

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!

Special Guest – Mr. Steve Gumaer

May 7, 2017

10:30 A.M. Worship Service

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

“Blest are they who seek peace, they are the children of God.”

Prelude: Jill Klunder

Welcome / Announcements

Call to Worship: Psalm 22:22-27

²² I will declare your name to my brothers; in the congregation I will praise you.

²³ You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you descendants of Jacob, honor him! Revere him,
all you descendants of Israel!

²⁴ For he has not despised or disdained the suffering of the afflicted one; he has not hidden his face
from him but has listened to his cry for help.

²⁵ From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly; before those who fear you will I fulfill
my vows.

²⁶ The poor will eat and be satisfied; they who seek the LORD will praise him- may your hearts live forever!

²⁷ All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations will bow
down before him,

* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #511:1-3 ***“Amid the Thronging Worshipers”***

1. Amid the thronging worshipers
the Lord, our God, I bless;
before his people gathered here
his name will I confess.
Come, praise him, all who fear the Lord,
the children of his grace;
with reverence sound his glories forth
and bow before his face.
2. The burden of the sorrowful
the Lord will not despise;
he has not turned from those who mourn,
he listens to their cries.
His goodness makes me join the throng
where saints his praise proclaim,
and there will I fulfill my vows
with those who fear his name.

3. He feeds with good the humble soul
and satisfies the meek,
and they shall live and praise the Lord
who for his mercy seek.
The ends of all the earth will hear,
the nations seek the Lord;
they worship him, the King of kings,
in earth and heaven adored.

Psalm 22; Words: Psalter, 1912, P.D.; Music: Laura A. Tate, 1912, P.D.; CCLI# 678905

* God's Greeting / We Greet Each Other

* We Confess our Faith:

Leader: In Christ, the God of heaven has made his home on earth.

People: Christ dwells among us and is one with us.

Leader: Highest of all creation, he lives among the least.

People: He journeys with the rejected and welcomes the weary.

Leader: Come now, all who thirst,

People: and drink the water of life.

Leader: Come now, all who hunger,

People: and be filled with good things.

Leader: Come now, all who seek,

People: and be warmed by the fire of love.

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* Opening Songs of Praise:

"Gather Us In" LUYH #529:1,2,4

1. Here in this place the new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.
2. We are the young, our lives are a mystery,
we are the old who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

4. Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away
here in this place the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

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Read Matthew 5:14-16

- ¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.
- ¹⁵ Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl.
Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.
- ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they
may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

"We Are Called" LUYH #296:1-3

1. Come! Live in the light!
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom,
to live in the freedom of the city of God.

Refrain

*We are called to act with justice,
we are called to love tenderly;
we are called to serve one another,
to walk humbly with God.*

2. Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless
so hatred and blindness will be no more.

Refrain

3. Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign, and we'll walk with each other
as sisters and brothers united in love.

Refrain

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

"Blest are they who suffer in faith; the glory of God is theirs."

Announcements / Introduction to Our Speaker

Offering: General Fund

Offertory: Ministry Video

Scripture Reading: Various Texts

Message: Mr. Steve Gumaer (Partners Relief and Development)

“Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you; holy are you.”

Time of Prayer

* Song of Application: LUYH #117:1,2,4,5 ***“Blest Are They”***

1. Blest are they, the poor in spirit;
theirs is the kingdom of God.
Blest are they, full of sorrow;
they shall be consoled.

Refrain

*Rejoice and be glad!
Blessed are you; holy are you.
Rejoice and be glad!
Yours is the kingdom of God.*

2. Blest are they, the lowly ones;
they shall inherit the earth.
Blest are they who hunger and thirst;
they shall have their fill.

Refrain

4. Blest are they who seek peace;
they are the children of God.
Blest are they who suffer in faith;
the glory of God is theirs.

Refrain

5. Blest are you who suffer hate,
all because of me.
Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom;
shine for all to see.

Refrain

*Rejoice and be glad!
Blessed are you; holy are you.
Rejoice and be glad!
Yours is the kingdom of God.*

MATTHEW 5:3-12; Words and Music: David Haas (b. 1957), based on Matthew 5:3-12, Descant: Michael Joncas (b. 1951); © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.; One License.net License #A711218

“Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God.”

* We Confess our Faith Together: Our World Belongs to God

Article 44

Leader: Following the apostles, the church is sent—^[1]sent with the gospel of the kingdom^[2] to make disciples of all nations, to feed the hungry,^[3] and to proclaim the assurance that in the name of Christ^[4] there is forgiveness of sin and new life for all who repent and believe— to tell the news that our world belongs to God.

People: In a world estranged from God, where millions face confusing choices, this mission is central to our being,^[5] for we announce the one name that saves. We repent of leaving this work to a few, we pray for brothers and sisters who suffer for the faith, and we rejoice that the Spirit^[6] is waking us to see our mission in God's world.

¹ Matt. 28:18-20; ² John 20:21-23; ³ 1 John 3:11-24;
⁴ 2 Cor. 5:11-6:2; ⁵ Acts 1:8; ⁶ 1 Thess. 1

Article 58

Leader: With the whole creation^[1] we wait for the purifying fire of judgment. For then we will see the Lord face to face.^[2] He will heal our hurts, end our wars, and make the crooked straight.

People: Then we will join in the new song to the Lamb without blemish^[3] who made us a kingdom and priests.^[4] God will be all in all, righteousness and peace will flourish,^[5] everything will be made new, and every eye will see at last that our world belongs to God! Hallelujah! Come, Lord Jesus!^[6]

¹ Rom. 8:18-39; ² Rev. 21-22; ³ Rev. 5; ⁴ 1 Cor. 15:28;
⁵ Isa. 11:6-9; 60:11, 19-20; 65:17-25; ⁶ Rev. 22:17, 20]

* Benediction

* Doxology: LUYH #302:1-2 **"Hear Our Praises"**

1. May our homes be filled with dancing,
may our streets be filled with joy.
May injustice bow to Jesus
as the people turn and pray.

Refrain

*From the mountain to the valley,
hear our praises rise to you.
From the heavens to the nations,
hear our singing fill the air.*

2. May your light shine in the darkness
as we walk before the cross.
May your glory fill the whole earth
as the water over the seas.

Refrain x2

Words and Music: Reuben Morgan © 1998 Hillsong Publishing (APRA), admin. US & Canada atEMICMGPublishing.com; CCLI# 678905

* Postlude

Welcome to worship! Here let us seek to see God more clearly, love God more completely, and serve God more certainly. Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised! 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.

This morning we welcome **Steve Gumeary**, the cofounder of Partners Relief and Development as he brings us God's Word and share with us their current work with vulnerable people groups in countries such as Iraq, Syria, and Myanmar.

Our **evening service** today will be a special prayer service. During this service we will pray specifically for some of our loved ones who are currently battling cancer.

A reminder that we won't have an **evening service** next Sunday, May 14.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Hans & Aileen Meischke would like to thank those who celebrated with them their 60th anniversary by coming to the open house and sending cards and remembering them on this special day. God has been so faithful.

Our annual **Congregational Meeting** will be held Monday, May 22, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Our annual church budget will be presented for approval and informational reports about our church's ministry will be presented. The Council presents the following nominees for office:

Elder: Greg Ackermann (1 year), Dave Visser (3 years)

Deacon: Randy Burr (1 year), Rich Knight, Mardick Stevens, Daniel Vander Kooy

If you have any questions about the agenda or any of the items on the agenda, please contact your district Elder prior to the Congregational Meeting.

Address Change:

Jerry & Marion Ekkelkamp
901 Heather Circle #3
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
Same Phone #: 360-424-4891

OUR CHURCH EVENTS

Friendship House: Today, following the morning service, you will have an opportunity to sign up for a casserole, or dessert 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, May 10 by 4:00 p.m. Have your casseroles cooked and hot.

Choir will meet for practice today following the morning service.

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

After the program for the 75th anniversary on Friday, May 12, **cookies** will be served. Please sign-up on the sheet in the Fellowship Hall if you are willing to bring 3 dozen cookies or bars.

This Friday through Sunday we will be celebrating our **75th anniversary**. We plan to begin the festivities Friday the 12th at 7:00 p.m. with a program. 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. 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 some of our former pastors involved. There will be cake served following the service. If anyone has questions, you may contact Greg Boon or Melba DeKok. **A nursery will be provided for Friday evening.**

From the Building Committee: We are making great progress refurbishing certain aspects of our facilities. We would like to thank the Congregation for the continued giving of funds to finish the items on our list. You may have noticed that the large white sign was removed from the front of the church. Though it was approved by Council, there was a stipulation placed on the committee that an attractive and very visible sign be placed somewhere on the south side of our lot that announces both 1st CRC and Vida Nueva perpendicular to the road for maximum visibility, by October 1 of this year. If any congregation member has ideas or would like to fund such a sign, please visit with a Building Committee member.

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.

MAY-JUNE 2017 FAMILY VISITS	
Elder	Family
Dave V	Henry & Pam Van Zanten
Dave V	Greg & Tish Ackermann
Greg A	Pastor John & Brooke Knoester
Greg A	Sue & Eliot Blom
Greg B	Terry & Joni Beezhold
Greg B	Steve & Teci Greydanus
Henry H	Wilma Paul
Henry H	Karen Staat
Darrel L	Clarence & Lona Vander Griend
Darrel L	Rich & Elly Cuperus
Pastor John	Mardy & Kristine Stevens
Pastor John	Randy & Peggy Burr
Dennis D	Adrianna Swanson
Dennis D	Marjo Rouw

ADVANCED NOTICES

The **Council** will meet on Monday, May 15 at 7:00 p.m.

The **Men's Bible Study** will meet on Wednesday, May 17 at 6:30 a.m. at Shari's Restaurant in Burlington. We are studying the book of Revelation. You are welcome to join us.

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

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT

Donations for Neighbors in Need: 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.

When Christ Returns: Will there be rapture when Christ returns? What does "a new heaven and a new earth" mean? Will earth as we recognize it cease to exist? Join our Groundwork discussion on 2 Peter 3 and Revelation 21 as we explore the biblical description of the kingdom Christ will usher in when he returns. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Chamy's Catastrophe: Brand New Episode. Chamy's parents' divorce is final on Friday. Chamy doesn't believe it - surely there's something that she can do to bring her parents back together! Subscribe for free at getkidscorner.com. At www.kidscorner.net, download the new free resource Power Tools: Taking a Stand Against Bullying.

Available Free in the Digital Library: "Daylight: 366 Daily Devotional Readings" is available free to all in the CRC through the Digital Library (crcna.org/Library). In this popular devotional, Andrew Kuyvenhoven explores biblical books and themes in a full year of devotional reading that will challenge your mind and inspire your heart.

Run for Your Mum a 5K fun run and 2K walk will take place on May 13, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at Bakerview Park, Mount Vernon, WA. This is benefitting Pregnancy Choices. Call 360-428-4777 to register or go to: www.RunForYourMum.com.

Save the Date! Mount Vernon Christian will be hosting a retirement open house for Elaine Zonnefeld, Ivan Van Duyn and Chris Vander Wekken in order to honor and recognize the dedicated years they have taught and served in Christian Education and at MVCS. The open house will be at the High School on May 21, 2017 from 2-4 PM in the Hamming Commons. All are invited to come and join MVC for this time of celebration.

Can't afford a trip to Egypt, Turkey, and Israel this summer? This year's speaker at **Cascade Family Bible Camp** brings these biblical places to the Pacific Northwest. Pastor George De Jong uses his expertise as a biblical tour leader to add depth and understanding to scripture. Join us at Warm Beach Camp July 6-10 for a memorable weekend for the entire family. Register online at www.cascadefamilybiblecamp.org or use the forms at church

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.L.T.A. Dessert Theatre is presenting **"You Can't Take It with You"** on May 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	11:45 pm	Choir Practice
	4:00 pm	Vida Nueva
	7:45 pm	Youth Group
TUES	7:00 pm	Vida Nueva
WED	4:00 pm	Friendship House
FRI	7:00 pm	75th Anniversary Program
SAT	3:00 pm	75th Anniversary Picnic

NURSERY:

Today: Infants & Toddlers

Heather Van Hofwegen, Kylie Boon, Kendall Van Zanten

May 12 PM Service:

Kylie Boon, Kera Boon, Hannah Van Hofwegen

Next Week: Infants & Toddlers

Johnna Van der Hoek, Devin Van Zanten, Cody Hilsinger

GREETERS:

Today:

Rovers: Larry & Margaret Vander Pol

AM: Sally Reehoorn, Shirley Boonstra, Henry & Anjean Vander Veen

May 12 PM Service:

Rovers: Clarence & Eleanor Klunder

PM: Marinus & Jill Rouw, Marjean De Groot, Alice De Vries

Next Week:

Rovers: Rich & Elly Cuperus

AM: Bryan & Deanna Van Beek, Jack & Trudy Van Klaveren

USHERS

Today: Henry Hammingh, Tim Hibma, Wiebe Van der Hoek

May 12 PM Service:

Henry Van Zanten, Jr. Larry Greidanus, Henry Hammingh

Next Week: Darin Kuipers, Tim Van Hofwegen, Henry Van Zanten, Jr.

SOUND SYSTEM

Today: Mardick Stevens

May 12 PM Service: Tim Hibma

Next Week: Kendall Van Zanten

PROJECTION

Today AM: Devin Van Zanten

May 12 PM Service: Kendall Van Zanten

Next Week: Nathan Van Beek

VIDEO TAPING

Today: Tim Hibma

May 12 PM Service: Mike Hibma

Next Week: DJ Droog

CHILDREN & WORSHIP

Today:

Teacher: Michele Feddema

Assistants: Briana Vander Kooy, Lexi Blom

Next Week:

Teacher: Sue Blom

Assistants: Brooke Knoester, Juliana LeClair

LIBRARY:

Today: Elly Cuperus

Next Week: Melba De Kok

COFFEE HOSTS

Today: Keith & Jean Rasmussen, Marinus & Jill Rouw, Mardick & Jill Stevens

Next Week: Minne & Trudy Van der Hoek, Larry & Margaret Vander Pol, Jack & Trudy Van Klaveren

VIDA NUEVA CHILDCARE

Today: Jayne Hammingh & Jack Hammingh

Next Week: Danielle Van Zanten & Sylvia Van Zanten

MINISTRY OF PRAISE

Next Week: None

OFFERING: May 14, 2017

AM: General Fund



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 CONCERN:

We express our Christian sympathy to **Wilma Paul & Family** in the passing away of her son Marty Paul on April 30. May God be with them as they make plans for a service and give them strength for each new day.

CONTINUING CONCERNS:

Continue to pray for **Annette LeClair** and **Betty Postma** as they both continue with their chemo treatments. May God give them healing and endurance.

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:

Congratulation to **Sally Reehoorn** as she celebrated her 93rd birthday on April 27. We praise God for His faithfulness to her. Happy Birthday!

OTHER CONCERNS:

Christian Reformed Home Missions: Forest City Community Church, London, Ont. - Praise God for vibrant church leaders and church plants. In the early 1990s Pastor Rob Hogendoorn planted a church in London with the help of Home Missions, seeking to draw people who have lots of questions and skepticism. Today more than 2,000 people attend services regularly.

Disability Concerns: Mental Health Awareness - May is Mental Health Awareness Month in the U.S., and the first week in May is Mental Health Week in Canada. Pray for grace and recovery for the millions of people living with mental illness and for their loved ones. Pray too that the stigma surrounding mental illnesses will be replaced by love and support.

Back to God Ministries International: North America - In response to a Groundwork program, Maria asked us to pray that Jesus will remember her children, who, she says, have "left him to follow the ways of the world." Pray that all who have left Jesus will see his loving work in their lives and return to him.

Worship Ministries: Leadership - Many churches are searching for a pastor or worship leader. Ask God to provide qualified persons to fill each of these ministry roles. Pray for smooth transitions of leadership and working harmony between councils, ministry staff, and church members.

Christian Reformed World Missions: Central America - Pray for participants in our Cohort of Missioners program, which pairs together young adults from North America and Central America to do ministry alongside long-term ministry leaders, discerning God's calling for ministry in their lives. Pray that they will gain meaningful ministry experience.

Christian Reformed Home Missions: Church plants - Please pray for CRC church planters and their families, asking God to provide needed resources and leaders. Pray also that church plants may find ways to partner in causes of justice and that new planters may be raised up.

World Renew: Disaster Response Services (DRS) - Ken, a veteran with disabilities in West Virginia, lost his home to

flooding in 2016. This month volunteers from Holland and Zeeland, Mich., will build a new house, from foundation to finish, for Ken. Please keep Ken and the volunteers lifted in prayer.