

# FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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

[www.firstcrrcv.org](http://www.firstcrrcv.org)  
Cable Channel 76 & Roku Streaming

REV. MATTHEW A. HAAN

PASTOR'S STUDY  
712-476-9680  
[pastor@firstcrrcv.org](mailto:pastor@firstcrrcv.org)



OFFICE  
712-476-5902  
[secretary@firstcrrcv.org](mailto:secretary@firstcrrcv.org)



**THE LORD'S DAY**  
**May 4, 2025 - GEMS Sunday**  
**9:30 AM Divine Worship**

Organ Prelude

Call to Worship

Silent Prayer

\*Declaration of Trust in God

\*God's Greeting/We Greet One Another

**Song of Praise:**

**"Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus"**

PH 467:1,3

**Responsive Reading of God's Law**

**Song of Salvation:**

**"Shine On Us"**

BH:1-2

**GEMS Litany** (read responsively)

Congregational Prayer

**\*Song of Preparation: "Holy Spirit"**

GH:1-2

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: Ephesians 6:10-13 (page 1086/1824)

Sermon: **"PUTTING ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD: THE BELT OF TRUTH"**

Prayer for God's Blessing on the Preached Word

**\*Song of Response:**

**"Teach Me, O Lord, Thy Way of Truth"**

PsH 240:1-3

Offertory Prayer/Offering: Benevolent Fund & CEC

-- GEMS slideshow

\*Benediction

**\*Closing Song: "O Church Arise"**

Vs:4

\*Organ Postlude

Organist: Ranae Kooistra

\*Please stand if you are able

**FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH  
ROCK VALLEY, IOWA**

**May 4, 2025 - GEMS Sunday**

**WELCOME!**

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

**TODAY**

-- Today we celebrate GEMS Sunday. *We thank the GEMS girls for greeting us this morning and participating in the GEMS litany.*

-- This morning we have the joy & privilege to welcome to our Church family Jared & Hannah Kats. Jared & Hannah have transferred their membership from Rock Rapids First CRC. Welcome Jared & Hannah, we are grateful to have you with us!

-- The Adult Sunday School class led by Rev. Haan will begin this morning at 11:00am in Classroom 5. The class will be studying and applying the book I Will. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

**EXPRESSIONS OF PRAISE & APPRECIATION**

-- *We rejoice with Alex & Alexis Rust as they were blessed with the birth of a healthy baby boy, Wesley Jay, on Sunday, April 27. Both mother and baby are doing well. Welcoming him home are his excited siblings, River and Jesse.*

-- *The Rock Valley GEMS Club season is complete! We were so blessed to be able to grow and share as we studied the Bible together, learned together, and had fun together. We want to thank all of the leaders that gave their time and energy to bless our GEMS program: Tracy Breuer, Sharla Van Roekel, Shanna LeLoux, Steph Elgersma, Jamie De Jager, Des DeVries, Kayla Hansen, Kayla Kragt, Lisa VerBurg, and Kristi Tiedeman. As we look towards our next season, please pray for the ongoing mission of GEMS. If God is calling you, please consider joining us to lead or share your passions with the girls of our community. If you have any questions about GEMS or interest in leading, please talk to any of the current leaders or email [rockvalleygems@gmail.com](mailto:rockvalleygems@gmail.com).*

-- *Thank you to the members of Care Group 2 & 8 who attended and provided the service at the Sioux Falls Gospel Mission this past Tuesday. May God's blessings be abundant to all of those in attendance that prayed together, heard the message, and sang praises to Him!*

**PRAYER CONCERN**

-- Tracy Hoogendoorn will undergo same-day surgery on her hand due to arthritis on May 8 at Avera Orthopedics in Sioux Falls. Pray for a successful surgery and quick healing.

-- We express our Christian sympathies to Vern & Ellen Van Beek, Darin & Lisa Pollema & family, and Taylor & Jessica Kats & family, in the loss of their mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Jeanette Van Ginkel. Jeanette resided at Whispering Heights. She passed away on Wednesday, April 30 at the age of 90. Visitation will be held Monday, May 5 from 5:00-7:00pm at Porter Funeral Home and her funeral will be held on Tuesday, May 6 at 1:30pm at Netherlands Reformed Church. May God comfort the family during this time of sorrow and remembrance.

## **CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS**

-- The *first* offering received today will be for our **Benevolent Fund** and the *second* offering and *evening* offering will be for our **CEC**. The offerings next week will be for One Body One Hope and our Classical Quotas.

-- Next week Sunday, May 11, Lord-willing, we will have the privilege to witness the Holy Sacrament of Baptism of Faith Briella Van Tilburg, daughter of Tim & Kendra.

-- The Elders/Deacons will have a Council Meeting tomorrow, Monday, May 5 at 6:30pm.

-- Ladies! Plan to attend the Bible League's Spring Salad Luncheon with your friends, which will be held here at our Church tomorrow, Monday, May 5. Please bring one salad for every four ladies in your group. The Luncheon begins at 11:30am and the featured speaker is Gayle Walhof who will tell of her 4-year journey in publishing her book Songs of Naamah – A Novel of King David's Harem. Join us for this FUN event!

-- **Meals on Wheels** - Our next week for delivering is May 12-16. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the Narthex. Please consider blessing the elderly of our community by delivering them a meal. Your help is appreciated! **Volunteers are still needed for Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday!**

-- **Graduate Sunday** will be held Sunday, May 18. The Fellowship Committee will be providing cake and refreshments following the morning worship service.

GRADUATES - Please remember to bring a picture of yourself and a basket to hold all of your cards and gifts that you receive!

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### **FIRST CRC 2025 GRADUATES:**



#### **8th Grade:**

Aftyn Bleyenbergh, Titus Haan, Alison LeLoux, Isaac Postma,  
Owen Rus, Brennan Van Kley, Kennedy Van't Hul



#### **High School:**

Kayla Bos, Amara Faber, Lydia Grevengoed, Brielle Jansma,  
Kiah Van Der Brink, Kayla Van Engen, Aiden Van Roekel

#### **College:**

Carson Elbers, Tristan Mulder, Jadyn Petitt, Levi Vanden Bos, Brody Van't Hul

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-- The CEC Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast is just around the corner, Monday morning, May 26! Please make plans to attend! Breakfast will be served from 7:00-10:30am in our Church Fellowship Hall.

-- Book Club's next book is When Crickets Cry by Charles Martin. Two copies are available to borrow on the table in the Narthex. Discussion night will be on Monday, June 16.

-- **Nursery Requirement:** Please remember to sign your child in when you bring them in to the nursery during a service and sign them back out when you pick them up again. The sign-up sheet has always been provided, but it is important to remember to use it for documentation. *Thank you!*

### **May 4 - GEMS Sunday**

**PRAISE TEAM:**

Lanae H, Ashley VO,  
James VB, Randy B

**USHERS:**

*East:* Joel B, Matt VE  
*West:* Tyler DB, Alvin L

**NURSERY:**

*AM:* Malorie K, Rhonda L,  
Kaysha A, Ezra H  
*PM:* Jill M, Kennedy VH

**GREETERS:**

*AM:* GEMS Girls  
*PM:* Taylor & Jessica Kats  
Brett & Malorie Kirkley  
Ruth Koedam

*NARTHEX:* Harlan & Priscilla

**VIDEO:** Carter VB

**SOUND:** Leonard H

**OFFERING:**

*AM:* Benevolent Fund  
*PM:* CEC

**LETTERS:**

*Ribbens:* Don P  
*Maletoungou:* Rich R  
*Klompens:* Damon R

**ORGANIST:** Ranae K

**PPT:** Aiden VR

### **May 11, 2025 - Mother's Day & Baptism Sunday**

**SONG LEADER:**

James VB

**USHERS:**

*East:* Arnold K, Bob G  
*West:* Benjamin H, Keith L

**NURSERY:**

*AM:* Lisa P, Jackie R,  
Aftyn B, Jaelyn K  
*PM:* Laurie VK, Teeghan B

**GREETERS:**

*AM:* Chloe K  
Trevor & Lexi K  
Jeremy K & Abbie E  
*PM:* Alex & Michelle K  
Darin & Megan K  
Mike & Ranae K

*NARTHEX:* Ron & Darletta

**VIDEO:** Brian F

**SOUND:** Jack VB

**OFFERING:**

*AM:* One Body One Hope  
*PM:* Classical Quotas

**LETTERS:**

*Ribbens:* Alex R  
*Maletoungou:* Vern DB  
*Klompens:* Jeff VB

**PIANIST:** Carisa M

**PPT:** Benjamin H

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO CONTACT YOUR CARE GROUP ELDER FOR  
ANY NEEDS, CONCERNS, AND PRAYER REQUESTS!**

**Our Church is a family and praying and supporting each other is a blessing!**



**"Community in Christ"**

**Youth Group Email: [youth@firstcrcrv.org](mailto:youth@firstcrcrv.org)**

- Today, May 4 - Youth Sunday at Calvin CRC
- July 12-17 - Summer Serve Trip to Minneapolis



-- **Cadets** - Memorial Day participation



-- **GEMS** - GEMS Sunday - Today, May 4

### **Vacation Bible School**

-- The Vacation Bible School Committee is looking for more volunteers for Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, & 5th Grade helpers. Please email [rockvalleyvbs@gmail.com](mailto:rockvalleyvbs@gmail.com) if you are interested in helping this year!

**SERMON NOTES:**



## **May 4, 2025 - GEMS Sunday**

**TODAY:**   **9:30 AM:** Morning Worship Service  
              **6:00 PM:** Evening Worship Service

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**MON:**     **11:30 AM:** NWIA Bible League Luncheon  
              **6:30 PM:** Council Meeting

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**THURS:**   **6:30 PM:** RVCS K-5th Spring Program "Storms" & Arts Show

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### **PRAYER REMINDERS**

#### **Welcome**

- ♦ Jared & Hannah Kats (Added to CG#2)

#### **Baby Blessings**

- ♦ Alex, Alexis, River, Jesse, & Wesley Jay Rust (CG#8)

#### **Sympathy**

- ♦ Vern & Ellen Van Beek (CG#1), Darin & Lisa Pollema Family (CG#2), and Taylor & Jessica Kats Family (CG#4)

#### **Health, Healing, & Peace**

- ♦ Tracy Hoogendoorn (CG#2), Larry Haak (CG#5), Starla Van Otterloo (CG#1), Howard Altena (CG#5), Clarence Klarenbeek (CG#6), Ruth Koedam (CG#2), Rev. Dan De Groot



#### **GEMS Club**

**Students & Teachers wrapping up the final weeks of the school year**

#### **Graduates**

#### **Our Care Center Residents:**

##### **Four Seasons**

Teresa Oostra (CG#6)

##### **Whispering Heights**

Don Postma (CG#3)

Grace Teunissen (CG#8)

Alvina Van't Hul (CG#5)

Joan Van Maanen (CG#7)

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)

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**

- ♦ Amistad Cristiana

#### **Denominational Requests**

- ♦ (Thrive) *Classis Meetings* - Please pray for ongoing classis meetings this month, that they may be productive and marked by the fruit of the Spirit.

#### **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** - Braelee Davelaar, the Brett Kirkley's

**Monday** - Rob Jansen, Caleb Johnson, Koen Van't Hul

**Tuesday** - Tristan Mulder

**Wednesday** - Mary Ann Klarenbeek (83), Jamie Walhof-Ellenberger

**Thursday** - Peyton Rus

**Friday** - Hannah Van Tilburg

**Saturday** - Sara Johnson, Verlyn Van Bommel

## **FUTURE DATES**

**May 11** - Mother's Day/Baptism Sunday

**May 12-16** - Meals on Wheels

**May 18** - Graduate Sunday/Graduate Reception

**May 26** - CEC Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast

**May 27** - Council Meeting

## **SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Rock Valley Christian School:**

- ◇ SCRIIP Orders Due - Monday, May 5 - 9:00am
- ◇ 2:30pm dismissal - Wednesday, May 7
- ◇ Spring Program "Storms" & Arts Show (K-5th) - Thursday, May 8 - 6:30pm at First CRC
  - *The Spring program focuses on how Jesus is with us through the internal and external storms that we face. The students have been raising money to both purchase flood relief buckets for other communities that will experience flooding as well as for our local library as it continues to recover from the 2024 flood. A freewill offering will be taken to support those causes.*
- ◇ Jog-a-thon - Friday, May 9
- ◇ 8th Grade Graduation - Wednesday, May 21 - 6:30pm in the RVCS gym
- ◇ Last Day of School - Thursday, May 22 - Noon dismissal

### **Western Christian High School:**

- ◇ 9:25am start - Wednesday, May 7
- ◇ Spring Concert - Wednesday, May 7 - 7:00pm
- ◇ FFA Banquet - Friday, May 9 - 7:00pm
- ◇ Graduation - May 20 - 7:00pm
- ◇ Last Day of School - May 30
- ◇ **Spring Drive** - Spring Drive information was shared in church mailboxes, included in the recent Western Witness, and is also available on our website at [www.westernchristianhs.com](http://www.westernchristianhs.com). If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to reach out to Brad Vis at [brad.vis@westernchristianhs.com](mailto:brad.vis@westernchristianhs.com) or 605-359-5704. Thank you for prayerfully considering how you might partner with us to equip students to serve and glorify God in all areas of life.

### **Rock Valley Community School:**

- ◇ 2:00pm dismissal - Wednesday, May 7
- ◇ Graduation - Friday, May 16
- ◇ Last Day of School - Thursday, May 22 - 1:00pm dismissal

## **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS** - [www.firstcrrcv.org/resources](http://www.firstcrrcv.org/resources)



## **6:00 PM Divine Worship**

Organ Prelude

**Hymn Sing**

**"Trust and Obey"**

CH:1,4

**"All Glory Be To Christ"**

Vs:1-2

Call to Worship

Silent Prayer

\*Declaration of Trust in God

\*God's Greeting

**\*Song of Praise: "Holy, Holy, Holy"**

PsH 318:1,3,4

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

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

CH:1

**The Heidelberg Catechism - Lord's Day 16 Q/A 40-44** (read responsively)

Congregational Prayer

**\*Song of Preparation:**

**"Take Time to Be Holy"**

PsH 451:1,3,4

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: Galatians 5:16-26 (page 1080/1815)

Sermon: **"CONSTRUCTING FRUITFUL CHARACTER: KINDNESS"**

Prayer for God's Blessing on the Preached Word

**\*Song of Application:**

**"Jesus, Strong and Kind"**

Vs:1,3,4

Offertory Prayer/Offering: CEC

\*Benediction

**\*Closing Song: "Agnus Dei"**

\*Organ Postlude

Organist: Ranae Kooistra

\*Please stand if you are able

# FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH - ROCK VALLEY, IOWA

## 2025 COUNCIL

MINISTER:  
REV. MATTHEW A. HAAN

### ELDERS:

Evan Vanden Bosch, *President* '25 - (470-1022)  
Randy Vande Kamp '26 - (541-7500)  
Tim Van Tilburg '27 - (470-5009)  
Carl Elbers '27 - (451-8150)  
Leonard Hoekstra, *Vice President* '27 - (451-9430)  
Darwin Hoogendoorn '26 - (470-0697)  
Scott Koedam '25 - (470-7037)  
Ron LeLoux, *Vicar* '26 - (470-2426)  
Nate Van Kley, *Clerk* '25 - (470-2348)

----- Care Group 1 -----  
----- Care Group 2 -----  
----- Care Group 3 -----  
----- Care Group 4 -----  
----- Care Group 5 -----  
----- Care Group 6 -----  
----- Care Group 7 -----  
----- Care Group 8 -----

### DEACONS:

Travis Jansen, *Secretary* '25 - (470-3486)  
Mitchell Byl, *Special Offerings* '26 - (470-2920)  
Carter Vanden Bos, *Benevolence* '27 - (422-2107)  
Colton Van Otterloo, *GF Treasurer* '27 - (451-9007)  
Blake Zomer, *Vicar of Deacons* '27 - (460-2552)  
Myron Bleyenbergh, *President* '25 - (605-359-8574)  
Ryan Zomer, *Building Treasurer* '25 - (712-441-3970)  
Evan Altena, *Missions* '26 - (470-2575)

Please contact the Pastor or assigned Elder with needs.

### 2025 COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

Executive Committee ..... Pastor Matt, Evan VB (Chr.), Leonard H, Nate VK, Ron L, Myron B, Colton VO  
Pulpit Supply ..... Pastor Matt, Leonard H (Chr.), Evan VB  
Bulletin ..... Pastor Matt, Kim A, Evan VB, Nate VK  
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.), Carl E (Liaison), Ryan Z (Treas.), Steve DK, Marva H, Mike P  
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 L, Mike P  
Youth Group Sponsors ..... Josie F, Evan & Rhonda L, Brad & 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 ..... Ranac K, Carisa M, Krista VE, Rachelle VB  
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, Rich R, Evan VB  
Video Recording Team ..... Brian F (Chr.), Alex K, Ron L, Rich R, Carter VB, Matthew VO  
PowerPoint System Team ..... Rachelle VB (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, Josie 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 [mrribbens@crcna.org](mailto:mrribbens@crcna.org) or Megan at [mrribbens@gmail.com](mailto:mrribbens@gmail.com))

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

Rev. Mark & Jinhee Klompier-Nepal ([mklompier@crcna.org](mailto:mklompier@crcna.org))

Website: [firstcrcrv.org](http://firstcrcrv.org)

Church App: First CRC Rock Valley

Streaming: Cable Channel 76 & Roku