

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

**Pastor John Knoester**

**October 22, 2017**

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

**\* Please rise.**

***“By grace we have been saved by faith  
and not by keeping law.”***

Prelude: Marjo Rouw

Welcome and Announcements

Youth Group Report: Kendall Van Zanten

\*Call to Worship: Psalm 96:1-2

<sup>1</sup> Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

<sup>2</sup> Sing to the LORD, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day.

\* Opening Hymn: LUYH #521:1-3 ***“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”***

1. Come, thou Fount of every blessing,  
tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount— I’m fixed upon it—  
mount of God’s unchanging love.
2. Here I raise my Ebenezer;  
hither by thy help I’ve come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wandering from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger,  
interposed his precious blood.
3. Oh, to grace how great a debtor  
daily I’m constrained to be!  
Let that grace now like a fetter,  
bind my wandering heart to thee:  
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
prone to leave the God I love;  
here’s my heart, oh, take and seal it;  
seal it for thy courts above.

Words: Robert Robinson, 1758, alt., P.D.;

Music: J. Wyeth’s *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813, P.D.; CCLI # 678905

\* God’s Greeting / We Greet Each Other

\* Opening Songs of Praise:

Read Psalm 107:1-3, 8

- <sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;  
his love endures forever.
- <sup>2</sup> Let the redeemed of the LORD say this—  
those he redeemed from the hand of the foe,
- <sup>3</sup> those he gathered from the lands, from east and west,  
from north and south.
- <sup>8</sup> Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love  
and his wonderful deeds for men.

***“There Is a Redeemer”*** LUYH #833:1-3

1. There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God’s own Son;  
precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.

*Chorus:*

*Thank You, O my Father, for giving us Your Son;  
and leaving Your Spirit ‘til the work on earth is done.*

2. Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names;  
precious Lamb of God, Messiah, hope for sinners slain.

*Chorus*

3. When I stand in glory, I will see His face;  
there I’ll serve my King forever, in that holy place.

*Chorus*

Words and Music: Melody Green (b. 1946)©1982 Birdwing Music(ASCAP)  
/BMG Songs (ASCAP)/ Ears to Hear Music (ASCAP), admin. EMICMGPublishing.com CCLI# 678905

***“Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”*** LUYH #693:1-5

1. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now I'm found,  
was blind but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed.

*Chorus*

*My chains are gone, I've been set free;  
my God, my Savior has ransomed me.  
And like a flood, His mercy reigns  
unending love, amazing grace.*

3. The Lord has promised good to me,  
His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.

4. Through many dangers, toils, and snares  
I have already come;  
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.

*Chorus*

5. When we've been there ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we first begun.

Words: John Newton (sts), refrain by Chris Tomlin & Louie Giglio;  
© 2006 worshiptogether.com songs/sixsteps Music/Vamos Publishing;  
admin. EMI CMG Publishing; Music: traditional American melody; refrain  
and arr. Chris Tomlin and Louis Giglio EMICMGPublishing.com; arr. Diane  
Dykgraaf © 2012 worshiptogether.com Songs/sixsteps Music, Vamos Publishing,  
admin. EMICMGPublishing.com; CCLI # 678905

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

***"God's saints believed by what they heard  
and not by what they saw."***

Call to Confession:

The proof of God's amazing love is this:  
While we were sinners, Christ died for us.  
Let us therefore approach the throne of grace  
with boldness, so that we may receive mercy  
and find grace to help in time of need.  
Trusting in God's faithfulness and compassion,  
let us confess our sin before God and one another.

—based on Romans 5:8; Hebrews 4:16, NRSV

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Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance: Colossians 2:13-14

<sup>13</sup> When you were dead in your sins and in the  
uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made  
you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins,

<sup>14</sup> having canceled the written code, with its regulations,  
that was against us and that stood opposed to us;  
he took it away, nailing it to the cross.

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Song of Thanksgiving: ***"My Worth Is Not in What I Own"*** vs. 1-5

1. My worth is not in what I own;  
not in the strength of flesh and bone.  
But in the costly wounds of love at the cross.
2. My worth is not in skill or name;  
in win or lose in pride or shame.  
But in the blood of Christ that flowed at the cross.

*Chorus*

*I rejoice in my Redeemer.  
Greatest treasure, wellspring of my soul.  
I will trust in Him, no other;  
my soul is satisfied in Him alone.*

3. As summer flowers we fade and die;  
Fame, youth and beauty hurry by.  
But life eternal calls to us at the cross.
4. I will not boast in wealth or might,  
or human wisdom's fleeting light.  
But I will boast in knowing Christ at the cross.

*Chorus*

5. Two wonders here that I confess:  
my worth and my unworthiness.  
My value fixed, my ransom paid at the cross.

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God's Law:

Our Lord Jesus said:  
"You shall love the Lord your God  
with all your heart,  
and with all your soul,  
and with all your mind.'  
This is the greatest and first commandment.  
And a second is like it:  
'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'  
On these two commandments  
hang all the law and the prophets."

—from Matthew 22:37-40, NRSV

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Offering: General Fund

\* Hymn of Preparation: LUYH #755:1-3 ***"Speak, O Lord"***

1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to You  
to receive the food of Your holy word.  
Take Your truth, plant it deep in us;  
Shape and fashion us in Your likeness,  
that the light of Christ might be seen today  
in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.  
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us  
all Your purposes, for Your glory.
2. Teach us Lord full obedience,  
holy reverence, true humility.  
Test our thoughts and our attitudes  
in the radiance of Your purity.  
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see  
Your majestic love and authority.  
Words of power that can never fail;  
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.

3. Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;  
Help us grasp the heights of Your plans for us.  
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time,  
that will echo down through eternity,  
And by grace we'll stand on Your promises;  
And by faith we'll walk as You walk with us.  
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built  
and the earth is filled with Your glory.

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### ***“Oh, how I love Jesus! Oh, how I love Jesus!”***

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10 (pg. 1156) Read by Mardy Stevens

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***“Alive in Christ”***

Time of Prayer

### ***“Oh, how I love Jesus, because he first loved me.”***

\* Song of Application: LUYH #675:1-4

#### ***“By Grace We Have Been Saved”***

1. By grace we have been saved through faith  
and not by keeping law.  
God’s saints believed by what they heard  
and not by what they saw. (*Ephesians 2:8*)

#### *Refrain*

*Oh, how I love Jesus! Oh, how I love Jesus!  
Oh, how I love Jesus, because he first loved me.*

2. For all have sinned and fallen short.  
God’s plan not one obeyed.  
Christ has for all fulfilled the law.  
Believe, confess, be saved. (*Romans 3:23*)

#### *Refrain*

3. God gave to earth a perfect love  
through Jesus on the cross.  
While we were foes, Christ died for us.  
We gained by God’s own loss. (*Romans 5:8*)

#### *Refrain*

4. We know the wage of sin is death;  
thank God, we shall revive.  
For just as Jesus rose again,  
we too are made alive. (*Romans 6:23*)

#### *Refrain*

\* Benediction

\* Parting Praise: LUYH #675:5 ***“By Grace We Have Been Saved”***

5. Set free, we now have peace with God.  
Salvation is secured.  
How beautiful the feet of those  
who share this gospel word. (*Romans 5:1*)

*Refrain*

*Oh, how I love Jesus! Oh, how I love Jesus!  
Oh, how I love Jesus, because he first loved me.*

Words: sts. Rusty Edwards; © 1996 Selah Publishing Company;

Music: North American traditional; arr. Sean Ivory © 2008 Faith Alive Christian Resources; CCLI# 678905

\* 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.

**Pastor Jon Westra** will preach for us next Sunday morning, October 29.

### **OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

Thank you to the congregation for your kind words, sympathies, memorial gifts and prayers on the passing of our faithful mom and Beppe, Rena. We are truly blessed to be a part of the church family here at First CRC.

***Jim & Michele Feddema and Family***

We express our sympathy to the family & friends of **Katie Bassman** who passed away on October 18 at the age of 90.

### **OUR CHURCH EVENTS**

*Dear Friends in Christ,*

*What is the Church? What is its purpose? Why does it exist? How is it supposed to function?* These and many more are just a few of the questions Paul addresses in his letter to the church in Ephesus. In fact, we can almost call the book of Ephesians ‘a miniature doctrine of the Church!’

Like every other book of the Bible – Paul’s letter is not just for the recipients of his letter 2000 years ago, but also for us here today. The same struggles and issues the church in Ephesus faced are still prevalent in our world today. The following is a tentative schedule of our series for the weeks ahead. As always, you are encouraged to read and study the text beforehand.

May God continue to bless and build His Church!

In Christ,

Pastor John

September 24: Spiritual Blessings in Christ – Ephesians 1:1-8  
October 1: Safe in God’s Plan – Ephesians 1:8-11  
October 8: God’s Possession - Ephesians 1:11-16  
October 15: (Communion) Living In Awe and Wonder– Ephesians 1:15-23  
October 22: Alive With Christ – Ephesians 2:1-10  
November 5: Breaking the Dividing Wall – Ephesians 2:11-18  
November 12: Unity in Christ – Ephesians 2:19-22  
November 19: A Foretaste of What is to Come – Ephesians 3:1-13  
November 26: Rooted and Established in Love – Ephesians 3:14-21

**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 **Elders** will meet on Monday, October 23 at 7:00 p.m. They will **not** meet on October 30 as previously planned.

**Cadets** will meet Wednesday, October 25 at 7:00 p.m. Boys in grades 3-8 are invited to come.

The **Young at Heart** will meet on Thursday, October 26 at 12:30 p.m. at I-Hops in Mount Vernon for their monthly lunch.

**Thanks** to those who signed up to bring cookies for the time of fellowship following the Reformation Day Service in the evening on October 29.

Do you think you have the best pumpkin carving skills or the best chili or do you just want a fun evening of social time? On **October 27, 5:30—8:30 p.m.** the First CRC youth group will be hosting a **Family Harvest Fun Night**. Activities will include a pumpkin carving contest and games for the kids. There will also be a time of voting who has the best chili. So bring a pot of chili with you. Please plan on showing your support for our mission trip by being part of all the fun. A free will donation will be taken to assist the youth group in raising money to go on a mission trip this coming summer. Please bring your own pumpkins. We will also have some available for purchase if needed. There is also a sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall so that we can have an estimate of how many people are coming. Bring your family and friends of all ages to enjoy a night of community with your church family!

**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 A	Grace Faber
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**

Come and bring your family and friends to the **Reformation Day Service** at the First CRC of Mount Vernon on October 29 at 6:30 p.m. Reverend Ken Koeman, former pastor of Sonlight Community CRC in Lynden, Washington will proclaim the message. Geoff & Ashley Van Dragt, pastors at the University of Washington, will also be sharing with us about their ministry. We will be taking an offering to support them in their work. The evening will be a time of praise and celebration. Mark it on your calendar to come and join us in worship.

The **Men's Bible Study** will meet on Wednesday, November 1 at 6:30 a.m. at Shari's Restaurant in Burlington. We are studying the book of Revelation. You are welcome to join us.

**Golden Hour** will meet on Wednesday, November 1 at 1:30 p.m. We meet in the Koinonia Room and will study Micah 4:6-5:5.

**GEMS** will meet on Wednesday, November 1 at 6:30 p.m. Girls in grades 2-8th are invited to attend.

**"I Am Jane Doe"** (a documentary film) will be shown at the church on Saturday November 11 from 6:30 to 8:30pm? If anyone has any questions or would like to sign up to come watch it, please contact me at 360-941-5921 or [brookeanneknoester@hotmail.com](mailto:brookeanneknoester@hotmail.com). The epic battle that several American mothers are waging on behalf of their middle-school daughters, victims of sex trafficking on Backpage.com, the adult classifieds section that for years was part of the iconic Village Voice. Narrated by Academy Award-nominee Jessica Chastain and directed by award-winning filmmaker Mary Mazzio, the documentary follows the journey of these young girls and their mothers in real time as they run headlong into a collision course not only with Backpage but with judges, powerful corporations, special interest groups, and an outdated internet freedom law that has been interpreted by federal judges to protect websites from any responsibility for hosting ads which sell underage girls. The film is a gut-wrenching human story and fresh look at a social and legal issue that affects every community in America.

**Ladies Night Out** will be held on Wednesday, November 29 at 7:00 p.m. at Haggan's cafe in Mount Vernon.

**Potluck & Caroling:** Our next church potluck will be held at **5:45 p.m.** on Sunday, **December 3**. Following the potluck we will go Christmas caroling at Heather Village and then come back and enjoy hot chocolate and goodies. We hope to see you there!

### **ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT**

**By Grace Alone:** It's all about God's grace. This important theme developed out of the Reformation and hammered home the idea that it is only by God's grace that we have faith and are saved through Christ. Join Groundwork as we study Ephesians 2:1-9 and Romans 6:1-4 to better understand this important gospel of grace and discuss what it means for how we live our lives once we receive it. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

**Mumbly Maneuver:** Listen to the new episodes this month! Skink and Cole are going to fight! What's this all about anyway? And why is Liz so happy about it? Subscribe for free at [getkidscorner.com](http://getkidscorner.com). Free Giveaway: Kids Corner's "Know Your Bible Activity Book, Part 1!" Have fun as you learn about God's big story!

**There's Help for Marriages in Crisis:** Every marriage hits bumps in the road. But what happens when the bumps become huge roadblocks? "Marriages in Crisis," an ebook from Family Fire, helps you find hope and see God at work in the most difficult time of your life. It's yours free when you subscribe to Family Fire at [familyfire.com/marriageincrisis](http://familyfire.com/marriageincrisis).

**Speak Up for Us:** Claire Culwell, speaker and abortion survivor will be at Emmanuel Baptist Church on Tuesday, October 24 at 7:00 p.m. This is a fundraising event for Pregnancy Choices. Info: 360-428-4777, [www.pregnancyChoices.org](http://www.pregnancyChoices.org).

**Mount Vernon Christian School** is hosting its annual HARVEST DINNER on November 3rd from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. (**senior citizen early bird meal starts at 4:30 p.m.**) in the school's gym, 820 West Blackburn Road in Mount Vernon. Come enjoy a turkey dinner with all the trimmings and support the school! Ticket cost is \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children (K-6<sup>th</sup> grade). Tickets may be purchased at the door. Questions? Please call the Mount Vernon Christian School office at 360-424-9157 or drop by MVCS at 820 West Blackburn Road in Mount Vernon.



## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

SUN	7:00 pm	Evening Service
	7:45 pm	Youth Group
MON	7:00 pm	Elders' Meeting
TUES	7:00 pm	Vida Nueva
WED	7:00 pm	Cadets
THURS	12:30 pm	Young at Heart Luncheon at I-Hops
FRI	5:30 pm	Family Harvest Fun Night (Youth Group Fund-Raiser)

### **NURSERY**

#### **Today: AM Infants & Toddlers**

Heather Van Hofwegen, Devin Van Zanten, Rayahna Oostra

#### **Next Week: AM Infants & Toddlers**

Johnna Van der Hoek, Carson Blom, Emma Droog

**PM Service:** Michele Feddema

### **GREETERS**

**Today - Rovers:** Dennis & Melba De Kok

**AM:** Katie Jungquist, Martha Haarsma

**Next Week - AM Rovers:** Keith & Jean Rasmussen

**AM:** Henry & Sharon Kuipers, Joe & Annette LeClair

**PM Roving:** Larry & Margaret Vander Pol

### **USHERS**

**Today:** Tim Van Hofwegen, Tim Hibma, Henry Hammingh

**Next Week:** Wiebe Van der Hoek, Darin Kuipers, Larry Greidanus

### **SOUND SYSTEM**

**Today AM:** Henry Van Zanten, Jr.

**Next Week AM:** Mardick Stevens

**PM:** Tim Hibma

### **PROJECTION**

**Today AM:** Kendall Van Zanten

**Next Week AM:** Nathan Van Beek

**PM:** Josh Hammingh

### **VIDEO TAPING**

**Today:** DJ Droog

**Next Week:** Mike Hibma

### **CHILDREN & WORSHIP**

**Today:**

Teacher: Julie Houck

Assistants: Julie Speck, Emma Droog

**Next Week:**

Teacher: Heather Van Hofwegen

Assistants: Brooke Knoester, Devin Van Zanten

### **LIBRARY:**

**Today:** Michele De Kok

**Next Week:** Elly Cuperus

## COFFEE HOSTS

**Today:** Sally Reehoorn, Minne & Trudy Van der Hoek, Larry & Margaret Vander Pol

**Next Week:** Mardick & Jill Stevens, Bryan & Deanna Van Beek, Jack & Trudy Van Klaveren

## VIDA NUEVA CHILDCARE

**Today:** Marjean De Groot, Alice De Vries

**Next Week:** Vida Nueva

## TRANSPORTATION CARE TEAM

**Next Week:** Henry & Jayne Hammingh

## MINISTRY OF PRAISE

**Next Week:** None

## OFFERING: October 29, 2017

**AM:** Denominational Ministry Shares

**PM:** Geoff & Ashley Van Dragt (Graduate Christian Fellowship at University of Washington)

## 6:30 P.M. Worship Service

Pianist: Shirley Boonstra

Welcome/Announcements

Prayer for Worship

Opening Songs of Praise: Led by Katie Jungquist

**"Lord Our Lord Your Glorious Name"** LUYH #500:1,3,5

**"Dwell in Me, O Blessed Spirit"** LUYH #745:1 & 2

**"It Is Good to Sing Your Praises"** LUYH #513:1 & 3

Catechism Reading: Lord's Day 38

Q. 103 What is God's will for you in the fourth commandment?

**A. First, that the gospel ministry and education for it be maintained,<sup>1</sup> and that, especially on the festive day of rest, I regularly attend the assembly of God's people<sup>2</sup> to learn what God's Word teaches,<sup>3</sup> to participate in the sacraments,<sup>4</sup> to pray to God publicly,<sup>5</sup> and to bring Christian offerings for the poor.<sup>6</sup>**

**Second, that every day of my life I rest from my evil ways, let the Lord work in me through his Spirit, and so begin already in this life the eternal Sabbath.<sup>7</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> [Deut. 6:4-9, 20-25](#); <sup>2</sup> [1 Cor. 9:13-14](#); <sup>3</sup> [2 Tim. 2:2; 3:13-17](#); [Tit. 1:5](#); <sup>4</sup> [Deut. 12:5-12](#); [Ps. 40:9-10](#); [68:26](#);

[Acts 2:42-47](#); [Heb. 10:23-25](#); <sup>5</sup> [Rom. 10:14-17](#); [1 Cor. 14:31-32](#); [1 Tim. 4:13](#); <sup>6</sup> [1 Cor. 11:23-25](#);

<sup>7</sup> [Col. 3:16](#); [1 Tim. 2:1](#); <sup>8</sup> [Ps. 50:14](#); [1 Cor. 16:2](#); [2 Cor. 8 & 9](#); <sup>9</sup> [Isa. 66:23](#); [Heb. 4:9-11](#)

Scripture Readings: Exodus 20:8-11, Mark 2:23-27, Hebrews 4:9-11

Message: **"Celebrating the Sabbath"**

Time of Prayer

Offering: New Earth Recovery (The Trust for Men)

Song of Application: LUYH #532:1-3 *"Be Still for the Presence of the Lord"*

\* 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](mailto:secretary@firstcrcmv.com) by Thursday of each week with your prayer items.

**NEW CONCERN:** We express our sympathy to the family & friends of **Katie Bassman**. Katie passed away at the age of 90 this past Thursday evening. Katie has been a member of our church for many years. You may send condolences to Katie H. Bassman; C/O Norma U'Ren; 344 W. Caminio Del Sonador; Green Valley, AZ 85614

**CONTINUING CONCERNS:** **Adrianna Swanson** returned back to her home at Creekside after her recent fall. Pray for a complete recovery for Adrianna.

**Hans Meischke** will have surgery for colon cancer on November 13. Pray for Hans and Aileen at this time and may they experience God's peace at this time.

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**, grand-daughter of Hank & Sylvia, finished her second round of chemo this past week. Pray for strength for Emily and that the treatment will shrink the mass entirely.

**PRAISES:** We give thanks to God that **Rimmer de Vries** had successful heart surgery recently. Pray that God will give complete healing.

**SHUT INS:**

**Nell Annema** at Birchview Memory Care in Sedro-Woolley, **Marge Eskes** at home in Mount Vernon, **Grace Faber** 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.

**Resonate Global Mission: Filipino-American CRC** - Ronnie Lopez is a church planter ministering to the Filipino population near Houston, Tex. Pray that Ronnie and other members of his ministry team will be able to find new ways to reach out to this population. Pray that this church plant might be able to serve people who may not feel they have a place to belong or to worship God.

**ServiceLink: New church season** - As congregations make a fresh start with various programs, groups, and outreach efforts, please pray for wisdom, vision, and energy for ministry leaders and volunteers as they serve and seek to reflect Christ's love and compassion in the surrounding community.

**Safe Church Ministry: Safe places** - Pray for all who suffer silently in abusive relationships. Many are revictimized when a church leader fails to understand the dynamics of abuse and does not give needed support, or the one perpetrating abuse is not held accountable. May our congregations become safe places to disclose abuse so that healing can begin.

**Resonate Global Mission: Nicaragua** - Students with learning disabilities at Nicaragua Christian Academy have a unique opportunity called SOAAR (Students of All Abilities Recognized), an inclusive special education program. Pray that students in the program will be welcomed into the classroom by classmates and teachers. Pray for Resonate's Andrew Ippel as he coordinates the SOAAR program.

**World Renew: Nepal** - The Nepal earthquake in 2015 killed and injured thousands of people and left many others on a long road to recovery. World Renew is working to rebuild 300 homes in a village that suffered immense damage. Volunteer Matthew Oliveira reports that people's faith and love are rich in this community, despite the hardships they face. Pray that God's light may shine brightly from this village to many others in Nepal.

**Back to God Ministries International: Burkina Faso** - Pray for Asséta, a 24-year-old former Muslim who was repeatedly raped as a teenager. She heard our French broadcast about Christ the Shepherd and contacted our discipleship team. Asséta gave her life to Christ and meets each week with a female volunteer for Bible study and prayer. Pray that Asséta will continue to find peace and healing in Christ.

**Resonate Global Mission: Missionary kids** - Many missionaries struggle with how to educate their children while serving on the field. Pray for good school options for missionary families. Pray also that families who choose to homeschool their children may find quality resources and curricula for learning.