

Community Announcements Continued...

- **Sheldon Area Unity Meel** – Mon., Mar. 18, 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Living Water Com. Church in Sheldon. All attendees may take a bag of groceries home.
- **Knights of Columbus Annual Fish Fry** – Fri., Mar. 22, 5-7 p.m. at St. Pat's Catholic Church. The meal will be dine-in or carry out. Fried fish, buttered baby potatoes, baked beans, roll and dessert. A freewill donation with a suggested giving amount of \$12/person. Proceeds going to the Sheldon Ministerial Fund.
- **Conquering Cancer for O'Brien County:** Easter Bake Sale at Sheldon Hy-Vee Sat., Mar. 23, 9-12 a.m. Pizza Ranch Impact Night at Sheldon Pizza Ranch Tues., Mar. 25, 5-8 p.m. Pizza Ranch Impact Night at Primghar Pizza Ranch Tues., Mar. 26, 5-8 p.m. Come support those battling cancer in O'Brien County!
- **Kiwanis Good Friday Breakfast** – Fri., Mar. 29, 6:30 a.m. at the Sheldon Middle School. The Scheaffer family will provide music/devotions. Breakfast catered by Cooks Café. Cost of the meal is \$12.
- **Cornerstone Prison Church Annual Banquet** – Mon., Apr. 1, at Trinity CRC in Rock Valley. Doors open 6, banquet begins 6:30 p.m. RSVP by calling Trinity CRC at 476-5292 or website: www.cornerstonepcsd.org. Freewill offering. If you are unable to attend, please send donation to: Cornerstone Prison Church, C/O Dave Vande Kamp, P.O. Box 88708, Sioux Falls, SD 57109 or donate online www.cornerstonepcsd.org.
- **Love INC of Greater O'Brien County** is offering new classes Thurs. evenings, Apr. 11–June 20, 6:20-7:30 p.m. Classes include: Finance, Griefshare, Moving Forward and Bible Study. Open to the public! Call 324-9707 to register.

Be the Donkey

Corrie ten Boom, a devout Christian who helped shelter hundreds of Jewish people from Nazis during World War II, was asked how she stayed humble despite her fame.

“When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday on the back of a donkey, and everyone was waving palm branches and throwing garments onto the road and singing praises, do you think that for one moment it ever entered the head of that donkey that any of that was for him?” she replied. “If I can be the donkey on which Jesus Christ rides in his glory, I give him all the praise and all the honor.”

Jesus told his followers they'd need to carry (or “take up”) their cross. But how well do you carry your Savior? How do you bring him into a world that desperately needs the good news of the gospel?

Sunday, March 17, 2024

Dear ones, welcome to worship as we gather in Jesus' name as one family in God's embrace. Amen.

Today at First

We welcome Rev. Dr. John Hartog III as he leads us in worship today. Pastor Brian was attending a conference out of town last week. C. G. #3 hosts coffee fellowship.

Next week, Pastor Brian Dunn will lead our services. C. G. #3 hosts coffee time.

Our Church Family

Congratulations to Jeffrey & Brooke Granstra on the birth of a baby girl, **Sutton Joy Granstra**, born Wed., March 6. May the Lord bless this precious new addition to their family.

Nursery Today Cherish G., Helen VD, Carson VM **3-24** Ethan/Avery VH, Boden K.

Valet Parking Today Cory Jansen

Mar. 24 Jon Nieuwendorp

Sound Today Heynen/Jacob/Josh

Mar. 24 Cory/Jackson/Ben

Praise Team Today Missy, Julie, Arlo, Tate, Trey **3-24** Lacey, Angela, Jevon, Shane

Cookies Mar. 24 Betty K., Lindsey N., Patty N. **3-31** Chris P., Joellen S., Kathy V.

Offerings only for: Gen. Fund, Christian Ed., Above Quota Missions & Classical Min. Shares. Put in offering box, Treasurer's box, or mail to church (901 9th Street).

Please make note of the following dates/times for our Easter Services

Good Friday (Communion) Service – Friday, March 29, 7 PM

Easter Sunrise Service – Sunday, March 31, 7:30 AM with breakfast to follow.

Easter Worship Service – Sunday, March 31, 9:30 AM

NO Sunday Evening Worship on Easter Sunday.

First CRC Announcements:

- **The council is asking the congregation** for nominations to consider for **Elder & Deacon**. We need to elect 2 elders and 2 deacons. Names can be placed in the Clerk's box by the council room or given to your Care Group Elder.

Activities This Week

Sun.	10:45 AM	Catechism & Sunday School Classes meet
	11:00 AM	Choir practice
	5:00 PM	Evening Worship Service
Mon.	6:00 AM	Spring Bible Study on Prayer
Tues.	6:30 PM	Spring Bible Study on Prayer
Wed.	7:00 PM	Cadet Pinewood Derby Race @ SCS gym. Check-in 6:30, Races begin @ 7.
	7:00 PM	GEMS meet
Thur.	2:00 PM	Women's Bible Study

First CRC Announcements Continued...

- **Unity Meal** – Our church has been asked to help serve the Sheldon Unity Meal on Mon., Apr. 15. All ages are urged to consider signing up – what a great opportunity to be a blessing while sharing the love of our church and our Savior. A sign-up sheet is on the welcome desk in the narthex.
- **Interested in membership or Making Profession of Faith at First CRC?** Membership and Profession of Faith are biblical expressions of our public walk with Christ. “For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.” (Rom. 12:4-5). “If you declare with your mouth ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart God raise him from the dead, you will be saved.” (Rom. 10:9). If you are interested in making profession of faith, or becoming a member here at First CRC, please contact Pastor Brian for details. Classes will begin soon; time/date based on availability of those interested.

Western Christian School Announcements:

- **8th Grade Day** – Thurs., Apr. 4. Are you ready for high school? We would like to welcome all 8th grade students/parents to Western Christian High School. We will serve a free supper 5:15-6:15 p.m. and the program will start in the Event Ctr at 6:15 p.m. We ask that parents and students attend 8th Grade Day together. If you have any questions, please contact Brad Vis by cell (605) 359-5704 or email brad.vis@westernchristianhs.com.

CRC 2024 Yearbook – If you would like your own copy of the 2024 CRC Yearbook, there are several ways you can obtain one.

1. You can download your own copy for \$7. Go to www.faihaliveresources.org and click on “Other CRC Resources”.
2. You can order a regular copy for \$12. Do the same as above
3. You can order a spiral bound copy for \$13. Do the same as above.
4. Call/email the secretary 324-2374, firstcrc@hotmail.com and say which version you want, regular or spiral bound. An order will be placed Mar. 27.

Volunteer Opportunities:

- **The Bargain Alley Thrift Store is seeking volunteers.** Please contact Kari Hoekstra, email her at: bargainalleyhull@gmail.com if interested.
- **Treasure Chest Volunteers Needed** – We are in search of people interested in working a few hours a week in the store. For info., contact Averey at 324-5412.

Minnikota Youth 14th Annual Jr. High (6th– 8th grade) Retreat – Apr. 19-21 at Inspiration Hills. Join other junior high students at this retreat designed for you! Worship, speakers, games, talent show, service, and small groups will be on the agenda. All registrations & forms, (on welcome desk) are due by **April 1st**. **All** payments due with registrations. No late registrations – only first 110 students accepted due to new policies @ Inspiration Hills! For more information, contact Lee De Groot degrootlee@gmail.com or (712) 470-4244.

Many Christians feel that they should share their faith with others, but fear often stops them from doing it. **Dunamis Project #6: Listening Evangelism** will help you find a natural/fearless way to have more faith-sharing conversations in the ordinary course of life. It emphasizes learning God’s vision for evangelism, and developing a passion for personal evangelism. We will learn/practice practical evangelism skills in cooperation with the Holy Spirit. This conference will be Mar. 21-24 in Milford, IA. To learn more/register, visit www.primi.org/dpmilford.

Community Announcements:

- **NCC has a Student Bible Study that meets every Tues. night on campus.** If you would be willing to donate bars/cookies/snack mix for 6 wks for about a doz. students during Mar. & Apr., please sign up on the welcome desk.

March 17, 2024

Guest Pastor - Rev. Dr. John Hartog III

9:30 AM

Opening Service

Call to Worship – Psalm 95:6-7

Opening Prayer

*Opening Hymn: **“Trust and Obey”**

*God’s Greeting/Mutual Greeting

*Song of Praise: **“My Hope Is in the Lord”**

Service of Reconciliation

God’s Will for Life – Ephesians 5:8-11

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon – Isaiah 53:6

Children’s Message

Service of the Word

Song of Preparation: **“Only Believe”**

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading: **Mark 9:14-29**

Sermon Title: **“What Are You Arguing with Them About?”**

Prayer for Application

*Song of Praise: **“My Faith Has Found a Resting Place”**

Service of Dedication

Congregational Prayer

Offering

*Song of Dedication: **“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”**

*Benediction – 1 Timothy 1:17

*Doxology: **“Now Blessed Be the Lord Our God” v. 1, 2**

**Please stand, if able.*

March 17, 2024

Guest Pastor – Rev. Dr. John Hartog III

5:00 PM

We Gather to Worship

Call to Worship – Psalm 95:1-2

Silent Prayer

*Opening Chorus: **“I Will Serve Thee”**

*God’s Greeting – Romans 8:15-17 (adapted)

Responsive Affirmation of Faith – **Romans 5:1-8**

*Song of Praise: **“Higher Ground”**

Pastoral Prayer

We Hear God’s Word

Hymn of Preparation: **“Be Thou My Vision”**

Scripture Passage: **Mark 9:33-41**

Sermon Title: **“What Were You Arguing About on the Way?”**

Prayer of Application

We Respond in Faith

*Song of Dedication: **“May the Mind of Christ, My Savior”**

*Benediction/Blessing – 1 Peter 5:10-11

*Doxology: **“Savior, Again to Your Dear Name We Raise”**

**Please stand, if able.*