

FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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

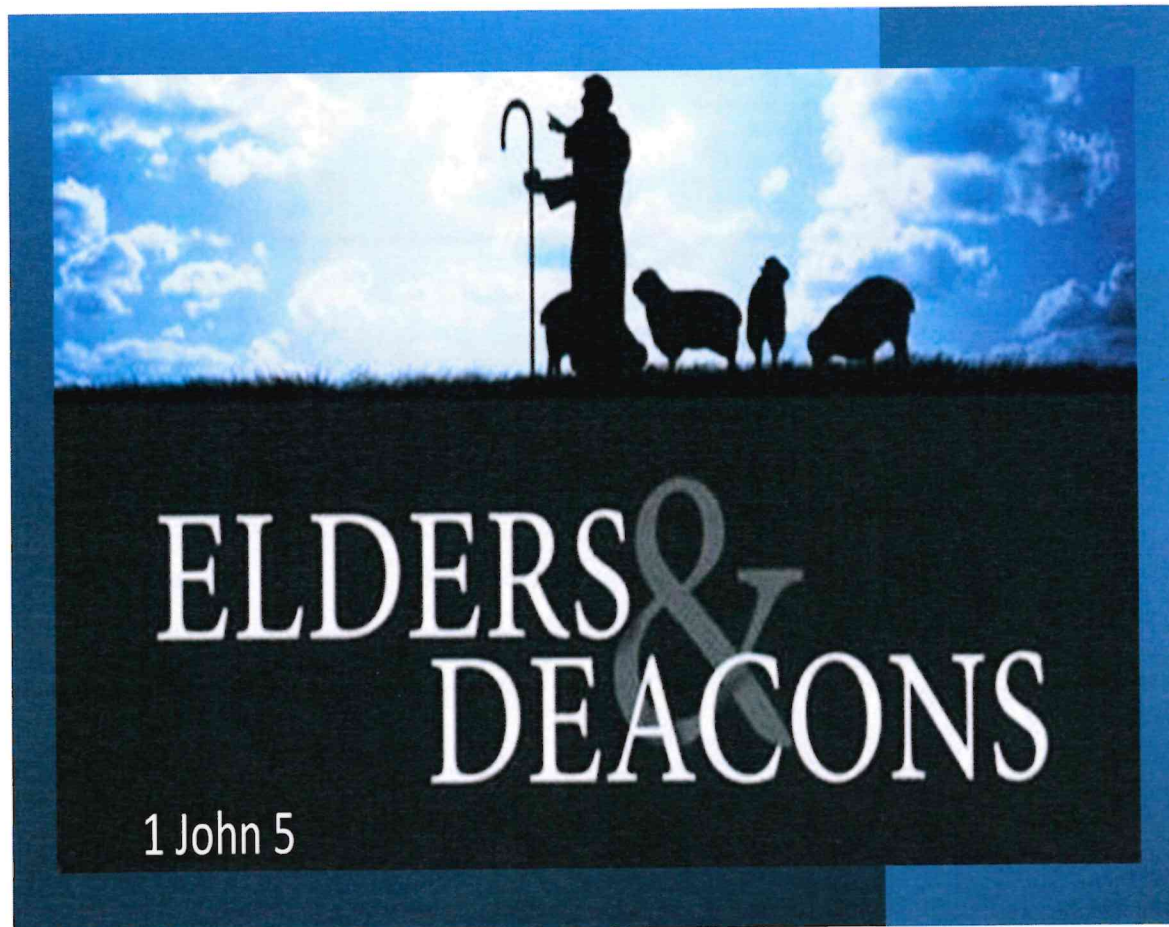
www.firstcrrv.org
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REV. MATTHEW A. HAAN

PASTOR'S STUDY
712-476-9680
pastor@firstcrrv.org



OFFICE
712-476-5902
secretary@firstcrrv.org



THE LORD'S DAY
January 4, 2026
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:

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

PsH 408:1-3

Reading of God's Law

Song of Salvation:

"Lord Jesus, I Long to Be Perfectly Whole"

BsH 379:1-2

Ministry of Music - "O Holy Night" - Men's Quartet

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

Congregational Prayer

***Song of Preparation: "Speak, O Lord"**

GH:1-3

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: 1 John 5 (page 1134/1903)

Sermon: **"LOVING THE FAITH THAT WE ARE GIVEN"**

Prayer for God's Blessing on the Preached Word

***Song of Response:**

"By Faith"

GH:1,2,5

Offertory Prayer/Offering: Guiding Star of Siouxland & Building Fund

*Benediction

***Closing Song:**

"By Faith"

GH:4

Piano Postlude

Pianist: Jackie Rus

*Please stand if you are able

FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

ROCK VALLEY, IOWA

January 4, 2026

*We pray that everyone will enjoy the presence of the Lord among His people today
as we bring our praises & prayers, and hear His Word proclaimed!*

WELCOME!

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 elected offices.

Elders: Elmer Boon, Jeff Van Bommel, Merlin Van Otterloo

Deacons: Austin Blik, Tyler Den Boer, Taylor Kats

-- Offering Envelope Boxes for 2026 have been placed in your Church mailboxes.

-- **Mission Christmas Project:** *The Christmas Project for Guatemala will conclude TODAY. If you would like to donate to this project and are unable to bring this by today, you may contact any Mission Committee member. The Mission Committee would like to express a sincere "THANK YOU" once again to the many generous members of our congregation that so willingly give and make our projects so successful!*

-- Large print TODAY books for January/February are delayed and will be set out immediately once they arrive. Small print books are in the bulletin racks.

EXPRESSIONS OF APPRECIATION

-- *A special thank you to Andy Van Roekel, James Vanden Bos, Evan Vanden Bosch, and Ryan Zevenbergen for blessing us with your ministry of music during our morning worship service.*

-- *Thank you for the prayers, calls, texts, visits, and food before and after my surgeries. A special thank you to Ron & Darletta and Pastor Matt for their visits. "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever." Psalm 118:1 -- Mer & Cindy Van Otterloo*

-- *A sincere thank you to Pastor Haan for your visits and to all who expressed their sympathies in the recent passing of two of our brothers, Vern & Tony. Your prayers and concern are greatly appreciated.*

-- *Albert & Harriett Van Zanten*

PRAYER CONCERNS

-- Please continue to uplift in prayer Merlin and Cindy Van Otterloo as Mer has been diagnosed with Thyroid cancer and will begin treatments in early February. Due to this diagnosis, at his request, Mer will be the Vice President of Council and Leonard Hoekstra will be the President of Council.

-- Gert Van Regenmorter is scheduled for knee replacement surgery at Sioux Center Hospital on Tuesday, January 6. Pray for a successful surgery and quick healing in her recovery.

-- Kyle Hoogendoorn was hospitalized this past week for Influenza A. Pray for health and strength for Kyle that he can overcome the illness and return home.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

-- The *first* offering received today will be for **Guiding Star of Siouxland**, and the *second* offering and *evening* offering will be for our **Building Fund**. The offerings for next week will be designated for The Banquet and our CEC.

Building Project: *Fundraising for our Narthex Expansion Project is ongoing and donations are being accepted anytime. Please write checks payable to First CRC and indicate "Building Project" in your check memo so it is applied accordingly. Any questions, please contact Evan Altena or Ryan Zomer.*

From the Deacons: *The General Fund 2025 budget has been met! Thank you, Congregation, for your additional offerings towards meeting this deficit!*

-- **Reminder:** **If you are bringing a drink into the Sanctuary, please be sure you are using a lid to prevent spills resulting in stains to the pews and carpet.**

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED

-- **Meals on Wheels** - Our turn to deliver meals is this week **January 5-9**. We are still in need of a volunteer for Friday the 9th. If you are able, please sign-up on the sheet provided on the table in the Narthex. *Thank you!*

-- **Family Faith Visitation** - All members of Care Groups 5-8 will meet with the Elders this year. Please schedule your Family Faith Visitation **ASAP**. The weekly meetings begin tomorrow, **Monday, January 5** and will occur on most Mondays and Tuesdays in January and February. The sign-up schedule is available on the table in the Narthex. ***Please fill January's schedule first when selecting your sign-up date and try to fill up full nights to be respectful of the Elders and the time they are putting in to the meetings.*** Visitation outlines are provided by the sign-up sheet. If you are a member of Care Group 1-4 you met last year, but you may sign up as well if you'd like to meet again this year. *Thank you!*

-- The Catechism Refresh Class will begin this week **Wednesday, January 7** and will be led by Pastor Matt. This class is geared for those who actively want to discuss and understand the Heidelberg Catechism as adults. It will be held Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm for 8 sessions. *Please follow the Church website calendar as some Wednesdays in between it will not be held due to other events happening.*

-- Our IGNITE Youth Group will be preparing freezer meals this week **Wednesday, January 7**. ***A sign-up sheet is available on the table in the Narthex in which you can sign-up for the 3 offered meal choices and the quantity of each.*** Use these meals for yourself or gift to someone in need! Please sign-up promptly to help with meal planning. *Thank you!*

-- Next week **Sunday, January 11** is Youth Sunday. Students please arrive early that morning to be prepared for your involvement in the service.

-- Sunday School, Catechism, & Children in Worship will resume next week **Sunday, January 11**.

-- 1st CRC Book Club - The 2026 Book Club will kick off on **Monday, January 12** at 6:30pm. Instead of pre-selecting a book to discuss, you are invited to bring a copy of your favorite book to share with the group. (A physical copy is not required if you are not able to get it.) All ages are welcome! Come learn about the authors/books others enjoy, and then provide input on future reads for the Church Book Club.

-- **Tuesday, January 13** the Deacons will be available in the Council Room from 7:00-8:30pm to receive additional in person donations for our Narthex Expansion project.

-- **Sunday, January 18** is Baptism Sunday and Sanctity of Life Sunday.

-- **Sunday, January 25** is CADET Sunday.

-- **The Banquet** - Our IGNITE Youth Group, which includes kids & leaders from First CRC and Calvin CRC, and our Mission Committee, are teaming up together to serve at both locations at *The Banquet in Sioux Falls* on **Wednesday, January 29**. *We are looking for your help as well! We would like volunteers to help prepare and serve!* Watch for sign-up sheets that will be available on the table in the Narthex indicating shifts/times/locations. This was a great time spent together last year and we look forward to doing this again, blessing all those who come to receive a meal at The Banquet!

-- Pastor Matt will be starting a Profession of Faith Class at the **beginning of February**. If you are interested, please contact him directly.

-- **Reading the Bible in a Year** - Two 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 2026! Make it your daily devotion; there's no better book to read than the Word of God!

COMMUNITY IMPACT COMMITTEE

-- The month of January recognizes *Sanctity of Human Life*. Throughout the month of January, a baby cradle will be located in the Narthex for donations of baby clothes and supplies. Donations received will be delivered by our Community Impact Committee to Guiding Star of Siouxland in Orange City and the Alpha Center in Sioux Falls.

January 4, 2026 - Installation of Office Bearers

PRAISE TEAM:

LaRae VDB, Ashley VO,
Andy VR, Nolan VO

USHERS:

East: Cody D, Mike B
West: Cole VDB, Titus H

NURSERY:

AM: Em D, Kaysha A, Tessa B
PM: April DK, Teeghan B

SOUND: Jack VB **VIDEO:** Brian F **PPT:** Tammy B

GREETERS:

AM: Mike & Ranae K
Matthew & Autumn L
Alvin & Sue L
PM: Evan & Rhonda L
Gene & Carla L
Keith & Jacque L

NARTHEX: Larry & Yvonne

OFFERING:

AM: Benevolent Fund
PM: CEC

LETTERS:

Ribbens: Taylor K
Maletoungou: LeRoy K
Klomprens: Scott K

PIANIST: Jackie R

January 11, 2026 - Youth Sunday

SONG LEADER:

James VB

USHERS:

AM: Youth Group
PM: *East:* Josh B, Mike VZ
West: Dan B, Darin P

NURSERY:

AM: Cherie G, Noah DK, Harper B
PM: Jamie Z, Titus H

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP: *Leader:* Jamie DJ *Helper:* Teeghan B

SOUND: Evan VB **VIDEO:** Rich R **PPT:** Cowan VK

GREETERS:

AM: Youth Group
PM: Shanna L
Starla VO
Jacob & Amanda M
NARTHEX: Vern & Ellen

OFFERING:

AM: The Banquet
PM: CEC

LETTERS:

Ribbens: Alex K
Maletoungou: Darin K
Klomprens: Bob K

ORGANIST: Ranae K



Youth Group Email: youth@firstcrcrv.org



- Mentor Night - Wednesday, January 7 - 7:00pm - Freezer Meals
- Youth Sunday - Sunday, January 11



- Meeting - Wednesday, January 14 - 7:00pm at First CRC
- Pinewood Derby - Friday, January 30



- Meeting - Wednesday, January 14 - 6:45pm at Calvin CRC
- Meeting - Wednesday, January 28 - 6:45pm at Calvin CRC

-- **November Offerings:** General Fund - \$60,923.69; Benevolent Fund - \$6,042.70; Building Fund - \$212,007.61; CEC - \$2,263.00.

-- **Thanksgiving Offerings:** World Renew - \$2,050.00; Crossroad Prison Ministries - \$750.00; Cornerstone Prison Ministries - \$1,375.00; RVCS - \$650.00; Family Crisis Center - \$80.00; Bethel Ministries - \$1,500.00; JFA - \$350.00; Building Fund - \$2,000.00; Love INC - \$1,750.00; GEMS - \$550.00; Orphan Grain Train - \$100.00; Kingdom Boundaries - \$4,325.00; Missions - \$1,500.00; Genesis House - \$250.00; Alpha Center - \$1,000.00; Hope Haven - \$400.00; The Banquet - \$1,775.00; Missions (Guatemala) - \$800.00; General Fund - \$200.00; CADETS - \$107.00; WCHS - \$500.00; SF Gospel Mission - \$300.00; Ribbens - \$50.00; Teacher's Garden - \$500.00; Freedoms Gate Church - \$625.00; ATLAS - \$985.00; SC Gospel Mission - \$250.00; Benevolent Fund - \$200.00.

SERMON NOTES:

January 4, 2026

TODAY: **9:30 AM:** Morning Worship Service - *Installation of Office Bearers*
 6:00 PM: Evening Worship Service
 7:15 PM: Saved to Serve Bible Study

MON: **9:45 AM:** Coffee Break - Exodus 2 #1
 11:00 AM: Meals on Wheels - Sharla Van Roekel
 6:15-8:15 PM: Family Faith Visitation

TUES: **11:00 AM:** Meals on Wheels - Marva Haak
 6:15-8:15 PM: Family Faith Visitation
 7:00 PM: L.I.G.H.T. Bible Study
 HC Refresh Bible Study

WED: **11:00 AM:** Meals on Wheels - Paul & Laura Maassen

THURS: **11:00 AM:** Meals on Wheels - Kevin Jansma

FRI: **11:00 AM:** Meals on Wheels

PRAYER REMINDERS

Office Bearers

- ◆ Incoming/Outgoing/Current Church Council

Health, Healing, & Peace

- ◆ Mer Van Otterloo (CG#8), Gert Van Regenmorter (CG#1), Paula Kats (CG#1), Gerrit Kats (CG#4), Nate Van Kley (CG#1)
- ◆ Family/Friends of Our Church: The De Weerd Family, Gerald Van Den Top, Jason Davelaar, Rev. Dan De Groot

Our Care Center Residents:

Four Seasons

Teresa Oostra (CG#6)
Don & Lois Postma (CG#3)

Whispering Heights

Claretta Lobbes (CG#5)
Grace Teunissen (CG#8)
Alvina Van't Hul (CG#6)
Harvey & Joanne Van Otterloo (CG#6)

River View Ridge

Nathan Dorhout (CG#2)
Jim Driesen (CG#6)
Gerrit & Esther Kats (CG#4)
LeRoy & Jane Koedam (CG#3)
John Lobbes (CG#5)
Henrietta Vanden Bosch (CG#4)

Hull - Pleasant Acres

Jerry Velgersdyk (CG#7)
Crown Pointe - SC
Harriet Vande Kamp (CG#5)

Missionaries

- ◆ Rev. Michael & Megan Ribbens - Johannesburg, South Africa
- ◆ Rev. Sosthene & Kara Maletoungou - West Africa
- ◆ Rev. Mark K Family - classically supported missionaries in Nepal

Classical Missions

- ◆ Lakeview CRC - Valentine, NE

Classis Iakota - www.classisiakota.org/classis-documents

Denominational Requests

- ◆ (Thrive) *God's peace* - Lord and God, we ask for your peace and protection as we enter a new year. Watch over our congregations and the communities we serve. You are our refuge and strength; help us to rest in your steadfast love. Whatever lies ahead, may your peace surround and sustain us.



THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Sunday - Pat Byl

Monday - Aiden Van Roekel, *the Karl Bos'*

Wednesday - Harper Byl, Esther Kats (86)

Thursday - Brian Mulder

Saturday - Cole Hoekstra, Faith Van Tilburg

FUTURE DATES

A helpful glance in advance of special events encompassing First CRC!

January thru February - Family Faith Visitation Meetings begin

January 5-9 - Meals on Wheels

January 11 - Youth Sunday

January 12 - Book Club Kick-off for 2026

January 13 - Deacons available for Expansion donations

January 18 - Baptism Sunday/Sanctity of Life Sunday

January 25 - CADET Sunday

January 26 - Council Meeting

January 28 - The Banquet Service Date

January 30 - CADET Pinewood Derby

SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rock Valley Christian School:

- ◇ Classes resume - Monday, January 5
- ◇ SCRIP Orders due - 9:00am - Monday, January 5
- ◇ *ARROWS Soup Supper* - January 8 - 5:00-7:00pm in the RVCS Cafeteria
- ◇ ARROWS Prayer Warriors - Friday, January 9 - 8:30am - All are welcome! - Praying for 2nd & 6th Grade
- ◇ First Grade Talking Zoo - Friday, January 9 - 10:30-11:30am
- ◇ Noon dismissal - Friday, January 9 - End of 1st Quarter
- ◇ Coffee Cuttin' Club - Monday, January 12 - 9:30-10:30am
- ◇ Kindergarten begins 5 days/week - Monday, January 12
- ◇ ***Attention Grain Farmers!*** Please remember the annual Winter Festival Grain Project when delivering your corn to Doon Elevator, Farmers Elevator, and/or Valley Feed and Seed. The Winter Festival is slated for Friday, February 13th. *Thank you in advance for your generosity!*
- ◇ -- RVCS Board Winter Festival Committee: Jack Ver Burg, Brad Vanden Bosch, and Jake Faber

Western Christian High School:

- ◇ Classes resume - Monday, January 5
- ◇ 9:25am start - Wednesday, January 7
- ◇ We are excited to invite you to two upcoming opportunities to learn more about the Cornerstone Campaign and the exciting plans for the future of Western Christian High School. Dr. Brian Verwolf and Mr. Brad Vis will be presenting the project, followed by a Q & A session.
Event Details: Monday, January 19 at 12:00 PM (Noon) & Wednesday, January 21 at 7:00 PM
Both sessions will be held in the Western Christian Event Center.
These sessions are a great opportunity to hear more about the vision behind the Cornerstone Campaign, ask questions, and learn how this project will impact our school community. We hope you can join us!
- ◇ The Bargain Alley Furniture Outlet is in urgent need of volunteers to collect and deliver furniture and mattresses. You do not need to come to the store, just be available to help in your town as needed. Please call 712-439-6802 or 712-441-1270 if you are interested or have any questions. *Thank you!*

Rock Valley Community School:

- ◇ No School - Monday, January 5 - Teacher in-service
- ◇ 2:00pm dismissal - Wednesday, January 7

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS - www.firstcrrv.org/resources

6:00 PM Divine Worship

Piano Prelude

Call to Worship

Silent Prayer

*Declaration of Trust in God

*God's Greeting

***Song of Praise:**

"Beautiful Savior"

PsH 373:1,3,4

***The Apostles' Creed** (in unison)

***Song of Response: "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"** CH:1

The Heidelberg Catechism - Lord's Day 43 Q/A 112 (read responsively)

Congregational Prayer

***Songs of Preparation:**

"Come to the Savior Now"

GsH 535:1-4

"Open Our Eyes, Lord"

PsH 71:1-2

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: Matthew 22:1-14 (page 915/1534)

Sermon: **"THE INVITED"**

Prayer for God's Blessing on the Preached Word

***Song of Application:**

"Living Hope"

Vs:1-2

Offertory Prayer/Offering: Building Fund

*Benediction

***Closing Song:**

"Oh How Good It Is"

GH:3

*Piano Postlude

Pianist: Jackie Rus

*Please stand if you are able

FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH - ROCK VALLEY, IOWA

2026 COUNCIL

MINISTER:
REV. MATTHEW A. HAAN

ELDERS:

Merlin Van Otterloo, Vice *President* '28 - (470-4622) ----- Care Group 1 -----
Randy Vande Kamp '26 - (541-7500) ----- Care Group 2 -----
Tim Van Tilburg '27 - (470-5009) ----- Care Group 3 -----
Elmer Boon '28 - (451-1634) ----- Care Group 4 -----
Leonard Hoekstra, *President* '27 - (451-9430) ----- Care Group 5 -----
Darwin Hoogendoorn '26 - (470-0697) ----- Care Group 6 -----
Jeff Van Bemmel '28 - (470-1545) ----- Care Group 7 -----
Ron LeLoux, *Vicar* '26 - (470-2426) ----- Care Group 8 -----
Carl Elbers, *Clerk* '27 - (451-8150)

DEACONS:

Tyler Den Boer, *Special Offerings* '28 - (470-6354)
Mitchell Byl, *President* '26 - (470-2920)
Carter Vanden Bos, *Benevolence* '27 - (422-2107)
Colton Van Otterloo, *GF Treasurer* '27 - (451-9007)
Blake Zomer, *Secretary* '27 - (460-2552)
Taylor Kats, *Vicar* '28 - (470-4258)
Austin Bliek, *Missions* '28 - (540-2768)
Evan Altena, *Building Treasurer* '26 - (470-2575)

Please contact the Pastor or assigned Elder with needs.

2026 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

Executive Committee Pastor Matt, Leonard H (Chr.), Carl E, Ron L, Mitchell B, Colton VO
Pulpit Supply Pastor Matt, Merlin VO (Chr.), Leonard H
Bulletin Pastor Matt, Kim A, Leonard H, Carl E
Church Governance Elders
Sacraments Ron L, Tim VT
Missions Committee Leonard (Chr.) & Deb H, Mike & Tammy B, Randy & Pat B, Mark & Deb VH, Tim & Kim VT
Family Faith Visitation Committee Darwin H, Randy VK
Worship Committee Pastor Matt, Evan VB, James VB (Chr.), Rachelle VB, Krista VE, Andy VR
Music Coordinator Rachelle VB
Building and Grounds Committee Jeff VB (Chr.), Evan A (Treas.), Steve DK, Marva H, Mike P
Education Committee Pastor Matt, Damon R (Chr.), Elmer B, Mitchell B, Jamie DJ, Sharla VR, Alyssa VH
Sunday School Superintendent Damon R
Christian Education Committee Dan & Shannon B, Pastor Matt & Holly H, Steve & April DK, Brad & Nanci G,
Matthew & Autumn L, Keith & Jacque L, Joe & Jill M
Rock Valley Calvinist Board Ron L, Mike P
CADET Leaders Brian F, Kevin J, Ryan Z
GEMS Leaders Sharla VR, Alli DB, Shanna L, Bonnie W, Kelci Z
Youth Group Sponsors Delanie VB, Brad & Brenda P, Mark & Deb VH, Loy & Taryn VH,
Colton & Kristi H, Mike K, Dave & Amy VB, Carl E (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 Ranae K, Carisa M, Jackie R, Krista VE, Rachelle VB
Nursery Committee Jackie R, Kelsey VB
Tech Committee Brian F, Joe M, Rich R, Andy VR
Sound System Team James VB (Chr.), Mike H, Leonard H, Rich R, Evan VB, Jack VB, Blake Z
Video Recording Team Brian F (Chr.), Alex K, Ron L, Rich R, Carter VB, Aiden VR
PowerPoint System Team Rachelle VB (Chr.), Tammy B, Benjamin H, Carla J, Jaydn L, Cowan VK, 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, Leonard H
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 Kim A, Brian F, Andy VR
Safe Church Committee Elmer B (Chr.), Colton VO, Jamie DJ, Delanie VB, Kelsey VB, Damon R, Kim A, Sue L
Scheduling Rides Blake Z
Community Impact Committee Austin B
Care Districts District Elders
School Board Representatives Western Christian - Brenda P, Loy VH, Jr. & Rock Valley Christian - Mike B, Jamie DJ, 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 mrribbens@crcna.org or Megan at mrribbens@gmail.com)

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

Rev. Mark & Jinhee Klompien-Nepal (mklompien@crcna.org)

Website: firstcrcrv.org

Church App: First CRC Rock Valley

Streaming: Cable Channel 76 & Roku