

**FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH  
NOVEMBER 25, 2018**

**PRAYER REMINDERS**

- Jim De Kam family
- Vern De Boer
- Darin, Megan & Emery Kooima
- Mary Van't Hul
- Mike Van Otterloo
- Dawson Kooima
- Faye Medalen Family - Great Granddaughter, Sophia
- Bob & Kit Kooima - son, Dan
- Our Whispering Heights residents residing in Four Seasons: Mary Ann Van Bommel, Harriet Vande Kamp and John & Carol Vanden Bos
- Roger & Karen Van Otterloo in Nairobi, Kenya
- New Roots
- As we approach the seasons of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, please pray for worship leaders, planners, artists, musicians, and pastors who work together to bring rich meaning to Jesus' birth and life. Pray that the presence and peace of Immanuel --"God with us"-- may bring light, hope, and joy to all.

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**TODAY:**       **9:30 AM:** Morning Worship Service  
                  **10:45 AM:** Choir meets in Room 5/Christmas Program practice  
                  **6:00 PM:** Evening Worship Service

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**MONDAY:**   **3:45 PM:** Gems  
                  **6:30 PM:** Elders'/Deacons' Meetings  
                  **8:45 PM:** Council Meeting

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**TUESDAY:**   **9:45 AM:** Coffee Break  
                  **7:00 PM:** **Mission Guild - studying last lesson in Revelation (note date change)**  
                  **7:00 PM:** **Men's Society - studying lesson 6 (note date change)**  
                  **7:20 PM:** Cadets - Lesson 17

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**WED:**        **6:00 PM:** Meet at church to leave for "Nora's Place"

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**THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

*Sunday - the Jeff Elgersma's*

*Thursday - Eric Breuer*

*Friday - Harvey Van Otterloo, the Howard Altena's*

**FUTURE DATES**

December 2 - First Sunday of Advent

December 3 - Gems Christmas Party

December 5 - Council Supper at Cedar Rock - 6:30 PM

December 6 - RVCS Christmas Program - Trinity CRC - 7:00 PM

December 12 - Caroling & fellowship at Whispering Heights; Young Peoples Christmas party

December 23 - First CRC P-6 Christmas Program after morning service

December 25 - Christmas Day Service - 9:30 AM

January 1 - Combined New Year's Service at First CRC

# COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS!

The **Dordt College Campus-Community Band, Chamber Orchestra, and Concert Band** will present a concert on Friday, December 7, at 7:30 PM, in the B.J. Haan Auditorium. This concert of praise and celebration will feature a variety of musical selections, including Philip Sparke's *Mary's Boy Child*, arranged to be a Calypso (an Afro-Caribbean style of music), *Riu, Riu, Chiu* arranged by Marshall Fine (a Spanish Christmas carol depicting the story of the birth of Jesus and the joy of his coming to redeem the world from the guilt of sin), and *Of Sailors and Whales: Five Scenes from Melville*, a piece for wind band based on *Moby Dick* that will feature Dordt English Professor, Mary Dengler, as narrator.

The **Northwest Iowa Symphony Youth Orchestra**, led by Conductor Dr. Angela Holt, will present its Fall Concert on Saturday, December 8, at 3:00 PM, in the B.J. Haan Auditorium on the campus of Dordt College. Consisting of talented middle school and high school string players, NISYO will perform works by Dvorak, Bohm, Plante and Stamitz, as well as string arrangements from the PBS Series, "The Civil War", and a traditional Christmas carol. The concert is free and open to the public.

**The Love INC Heart of Christmas Event** is scheduled for Saturday, December 8, from 9:30-11:00 AM in the FLC at Faith Reformed Church in Rock Valley. This will be a family event which involves various fun activities such as cookie decorating, presentation of the Christmas story, hot chocolate and snacks, and the opportunity for families to receive a keepsake Christian Christmas book. The families who participate in the Christmas gift program will also receive their gifts on this day. We need volunteers to help at the various stations with the children and with set up/clean up. This is a new project for Love INC, and our goal is to focus on the gift of Jesus Christ and family rather than simply on tangible gifts. Thank you in advance for your support!

**The Love INC Christmas trees** will be located in Rock Valley at M & H True Value and in Hull at Pizza Ranch again this year. The timeline will be a bit sooner as we are planning a family event on December 8 and want to distribute the gifts that day. Look for the trees with hearts on them already by November 19. Please limit your spending to \$25 and only purchase the item listed on the tag as each child will receive one gift. **Gifts should be wrapped and returned to the trees with the original heart tag attached no later than December 4.**

The senior high youth group of Maurice Reformed Church invites us to their **Traveling Nativity held on Saturday, December 8**. A horse drawn wagon will lead you down a lit path to events leading to the birth of Christ. Enjoy warm refreshments in the church's Family Life Center before or after you ride. Freewill donations will go toward the senior high youth group at MRC.

**Justice For All is planning the 2019 Service and Learning Opportunities** and would love to have you join one of the teams! These weeks are wonderful opportunities to serve others but also to experience and understand God's Kingdom in new and important ways! Dates and places are: Harvest Hands Ministries, Juarez, MX - January 18-26 (must have passport); JVM Perkins Foundation, Jackson, MS - February 9-16; Voice of Calvary Ministries, Jackson, MS - February 17-23; Grace Reigns, Colorado City, UT - March 16-23. For more information, please call Luke Grooters at JFA 712-476-2804 or email [lukeg@jfa-nwiowa.org](mailto:lukeg@jfa-nwiowa.org). You can also check out the JFA website: [www.jfa-nwiowa.org](http://www.jfa-nwiowa.org). Prayers for a blessed Thanksgiving!

## LET'S MEMORIZE SCRIPTURE!

*"God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you. He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus."*

~ 2 Thessalonians 1:6, 8

*"Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour."*

~ 1 Peter 5:8