

CHURCH FAMILY

Once again we want to thank all of you for your generous acts of kindness and other expressions of love and concern. It has been a great and joyous year serving as God's servants at First CRC. We wish for all of you a God-glorifying New Year.

~ Pastor Barry & Clarice

Dear First Church Family,

What a blessing all of you are to our family. We rejoice in being able to share this wonderful season with you. Thank you very much for all the cards, pictures, notes, goodies and gifts. What a great church family you are. We are looking forward to a great 2018 with you as we experience God's steadfast love and grace together. May God richly bless each of you and your families. We love you.

~ Pastor Robert & Phama and sons

As the end of the year comes to a close and we remember our blessings, at the top of our list is this church family for your love, care, support, and prayers. We are privileged and honored to work alongside of you. Thank you for the many Christmas goodies you have given us this year.

~ Dan & Virginia and family

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **PRAYER SERVICE FOR OLD & NEW YEAR:**

This morning we gather to look back at 2017 and pray for 2018 and beyond. We will also be celebrating the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

** We will not have an evening worship service tonight.

• **CHURCH AND OFFICE CLOSURES:**

The church offices will be closed on Monday, January 1.

• **END OF THE YEAR GIVING:**

If you would like to make contributions to the church before the end of the year, you can put it in the offering bag, or you can give it to one of the deacons no later than TODAY.

• **FAMILY ROLLER SKATING:**

Parents are you looking for something to do with your stir-crazy kids? Join the Houston's on New Year's Day at the Lynden Skateway from 1-6 pm for their customer appreciation skate. Cost: \$2.00 if you have your own skates and \$4.00 for entry and rental. You might even see Dan on skates so come and enjoy the last day of Christmas vacation.

• **EDUCATION WINTER SESSION:**

Education classes for winter session start on Sunday, January 7 for adults and students in 3rd-12th grades.

All classes meet on Sunday mornings from 9:15–10:15 a.m. A nursery and Bible class for children in 2nd grade and younger is available in the Education Building.

** **Something new for 2018!**

The Education Ministry Team has received permission from the council to test a new starting time for our Sunday morning education classes. Starting on January 7, 2018, classes for Kindergarten through adults will be from 9:15 – 10:15 a.m. One big reason to meet for a whole hour is that many of the Bible studies and curriculums are intended to take an hour or more. Following the winter session, the education ministry team will collect feedback and evaluate this change.

** **Adult Education Class**

Everyone is encouraged to come and learn about local mission ministries, how they are working in our community and changing lives. On January 7, Denny & Nancy Mc Harness will present "Be the One" mentoring program here in Lynden. Dan Houston has been a "Be the One" mentor for almost three years with the same student and has seen the ministry first hand. Bridges of Hope, Whatcom County Pregnancy Center and other ministries will be presented in future weeks. This class meets on Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. in the Church Basement.

• **CALVIN COLLEGE JANUARY SERIES:**

You are invited to view the award-winning January Series at Calvin College beginning Wednesday, January 3 and continuing weekdays through January 23 at Third CRC. These lectures are free and open to the public and are streamed live in the Third CRC basement gathering room (use the west entrance) weekdays from 9:30–10:30 a.m. For more information, pick up a brochure on the Welcome Center or visit www.calvin.edu/january.

• **PERSPECTIVES COURSE STARTING JANUARY 11:**

God has given us a call with both global and local dimensions. This class will help you understand that call and your specific place within it. Class will start on Thursday, January 11 at the Ferndale Conference and Retreat Center (5942 Portal Way). If you would like more information about this class please visit www.perspectives.org.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

• **DEACONS:**

We will meet on Tuesday, January 2 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Room (please note the change of date).

• **GEMS (1st – 8th GRADE GIRLS MINISTRY):**

We will meet this week Wednesday, January 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the Ed. Building for a night of sundaes and games. For more information, please contact Amy.

• **WORSHIP PLANNING TEAM:**

The Worship Planning Team will meet this Wednesday, January 3 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Room.

• **TRIBE (HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY):**

Join us this week Wednesday, January 3 for our first gathering of 2018 from 7:30-9:10 p.m. in the Loft. We will begin a new topic called "Congratulations You're Gifted". For more information, call Dan.

• **CADETS (1st – 8th GRADE BOYS MINISTRY):**

Join us next week Monday, January 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the church basement. For more information, please contact Brian.

• **MINISTRY TEAMS & ELDERS:**

Ministry teams will meet next week Tuesday, January 9 at 7:00 p.m. unless you hear otherwise from your chairperson. Please note that change of date.

** Elders will NOT be meeting in January.

• **DAUGHTERS OF ZION –**

We will meet next week Thursday, January 11 at 10:00 a.m. in the Ed. Building. For more information, contact Diane.

• **OASIS 2.0 (JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY):**

Our first gathering will be on Monday, January 15 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. with Wally-Ball. Please meet at church at 7 p.m. and we will go to the YMCA from church. For more information, call Dan.

PRAYER CLOSET

- **JERRY** is at the Christian Health Care Center.
- **BETTY** is at home recovering from knee surgery.
- **DIANE** is at home recovering from knee surgery.
- **LIZ** is recovering from knee surgery.
- **MARIA** continues treatment for cancer.
- **SHELLEY** continues her recovery from a stroke.
- **CASCADE CHRISTIAN HOME RESIDENT:** Amy
- **CHRISTIAN HEALTH CARE RESIDENTS:** Mary, Carl, Adrietta, Julia, and Joanne
- **LYNDEN MANOR RESIDENTS:** Edie, Evelyn & Kristi, Henrietta, Gerrit, Maggie, Albert, Andy & Gert, and Cora
- **MEADOW GREENS RESIDENTS:** Dennis, Jennie, Grace, Nellie
- **ORCHARD PARK RESIDENTS:** Eleanor & Carol
- **ST. FRANCIS RESIDENT:** Grace

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 31, 2017

Nursery Baby: Kristen, Mikaela
Toddler: Michelle & Samantha, Jessica
Floater: Kara
Greeters: Fred & Helene,
Randy & Kara
Welcome: Lance & Jessica
Ushers: Tim, John,
Jason, Dan
Bus Driver: Dan
Cookies: Nancy, Janis,
Diane, Kim
Coffee: Larry & Joanne
Sound: Tim
Video: Kaelan
Music: Ken & Lisa

Sunday, January 7, 2018

Nursery Baby: Ardelle, Candace,
Samantha
Toddler: Virginia, Cheryl,
Sadie
Floater: Joan
PM: Dawn, Marilyn
Greeters: Jacob & Valerie,
Paul & Sharon
Welcome: Mike & Michelle
Ushers: Josh, Cal,
Jake, Kyle
Bus Driver: Bryan
Cookies: Valerie, Gail,
Sharon, Gail
Coffee: Elvin & Anna Lee
Sound: Rick
Video: Jeff
Music **AM:** Sharon, Shirley
PM: Lee

First Christian Reformed Church Lynden, Washington

Sunday, December 31 ~ New Year's Eve

10:30 Prayer Service for the New & Old Years
Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Offering: Mission and Outreach Fund
Love Offering: Project Hope
11:45 Fellowship Time in the Church Basement
** No evening worship service ~

Monday, January 1 ~ New Year's Day

** Church offices closed and Buildings Locked **
1-6 p.m. Family Roller Skating at Lynden Skateway

Tuesday, January 2

7:00 Deacons meet in the Council Room

Wednesday, January 3

6:30 GEMS meet in the Ed. Building
7:00 Worship Planning meets in the Council
Room
7:30 Tribe meets in the Loft

Sunday, January 7

9:15 Education Hour for Adults and Students
10:30 Worship Service ~ Robert Woodyard
Message: *The Great Prayer of Daniel*
Scripture: *Daniel 9:1-10*
Offering: Christian School Tuition
Assistance
11:45 Fellowship Time in the Church Basement
6:00 Worship Service ~ Robert Woodyard
Message: *The Great Reversal*
Scripture: *Esther 9:1-19*
Offering: Christian School Tuition Assistance

WINTER WEATHER POLICY

The church office will try to send out an email if a worship service or meeting is cancelled. Otherwise, please listen to Praise 106.5, KGMI 790 or contact your district elder or group leader if you have any concerns about cancellations.