

Welcome to First Christian Reformed Church!
July 12, 2026, 10:30 am Service
Guest Pastor Michael Kooy

* Please stand in body or in spirit.

"How Firm a Foundation You Saints of the Lord"

Prelude

Welcome

* Opening Hymn of Praise: ***I Will Praise Him Still (Fernado Ortega)***

1. When the morning falls on the farthest hill
I will sing His name I will praise Him still
2. When dark trials come and my heart is filled
With the weight of doubt I will praise Him still

Chorus

*For the Lord our God He is strong to save
From the arms of death from the deepest grave*

3. And He gave us life in His perfect will
And by His good grace I will praise Him still

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* Opening Prayer

* Call to Worship:

Leader: Holy Spirit, Creator,
at the beginning you hovered over the waters;
you breathe life into all creatures.

People: Come fill us, Holy Spirit.

Leader: Holy Spirit, Comforter,
by you we are born again as children of God;
you make us living temples of your presence;
you pray within us with prayers too deep for words.

People: Come fill us, Holy Spirit.

Leader: Holy Spirit, Lord and giver of life,
you are light, you bring us light;
you are goodness and the source of all goodness.

People: Come fill us, Holy Spirit.

Leader: Holy Spirit, breath of life,
you sanctify and breathe life
into the whole body of the church;
you dwell in each one of its members,
and you will one day give new life
to our mortal bodies.

People: Come fill us, Holy Spirit.

* Song of Praise: ***By Faith (Getty)***

1. By faith we see the hand of God
in the light of creation's grand design,
in the lives of those who prove His faithfulness,
who walk by faith and not by sight.
2. By faith our fathers roamed the earth
with the pow'r of His promise in their hearts
of a holy city built by God's own hand,
a place where peace and justice reign.

Chorus

*We will stand as children of the promise;
we will fix our eyes on Him our soul's reward.
Till the race is finished and the work is done,
we'll walk by faith and not by sight.*

3. By faith the prophets saw a day
when the longed-for Messiah would appear
with the pow'r to break the chains of sin and death,
and rise triumphant from the grave.
4. By faith the church was called to go
in the pow'r of the Spirit to the lost,
to deliver captives and to preach good news
in ev'ry corner of the earth.

Chorus

5. By faith the mountain shall be moved
And the pow'r of the gospel shall prevail
For we know in Christ all things are possible
For all who call upon His name.

Chorus

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* God's Greeting/We Greet Each Other

"Is Laid for Your Faith In His Excellent Word"

Welcome/Announcements

Call to Confession:

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will obey what I command.
and I will ask the Father, and he will give you
another Counselor to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth.
Whoever has my commands and obeys them,
he is the one who loves me.
He who loves me will be loved by my Father,
and I too will love him and show myself to him."
Let us confess our sin to God.

—based on John 14:15-17, 21, NIV

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance:

Hear the good news!
Who is in a position to condemn?
Only Christ, and Christ died for us,
Christ rose for us,
Christ reigns in power for us,
Christ prays for us.
Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.
The old life has gone; a new life has begun.
Know that you are forgiven
and be at peace.
Thanks be to God.

—based on Romans 8:34; 2 Corinthians 5:17

Call to Holy Living/God's Law:

Leader: God has told you what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?
—from Micah 6:8, NRSV

**People: Lead a life worthy of the calling to which
with patience, bearing with one another in love,
making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit
in the bond of peace.**

—Ephesians 4:1-3, NRSV

Leader: You are disciples of Jesus Christ.
Live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us.
Rejoice always; pray without ceasing;
give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.
The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep your heart and your mind in Christ Jesus.
—based on Ephesians 5:2; Philippians 4:7;
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NRSV

People: Amen.

* Song of Thanksgiving: LUYH 347

The Steadfast Love of the Lord (sing 2x)

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
God's mercies never come to an end.
They are new every morning,
new every morning;
great is your faithfulness, O Lord,
great is your faithfulness.

*Words: Lamentations 3:22-23, Music: Edith McNeill (b. 1920) © 1974,
1975 Celebration; CCLI #678905*

Offering: General Fund

Offertory

*(Following the conclusion of the offering children ages 3-3rd grade
are dismissed for Children and Worship)*

* Song of Preparation: LUYH 427:1,2,5 **How Firm a Foundation**

1. How firm a foundation you saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?
2. "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed,
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.
5. "The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake!"

Words: Isaiah 43:1-5; J. Rippon's *Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt., P.D.; Music: J. Funk's *A Compilation of Genuine Church Music*, 1832; harm. Dale Grotenhuis (1931-2012), 1985, © 1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources; CCLI #678905

"What More Can He Say Than To You He Has Said"

Scripture Reading: **2 Timothy 2:1-13; Matthew 25:23**

Prayer of Illumination

Video Illustration

Message: ***"Fruit of the Spirit: Faithfulness"***

Time of Prayer

"To You Who For Refuge to Jesus Have Fled"

* Hymn of Application: LUYH 348 **Great is Thy Faithfulness**

1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Refrain

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow—
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Refrain

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23: Words: Thomas O Chisholm, 1923, © 1923, ren. 1951
Hope Publishing Company; Music: William M. Runyan, 1923, © 1923, ren. 1951
Hope Publishing Company, CCLI #678905

- * We Confess our Faith: Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 9 & 10

Leader: *What do you believe when you say,
"I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth"?*

**People: That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who out of nothing created heaven and earth
and everything in them,
who still upholds and rules them
by his eternal counsel and providence,
is my God and Father because of Christ the Son.**

Leader: I trust God so much that I do not doubt
he will provide whatever I need for body and soul,
and will turn to my good whatever adversity
he sends upon me in this sad world.

**People: God is able to do this because he is almighty God
and desires to do this because he is a faithful Father.**

Leader: *What do you understand by the providence of God?*

**People: The almighty and ever present power of God
by which God upholds, as with his hand,
Heaven and earth and all creatures,
and so rules them that**

Leader: leaf and blade, rain and drought,
fruitful and lean years, food and drink,
health and sickness, prosperity and poverty—

**People: all things, in fact, come to us not by chance
but by his fatherly hand.**

Leader: *How does the knowledge of God's creation
and providence help us?*

**People: We can be patient when things go against us,
thankful when things go well,
and for the future we can have good confidence
in our faithful God and Father that nothing
in creation will separate us from his love.**

Leader: For all creatures are so completely in God's hand
that without his will they can neither move
nor be moved.

* God's Blessing

* Parting Hymn of Praise: LUYH 938

"My Friends, May You Grow in Grace"

My friends, may you grow in grace
and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior.
My friends, may you grow in grace
and in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

To God be the glory, now and forever,
now and forever, amen.

To God be the glory, now and forever,
now and forever, amen.

Words: 2 Peter 3:18; Timothy James Meaney (b. 1965) and Sean Diamond (b. 1968);
Rev. Gregg DeMey (b. 1972) and Gregory Kett (b. 1970) © 1991, 2001 Wiseman Music
CCLI #678905

* Postlude

Welcome to a time of praise and worship of the Lord our God. Let us fill His house with songs of praise and feast upon His word. We especially welcome every visitor today. We are very glad you came. May the peace and joy of the Lord be yours. After the morning service all are invited to the fellowship hall next to the sanctuary for a cup of coffee or juice and continued fellowship.

Tech Team	Today: July 12	Next Week: July 19
Sound:	Mardick S.	Tim H.
Projection:	Beth B.	Beth B.
Video:	Tim H.	Brandon S.
Offering:	General Fund	General Fund

First CRC Bulletin
Announcements
July 5, 2026

The Deadline for Announcements this next week is Thursday, 9:00 a.m.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

There is no nursery or Children’s Worship this morning, as a lot of our members are worshipping out at Warm Beach.

There are quite a lot of slots open for volunteers to pick up and bring Joy Faber home from church each Please sign up to share this blessing for Joy.

Worship Service YouTube Links:

PM, July 5 Service: <https://youtube.com/live/neiNNlwPTBo?feature=share>

First CRC's Worship Services are now being livestreamed! Go to our YouTube Channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/@1stcrcmv841>
You will see the option for the worship service Livestream there.

CALENDAR:

Greeters/Coffee Hosts: Today, July 12: Derek & Heidi B., Joe LC
Next Week, July 19: Terry & Mandi D., Marjo R.

Worship Team: Today: July 12: Kevin K., Eliot B., Heidi B.
Next Week, July 19: Greg B., Julie, Adriana & Tessa S.

Nursery: Today: July 12: WARM BEACH, NO NURSERY
Next Week, July 19: Angela S., Lexi VDP

Children in Worship: Today: July 12: NO C&W, WARM BEACH
Next Week, July 19: Jodi VDP, TBD

Volunteers to Pick up and Drive Home Joy Faber:

Today, July 12: Adam Faber
Next week, July 19: Katie J.

Family Visiting tonight, July 12:

5:45 pm: Jon & Katherine VH, Henry & Sharon K., Weibe & Johnna VDH
7:00 pm: Robert & Judy A., Josh & Juliana H., Hank & Sylvia VZ
8:15 pm: Michelle DK, Lexi B., Sarah Z.

TODAY:

Sunday, July 12:

10:30am Worship Service

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, July 19: Church Potluck

Saturday, Aug. 15: Heather Village Garage Sale in our Parking Lot

ORGANIZATIONS WE SUPPORT:

Join Mid-America Reformed Seminary on October 2–3 at Bethel Church in Lansing, IL, for the **2026 Center for Missions and Evangelism Conference, *From Believing to Belonging: Hospitality and Evangelism***

in the Local Church. Speakers include John Bouwers, Greg Bylsma, Jon Dennis, Alan Strange, Dale Van Dyke, Heather Watkins, and Eric Watkins. Learn more and register at www.midamerica.edu/cme/conference.

CRC ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Kids Corner Devotions: Who Taught You About Jesus? - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Who Taught You About Jesus?" at www.kidscorner.net. Everyone learns about Jesus from someone special—just like Timothy, who heard amazing stories about God from his mom and grandma. Who is someone in your life you can learn from—and what awesome God story will you explore together next? Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like Family Practices for Family Collection.

Groundwork: Saul and David: Envy, Conflict, and Broken Shalom - As we follow the ups and downs in the life of Saul, we witness firsthand the conflict and broken shalom that results when the deadly sin of envy grips our hearts. Join our Groundwork conversation as we study 1 Samuel 18-24 to witness God's sovereignty and see how he continues to work in the lives of his people even through difficult and fraught circumstances. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - In the Northern Hemisphere this time of year is filled with longer days and sunnier weather, allowing many of us to spend more time outdoors. In Psalm 19, David speaks of the many ways creation displays the glory of God and his creative work. Take some intentional time this week to notice something specific in God's creation and to give God thanks for it. Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

We're Hiring! Ministry Consultant - Chaplaincy - The Ministry Consultant for chaplaincy is responsible for enlisting, endorsing, advocating, training, and supporting the Chaplains of the Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA). This ministry consultant will also participate in the general consulting work of Thrive. This is a full-time, remote position based in Canada or the U.S. Learn more and apply by July 19, 2026, at crcna.pinpointhq.com

Volunteer with World Renew Disaster Response Services this fall! - Local communities in Florida are still helping homeowners recover from Hurricanes Helene and Milton. Could you make a difference in their recovery? Consider repairing hurricane-impacted homes with World Renew Disaster Response Services! With on-site leadership, tools, and materials, we're ready for you. Find fall team dates and site locations at worldrenew.org/get-involved/volunteer to sign up or contact us today.



How can
we
PRAY
for you?

People to be remembered with prayers, cards, letters & words of encouragement. Email the office at secretary@firstcrmv.com or call the church office at (336-2405) by 9:00 am Thursday of each week with your prayer items.

NEW REQUEST:

Tim Van Hofwegen was admitted to the hospital Sunday night with chest pain, and on Wednesday had a heart catheterization procedure that cleared a blockage in his heart. He is home and taking it easy. We thank God for the skilled surgeons who performed his procedure. Please pray for fast healing for Tim and for peace and strength Heather and the girls.

CONTINUING REQUESTS:

Please keep Deanna Van Beek's father in your prayers as he recently had extensive surgery to create a new jawbone. Please pray that his recovery will go smoothly and the new jawbone will work as intended. Please pray for Bryan and Deanna and their family as well as they go through this journey to healing.

Pray for Rynne VanderPol's brother, **Ed VanderPol**, as he is recovering from a bad bike accident in North Dakota, and that he will be allowed to travel back to Washington to continue healing closer to family.

Please continue to pray for **Pastor Brad Diekema and his family**, as his father has been diagnosed with Stage 4 pancreatic cancer.

Continue to pray for **Dena Klunder's** stroke recovery at her daughter Julie's house.

SHUT INS: Nell Annema and Shirley Boonstra at Birchview Memory Care in Sedro-Woolley; Marjean DeGroot at Mountain Glen in Mount Vernon; Martha Haarsma at home in Mount Vernon, Clarence Vander Griend at Home Place in Burlington; Sally Reehorn at Creekside in Burlington.

OTHER REQUESTS: (CRC Communications)

Monday July 6 - Church Renewal: Renewed engagement in mission

God creates each congregation in unique ways and calls each one to serve in ways that fit how they were gifted. Even churches that are located near each other serve differently. Pray that congregations may serve their communities and reach out as God gifts them.

Tuesday July 7 - Justice Ministries: Learning and reconciliation

Pray for the “Healing Hearts, Transforming Nations” workshop taking place July 6-10 in Paris, Ont. Ask God to prepare the hearts of the church and ministry leaders attending, granting them vulnerability, openness, and a deep desire to seek biblical reconciliation and interethnic healing.

Wednesday July 8 - ReFrame Ministries: Indonesia

Samantha requests prayer for a painful, complex family situation distressing her and her children. Ask God to work in her husband's life, bringing clarity, conviction, and healing to their family. May the Lord sustain this family with his peace, protection, and strength during this difficult time.

Thursday July 9 - World Renew: Ebola virus

This illness continues to threaten lives, especially where access to health care, clean water, and nutrition is limited. World Renew is supporting efforts to prevent the spread of Ebola in Uganda. Pray for healing and protection, especially for persons who are most vulnerable. Pray for wisdom in government and community leadership across the region.

Friday July 10 - Resonate: Italy

Pray for Diego and Camila Hiriart as they nurture a growing church plant in Italy among immigrants seeking faith and community. Give

thanks for the ripple effects of this ministry—from a church plant in Texas to a new congregation overseas—and ask God to keep multiplying its impact, strengthening discipleship, and drawing people into his family.

Saturday July 11 - *Thrive: Displaced people*

Please pray for refugees and other displaced people worldwide, that they may find safety and peace. Pray also for host nations that have openly received thousands of refugees; ask God to give them compassion and logistical wisdom in caring for vulnerable individuals and families.

Sunday July 12 - *ReFrame: English prayer ministry*

Valerie praises God for answering years of prayer by fully reconciling her relationship with her estranged family. Give thanks for this restoration, and praise God for drawing Valerie into a deeper relationship with Christ through this process. May her testimony comfort and encourage other brokenhearted believers.