

# **Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!**

**Pastor John Knoester**

**December 10, 2017**

**2nd Sunday in Advent**

**10:30 A.M. Worship Service**

**\* Please stand if you are able.**

***“What feast of love is offered here, what banquet come from heaven?”***

Prelude: Marjo Rouw

Ministry of Music: ***“Christmas Communion Song”*** – Choir

Come, Faithful, one and all this Christmastide.

Come to the banquet hall, enter inside.

This is the feast of love Christ has prepared.

Holy communion with us is shared.

Celebrate his coming, meditate the cost.

Look beyond the cradle and behold the cross.

Drink the cup of joy, eat the bread of life.

Taste and see the beauty of this holy night.

God clothed in human flesh, Immanuel,

from heav’n descended with us to dwell.

Once clothed in mystery, hidden, concealed

Truth in a manger now is revealed.

Celebrate his coming, meditate the cost.

Look beyond the cradle and behold the cross.

Drink the cup of joy, eat the bread of life.

Taste and see the beauty of this holy night.

Taste and see the beauty of this holy, holy night.

*“Christmas Communion Song”* John A. Ray, Susan Naylor Callaway, ©MCMXCIV

Purifoy Publishing Company, CCLI #678905

Welcome and Announcements

**\* Call to Worship: Isaiah 40:3-5**

**Pastor:** A voice of one calling: “In the desert prepare the way for the Lord.”

**People:** **Make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God.**

**Pastor:** Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low.

**People:** **the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain.**

**Pastor:** And the glory of the Lord will be revealed,

**People:** **and all mankind together will see it.**

**All:** **For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”**

\*Opening Hymn: LUYH 56:1-3 **"Comfort, Comfort Now My People"**

1. Comfort, comfort now my people;  
speak of peace: so says our God.  
Comfort those who sit in darkness,  
mourning under sorrow's load.  
Cry out to Jerusalem of the peace that waits for them;  
tell her that her sins I cover and her warfare now is over.
2. For the herald's voice is crying  
in the desert far and near,  
calling all to true repentance,  
since the kingdom now is here.  
Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way!  
Let the valleys rise to meet him  
and the hills bow down to greet him.
3. Then make straight what long was crooked;  
make the rougher places plain.  
Let your hearts be true and humble,  
as befits his holy reign.  
For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad,  
and all flesh shall see the token  
that God's word is never broken.

Words: Isaiah 40:1-5; vers. Johannes G. Olearius, 1671; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt., P.D.; Music: Louis Bourgeois, 1551; harm Johann Crüger (1598-1662), 1658, P.D.; CCLI #678905

\* God's Greeting / We Greet Each Other

\* Opening Songs of Praise:

Reading of Psalm 43:3-4

- <sup>3</sup> Send forth your light and your truth, let them guide me;  
let them bring me to your holy mountain, to the place  
where you dwell.
- <sup>4</sup> Then will I go to the altar of God, to God, my joy and my  
delight. I will praise you with the harp, O God, my God.

**"How Great Our Joy"** LUYH #90:1-4

1. While by the sheep we watched at night,  
glad tidings brought an angel bright.

*Refrain*

*How great our joy! Great our joy!  
Joy, joy, joy! Joy, joy, joy!  
Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!  
Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!*

2. There shall be born, so he did say,  
in Bethlehem a child today.

*Refrain*

3. There shall the child lie in a stall,  
this child who shall redeem us all.

*Refrain*

4. This gift of God we'll cherish well,  
that ever joy our hearts shall fill.

*Refrain*

Words: traditional German carol, P.D.;  
Music: Traditional German melody; CCLI #678905

**"In the Day of the Lord"** LUYH #485:1-3, 5, 6,

***Worship Team Only***

*Refrain*

*In the day of the Lord, the sun will shine  
like the dawn of eternal day.  
All creation will rise to dance and sing  
the glory of the Lord!*

***Worship Team Only***

1. And on that day will justice triumph,  
on that day will all be free:  
free from want, free from fear, free to live!

*Refrain*

2. Then shall the nations throng together  
to the mountain of the Lord:  
they shall walk in the light of the Lord!

*Refrain*

3. And they shall beat their swords to plowshares;  
there will be an end to war:  
one in peace, one in love, one in God!

*Refrain*

5. And on that day of Christ in glory,  
God will wipe away our tears,  
and the dead shall rise up from their graves!

*Refrain*

6. O, give us eyes to see your glory,  
give us hearts to understand.  
Let our ears hear your voice 'til you come!

*Refrain*

Words: based on Isaiah 2, 25, 41; Music: M.D. Ridge ©1992, M.D. Ridge, admin.  
by OCP Publications; arr. Randall DeBruyn (b. 1947) © 1992, 2006, M.D. Ridge,  
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***"What food of everlasting life, what gracious gift is given?"***

Call to Confession:

Pastor: We need you to speak to us, O God, because we have,  
each in our own way, forgotten your Law,  
forgotten your love for us. We are in need of your  
deliverance, because we have, too often, given  
ourselves to powers and practices that would  
destroy us. We are lost, in need of rescue.

**People: Come, Lord Jesus; forgive us and restore us.  
Come, Lord Jesus; guide us and deliver us.  
Come, Lord Jesus; teach us and renew us.  
Come, Lord Jesus.**

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance

Song of Assurance: Sing #92:1,5 **"He Came Down"**

1. He came down that we may have hope,  
he came down that we may have hope,  
he came down that we may have hope.  
Hallelujah forever more.
5. He came down that we may have life,  
he came down that we may have life,  
he came down that we may have life.  
Hallelujah forever more.

Text and Music: Cameroon traditional; tr. And arr. John Bell; 1990,  
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Lighting of Advent Candle: Led by Cody & Angela See

Song of Response: Sing #92:2 **"He Came Down"**

2. He came down that we may have peace,  
he came down that we may have peace,  
he came down that we may have peace.  
Hallelujah forever more.

Text and Music: Cameroon traditional; tr. And arr. John Bell; 1990,  
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*During the singing of this song the Young Ladies Bell Choir is invited forward.*

Offering: General Fund

Second AM Offering: Benevolent Fund

Offertory: Young Ladies Bell Choir

\*Hymn of Preparation: LUYH #79:1-3 **"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"**

1. Lo, how a rose e'er blooming  
from tender stem hath sprung;  
of Jesse's lineage coming,  
as saints of old have sung.  
It came, a floweret bright,  
amid the cold of winter  
when half spent was the night.
2. Isaiah 'twas foretold it,  
the rose I have in mind;  
with Mary we behold it,  
the virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright,  
she bore to us a Savior  
when half spent was the night.

3. This flower, so small and tender,  
with fragrance fills the air;  
his brightness ends the darkness  
that kept the earth in fear.  
True God and yet true man,  
he came to save his people  
from earth's dark night of sin.

Words: German, 15th c.; st. 1-2 tr. Theodore Baker, 1894; st. 3 tr. Gracia Grindal, 1978,  
© 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress; st. 4 John  
C. Mattes (1876-1948); Music: from *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, Cologne,  
1599; harm. Michael Praetorius, 1699, P.D., All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-711218

*During the singing of this hymn children ages 3-1<sup>st</sup> grade  
are dismissed to the Koinonia Room for Children and Worship.*

***“This, this is Christ the King, the bread come down from heaven.”***

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 25:6-9 (pg. 698) Read by Bob Pippel

**Sermon Note:** Last week we began to tell a story that spans the Bible and is, in fact, its core story. It's a story about earth and heaven, about how they were once one, how they got separated, and how they will be one again. It's a story about home - home for us and home for God. The old hymn says, "This world is not my home; I'm just passing through." But the Bible speaks of the reunion of earth and heaven, of God coming down to dwell among us and make earth his home. Today's message focuses on our longing for this redemption and reunion.

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***“Longing for Redemption and Reunion”***

Time of Prayer

\* Hymn of Application: LUYH #821:1-4 ***“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent”***

1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence,  
and with fear and trembling stand;  
set your minds on things eternal,  
for with blessing in his hand  
Christ our Lord to earth descended,  
came our homage to command.
2. King of kings, yet born of Mary,  
once upon the earth he stood;  
Lord of lords we now perceive him  
in the body and the blood.  
He has given to all the faithful  
his own self for heavenly food.
3. Rank on rank, the host of heaven  
stream before him on the way,  
as the Light of Light, descending  
from the realms of endless day,  
comes, the powers of hell to vanquish,  
clears the gloom of hell away.

4. At his feet the six-winged seraph,  
cherubim with sleepless eye  
veil their faces to his presence,  
as with ceaseless voice they cry:  
“Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, Lord Most High!”

Words: Liturgy of St. James; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1864, P.D.; Music: French 17<sup>th</sup> c. CCLI #678905

*During the singing of this song the children will be returning  
from Children and Worship and the elders are invited  
to come forward and serve communion.*

***“Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the manna given!”***

#### We Celebrate Communion Together

Declaration of God’s Invitation and Promises

Hear the words of the institution

of the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ:

The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, 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, after supper he took the cup, saying,

“This cup is the new covenant in my blood;  
do this in remembrance of me.”

For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup,  
you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

—based on 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, NIV

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Leader: With these words our Lord commands  
all believers to eat this broken bread  
and to drink this cup in true faith  
and in the confident hope of his return in glory.

**People: In this supper God declares to us  
that our sins have been completely forgiven  
through the one sacrifice of Jesus Christ,  
which he himself finished on the cross once for all.**

Leader: He also declares to us that the Holy Spirit grafts us into Christ,  
who with his very body is now in heaven at the right hand of the  
Father, where he wants us to worship him.

—from *Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A’s 75, 80*

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Jesus said, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry,  
and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

—from *John 6:35, NRSV*

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## Prayer of Thanksgiving

As the Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread and offered thanksgiving to God, so too we now offer to God our 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, whose coming opened to us the way of salvation and whose triumphant return we eagerly await. Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name.

**People: 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.**

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You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. You sent him into this world to satisfy the longings of your people for a Savior, to bring freedom to the captives of sin, and to establish justice for the oppressed. He came among us as one of us, taking the lot of the poor, sharing human suffering. We rejoice that in his death and rising again, you set before us the sure promise of new life, the certain hope of a heavenly home where we will sit at table with Christ, our host.

Leader: Christ is the bread of life:

**People: When we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus,  
until you come in glory.**

Leader: 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.

**People: Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of  
the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours,  
Almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.**

## Invitation

Congregation of Jesus Christ, the Lord has prepared his table for all who love him and trust in him alone for their salvation. All who are truly sorry for their sins, who sincerely believe in the Lord Jesus as their Savior, and who desire to live in obedience to him as Lord are now invited to come with gladness to the table of the Lord.

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## Distribution

*The congregation is invited to join the worship team in singing the following songs.*

***“What Feast of Love”*** LUYH #96:1-3 (Tune: LUYH #95)

1. What feast of love is offered here,  
what banquet come from heaven?  
What food of everlasting life,  
what gracious gift is given?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
the bread come down from heaven.  
Oh, taste and see and sing!  
How sweet the manna given!
2. What light of truth is offered here,  
what covenant from heaven?  
What hope of everlasting life,  
what wondrous word is given?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
the sun come down from heaven.  
Oh, see and hear and sing!  
The Word of God is given!
3. What wine of love is offered here,  
what crimson drink from heaven?  
What stream of everlasting life,  
what precious blood is given?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
the sweetest wine of heaven.  
Oh, taste and see and sing!  
The Son of God is given!

Words: Delores Dufner, OSB (b. 1939) © 1993 Delores Dufner,  
admin. OCP Publications;; OneLicence.net License #A-711218;  
Music: English ballad, 16th c. P.D.

***“How Deep the Father’s Love for Us”*** vs. 1-3

1. How deep the Father’s love for us,  
how vast beyond all measure  
that He should give His only Son  
to make a wretch His treasure.  
How great the pain of searing loss.  
The Father turns His face away  
as wounds which mar the Chosen One  
bring many sons to glory.
2. Behold the Man upon a cross,  
my sin upon His shoulders.  
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice  
call out among the scoffers.  
It was my sin that held Him there  
until it was accomplished;  
His dying breath has brought me life.  
I know that it is finished.



3. I will not boast in anything:  
no gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom.  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ:  
His death and resurrection.  
Why should I gain from His reward?  
I cannot give an answer.  
But this I know with all my heart:  
His wounds have paid my ransom.  
Words and Music by Stuart Townend, ©1995 Kingsway's Thankyou Music,  
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***"Remembering with Love and Hope"*** LUYH #809:1-5

1. Remembering with love and hope,  
we celebrate the feast.  
Christ bids us come and dine with him,  
our Host and great High Priest.
2. God's Word made known in flesh and blood,  
a covenant of grace—  
in manger, cross, and empty tomb,  
we see God's loving face.
3. Through all our lives, Lord, you are near—  
and to the end of time.  
In bread and cup yourself you give;  
our life in yours we find.
4. We break the bread and bless the cup;  
your Spirit is outpoured.  
Made one in you, we feast in love  
until you come, O Lord.
5. We trust this pledge of your strong love  
and pray your kingdom come,  
when face to face we'll feast with you  
in our eternal home.

Words: John Paarlberg (b. 1950) © 2000 John Paarlberg; st. 6 Faith Alive Christian Resources  
© 2012 John Paarlberg; Use by permission. Music: American folk melody; harm. Annabel Morris  
Bucchanan (1189-1983), 1938, P.D.; CCLI #678905

We Celebrate the Meal

Time of Prayer

Sending

\* Benediction

\* Parting Praise: LUYH #482:1-4 ***"Soon and Very Soon"***

1. Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!  
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!  
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King!

2. No more crying there— we are going to see the King!  
No more crying there— we are going to see the King!  
No more crying there— we are going to see the King!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King!
  
3. No more dying there— we are going to see the King!  
No more dying there— we are going to see the King!  
No more dying there— we are going to see the King!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
  
4. Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!  
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!  
Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We're going to see the King!

Words: Andraé Crouch (b. 1945) © 1976 Bud John Songs (ASCAP), Crouch Music (ASCAP), admin. EMICMGPublishing.com CCLI #678905

\* Postlude

This morning, we will commemorate Jesus' death and resurrection as we celebrate the **Lord's Supper**. By faith, Jesus' death fully covers all our sin and by His resurrection power He gives us everlasting life. May Christ's Spirit strengthen us in faith, hope, and love as we draw near to Christ Jesus through His Spirit. *The Lord's Supper is a table of grace. All those who have received the grace of Christ and confess Him as Lord and Savior of their life are warmly invited to participate. Yet, know too that there is also 'grace' from this community of faith for those who do not yet confess Christ as Lord. And if that's the case then we encourage you not to partake until you have the genuine desire to receive God's grace and are ready to proclaim Christ as your Lord.* 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.

Following is a schedule for our evening services for December:

- 12-10: No Service
- 12-17: Candle Light Service (6:30 pm)
- 12-24: No Service
- 12-31: No Service

There will be no **Sunday School & Catechism** on December 24 and December 31. It will resume again on January 7 at 9:30 a.m.

**OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

**Thank you** for the gifts Jameson got from everyone in our church and for all the prayers. **Darin & Michelle Kuipers**

Thank you to those who were willing to buy gifts this year for **Angel Tree**. May each child be blessed because of your generosity.

**OUR CHURCH EVENTS**

Dear Friends in Christ,

Advent is a season of expectation and longing for the coming of the Lord. For four weeks we prepare to once again hear the announcement of the angel: *"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord"* (Luke 2:10-11).

Out theme this Advent season is the great theme of the Bible: the reunion of earth and heaven. Over the course of the next four weeks we will journey from the moment when heaven and earth were separated to the moment when they will at last be reunited again. The journey begins in sorrow and longing; but it ends in joy and reunion.

Listed below is the tentative outline for the series itself. As always, you are encouraged to read the text ahead of time in preparation for our Sunday morning study. May God bless us as we make our way to the reunion together.

In Christ,  
Pastor John

December 3 AM: Genesis 3:1-9 *"When Heaven Walked the Earth"*  
December 10 AM: Isaiah 25:6-9 *"Longing for Redemption & Reunion"*  
December 17 AM: Luke 1:26-38, 46-55 *"When Heaven Came Back"*  
December 24 AM: Luke 2:8-14 *"Waiting for Heaven to Come Down"*  
December 25 AM: Revelation 21:1-5 *"When Heaven Comes to Stay"*

Today, following the morning service, you will have an opportunity to sign up for a casserole to bring for the **Friendship House** this week. Servers are also needed. Any monetary donations to help with expenses will be accepted also. Please bring the food to the church kitchen on Wednesday, December 13 by 4:00 p.m. Have your casseroles cooked and hot.

**Choir** will meet for rehearsal after the morning service.

**Youth Group** will meet this evening at 7:45 p.m. This is for all high school students. They meet in the Youth Group room in the Education Wing.

The **Council** will meet on Monday, December 11 at 7:00 p.m.

The **Men's Bible Study** will meet on Wednesday, December 13 at 6:30 a.m. at Shari's Restaurant in Burlington. We are studying the book of Revelation. You are welcome to join us.

The **Cadets** will meet on Wednesday, December 13 at 7:00 p.m.

**THE GEMS GIRLS ARE HAVING A BABY SHOWER AND YOU'RE INVITED.** Each Christmas the girls celebrate by collecting baby items for Pregnancy Choices here in Mount Vernon. If you would like to Walk in His Steps with us and bless a young Mom, you are welcome to add your gift to ours for our Dec. 20 meeting. Most needed are disposable diapers, size NB to #4 and clothes for small babies: onesies, sleepers, outfits, sweaters and booties/socks. PLEASE NO BLANKETS OR QUILTS. Bring your unwrapped gift to church and place it under the little Christmas tree by next Sunday, December 17.

**Cookies Needed:** We will be serving coffee and cookies after the Candlelight Service on December 17. If you are willing to bring some cookies, please sign-up on the sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

**Church Library Information:** Beginning in January our church library will become 'self-check-out'. The library will continue to be open after our morning worship service. Instructions regarding how to check out a book or DVD will be posted in the library. Return books/DVDs in the 'return box' outside the library. If you have questions please contact Melba De Kok at 360 424-9308 or email to dmdekok@hotmail.com.

**FAMILY VISITING:** The following is the family visiting schedule for **October—December 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.

<b>OCTOBER — DECEMBER 2017 FAMILY VISITS</b>	
<b>Elder</b>	<b>Family</b>
Dave V	Minne & Trudy Van der Hoek
Dave V	Marinus & Jill Rouw
Greg A	Jeff & Monica Droog
Greg B	Hilsinger, Nick & Kristi
Greg B	Jerry & Marion Ekkelkamp
Henry H	Greg & Beth Boon

Henry H	Mardick & Jill Stevens
Darrel L	Randy & Juli Oostra
Darrel L	Henry & Sharon Kuipers
Pastor John	Jill Haagsma
Pastor John	Larry & Maxine Greidanus
Dennis D	Steve & Katie Jungquist
Dennis D	Chris Van Sweden

### ADVANCED NOTICES

Our **Candlelight Service** will be held next Sunday, November 17 at 6:30 p.m. A nursery will be provided.

**GEMS** will meet on Wednesday, December 20 at 6:30 p.m. This will be our Christmas Party.

The **Golden Hour** will meet on Wednesday, December 20 at 1:30 p.m. You may share a memory of Christmas.

**Christmas Day Service** will be held on Monday, December 25 at 10:00 a.m.

**Post High Young Adults:** You are invited to a night of pizza and fellowship at Coconut Kenny's (1060 S. Burlington Blvd.- southwest end of the Fred Meyer parking lot) on Wednesday, December 27 at 6:30 p.m. Please let Pastor John know by December 22 if you are coming (cell # 360-941-5902 or e-mail to jknoes14@hotmail.com).

**Save the Date:** Take a moment to mark **Friday, March 9** on your 2018 calendar! This will be the date of the 1st Annual **"Taste of Italy Night"** at First CRC! Think you have a good lasagna recipe? Do you love a great salad? Are you ready to test your Italian cooking skills against a bunch of other wanna-be Italians? If so, then begin making your recipe plans now. Various awards and prizes will be given for the best-tasting lasagna, most delicious salad, etc.. Just imagine layer upon layer of soft buttery pasta with the delicious combination of juicy seasoned tomatoes mixed with ground meat perfectly seasoned with softened onions with just the right amount of cottage cheese - all mixed perfectly together with hot, cheesy mozzarella cheese topped with a crunchy Parmesan cheese crust. ... Are you hungry yet!?

### ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT

**Mighty God:** As we continue to anticipate and think about the birth of Jesus Christ, we encounter Isaiah's second name for our Messiah: Mighty God. Join Groundwork as we study Isaiah 9:6-7 and Colossians 2:15 to discover how a baby who will later appear weak as he dies on a cross really is our Mighty God. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

**Merry X-Monsters:** One of the families in Terrane loses their house and all their belongings in a house fire right before Christmas. Liz decides to give them his coveted, long anticipated, X-Monsters game so they'll have something brand new to play with. Check out KC's new Christmas coupon book for a great gift idea at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net).

### REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENT

**Sunday, December 17:** Blue Christmas Service @ 6:30 pm at Faith Community Fellowship, 1427 Monte Vista Drive, Mount Vernon, WA 98273. This service is for anyone who is experiencing grief of some kind....a loss of a loved one, a dream, a job, or something else in your life that has happened. This service is focused on hope for the future. Invite someone you know who can benefit from this service

### CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

SUN	11:45 am	Choir Practice
	7:45 pm	Youth Group
MON	7:00 pm	Council Meeting
TUES	7:00 pm	Vida Nueva

WED 6:30 am Men's Breakfast Bible Study  
4:00 pm Friendship House  
7:00 pm Cadets

#### **NURSERY**

**Today: AM Infants & Toddlers**

Julie Houck, Kylie Boon, Kyler Houck

**Next Week: AM Infants & Toddlers**

Jeannette Folkertsma Jordan Feddema, Kendall Van Zanten

**Candlelight Service:** Michele Feddema, Jordan Feddema

#### **GREETERS**

**Today - AM Rovers:** Elders Darrel Lagerwey & Henry Hammingh

**AM:** Jack & Trudy Van Klaveren, Hank & Sylvia Van Zanten

**Next Week - AM Rovers:** Rich & Elly Cuperus

**AM:** Henry & Pam Van Zanten, Greg & Beth Boon

**Candlelight Service:**

**Rovers:** Dennis & Melba De Kok

**PM:** Shirley Boonstra, Marjean De Groot

#### **USHERS**

**Today:** Darin Kuipers, Kendall Van Zanten, Henry Van Zanten, Jr.

**Next Week:** Kermit Houck, Wiebe Van der Hoek, Tim Van Hofwegen

**Candlelight Service:** Kermit Houck, Wiebe Van der Hoek, Tim Van Hofwegen

#### **SOUND SYSTEM**

**Today AM:** Mardick Stevens

**Next Week AM:** Henry Van Zanten, Sr.

**Candlelight Service:** Tim Hibma

#### **PROJECTION**

**Today AM:** Nathan Van Beek

**Next Week AM:** Tim Hibma

**Candlelight Service:** Josh Hammingh

#### **VIDEO TAPING**

**Today AM:** Carson Blom

**Next Week AM:** Mike Hibma

**Candlelight Service:** Brandon Speck

#### **CHILDREN & WORSHIP**

**Today AM:**

Teacher: Marjo Rouw

Assistants: Julie Speck, Josh Hammingh

**Next Week AM:**

Teacher: Julie Houck

Assistants: Briana Vander Kooy, Devin Van Zanten

#### **LIBRARY:**

**Today AM:** Melba De Kok

**Next Week AM:** Joy Faber

## COFFEE HOSTS

**Today AM:** Joe & Annette LeClair, Betty Postma, Bob & Andy Pippel

**Next Week AM:** Keith & Jean Rasmussen, Marinus & Jill Rouw, Mardick & Jill Stevens

**Candlelight Service:** Fellowship Committee

## VIDA NUEVA CHILDCARE

**Today:** Jayne Hammingh, Brooke Knoester

**Next Week:** None

## TRANSPORTATION CARE TEAM

**Next Week:** Dennis & Melba De Kok

## OFFERING: December 17, 2017

**AM:** General Fund

**PM:** Neighbors in Need



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

## SHUT INS:

**Nell Annema** at Birchview Memory Care in Sedro-Woolley, **Marge Eskes** at home in Mount Vernon; **Mary Koopmans** at Where the Heart Is in Burlington; **Wilma Paul** at Mountain Glen Retirement Center 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.

## CONTINUING CONCERNS:

Continue to keep **Hans & Aileen Meischke** in your prayers as Aileen recuperates from a broken arm and Hans from a recent surgery.

Pray for **Annette LeClair** as she continues with treatments. Please continue to keep Annette and her entire family in your prayers.

## OTHER CONCERNS:

**Emily Curry** has finished with her 4 rounds of chemo. A PET scan will be done on Monday, December 11 to determine if the treatments were effective. Pray for strength for each day and for healing.

**Resonate Global Mission: Seattle, Wash.** - Praise God for being at work in new and exciting ways through the ministries of Bookie and Lakisha Gates, who are part of the Kingdom in Neighborhoods Network of ministries led by Clarence Presley, a local mission leader with Resonate. May they continue to reach new people with the gospel.

**Urban Aboriginal Ministries: Young people** - Increasing drug abuse by First Nations young people seems to be fueled by marginalization, growing up in various foster homes, and being disconnected from community, as well as easy access to drugs. Pray against the powers of drug addiction and ask that people can come alongside these young people and offer abiding connections and friendship, in Jesus' name.

**Back to God Ministries International: North America** - Patricia wrote to Family Fire, our family and relationship ministry: "Pray for my husband and me. I'm so frustrated, but when I ask anything or try to stand up for myself, he's quick to flip it on me. Please pray. I can't even pray anymore." Pray for a renewal in Patricia's marriage and for patience as God works in her and her husband's hearts.

**Resonate Global Mission: Finland** - A church planter trained by Resonate staff began partnering with a church in Finland's capital that will reach out to Russian speakers. Praise God for this ministry, and pray that it will continue to grow. Pray also that the church planter will be able to maintain his visa status in Finland.

**World Renew: Disaster Response Services (DRS)** - During August and September, Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands were struck by high-category hurricanes. The storms left many families and individuals without food, water, power, or shelter. World Renew is currently assessing the damages and needs in each area. Pray for healing and guidance throughout the long-term recovery process.

**Disability Concerns: Mercy and justice** - Praise God for our merciful and just Savior, who does not judge others by appearances or abilities. "He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; but with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth" (Isa. 11:3-4).

**Resonate Global Mission: Mexico** - Praise God for the people he is reaching through Nueva Vida (New Life), a church plant in Guadalajara. Pray for new members of this church and for the church planting team, including Resonate missionaries Ben and Amy Meyer, as they prepare to hold the church's first Sunday services in January.