN 11:45 am Church Potluck
12:45 pm Choir Practice
4:00 pm Vida Nueva
7:45 pm Youth Group
TUES 7:00 pm Building Committee Meeting
7:00 pm Vida Nueva
WED 6:30 am Men's Bible Study at Shari's Restaurant

NURSERY:

Today: Infants & Toddlers

Elly Cuperus, Josie Droog, Cody Hilsinger

Next Week: Infants & Toddlers

Brooke Knoester, Kennedy Donaldson, Nathan Van Beek

Good Friday: Michele Feddema & Jordan Feddema

GREETERS:

Today:

Rovers: Keith & Jean Rasmussen

AM: Henry & Sharon Kuipers, Joe & Annette LeClair

Next Week:

Rovers: Larry & Margaret Vander Pol

AM: Darin & Michelle Kuipers, Aileen Meischke, Betty Postma

Good Friday: Elders Dave Visser & Greg Ackermann

USHERS

Today: Darin Kuipers, Tim Van Hofwegen, Larry Greidanus

Next Week: Henry Hammingh, Tim Hibma, Wiebe Van der Hoek

Good Friday: Henry Hammingh, Tim Hibma, Wiebe Van der Hoek

SOUND SYSTEM

Today: Mardick Stevens

Next Week: Henry Van Zanten, Jr.

Good Friday: Tim Hibma

PROJECTION

Today: Nathan Van Beek

Next Week: Tim Hibma

Good Friday: Josh Hammingh

VIDEO TAPING

Today: Tim Hibma

Next Week: Mike Hibma

CHILDREN & WORSHIP

Today:

Teacher: Juli Oostra

Assistants: Monica Droog, Rayahna Oostra

Next Week:

Teacher: Julie Houck

Assistants: Shanna Visser, Emma Droog

LIBRARY:

Today: Elly Cuperus

Next Week: Melba De Kok

COFFEE HOSTS

Today: Church Potluck

Next Week: Jeannette Folkertsma, Larry & Maxine Greidanus, Steve & Teci Greydanus

VIDA NUEVA CHILDCARE

Today: Jayne Hammingh, Brooke Knoester

Next Week: Danielle Van Zanten, Sylvia Van Zanten

MINISTRY OF PRAISE

Next Week: Dennis De Kok

Accompanist: Melba De Kok

OFFERING: April 9, 2017

AM: General Fund

PM: Pregnancy Choices

Good Friday: Pregnancy Choices

**6:30 P.M. Worship Service
(Led by Mr. Dennis De Kok)**

Pianist: Shirley Boonstra

Welcome / Announcements

Prayer for Worship

Ministry Videos – Vander Laan Series (Lent Videos)

Time of Discussion

Offering: Pregnancy Choices

Song: LUYH #174:1-3 ***"I Stand Amazed"***

* God's Blessing

* Parting Praise: LUYH #965

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"



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.

NEW CONCERNS: We express our sympathy to the families of **Marjean De Groot, Marjo Rouw, and Randy & Juli Oostra** in the passing away of Marlene De Groot on Friday, March 24, and to **John & Dena Klunder** in the passing away of Dena's mother, Tena De Jong, on March 29. May God give them His comfort at this time.

CONTINUING CONCERNS:

Please continue to pray for **Annette LeClair** and the entire family throughout the days ahead as Annette begins her treatments. Pray for healing for Annette.

Betty Postma will begin chemo in the middle of April and receive a treatment once every 3 weeks for a total of 6 treatments. Continue to 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.

OTHER CONCERNS:

Pray for those traveling during Spring break. Pray for the teachers and students as they have a break from school.

Back to God Ministries International: Cuba - Maria and her husband are able to read the Spanish *Cada Dia* devotions, thanks to a Christian couple in their town who share their booklets with them. Maria asks, "Pray that God will direct our path in the right way and to know more of Christ Jesus."

World Renew: Bangladesh - Physical, sexual, psychological, and economic violence is happening against women of all ages in Bangladesh. To help eliminate violence, World Renew and its partner SATHI have been training individuals to help them understand conflict transformation. Please ask God to give these individuals strength and protection as they work to bring peace in their communities.

Christian Reformed World Missions: West Africa - Pray for a man in West Africa who is the only believer in his village. He often feels ostracized and surrounded by Islam. Ask for God's comfort in the midst of the isolation this man feels. Pray that his family members will be open to learning more about faith in Christ.

Christian Reformed Home Missions: Cornerstone Prison Church, Sioux Falls, S.D. -

Cornerstone Church has named 2017 its Year of Hope. While hopelessness can be very discouraging, real hope in Christ is powerful. False religious beliefs and gang activity are always present in prisons. Pray that God may reveal himself in such a way that Christ's light shines in the darkness.

Chaplaincy and Care Ministry: Chaplains in psychiatric care - Serving as a chaplain in a psychiatric hospital can be challenging in situations where standard procedures of communication are not sufficient and emotional responses can be unpredictable. Specialized training and skills are often required. Please pray that our chaplains in these situations may have an extra measure of grace in ministering to patients and staff. these efforts.