



Scandalous Love



Welcome to Church!

DECEMBER 22, 2019

We are delighted that you are worshipping with us today. We strive to be a warm, welcoming place for you to glorify God. We encourage you to please fill out a visitor card found by the hymnals in the pew and place it in the offering plate as it is being passed. To find out more about First Reformed Church, stop at the Information Center in the Narthex, or visit our website: www.sibleyfrc.org.

Glorify! God With Worship

9 am - Cornerstone Service

- Children and Worship --(3yrs. - Kindergarten)

10:10-10:50 am

Coffee Fellowship & Prayer Time

- No Children's Sunday School today
- Sunday School Guide Study will meet in the Library
 - Men and Women's Bible Study, "The Case for Christmas" will meet in the West classrooms in Fellowship Hall
- Coffee Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall
- Prayer Time with the Elders in Pastor's Office

11 am - Open Door Service

- Join us for a time of praise and worship by use of contemporary music, prayer, scripture and a Bible Talk.
- Children and Worship --(3yrs. - Kindergarten)

Grow! In His Word

MESSAGE:

"CHRISTMAS IS NOT YOUR BIRTHDAY...SCANDALOUS LOVE"

SCRIPTURE:

HOSEA 3:1-5 PG: 1398

Stewardship & Giving

Offerings for December 15, 2019: General Fund -\$6787.75; Benevolent Fund-\$864; Building Fund \$10; Bethany \$335; Sharing Christmas \$95; Remnant Youth \$50.

Special Offering for December is Bethany Christian Services

Happening This Week

Sunday, December 22:

- Today Pastor Luke will continue his Advent Series “Christmas Is Not Your Birthday...Scandalous Love.” We thank the Joyful Voices Choir and Mark and Rosie Hulstein (Cornerstone) and Dahson and Jahlyn De Jong (Open Door) for lighting the Advent Candle this morning.
- 8:20am Joyful Voices Choir will meet this morning.
- No Sunday School This Morning

Monday, December 23:

- 7:00 pm: Monday Night Ladies Bible Study

Tuesday, December 24:

- 8:30 am: Chickadee Quilters
- 6:00 pm: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. *Before church Greeters--* W: Charlie & Brenda Kuhl, Pam Kruger & Jodene Kruse, Dave & Sandy Lamfers; *After Church Greeters--*E: Cal Runia, C: Bob Tiedeman, W: Pastor Luke, BE: Josh Lucas, BW: Duane Vande Hoef; *Nursery:* Pam Vande Hoef & Jill Boeke. Christmas Eve offering will be going towards Benevolence.

Wednesday, December 25:

- Merry Christmas!! Offices will be closed today
- No Wednesday night activities

Thursday-Friday, December 26 & 27:

- Communication Director's office will be closed

Sunday, December 29:

- Today we welcome Josh Lucas as he leads us in worship this morning.
- No Joyful Voices Choir practice this morning
- No Children and Worship This Morning
- No Sunday School This Morning

Mark Your Calendars

- January 1: No Coffee with the Pastor/No Mothers Together
- January 5: Installation and Ordination of 2020 Elders and Deacons at both services. Communion Preparation Sunday
- January 12: 8:00 am Fellowship Breakfast sponsored by the College Youth
- 9:30 am Worship Service. Today we will have one service where we will celebrate Professions of Faith and Communion.
 - No Sunday School Today

Go! And Serve Him

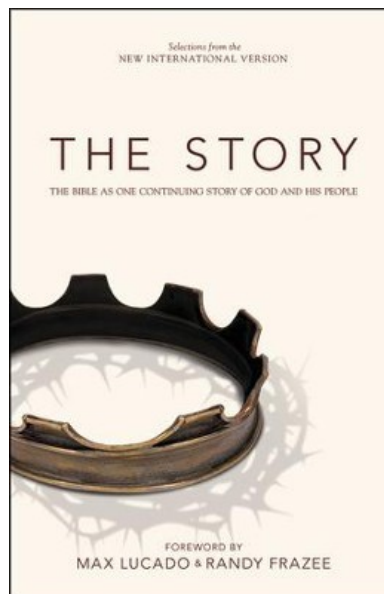
Opportunities and Events

Those elected at this year's Congregational Meeting for the 2020 Consistory are: Elders - Stan De Zeeuw, Ken Heronimus, and Marlin Runia; Deacons - Larry De Boer, Mitch Kreykes, and Ryan Wiersma.

We are asking children ages 4yrs-5th grade to sing at the Christmas Eve service. They will be singing 3 easy songs and will be singing them along with the Joyful Voices Choir. If your family will be here for Christmas Eve we would appreciate your children's help with this. Thanks!

Budget Update: We are so very thankful to the congregation for the generous offerings we have received throughout 2019. To be able to meet our financial obligations for 2019, we still need to collect about \$17,000. Please consider this as you plan your givings for the remainder of 2019. Thanks!

The 2020 Church Directory is being worked on. If you have had a change in address, email or phone number please get those to the office as soon as possible so we can get those updated. Thanks!



Beginning on January 5, 2020, Pastor Luke is going to start a series of sermons tied to a book called *The Story*. This book is not a Bible, it is a retelling of the history of God and his people as told in the Bible. Starting today, every family in our church will be given a copy of this book to use during the sermon series plus a suggested Reading Guide, so check the tables by the Sanctuary door for your copy. Every book as a family name on it. If you already have a copy of “The Story” and do not wish to own another one, please remove the label and place it on the small table in the Fellowship Hall. Every month in the newsletter there will be a suggested reading list, and list of scriptures used to write that part of the book. Please use this opportunity to use the book

and scripture readings for family devotions, joining a small group or to enhance your own understanding of Biblical history. We ask that you **Please read the assigned chapter BEFORE coming to hear the sermon on that part of redemptive history.**

Go! And Serve Him

Opportunities and Events



Inclement Weather Reminder: If on a Sunday morning it is either extremely cold or the weather is nasty, please listen to KIWA Sheldon 105.3 or check out our Facebook page or church website. An email will also be sent to Prayer Chain members. If the situation calls for it, the first service and Sunday School will be cancelled with the hope that we will still be able to have the 2nd service. If the weather doesn't allow that, then a second notice will be sent out via the avenues listed above for the cancelation of the 2nd service.

Starting on January 6 at 7:00pm, the Women's Monday Night Bible Study will begin their study of "The Story." They are inviting anyone from the congregation who would like to join them for this interesting study.

Drivers Needed!!



We are in need of drivers to help Marlys Pietz get to her Dialysis Treatments in Worthington. If you are willing and able to help please use the new sign up sheet on the Information Center. Thanks!

Sermon Notes:

Grow! In His Word

MESSAGE:

"CHRISTMAS IS NOT YOUR BIRTHDAY...SCANDALOUS LOVE"

SCRIPTURE:

HOSEA 3:1-5 PG: 1398

In Our Prayers



If you have a pastoral need, please call Pastor Luke Schouten, 920-889-3911, any consistory elder or the church office (754-2783). Remember, we cannot print your name unless you have granted FRC permission to do so. If you have a prayer request you would like included, please contact the office.

- **Pray for those in assisted living:** Ethel Jurgens and Geneva Wissink
- **Pray for our nursing home residents:** Margaret Calsbeek, Dutch Kruger, and Harold Schram.
- **Pray for our Missionaries:** Dr. Bernadeth Kelly and Adrian Bobb, Sayuri Kist -Okazaki, Brian and Donna Renes, J.J. and Tim TenCley, Rowland and Jane Van Es.

In Our Prayers

In Our Prayers

Please continue to lift Dianne Kass, Barb Ronellenfitch, Janice Groen, Dean Ackerman, Jodene Kruse, Larry Riebeling, Ray Schram, Dave Kleinwolterink, Cavell Van Westen, Kelli Van De Berg, and Michael Block Jr. up in your prayers as they continue to deal with health issues.

Dave Stofferan underwent surgery on December 12th. Please continue to pray for strength and healing for him.

Please continue to pray for **Marvin Runia** as he had a slight heart attack Monday, December 16th and is in the Avera Heart Hospital in Sioux Falls. He may undergo possible procedures after the 1st of the year. Please pray for recovery and that he may be able to come home.

Chelsey Alexander will be undergoing surgery on Monday, December 23 in Sioux Falls. Please pray for a successful surgery and quick recovery for her.

Words of Thanks

Thank you for all the visits, cards, prayers and well wishes that we received from the Congregation. A special thank you to Pastor Luke for your visits and prayers. We are filled with praise and are extremely grateful to God for my healing and recovery.

~~Dean Ackerman

Thank you for the cards, phone calls, texts, visits, gifts, food and most of all the prayers as I had surgery and recovery. It has been a long journey, however with all the concerns and care from my Church family it is much easier! Thank you again!

~~God Bless, Jodene "Beany" Kruse

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Kyle and Maggie Brown who were married on December 7. Maggie is the daughter of Scott and Marlys Dykstra.

Congratulations to Nathan and Blair DeJong who were united in marriage this past Saturday, December 21st. Nathan is the son of Heath and Wendy DeJong. May God bless these newly married couples!!



There is JOY in Serving Jesus!

	This Week: December 22	Next Week: December 29
Corner-stone Greeters:	W: Mitch and Abby Kreykes M: Charles and Katha Kruger E: Richard Kruger and Lyle Peelen	W: Arnie & Diane Langstraat M: Gary & Wilma Leusink E: Brad & Sarah Loerts/family
After Church Greeters:	E: Lyle Peelen C: Pastor Luke W: Josh Lucas BE: Larry Riebeling BW: Marlin Roelfs	E: Paul Vander Linden C: John Van Diepen W: Harvey Van Ruler BE: Pastor Luke BW: Josh Lucas
Prayer with the Elders:	Cornerstone: Bill Hartzell Open Door: Dick Oldenkamp	Cornerstone: Dr. Greg Kusters Open Door: Harold Ernst
Children and Worship:	Children and Worship 9am Leader: Deb Kusters 11am Leader: Deb Kusters	Children and Worship On Christmas Break
Nursery:	9:00 am: Kim McDougall and Brenda Wassman Sunday School No Sunday School Today 11:00 am: Tiffany and Liz Wynia	9:00 am: Lesia Stofferan & Jodene Kruse Sunday School No Sunday School Today 11:00 am: Tami & Lindy Tracy
Library:	Alfreda Verdoorn	Joel/Kathy Verdoorn
Coffee:	Lawrence and Ruth Wiersma	Glenn & Paul Doorenbos



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712-754-2783 or 712-260-7246
Hours: Mon, Thurs., Fri. 8am –2 pm
Office is closed on Tues & Wed

***All bulletin announcements are due in the church office by Wednesday noon.
Bulletins are printed on Thursday morning.***