

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!
Guest Pastor Alan Muia
August 22, 2021

* Please stand in body or in spirit

*“The church’s one foundation
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;”*

Prelude

* Welcome/Announcements

* Call to Worship:

Leader: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
there is no end to his greatness.

**People: One generation shall praise your works
to another and shall declare your power.**

Leader: All your work praise you, Lord,
and your faithful servants bless you.

**People: They make known the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your power**

Leader: My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord:

People: Let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.
- Based on Psalm 145:3-4, 10-11, 21

* God’s Greeting:

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: May the love of God the Father,
and the grace of Jesus the Son,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be and abide with us all.

People: Amen!

* Opening Hymn of Praise: LUYH #251 v. 1-5

"The Church's One Foundation"

1. The church's one foundation
is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation
by water and the Word.
From heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died.
2. Elect from every nation,
yet one o'er all the earth;
her charter of salvation:
one Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses,
partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses,
with every grace endued.
3. Though with a scornful wonder
Men see her sore oppressed
By schisms rent asunder
By heresies distressed
Yet saints their watch are keeping
Their cry goes up how long
And soon the night of weeping
Shall be the morn of song
4. 'Mid toil and tribulation
And tumult of her war
She waits the consummation
Of peace forevermore
Till with the vision glorious
Her longing eyes are blest
And the great Church victorious
Shall be the Church at rest

5. Yet she on earth has union
with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion
with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly,
may live eternally.

Words: Samuel J. Stone, 1866, P.D.; Music: Samuel S. Wesley, 1864, P.D.
CCLI #67895

"She is his new creation by water and the Word."

Invitation to Transformed Living

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

Sung Prayer of Confession: LUYH #624 v. 1-3

"Not What My Hands Have Done"

1. Not what my hands have done
can save my guilty soul;
not what my toiling flesh has borne
can make my spirit whole.
Not what I feel or do
can give me peace with God;
not all my prayers and sighs and tears
can bear my awful load.
2. Your voice alone, O Lord,
can speak to me of grace;
your power alone, O Son of God,
can all my sin erase.
No other work but yours,
no other blood will do;
no strength but that which is divine
can bear me safely through.

3. I praise the Christ of God;
I rest on love divine;
and with unfaltering lip and heart
I call this Savior mine.
My Lord has saved my life
and freely pardon gives;
I love because he first loved me,
I live because he lives.

Words: Horatius Bonar; Music George William Martin; Public Domain; CCLI #678905

Words of Assurance

Leader: You are no longer strangers and alien,
but you are citizens with the saints
and also members of the household of God,
built upon the foundation of the apostles and
prophets, with Jesus Christ himself as the
cornerstone.
In him the whole structure is joined together
and grows into a holy temple in the Lord;
in whom you also are built together spiritually
into a dwelling place for God.
By God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ,
we are forgiven!

People: **Thanks be to God!**

*We Offer Our Lives to God:

Leader: What is the great and first commandment?

People: **Love the Lord your God with all your heart
and with all your soul and with all your mind.**

Leader: What is the second commandment like it?

People: **Love your neighbor as yourself.**

Leader: What does this mean?

People: **Love is the fulfilling of the law.**

Leader: To what does this call us?

People: **To a life of faith working through love.**

* Hymn of Thanksgiving and Preparation: LUYH #366 v. 1-4
"My Jesus, I Love Thee"

1. My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine;
for thee all the follies of sin I resign;
my gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.
2. I love thee because thou hast first loved me
and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow;
if ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.
3. I'll love thee in life, I will love thee in death,
and praise thee as long as thou lendest me breath,
and say when the death-dew lies cold on my brow:
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.
4. In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright.
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow;
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

Words: William R. Featherstone, ca. 1862, P.D.; Music: Adoniram J. Gordon,
1876, P.D.; CCLI #678905

*(Following this song children ages 3 – 3rd grade
are excused for Children and Worship)*

*"From heaven he came and sought her
to be his holy bride;"*

Scripture Reading: I John 4:11-19
(Pew Bible page 1209)

Prayer of Illumination

Message: ***"What's Fear Got to do With It?"***

Time of Prayer

*"With his own blood he bought her,
and for her life he died."*

* Song of Reflection: LUYH #256 v. 1-4 *"They'll Know We Are Christians"*

1. We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord.
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love,
by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.
2. We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand.
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love,
by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.
3. We will work with each other, we will work side by side.
We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
and we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love,
by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.
4. All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, his only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us all one.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love,
by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

Words: Peter Scholtes (b. 1938) © 1966, 1967 F.E.L. Church Publications, Ltd.,
assigned 1991 to Lorenz Corporation CCLI #678905

* We Confess Our Faith: Our World Belongs to God – St. 44-45

Leader: Following the apostles, the church is sent –
sent with the gospel of the kingdom to make
disciples of all nations, to feed the hungry,
and to proclaim the assurance that in the name
of Christ there is forgiveness of sin and new life for
all who repent and believe –
to tell the news that our world belong to God.

People: **In a world estranged from God, where millions
face confusing choices,
This mission is central to our being,
for we announce the one name that saves.**

Leader: 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
is waking us to see our mission in God's world.

**People: The rule of Jesus Christ covers the whole world.
To follow this Lord is to serve him everywhere,
without fitting in, as light in the darkness,
as salt in a spoiling world.**

* Call to Service:

Leader: Go into the world: dance, laugh, sing, and create.

People: We go with the assurance of God's blessing.

Leader: Go into the world: risk, explore, discover, and love.

People: We go with the assurance of God's grace.

Leader: Go into the world: believe, hope, struggle, and
remember.

**People: We go with the assurance of God's love.
Thanks be to God.**

* God's Blessing

*Parting Praise: LUYH #302 "Hear Our Praises" v. 1-2

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.

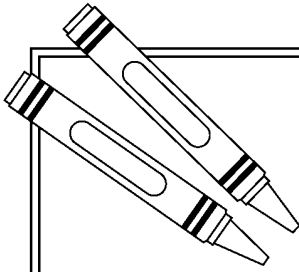
Refrain x2

Postlude

Guest Pastor: We welcome **Mr. Alan Muia**, executive director of New Earth Recovery, to our pulpit this morning. May God bless him as he proclaims God's Word to us!

Welcome! “O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things” (Psalm 98:1, NRSV). We gather to sing to the Lord and celebrate his work in our lives.

	<i>Today 8/22</i>	<i>Next Week 8/29</i>
Sound:	Mardy S.	Henry VZ
Projection:	Tim H.	Devin VZ
Video	Devin VZ	Tim H.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund



Just for **KIDS**

A FAMILY OF PRAYER

The book of Acts tells about a man named Cornelius. He was a Roman centurion from Caesarea who worshiped God. Through his encounter with Cornelius, Peter learned that God accepts everyone who fears him and does what is right.

Use the code below to see the example set by Cornelius and his family. Solve the math problems by using the grid. Then use the key to find the letter that matches each answer. Write the letter on the blank.

GRID	
A	B
2	4
C	D
6	5

KEY: a=7 e=8 i=10 o=9 u=11 y=6

"H e ___nd ___ll h___s f___m___l___
 A+C A+D A+D B+C A+D B+C A+B

w___r___ d___v___ ___t ___nd
 A+C A+C A+C B+D C+D A+D

G___d-f___ ___r___ng; h___ g___v___
 B+D A+C A+D B+C A+C A+D A+C

g___n___r___ ___sl___ t___ th___s___ ___n
 A+C A+C B+D C+D A+B B+D B+D A+C B+C

n___ ___d ___nd pr___ ___d t___ G___d
 A+C A+C A+D A+B A+C B+D B+D

r___g___l___rl___." ___cts 10:2, NIV
 A+C C+D A+D A+B A+D

"He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly." Acts 10:2, NIV

Answers:

First CRC Announcements

August 22, 2021

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Guest Pastor: We welcome **Mr. Alan Muia**, executive director of New Earth Recovery, to our pulpit this morning.

May God bless him as he proclaims God's Word to us!

Hans and Aileen Meishke's new address as of 2 weeks from now will be:

Kenmore Senior Living

7221 NE 182nd Street

Suite 211

Kenmore, WA 98028

The **large print** copies of the **September/October Today** is in your mailbox!

Birthdays for August: **Alice Oosterhof** turns 91 on the 11th, **Anjean VanderVeen** turns 93 on August 14, and **Marcella DeVries** turns 92 on the 30th. Happy Birthday and prayers for continued health!

Anniversaries for August: **Mike & Sue Hibma – 40 years on the 14th;**
Hank & Anjean VanderVeen – 71 years on the 14th!

To further aid simplifying giving when we can't all be at church, First CRC now provides options to give your tithes and offerings electronically. This means you are now able to donate using a credit or debit card, as well as give directly from a bank account. Check the church's website: <http://www.firstcrcmv.com> for more information on these and other giving options.

DATES TO NOTE:

Crop Walk: September 19 at 2 pm

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK:

Monday, August 23, 7:00 pm – Elder/Deacon's meeting

Tuesday, August 24, 8:30 am – Mount Vernon Christian Convocation; children only requested to come at this time.

Wednesday, August 25, 7:00 am – Men's Breakfast Bible Study at Shari's Restaurant in Burlington.

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deadline for the Innovation Experiment Grant Program is August 31, 2021 - Do you have an idea for outreach in your community? Resonate Global Mission's Innovation Experiment Grant Program will fund and support innovative projects from CRCNA individuals, congregations, faith communities, and partners who want to spread the gospel in their communities and around the world. The deadline to apply is just around the corner! Apply by August 31, 2021 online at www.resonateglobalmission.org/innovation-grant

Heading off to Campus? - As you study, experience a multitude of perspectives and worldviews, and develop new relationships, why not also be part of a diverse community that gathers together to grow in faith and to engage God's world? There are over 35 CRC Campus Ministries on campuses across North America, comprised of students, faculty, and staff. To find out if there is one on your campus, check this map: resonateglobalmission.org/campusmap. No campus ministry at your school? You can also locate a nearby CRC here: <https://www.crcna.org/churches>. For more information about our unique ministries, please contact us at campusministry@crcna.org

At-home Faith Formation Tip - The Practice of Service: What is usually your first reaction when you're asked to serve in some way? What has shaped that reaction? Spend some time reflecting on that today. (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit crcna.org/FaithFormation/Practices.)

FAMILY FIRE - is an online community exploring Spirit-led family, marriage, parenting, in-laws, blended families, and intimacy. Find encouraging articles and devotions at familyfire.com. Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.

Safe Church Book Club: A Church Called Tov - Safe Church Ministry is hosting a virtual book study open to all interested in learning more about creating a TOV (good) culture in our churches! We will be reading *A Church Called TOV: Forming a Goodness Culture that Resists Abuses of Power and Promotes Healing* by Laura Barringer and Scot McKnight. Monday evenings at 7:30 pm Eastern/4:30 pm Pacific, for five weeks, starting September 27th and running through October 25th. Sign up today: <https://bit.ly/TOVbookclub>

A SMALL SIN IS A BIG DEAL - Check out this week's kids' devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Have you ever told a "little white lie" or stolen something small, like candy, without paying for it? Maybe you've tried to convince your parents that a big sin is "no big deal". Listen now at kidscorner.net and subscribe to KC's weekly emails for all the new content.

GROUNDWORK: HONOR THE LORD YOUR GOD - The first three commandments all provide guidance for our relationship with God. Join Groundwork as we study Exodus 20:1-7 and discuss the purpose of these commandments, why we still keep them, and what it looks like to follow them in our lives today. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Will you help Haitians left homeless after the earthquake? - On August 14th an earthquake shook Haiti and has so far claimed over a thousand lives, left thousands more injured or missing, destroyed property, and compounded the suffering of the island nation that has been struggling with economic instability. The Haitian healthcare system is ill equipped to tend to all the injured. An estimated 30,000 people have been left homeless—exposed to the elements including the wind and rain that Tropical Storm Grace brought down just days after the earthquake. The World Renew Haiti team has been connecting with partners in the area and is coordinating with other humanitarian organizations to deliver emergency supplies to families left homeless by the earthquake. Our initial response includes non-food items like tarps for shelter and kits containing household and personal care items. To donate visit: worldrenew.net/haiti

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT



THE CROP WALK DONATION PAGE IS UP!

Team Name: First Mt. Vernon CRC

google search: CROP Hunger Walk or

events.crophungerwalk.org/2021

Type in team name First Mt. Vernon CRC in search box. It will take you to our team's donation page.

Make your donation using credit card or pay pal or make checks payable to: **Church World Services**

Drop off at Church or pay @ Crop Walk; October 31 is the donation deadline

When: September 19, 2 p.m.; Meet: in front of Mt. Vernon Christian School (across from Church)

Love INC Financial Mentoring Classes: If you (or you and your spouse) would like to dig a little deeper into what the Bible says about smart household money management; AND if you would like to confidentially discuss your situation with a financial mentor who can help you put together a budget and plan for getting out of debt, then call the Love INC office as soon as possible (360 419-7061). Classes begin Wednesday, September 15th– March 2022, and will be held at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Mount Vernon. NOW is the time to get organized and begin to turn things around.

Space is very limited this year!



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 9:00 am Thursday of each week with your prayer items.

NEW REQUESTS: Please keep both **Clarence and Lona Vander Griend** in your prayers. Recently Lona entered into Hospice care and is no longer eating solid foods. They are beginning to increase some of the medication to keep her comfortable. Cards of encouragement are welcomed. Thanks in advance for being the caring body of Christ!

CONTINUING REQUESTS:

Please continue to keep **Adelaida Vega** in your prayers as she has begun new chemo treatment for her cancer. Pray that this treatment is effective and that the side effects are more tolerable. Pray too for Adelaida's family members as they walk alongside her in the weeks and months to come.

Please continue to pray for **Alice DeVries** and her family for the loss of Owen, and other members who have lost loved ones.

SHUT INS:

Nell Annema and Marion Ekkelkamp at Birchview Memory Care in Sedro-Woolley; and **Mary Koopmans** at Where the Heart is in Burlington; **Case Lanting** at Olympic Place in Arlington, WA; **Wilma Paul** at Life Care Center in Sedro-Woolley; **Adrianna Swanson**, and **Clarence and Lona Vander Griend** at Home Place in Burlington; **Sally Reehoorn** at Creekside in Burlington; **Bev Van Slageren** at family in Grandview, WA.

OTHER REQUESTS: (CRC Communications)

Monday August 16 from: *ReFrame Ministries: Burkina Faso*
Adjaratou lost her husband about 10 months ago and said she was struggling with her faith in Christ when she found programs from ReFrame's French ministry team. Pray for her as she continues to adjust to life without her husband. Ask God to keep her faith strong despite her loss.

Tuesday August 17 from: *Disability Concerns: Giving thanks*

We give God thanks in the release of the third edition of our resource for disability advocates: *Everybody Belongs, Serving Together*, which includes an expanded section on the intersection of mental health, disability, and faith and gives greater prominence to the voices of people with disabilities. See our Network post (network.crcna.org) "New Resource! Everybody Belongs, Serving Together."

Wednesday August 18 from: *Resonate: Ontario*

Give thanks with us for young adults serving with the South Coast Beach Project, a Resonate partner in Ontario. May God work in and through each participant serving and living in this intentional community. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide their steps.

Thursday August 19 from: *World Renew: World Humanitarian Day*

On this day the world commemorates humanitarian workers killed and injured in the course of their work, and we honor all aid and health workers who continue, despite the odds, to provide life-saving support and protection to people most in need. Let us pray for our brothers and sisters who serve God's people even at the risk of their own lives.

Friday August 20 from: *Indigenous Family Centre: Changes*

We are undergoing a leadership change as Shannon Perez, IFC's first Indigenous director, begins work in the role that Michele Visser had for 12 years. As we anticipate a peaceful and joyous transition, we give thanks for the ongoing support of the Christian Reformed Church and we pray for God's continued guidance in these challenging times.

Saturday August 21 from: *World Renew: Nicaragua*

COVID-19 cases are on the rise in Nicaragua, but there are no official limits on gatherings. Moreover, reports of COVID cases and deaths aren't reliable, making it easier for rumors to spread on social media. Please pray for peace, wisdom, health, and protection for Nicaraguans, and for World Renew staff who have not yet had access to vaccines.

Sunday August 22 from: *Race Relations: Leadership and wisdom*

Please pray for discernment as a search team considers several candidates for the position of Race Relations director. Pray also for clarity and civility in church members' differences over the complexity of racism amid current COVID-19 and political tensions.