

**First Christian Reformed Church**  
**Lynden, Washington**  
**April 26, 2020**

**CHURCH FAMILY & PRAYER CLOSET**

- **ALBERT V** has moved to Alderwood Park for rehab.
- **DEALING WITH CANCER:** Rick B, John B, Susan B, Ralph H
- **ASSISTED LIVING AND CARE CENTER RESIDENTS:**  
Cascade Christian Home – Amy B  
Christian Health Care – Jennie B, Mary K, Bennie M, Johanna R, Joanne V  
Cordata Court – Diane S  
Lynden Manor – Anna G, Edie M, Kristi N, Maggie S, Janet V, Cora V  
Meadow Greens – Gussie B, Freda G, Grace H, Nellie H, Andy V, Jo V  
Orchard Park – Eleanor & Carol Z  
Silverado Care – Casey V
- **SHUT-IN MEMBERS:** Pray for our elderly members who are now especially separated from loved ones and assistance.
- **CARE HOME AND MEDICAL FIELD WORKERS:**  
St. Joseph's Hospital – Kim E, Kim A, Riley S, Roger P (Construction)  
Christian Health Care Center – Julie S, Kari H, Anna E  
Meadow Greens – John & Karen M  
Stafford House – Janice S
- **ASSOCIATE PASTOR:** Pray for God's will and leading to bring us the man of His choosing.
- **PHASE III BUILDING:** Pray for God's wisdom and clear leading and for His sufficient provision for building our future.
- **SERVE:** Lynden Serve 2020 has been cancelled. Pray for the students and leaders that planned to come and serve here as they deal with the loss of this trip and pray that they would find other ways to serve this summer. Also pray for the Serve Leadership Team as they deal with the emotional loss of Serve this year and as they transition to looking ahead and planning for Serve 2021.
- **MOMS@1<sup>st</sup>:** Pray for God to nurture a fruitful ministry to all the moms and children involved, especially now as they minister to them remotely.
- **HAUSA PEOPLE GROUP:** Pray that God would open doors for the Gospel to reach the Hausa people in northern Nigeria.
- **FIRST CRC MISSIONARIES:** Jeff & Melissa, Ray & Angie, Steve & Sandy, Gary & Mary, Memli & Luiza, Al & Julie, Tim & Charlene, Eric & Penny, Mitchell & Rochelle, John & Jean, Ken & Chris, Snehakunja Home

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **COUNCIL ELECTIONS:**

The Lord led the council to nominate the following men for the office of elder and deacon. Because we have a smaller pool of men willing and able to serve this year, the procedure for selecting elders and deacons is slightly different. The congregational voting will be as we've done in previous years. There are five elders and five deacons on your ballot. Each member over the age of 18 will vote for three names in each office (Elder/Deacon) that he/she feels are qualified and God is calling to that office.

Per our bylaws, the number of names that go in the hat to be drawn by lot will depend on the voting. Every name that receives a number of votes equal to 10% of the number of ballots cast will be in the hat. If one or two names receive less than 10% of the congregational vote, the man with the lowest number of votes will be removed from consideration in drawing of lots.

God's hand will guide the drawing of lots to select three elders and three deacons. In preparation for the congregational vote on May 5, please prayerfully seek God's will for who He is calling to serve as elders and deacons for the next three years.

**Elder Nominees:**

Lloyd F, Neil M, Brad T, Wes V, Fred Y

**Deacon Nominees:**

Josh B, Matt H, Randy L, Dave R, Mike S

We are anticipating this election will be done entirely by absentee voting, with absentee ballots mailed out after Sunday, April 26 to be returned by May 5. The ballots will be counted by council members after that date.

- **SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES AVAILABLE ONLINE:**

If you are not able to join us live on Sunday mornings or if you would like to re-watch or share a service, past streamed services are now available to view at either of the following links or on our website:

[https://c.streamhoster.com/embed/list/WxsdDd/mc8FckJsixL/OFrOSgTsiln\\_2\\_1?preview=1](https://c.streamhoster.com/embed/list/WxsdDd/mc8FckJsixL/OFrOSgTsiln_2_1?preview=1)

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1w17T5LLWjzclKxxAeUx3End3DZCLORyb>

- **CHURCH OFFICE AND BUILDING CLOSURE:**

The church office and church buildings are closed and locked until further notice. The church staff is still here to help our church family in any way we can, just now from our homes! Kara and Susan have complete access to the church computer, phone messages and emails and will be checking voice messages and email several times a day. We will get back to you as soon as possible.

We encourage you to call and leave a message or email if you have any needs or prayer requests.

You can also reach Kara or Susan by phone at home.

Church Phone – 360-354-4560

Church Email – [info@firstcrcllynden.org](mailto:info@firstcrcllynden.org)

- **CHURCH EMAIL, WEBSITE, FACEBOOK PAGE:**

\*\* With this fluid situation and in an effort to stay connected, the church office will be sending out regular email updates on schedule changes, sending out a link to our live services and bulletins, announcements, church box items, and prayer updates. If you know someone from church that is not receiving our emails, contact the church office to get them added to our email list. For those without email, the church will be mailing bulletins and announcements.

\*\* For more information, check out the church website ([www.firstcrcllynden.org](http://www.firstcrcllynden.org))! The website has bulletins, announcements, sermons, and lots of other information posted.

\*\* Remember to check out our Facebook page, First Christian Reformed Church – Lynden, (<https://www.facebook.com/First-Christian-Reformed-Church-Lynden-108591740760643/>) for information, updates, and to stay connected to our First Church Family!

- **CHURCH OFFERINGS:**

- May 3 – Christian School Tuition Assistance

Just a reminder that if even though we are not having worship services together, the needs of the church operating expenses remain the same. Please mail your tithes and offerings to the church at: 1010 Front Street, Lynden, WA 98264. If you drop off, please place in the mailbox, envelopes will fall to the bottom and be secure, do not use the drop box on the side of mailbox, as it is not secure.

- **ELECTRONIC GIVING:**

The church has teamed up with Tithe.ly to allow giving electronically. We are working on adding a link to the church website, but before that is done you can give this way by going to the [tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly) website ([www.tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly)) or by downloading the Tithe.ly app in your app store (available for both iPhone and Android). Set up an account and link it to either a card (credit or debit) or your bank account. Follow the instructions and you are good to go. There is a fee for using this service (97-99% of your gift goes to First CRC). The deacons will also gladly help you set it up if this is something you want to do. If you don't want to do electronic giving, you don't have to, just give like you always have.

- **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:**

If you or someone in our church family needs financial assistance during this economic crisis, please do not hesitate to contact a deacon. They are ready to help in any way they can.

- **TABLE TALK AND THE TODAY DEVOTIONALS:**

The May copies of Table Talk and the Today devotionals are available. Please contact the church office to arrange pickup or mailing. Below you will find a link for the TODAY devotions and a link for kid's activities through The Back to God Hour Ministries.

TODAY Devotional Online - <https://today.reframemedia.com/>

Kid's Activities - <https://kidscorner.reframemedia.com/>

- **SERVE 2020 UPDATE:**

After a lot of discussion and prayer, SERVE 2020 has been cancelled. Unfortunately, this means that we will not be doing SERVE like we have in the past, but that does not change the need to do good work in our community. Even though SERVE won't be the same this year, we have something up our sleeves, so keep an eye out for ways to get involved!

- **FACE MASKS AVAILABLE:**

Pastor Robert still has about 60 non-medical face masks for anyone who would like some. They can be picked up at the parsonage or he will gladly deliver them to you. Please contact Pastor Robert or the church office if you are interested in them.

- **THE DEACONS NEED YOUR HELP AGAIN!**

The deacons have come into possession of another motorized wheelchair. It isn't doing much good sitting unused, and we want to put it to good use! If you know someone who could use it, whether they be inside the congregation or out in the community, contact any of the deacons.

- **MEETING INFORMATION:**

All church group and ministry team meetings are cancelled or will be held online until further notice. If you have any questions about a meeting, please contact your group leader or chairperson.

- **MOMS@1<sup>ST</sup>:**

We will have a virtual meeting on Tuesday, April 28 via Zoom. Our topic will be *Marriage: Working on Togetherness Instead of Your Problems*. For more information about MOMS@1st, please contact Stephanie R.

- **FIRST FAMILY CAMP – SEPTEMBER 11-13:**

Join us at First Family Camp September 11-13, 2020 at Howard Miller Steelhead Park in Concrete ([www.skagitcounty.net/Departments/ParksAndRecreation/parks/howardmiller.htm](http://www.skagitcounty.net/Departments/ParksAndRecreation/parks/howardmiller.htm)). This is a great time to be blessed with God's family whether you come for a day, an evening, or stay for the entire weekend! For more information or to make reservations, contact Amy V.

- **SYNOD CANCELLED:**

The denomination announced that Synod 2020 is cancelled due to the current COVID-19 crisis. The Council of Delegates of the CRCNA will hold a special virtual meeting to address any matters that can not wait until Synod 2021. This is the first time in the more than 160-year history of the Christian Reformed Church that synod has been cancelled. Please note that the special meeting of the Council of Delegates will not replace the synod meeting.