

FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

1401 16TH STREET
ROCK VALLEY, IOWA 51247
712-476-5902

www.firstcrrv.org
Cable Channel 76 & Roku Streaming

REV. MATTHEW A. HAAN

PASTOR'S STUDY
712-476-9680
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OFFICE
712-476-5902
secretary@firstcrrv.org

2 CORINTHIANS
6:3-13

Hearts Wide Open

THE LORD'S DAY
December 29, 2024
9:30 AM Divine Worship

Piano Prelude

Call to Worship

Silent Prayer

*Declaration of Trust in God

*God's Greeting/We Greet One Another

***Song of Praise:**

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You"

CH:1-2

Reading of God's Law

Song of Salvation: "His Mercy is More"

Vs:1-3

Reaffirmation of Faith of Michael Ellenberger (Form No. 2 - page 134, back of Psalter)

Ministry of Music - "Angels We Have Heard (Glory Be)" - Lanae Hernandez

Ordination/Installation of Office Bearers (back of Psalter Hymnal - pg. 175)

Congregational Prayer

***Song of Preparation:**

"Open the Eyes of My Heart"

LUYH:1

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 6:3-13 (page 1071/1799)

Sermon: **"HEARTS WIDE OPEN"**

Prayer for God's Blessing on the Preached Word

***Song of Response:**

"Here I Am, Lord"

CH:1-3

Offertory Prayer/Offering: Justice For All & Building Fund

*Benediction

***Closing Song: "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"**

PH 29:5

*Piano Postlude

Pianist: Lois Klarenbeek

*Please stand if you are able

FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

ROCK VALLEY, IOWA

December 29, 2024

WELCOME!

We pray that all will enjoy the presence of the Lord among His people today as we bring our praises & prayers, celebrate & witness Reaffirmation of Faith, and hear His Word proclaimed!

If you are a visitor with us today and would like additional materials from First CRC, they are located in the "Visitor" mailboxes. If you currently do not have a church home and desire information about church membership, please contact the church office.

TODAY

-- This morning we have the privilege of installing the following newly elected office bearers. It is the prayer of our Congregation that the Lord may equip these men to fulfill the responsibilities of their respective offices.

Elders: Carl Elbers, Leonard Hoekstra, Tim Van Tilburg

Deacons: Colton Van Otterloo, Carter Vanden Bos, Blake Zomer

-- This morning, we as a congregation, have the privilege to celebrate and witness the Public Reaffirmation of Faith of Michael Ellenberger. We also welcome to our Church congregational family Jamie Walhof-Ellenberger and son Theodore, as they transfer their membership from the Living Waters Community Church of Sheldon.

-- **Mission Committee Christmas Project Reminder:** Your contributions supporting our efforts to purchase Bibles to be distributed throughout the world are greatly appreciated! Please turn in your donations in the basket provided by **TODAY**. *Thank you for your support!*

-- January Faith & Life Newsletters are available in the bulletin racks.

EXPRESSIONS OF PRAISE & APPRECIATION

-- *Thank you to Lanae Hernandez for blessing us with your ministry of music this morning.*

-- *A heartfelt "Thank You" to everyone at First CRC for the many ways you showered us with love, prayers, and support during this past year. We praise God for healing received and His providing hand through a very trying time in our lives. We are truly blessed to be a part of such a caring Church family. God is good! -- Sincerely, Kevin & Diana De Groot*

PRAYER CONCERNS

-- We extend our Christian sympathies to Carl, Melissa, Zach & Lucy, and Carson Elbers, as they mourn the earthly loss of their dear father and grandfather, Courtney Elbers. Visitation will be held today, Sunday, December 29 from 2:00-3:00pm at Porter Funeral Home. The funeral will be held on Monday, December 30 at 10:30am at Trinity CRC. May God provide His comfort and peace to the entire family.

-- Please continue to be in prayer for LeRoy & Jane Koedam. LeRoy was hospitalized with Covid, and is now at home continuing to receive transfusions. Jane has also tested positive and is being closely monitored. Please pray for LeRoy & Jane to regain their health and strength.

-- Please continue to be in prayer for Aiden Den Hartog, grandson of Mike & Gert Van Regenmorter. Aiden was hospitalized in Avera in Sioux Falls because of seizures. Please pray for clarity for the doctors as they determine the cause of his seizures and effective treatment can be administered.

-- Please continue to uplift in prayer Tate Van Essen, grandson of Rick & Bonnie Davelaar. Tate received burns on his feet and legs and is currently in the hospital in St. Paul, MN. He had surgery this past Friday. Please pray for comfort and healing for Tate and for pain management through his treatments, and for his family as they care for him by his side each day.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENT

-- The Council would like to provide the congregation with an update in regards to the current state of the Building Fund. The following flood repairs have been completed and have been paid for: New HVAC system, flooring, duct cleaning, electrical work, and all other materials and labor that has been completed at this point. The total flood repairs paid-to-date is \$345,000, including a \$38,000 downpayment that has been made for the new pews that are on order and set to arrive in the Spring. The balance owed yet on the pews and carpet installation will amount to approximately \$125,000. As a result of these repairs, the Building Fund is getting low and the Council asks for your prayerful consideration for a donation to help relieve the remaining costs that will be involved. Please make checks payable to First CRC Building Fund. *Thank you for your wonderful support for all of the expenses required to repair our Church home! -- The Council*

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

-- The *first* offering received today will be for **Justice For All** and the *second* offering and *evening* offering will be for our **Building Fund**. The offerings next week Sunday will be for our Benevolent Fund and our CEC.

-- The Elders/Deacons will have a Council Meeting tomorrow, Monday, December 30 at 6:30pm. Newly appointed Elders and Deacons, please plan to attend as this will be your first meeting.

-- The New Year's Day Community Worship Service will be held at Trinity CRC at 9:30am.

-- The **Sunday School & Catechism** Winter/Spring session will begin next week Sunday, January 5.

-- **Children in Worship** will begin next week Sunday, January 5 during the morning worship service. It will follow the same weekly schedule as Sunday School & Catechism. Children in Worship program is for children aged 2 1/2 thru those not yet in school-aged Preschool. If you have any questions, or if you are willing to help lead or assist, please contact Jamie De Jager.

-- **1st CRC Book Club** - One Light Still Shines by Marie Monville - Discussion Night will be held on January 13.

-- **Meals on Wheels** - It is our turn to deliver meals the week of January 20-24! Please consider volunteering to deliver meals to the elderly in our community. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the Narthex. *Thank you for blessing those receiving these meals!*

-- **Reading the Bible in a Year** - Three types of reading plans are available on the table in the Narthex to assist you in daily Bible reading. Select one to start in January and guide you throughout the year 2025! Make it your daily devotion, there's no better book to read than the Word of God!

-- **Nursery** - If you would like to be included on the schedule as a volunteer in the nursery during our worship services and are 4th grade thru adult, please add your name to the list provided in the Nursery. Also, if you would like your name removed as a volunteer, please also indicate on the sheet provided. If you have any questions, please contact Kelsey Ver Burg.

-- **If anyone is interested in a piano, Church has one available. Please let Rachelle Vanden Bos know very soon if you are interested.**

-- **2nd Grade RVCS Cookbooks** - Cookbooks created by the 2nd grade class at RVCS are located in the Narthex. Please put a free will donation in Stephanie Elgersma's mailbox. All proceeds for this project will go toward blessing the community.

-- At her request, Abigail (Postma) Dokter, has transferred her Church membership to Faith Christian Reformed Church in Sioux Center. May Abigail continue to be blessed in her faith in her new Church home.

December 29, 2024

PRAISE TEAM:

Holly H, Tracy B,
James VB, Randy VK

USHERS:

East: Josh B, Mike VZ
West: Dan B, Darin P

NURSERY:

AM: Jackie R, Ellen VB,
Mason J, Bristyl B
PM: Laurie VK, Alison L

GREETERS:

AM: Mike & Tammy B
Eddie & Lanae H
Leonard & Deb H
PM: Steve & Sue H
Kyle H
Rob & Karen J

NARTHEX: Vern & Ellen

OFFERING:

AM: Justice for All
PM: Building Fund

LETTERS:

Ribbens: Marv F
Maletoungou: Bob G
Klompens: Galen G

PIANIST:

AM: Lois Klarenbeek
PM: Rachelle VB/Jenessa VR

HAPPY NEW YEAR

January 5, 2025

PRAISE TEAM:

Kelsi B, Julie VO,
Jeff E, Nolan VO

USHERS:

East: Joel B, Matt VE
West: Jace M, Alvin L

NURSERY:

AM: Ashley VO, Sharla VR,
Jaydn L, Taryn B
PM: Jamie Z, Brennan VK

GREETERS:

AM: Travis & Kendra J
Dick & Carla J
Kevin & Kristin J
PM: Sara J
Galen & Elsie G
Jonathon & TaMae K

NARTHEX: Harlan & Priscilla

OFFERING:

AM: Benevolent Fund
PM: CEC

LETTERS:

Ribbens: Irene G
Maletoungou: Brad G
Klompens: Bob G

PIANIST: Krista VE

"Community in Christ"

We covet your prayers for leaders, students, and all others involved as we look forward to a year of fellowship, learning, and growth together.

-- Youth Group Email: youth@firstccrv.org

- Next Lesson meeting will be Wednesday, January 15
- Youth Sunday will be Sunday, January 19
- Serve at the Banquet - January 29 - more details to follow

IGNITE
YOUTH
GROUP

CADETS

-- **Cadets** - Resumes Wednesday, January 8 - 7:00pm

GEMS

-- **GEMS** - Resumes Wednesday, January 8 - 6:30pm

SERMON NOTES:

First CRC families RELOCATED temporarily:

(This list is *ongoing* and will be posted in the bulletin and monthly newsletters through December, please notify us of *updates* to your location as it changes.)

- Starla Van Otterloo & Sam – 2730 340th Street, Rock Valley, IA (Chris & Whitney's)
- Warren Van Otterloo – 2137 340th Street, Rock Valley (Rick & Bonnie's)
- Loy & Janice Van't Hul – 1411 11th Street, Rock Valley (Alyssa's)

Updated ADDRESSES:

- Don & Lois Postma - Sheldon Christian Retirement Home, 1414 Elm Court, Sheldon
New Phone – 712-541-3228
- Jim Driesen – River View Ridge – 712 Westview Drive #114 , Rock Valley
- Elaine Bolkema – River View Ridge – 712 Westview Drive #113 , Rock Valley
- Faye Medalen – River View Ridge – 712 Westview Drive # , Rock Valley
- Chad & Sandra Van't Hul family – 1108 Main St., Rock Valley
- Galen & Paula Kats – 2695 300th Street, Rock Valley
- Karl & Alyssa Bos – 1215 Division Street, Hull
- Laura Van Kalsbeek – 1111 7th St. – Northside Crt, Hull
- Josh & Katie Byl – 1810 Aspen Street, Hull
- Jaden & Katlien Den Boer – 2618 Warren Circle, Rock Valley
- Lyle & Joyce Van Engen – 910 Greenway Drive - #206, Rock Valley
- Harm & Bonnie Wiersma – 1407 20th Ave. – Apt. A, Rock Valley
- Verlyn & Sandy Van Bommel – 2115 Maple St. – Apt. 4, Hull
- Alvin & Sue LeLoux – 800 Golf Course Road, Rock Valley
- Eric & Tracy Breuer – 1310 12th St., Rock Valley
- Kevin & Kristin Jansma – 701 Fairway Drive, Rock Valley
- Erin De Kam – 1818 17th Street, Rock Valley
- Tim & Kendra Van Tilburg – 1216 Golf Course Road, Rock Valley
- Kevin & Diana De Groot – 1436 30th Ave. – Apt. C, Rock Valley
- Jacob & Amanda Maassen – 344 18th Ave. SE, Rock Valley

There are many more congregation members that have been severely affected by the flood, whether it be their home, business, school, farmland, and more.

Please continue to pray for our entire community as together we continue to help each other long-term to clean-up, process, recover, and rebuild!

December 29, 2024

TODAY: 9:30 AM: Morning Worship Service - Reaffirmation of Faith/Installation of Newly Elected Office Bearers
6:00 PM: Evening Worship Service

MON: 6:30 PM: Council Meeting

WED: 9:30 AM: New Year's Day Community Service at Trinity CRC

PRAYER REMINDERS

Sympathies

- ♦ Carl, Melissa, Zach & Lucy, and Carson Elbers

Health, Healing, & Peace

- ♦ LeRoy & Jane Koedam, Aiden Den Hartog, Tate Van Essen, Marv Faber, Addison Van't Hul, John De Roon

Flood Relief, Recovery

Our Care Center Residents:

Whispering Heights

Esther De Roon
Jennie Maassen
Grace Teunissen
Joan Van Maanen
Harvey & Joanne Van Otterloo
Alvina Van't Hul

River View Ridge

Elaine Bolkema
Nathan Dorhout
Jim Driesen
Gerrit & Esther Kats
LeRoy & Jane Koedam
Faye Medalen
Henrietta Vanden Bosch

Hull - Pleasant Acres

Jerry Velgersdyk
Crown Pointe - SC
Harriet Vande Kamp

Four Seasons

Teresa Oostra
Sheldon Christian Retirement Home
Don & Lois Postma



Missionaries

- ♦ Rev. Michael & Megan Ribbens - Johannesburg, South Africa
- ♦ Rev. Sosthene & Kara Maletougou - West Africa
- ♦ Rev. Mark & Jinhee Klompier - classically supported missionaries in Nepal

Classical Missions

- ♦ Cornerstone Prison Ministry

Denominational Requests

- ♦ (World Renew) *Syria* - Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Syria. As the political landscape shifts, there is a sense of uncertainty, and many in the global community fear what the future holds for the region. We ask for your prayers during this tumultuous time, that God may intervene and guide Syria toward lasting peace and stability.

Outreach

- ♦ **Orphan Grain Train** - a non-profit Christian volunteer network that shares personal and material resources with those in need in America and around the world by gathering donations of clothing, medical supplies, food, Christian literature, & aid.

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Sunday - Tenley Zomer

Tuesday - Tyler Den Boer

Wednesday - Austin Bliek, Alvina Van't Hul(95)

Friday - *the Alex Rust's*

Saturday - Pat Byl

FUTURE DATES

January 19 - Sanctity of Life Sunday & Youth Sunday

January 20-24 - Meals on Wheels

January 26 - Cadet Sunday

January 29 - Service Date at The Banquet

January 31 - Cadet Pinewood Derby

SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rock Valley Christian School:

- ◇ Classes resume - January 6
- ◇ RVCS ARROWS Soup Supper - Thursday, January 9
- ◇ 1st Grade Talking Zoo - Friday, January 10
- ◇ End of 1st semester - January 10
- ◇ Kindergarten begins daily the week of January 13

Western Christian High School:

- ◇ Classes resume - January 6
- ◇ Prayerfully consider Celebrating Western with a year-end gift. Funds raised will support the General Fund and be allocated for capital improvements. Thank you to everyone who has already given! Together, we are partnering to train the next generation to build His kingdom!

Rock Valley Community School:

- ◇ Classes resume - January 3

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS - www.firstcrrv.org/resources

Remember

Passionate people may stumble a bit and learn as they go,
but going after God will never, ever disappoint!

*"How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stand in the path of sinners, nor sit in the seat of scoffers!*

But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night."

Psalms 1:1-2

How are YOU Feeding Your Fire of Faith?



6:00 PM Divine Worship

Piano Prelude - Jenessa Van Roekel

Call to Worship

Silent Prayer

*Declaration of Trust in God

*God's Greeting

***Song of Praise:**

"May the Peoples Praise You"

GH:1-4

***The Nicene Creed** (in unison)

***Song of Response: "The Lord is My Salvation"**

GH

The Belgic Confession - Article 37 (read responsively)

Remembering the Church 2024

Congregational Prayer

***Songs of Preparation:**

"Children of the Heavenly Father"

GsH:1-4

"Change My Heart, O God"

PH:1

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: Mark 5:21-43 (page 931/1559)

Sermon: **"WHEN THE END OF THE OLD DRAWS NEAR DO NOT FEAR"**

Prayer for God's Blessing on the Preached Word

***Song of Application:**

"Find Us Faithful"

CH:1

Offertory Prayer/Offering: Building Fund

*Benediction

***Closing Song:**

"May the Peoples Praise You"

GH:5

*Piano Postlude - Jenessa Van Roekel

Pianist: Rachelle Vanden Bos

*Please stand if you are able

FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH - ROCK VALLEY, IOWA

2024 COUNCIL

MINISTER:
REV. MATTHEW A. HAAN

ELDERS:

Evan Vanden Bosch, President '25 - (470-1022)
Randy Vande Kamp '26 - (541-7500)
Randy Byl, Vice-President '24 - (470-2259)
James Vanden Bos '24 - (470-3682)
Vern De Boer '24 - (470-2830)
Darwin Hoogendoorn '26 - (470-0697)
Scott Koedam '25 - (470-7037)
Ron LeLoux, Vicar '26 - (470-2426)
Nate Van Kley, Clerk '25 - (470-2348)

DEACONS:

Travis Jansen, Secretary '25 - (470-3486)
Mitchell Byl, Vicar of Deacons '26 - (470-2920)
Jarod LeLoux, Special Offerings '24 - (460-2515)
Mike Pollema, President '24 - (470-5223)
Justin Faber, General Fund Treas. '24 - (460-3053)
Myron Bleyenbergh, Benev. Treas. '25 - (605-359-8574)
Ryan Zomer, Building Treas. '25 - (712-441-3970)
Evan Altena, Missions '26 - (470-2575)

Please contact the Pastor or assigned Elder with needs.

2024 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

Executive Committee Pastor Matt, Evan VB (Chr.), Randy B, Nate VK, Ron L, Mike P, Justin F
Pulpit Supply Pastor Matt, Randy B (Chr.), Evan VB
Bulletin Pastor Matt, Kim A, Evan VB, Nate VK
Church Governance Elders
Sacraments Ron L, Nate VK
Missions Committee Leonard (Chr.) & Deb H, Mike & Tammy B, Randy (Liaison) & Pat B, Mark & Deb VH, Tim & Kim VT
Family Faith Visitation Committee Vern DB, Darwin H
Worship Committee Pastor Matt, James VB (Chr.), Deanna F, Krista VE, Rachelle VB, Evan VB, Andy VR
Music Coordinator Rachelle VB
Building and Grounds Committee James VB (Chr.), Ryan Z (Treas.), Steve DK, Jeff VB, Harm W
Education Committee Pastor Matt, Damon R (Chr.), Mitchell B, Jamie DJ, Steph E, Scott K, Sharla VR, Alyssa VH
Sunday School Superintendent Damon R
Christian Education Committee Keith & Jacque L (Pres.), Eric & Tracy B, Steve & April DK, Brad & Nanci G,
Darin & Megan K, Joe & Jill M, Andy & Sharla VR
Rock Valley Calvinist Board Ron LL, Mike P
Youth Group Sponsors Josie F, Evan & Rhonda L, Brady & Brenda P, Mark & Deb VH, Kevin & Cheryl DB,
Colton & Kristi H, Mike K, Dave & Amy VB, Nate VK (Liaison)
Welcome Committee Roger & Hilaine K (Chr), Harlan & Priscilla D, Eric & Tracy B, Larry & Yvonne H,
Ron & Darletta L, Vern & Ellen VB
Memorial Deacons
Head Usher Ron L
Funeral Ushers Roger K (Chr.), Harlan D, Bob G, Dick J
Organists/Pianists Alyssa B, Ranae K, Carisa M, Krista VE
Nursery Committee Jackie R, Kelsey VB
Tech Committee Brian F, Joe M, Rich R, Andy VR, Josie F
Sound System Team James VB (Chr.), Mike H, Leonard H, Carla J, Rich R, Evan VB
Video Recording Team Brian F (Chr.), Alex K, Ron L, Rich R, Carter VB, Matthew VO
PowerPoint System Team Carla J (Chr.), Tammy B, Benjamin H, Jaydn L, Jenna VO, Kayla VO, Aiden VR
Custodians Rich & Lynnette R (476-5724)
Church Secretary Kim A (Office-476-5902; Cell-712-470-6103) *Present bulletin announcements by **4:00 PM Wednesday***
Prayer Chain Pastor Matt, Evan VB
Fellowship Committee Bonnie D (Chr.), Tracy B, Katie B, Alli DB, Patty H, Kendra J, Kristin J, Sara J, Steph K, Jill M, Brenda P
Flowers Marva H, Karla VK, Carol VH
Newsletter Carla J (editor), Kim A
Library Committee Joyce VE (Chr.), Diana DG, Carol DR, Hilaine K, Judy VO
Website Team Tracy B (Chr.), Kim A, Brian F
Safe Church Committee Scott K (Chr.), Kim A, Sue L
Scheduling Rides Travis J
Community Impact Committee Mitchell B
Care Districts District Elders
School Board Representatives Western Christian - Brenda P, Loy VH, Jr. & Rock Valley Christian - Mike B, Keith L, Andy VR, Jack VB

SACRAMENTS: HOLY BAPTISM - Upon approved request

HOLY COMMUNION - 1st Sunday of Lent, Maundy Thursday, 2nd Sunday of June & September, and 1st Sunday of Advent

MISSIONS: Rev. Mike & Megan Ribbens-Johannesburg, South Africa (email Mike at mribbens@crcna.org or Megan at mribbens@gmail.com)

Rev. Sosthene & Kara Maletoungou-West Africa (email smaletoungou@crcna.org)

Rev. Mark & Jinhee Klompier-Nepal (mklompier@crcna.org)

Website: firstcrrv.org

Church App: First CRC Rock Valley

Streaming: Cable Channel 76 & Roku