

Welcome to the Worship of God

Sunday, January 24, 2010

We extend a special welcome to guests who join us today! Pastor Gary Bomhof will bring the message today.

Children **ages 3 to grade 5** will be dismissed for *Sunday school*. There is supervised nursery care for infants to age 3 today. Parents should accompany children who leave the worship service for any reason.

Guests at First Church are cordially invited to a time of fellowship and friendship in the Fellowship Hall following the worship service

We Worship Our Great and Mighty God
*indicates to stand if able

Gathering Song – “*Come on and Celebrate*”
Welcome/Announcements

- *Call to Worship
- *God’s Greeting
- *Hymns of Praise

PsH 175 “Unto God Our Saviour”
“Be Exalted, O God”

*A Time of Friendship

Service of Reconciliation

- Call to Confession
- Song – PsH 255 “*God, Be Merciful to Me*”
- Assurance of Pardon
- We Walk in the Spirit
- Song – “*What Can I Do?*”

Prayer for Guidance

Scripture Reading – Matthew 7: 1-12

Message – **Eye Problems**

*Hymn of Response – PsH 601
“Jesu, Jesu”

Pastoral/Offertory Prayer

- Our Tithes and Offerings
- First Church Ministry Budget
- CRWRC – Haiti Relief

- *Blessing
- *Doxology – PsH 195
“Our God Reigns”

Serving Today...

Greeter: Carly Duduman

Helping Hands: Jesse Mlynarski

Nursery: Anita Andersen, Donna Kooiman

FIRST CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

...thank you to the First Church family for the prayers, cards, and phone calls during my illness and recovery. Thanks be to God for his mercy and healing touch.

Dick TenHove

...**Dale Dickau** will be away due to his radioactive treatment last Thursday. All went well and he hopes he can put this behind him soon.

...**Ann Pisesky** is recovering well after knee surgery and hopes to be home by this weekend.

...Remember the many people who are unable to worship with us regularly due to illness or age including **Lies Visser, Nell Drost, Mrs. Spyksma, Winnie Tensen, Audrey Vermeer, John Lindhout, Henk Krikke, and Winnie Krikke.**



FIRST CHURCH NEWS AND EVENTS

YOU ARE INVITED to a time of fellowship in the Fellowship Hall after the morning worship service. Your hosts today: Cor & Herma Pikkert

FOUNDATIONS II tonight at 6.00p.

MEN'S LIFE This Saturday, January 30 another Men's Life program will begin with a breakfast at 8.00 a.m. followed, from 8:30 to 9:30, by a study of King David. All men – feel free to bring a friend – are welcome to attend. Could you please let Art Van Zanten know whether you are coming so that we may know how many are expected for breakfast?

TECHNICIANS NEEDED for our media department. We are looking for those interested in the 'technical' service of our morning worship; power point, sound, lighting, videotaping. Training is provided by our head technicians: Brian Drok, Anthony Prins, and Jason Visser. If interested, please contact one of the aforementioned.

THANK YOU to the members of the Worship & Arts Team: Rolanda, Arista, Beatty, Cor, and Peter who decorated for and during the Advent/Christmas season. Your contribution is truly appreciated. Dale

DID YOU KNOW? There are song sheets provided in regular and large print for all songs not in the Psalter hymnal. If you have difficulty in seeing the screen, ask an usher for a song sheet!

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in a great day of curling on Saturday!

SCRIPTURE, PRAYER, MEDITATION Did you read the article on Bible reading in the latest Banner? There are copies of the Banner in the info rack by the west doors. Please read this carefully! In a few weeks we hope to help each other, more particularly, how to read the Bible, how to pray, and how to meditate. I need help in these exercises. May I help you? *Pastor Jack*

NEED SOME FIRE WOOD? Please feel free to help yourself to the trees that have been cut down.

FROM THE LIBRARY It's still winter! Time to snuggle up with a good book. Maybe you read the review of "The Little Coat" in Red Deer Life. We have purchased that book. It's about WWII in Holland and how a little girl met up with a Canadian soldier from Calgary. It gives even more appreciation for the Canadian Army. Also, "The Price of Freedom"; about the fugitives from Romania. Check them out today!

WHAT ARE YOU AND YOUR FAMILY DOING FOR LENT? Want to take a small step for the Unborn?

Red Deer & District Pro-Life, for the first time, is bringing the International 40 Days for Life campaign to Red Deer. You are invited to join People of Faith throughout Red Deer and District February 17 through March 28.

What's involved?

- 1) Prayer and fasting
- 2) Peaceful vigil- standing up for the unborn in public
- 3) Community outreach

If you want to help those who cannot speak for themselves please attend the 40 Days for Life planning meeting at the Black Knight Inn Tuesday, January 26, 2010 at 7:00 pm. Whatever your God given talents are - we can use them.

Take a small step today so the unborn can take their first step! To register call Gusty 403-506-5938 or cstn@platinum.ca. www.40daysforlife.com.

CHURCH USER GROUPS Due to fire regulations please remember to **CLOSE** all hallway doors at the end of your function. Thank you. *Administration Team*

VBS is coming – July 5 – 9! Mark your calendars now.

HAVE SOME SPARE TIME? The Admin team is looking for some volunteers to paint the heating ducts in the sanctuary. If you can help please contact Garth Stange at 403.318.2822 or garths@borderpaving.com.

BACK TO GOD MINISTRY INTERNATIONAL On Wednesday I will be flying out to Chicago to attend the Board meeting of the Back to God Ministry International and hope to be back again on Saturday. GJB

Youth Happenings....

-***Acts of Light*** drama team meets February 3. Parents are asked to attend the first portion of the meeting to discuss the future plans. Your attendance would be greatly appreciated.

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

RED DEER MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION has made a commitment to be in prayer weekly for a Christian organization in the City of Red Deer. In this way we are showing our unity and support for each other. This week our prayer is for Spanish Mennonite Church.

CRWRC RESPONSE TO HAITI EARTHQUAKE - On January 12, a massive earthquake struck Haiti about 10 miles from the capital city where both CRWRC and

CRWM staff are stationed. Praise God that all CRC missionaries and their families are safe. Financial donations are urgently needed to help CRWRC respond to the immediate and long-term needs of earthquake survivors. Gifts marked "Haiti Earthquake 2010" can be given online at www.crwrc.org, by calling 1-800-730-3490, or by sending a cheque to CRWRC, 3475 Mainway, PO Box 5070 STN LCD 1, Burlington, ON, L7R 3Y8.

AHOC, a young girl from Southern Sudan, has already experienced the harsh realities of life with the loss of both parents to AIDS. Now, Ahoc lives with her aunt, who has neither time nor tenderness for her. Ahoc's Children's Bible Class means everything to her. There, Ahoc confidently tells younger children of God's love and promises, and her deep desire to serve Him. Her Bible teacher is loving and gentle, reminding Ahoc exactly of who she has pictured Jesus to be. Please pray for this young sister in Christ! For more information on how you can provide Bibles, training and resources for Children's Bible Classes, please contact The Bible League of Canada at www.bibleleague.ca or call 1-800-363-9673.

PRAYERS AND FUNDS NEEDED FOR HAITI - CRWRC disaster response staff and volunteers are in Haiti this week, distributing food, water, and shelter to earthquake survivors and preparing for a long-term effort that will include rebuilding homes. Thank you for the gifts already received to make this possible. Please continue to support CRWRC in Haiti with your prayers and gifts. Note that gifts received before February 12 are eligible for a 1:1 match from the Canadian government. For more information, visit www.crwrc.org or call 1-800-730-3490

WWW.CRCNA.ORG/HAITI - This CRC "Help Haiti" page has the latest news, donation links, and background about our 30+ years of ministry as a denomination in Haiti. You can also follow developments at www.facebook.com/crcna or www.twitter.com/crcna.

FROM PASTOR HERMAN'S DESK: I was thoroughly stunned the day after Haiti was stricken with a devastating earthquake when Pat Robertson (a Christian minister!) stated that it was simply God's judgment on that land because of an agreement they had made with the devil to obtain their independence from France so many years ago! Would Jesus say something like that in Haiti's hour of need? Even if he had some empirical evidence to make that assertion, compassion would dictate that this was certainly not the time to say so!

Even so, news reports on several web pages also stated that there are a number of others who think Haiti had in some way "had it coming." It's said that Haiti has been politically, economically and socially corrupt for decades and they have also been environmentally destructive. So then why should we help them? And according to a poll by the Red Deer Advocate shortly after the earthquake struck, only 24% of our community's residents planned to donate something to help the humanitarian efforts while 75% said they would give nothing!

It's been heart-warming and encouraging, however, to learn that by last Monday evening, Canadians had donated more than \$50,000,000 to support the provision of aid to that stricken nation. Praise the Lord for that! In fact, it's been comforting to learn that so many nations were giving like they've never given before. Even the small nation of the Netherlands has given close to \$2,000,000 as of last week-end. And the gifts of cash are still coming in a steady flow. I think that makes the angels sing.

But I believe the angels are also weeping, as we all must. How can it be otherwise when we hear and see the reports of the lives lost and the devastation, the turmoil, the heart-rending sights of adults and children with wounds all over their bodies, many of them losing an arm, a leg or both, and to see a countless number of bodies lying on the streets and later on seeing dump trucks deposit them in a mass grave outside the city of Port au Prince? Is there anyone that did not weep?

We have an offering for CRWRC's efforts to provide aid to Haiti this morning. Please give generously! Then perhaps the angels will sing again!

- - Pastor Herman

Today's Laugh

"Healthful Place"

Mr. Petersen, a tourist, arrived in Hawaii. In an airport taxi cab, Petersen asked the driver, "Say, is this really a healthful place?"

"It sure is," the cabby replied. "When I came here I couldn't say one word. I had hardly any hair on my head. I didn't have the strength to walk across a room, and I had to be lifted out of bed."

"That's wonderful!" said the tourist. "How long have you been here?"

"I was born here."

This week at First Church...

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|---------------|--------|----------------------|
| Today | 6.00p | Foundations II |
| Mon | 6.30p | GEMS/Cadet's |
| | 7.00p | Friendship |
| Tues | 9.30a | Coffee Break |
| | 7.30p | Evening Coffee Break |
| | 7.30p | Council |
| Wed | 12.00p | KEYS |
| Sat | 8.00a | Men's Breakfast |
| | 9.15p | Hockey - Kinex |
| Sunday | 10.00a | Morning Worship |
| | 3.30p | Afrikaans Worship |
| | 6.00p | Foundations II |

Library Hours: Tuesday: 9.30a – 11.30a
Sunday's – after am worship services

Check the church web site: www.firstcreddeer.org for current information.

Stewardship notes....

Today's Tithes and Offerings:

First Church Ministry Budget
CRWRC – Haiti Relief

Future Offerings:
Jan 31 – Central AB Pregnancy Care Centre
Feb 7 – Benevolent Fund

Birthday Greetings!

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| Jan | 24 | Annette Scheper Lyle Windhorst |
| | 25 | Gord Klootwyk Emma Kooiman Janny van der Meulen Lies Visser |
| | 27 | Rob Stryker |
| | 28 | Sharyn Lodewyk |
| | 29 | Heather Bakker |

Serving next week....

Greeter: Tyler Westera

Helping Hands: Mike Sandstra

Coffee: Roger/Carolyn Neufeld

Nursery: Rolanda Huizenga, Tyler/Jobena Westera