

Welcome to the Worship of God

Sunday, February 14, 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 Songs – “Mighty is Our God”
“You Are Crowned”
“We Will Glorify”

Welcome/Announcements

*Call to Worship

*God’s Greeting

*Hymn of Praise – PsH 249

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”

*A Time of Friendship

Service of Reconciliation

Call to Confession

Song – “Refiner’s Fire”

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

We Love God’s Way

Song – PsH 264 “Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”

Prayer for Guidance

Scripture Reading – Matthew 13: 1-23

Message – **Where Love Grows**

*Hymn of Response – “A Sower’s Seed Fell on a Path”

Pastoral/Offertory Prayer

Our Tithes & Offerings

Denomination Ministry Shares (one collection)

*Blessing

*Doxology – PsH 501 vs. 1, 2, 7

“Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

Serving Today...

Greeter: James Arends

Helping Hands: Floyd Groeneveld

Nursery: Rob/Barb Hessel, Jenna VanderVeen

FIRST CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

...**Nicolette van Loo** underwent triple bypass surgery on Wednesday; doctors and the family were very pleased with the results.

...**Henk Krikke** has been at the Ponoka hospital for some weeks now – he very much appreciates our prayers and would love to have a visit.

...**Sharon Lindhout** hopes to come home from hospital sometime this weekend. We are thankful for the improvement she has shown.

...**Fenny Mlynarski** continues to receive treatment at the Red Deer hospital.

...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.**

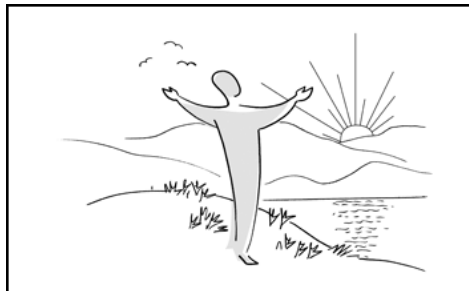


Illustration by Swiss storyteller and artist Annie Vallotton

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: Carla/Ryan Kranenberg

PROFESSION OF FAITH If there is anyone thinking about or desiring to publicly profess their faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour, please contact either Pastor Gary of Cathy Tilstra so that a convenient time may be set up to prepare for this significant event.

GIVING RECEIPTS are now in your mail slot.

FIDDLE JAMBOREE Tickets are going fast for this first time event at First CRC. To reserve your spot, talk to one of our friendly youth at the welcome centre after the service. This promises to be an evening of fine fiddling, fantastic feasting, and fancy footwork. All monies raised will go towards the youth YC trip and the Haiti relief efforts.

ADDRESS UPDATES

Egon/Louise Gregersen
#406 10 Inglewood Drive
T4R 0L2

Annie Vandermost
#25 10 Inglewood Drive
T4R 0L2

Youth Happenings....

-Acts of Light drama team meets Wednesday, 6.45 – 8.00p. Anyone grade 7 and up is welcome!

-YC Deposits are due! Please get your \$100 deposit to Cathy Nicolay. Don't forget our fund raising dinner on Feb 27. We need everyone there!

-Jr High Ski Retreat is booked for March 19-21. You should find registration forms in your mail slot or look on the YBB. All youth grades 7-9 are invited.

-30 Hour Famine will happen April 16-17. Watch the bulletin board for more details.

-Niagara Falls! We still have spots open on the 2010 SERVE Team. Today is the last day you can sign up. Anyone grade 9 up to age 20 is welcome. Talk to Cathy if you are interested.

-Youth Leadership Team meeting is cancelled.

-Happy the Dog ministries will be here the week of March 15-19 leading a spiritual emphasis week at Gateway school. To take advantage of their being here, we are planning several evening events here at First Church. Mark that week on your calendar and plan to take advantage of their knowledge and experience

by joining in on those opportunities. More details to follow.

-My Devotions spring issue is in. Check the info racks in the east and west foyers.

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 Trinity Christian Fellowship.

KOINONIA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL presents "The Secret Garden" on February 18, 19,20,25,26, & 27. Tickets are \$12 and can be purchased through the school office at 403.346.1818. Our very own Yvonne Prins is involved and would love to give you more info!

PARKLAND REFORMED CHURCH is pleased to invite you to a conference titled The Value of Friendships on March 5-6 2010. Rev. Alan Strange from M.A.R.S. will be speaking. Topics will include Seeking friendships, Building Friendships, Blessings of Friendships, Christian Relationships, and Sustaining Relationships. There is no cost and breakfast and lunch on Saturday will be provided at the church. Please contact Janice Rypstra at 403.885.5638 or brijanryp@telus.net for questions or to register.

AN INVITATION The Promotion Committee of Central Alberta High School is inviting Seniors/Grandparents and Moms/Dads with babies born in 2009 to a luncheon at the school on Tuesday, March 16 at 11.30am. Come for a delicious lunch and visit students in the classrooms. Please RSVP by March 12 to 403.782.4535.

WORLD MISSIONS Interested in serving cross-culturally? If you're a college student or a young adult interested in serving God cross-culturally this summer, visit www.crwmm.org/smp to learn about Christian Reformed World Missions' volunteer opportunities. Options include jail ministry in Guatemala, worship workshops in the Ukraine, teaching opportunities in Nigeria, and more.

CROSSROAD BIBLE INSTITUTE CANADA (CBI) is a division of The Bible League of Canada. During his sentencing, one high-stakes drug dealer thanked police for arresting him. He told the judge he is a changed man after learning to read, and studying the Bible while in jail. "Without the police...I wouldn't have educated myself, changed my ways of thinking, or found God." Please pray for the CBI ministry that helps prisoners learn about the Bible, and the saving grace

ICS 2010 WORLDVIEW LECTURES "What's So Critical About Faith? – Exploring a Critical Feature of Human Life." At a time when "God is Dead" is such a common view in our society, Christians are more dependant on our faith than ever. Dr. Ron Kuipers will present an understanding of faith as a form of critical intelligence, something that we desperately need today. Faith understood in this way is a source of wisdom and hope; faith that enables us to understand and respond to the problems of this dynamic and confounding world. The lecture will take place on March 15, 7.00 – 9.30pm at Emmanuel CRC, 3020 51 St SW in Calgary. Refreshments provided. For further information, call Kathy @ 1.888.326.5347 ext 221.

KICK OFF RALLY 40 Days for Life Thursday February 18, 2010 7:00 p.m. Red Deer Lodge. BRING THE WHOLE Family! Come and find out more details about 40 Days for Life. Sign up for the peaceful vigil. Take this opportunity to meet other participants. From February 17 – March 28, people of faith are praying that, with God's help, our effort will help bring an end to the tragedy of abortion. The 40 Days for Life campaign is made up of three key components: 1) Prayer and Fasting, 2) Peaceful Vigil: standing for life through a 40-day peaceful public witness in front of the Court House – 4909 – 48th Ave., Red Deer, AB.; 3) Outreach. For more info contact Gusty 403-506-5938 or email to CSTN@platinum.ca or by visiting: www.40daysforlife.com/reddeer
See you there!

FROM PASTOR HERMAN'S DESK (Continued from last Sunday): Our Administration Team keeps an eye on our building and finances, etc., and reported that they are looking to replace the library windows soon; they are also hoping to find someone(s) to volunteer to paint the heating ducts in the auditorium; some repairs needed to be made to the kitchen water heater; the old boiler has been removed from our premises (as you may have noticed); the auditorium pews will be re-varnished in the near future; the roof of the Noah's Ark section of our church will need to be replaced soon and quotes are currently being solicited.

The Congregational Life Team consists of all the elders who keep an eye on the pastoral care ministries as being carried out by our "PACE Ministry" and making visits themselves when that is deemed needful. This team is planning a "Helping People Who Hurt" seminar this fall (which was mentioned in last Sunday's comments).

The Worship and Arts Team supervises our worship services and is looking for new members.

Want to volunteer? Wonderful! Give Cor Pikkert a call. Plans are in the works for the season of Lent which begins with the first Sunday of Lent on Feb. 21. A survey of our worship services was made some time ago soliciting comments and evaluations from members of this congregation. The results are still being studied and both the council and the congregation will be apprised of the results when they are complete. The Chancel Choir is on hold for now due to our Music Director's treatments for cancer. We hope and pray that the treatments he has received (and may possibly still need) will bring about the healing we yearn for.

The Church Council seeks to spend some time at each meeting to review one of the ministries of our church in terms of where it's at, where it can be improved and what we hope will be accomplished by it. The January meeting focused on our worship services. Although it was suggested that more liturgical use could be made of the Apostles Creed and the Ten Commandments, the consensus of the council was that we have a pretty good balance between the traditional and contemporary styles of worship. It was also stated that visiting pastors have often remarked about how energetic and lively our singing is! Praise the Lord for that! - - Pastor Herman

Today's Laugh or Thought...

"Ask Jeeves"

My 50-something friend Nancy and I decided to introduce her mother to the magic of the internet. Our first move was to access the popular "Ask Jeeves" site, and we told her it could answer any question she had. Nancy's mother was very sceptical until Nancy said, "Its true, Mom. Think of something to ask it." As I sat with fingers poised over the keyboard, Nancy's mother thought a minute, and then responded, "How is Aunt Helen feeling?"

Birthday Greetings!

Feb	15	Warren Elgersma Brad Meyer
	18	Jenny Scheper Margaret Schoonderwoerd
	19	Jim Oostenbrug Anita Blanke
	20	Martin de Bruyne Anthony Prins Anne Weenink

Stewardship notes....

Today's Tithes and Offerings:

Ministry Shares – one collection

Future Offerings:

Feb 21 – Building Fund

Feb 28 – CRWRC – Witteveen's

Our giving- Jan 31/ Feb 7

Budget	\$12,488.00
Benevolent Fund	\$ 718.00
Pregnancy Care	\$ 819.00
Haiti	\$ 910.00

This week at First Church...

Tues	9.30a	Coffee Break
	5.30p	Step Up
	7.30p	Evening Coffee Break
Wed	6.45p	Drama rehearsal
Fri	9.30p	Hockey – Dawe Cadet Sleepover
Sat	8.00a	Men's Life
Sunday	10.00a	Morning Worship
	6.00p	Evening Gathering
	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.

Serving next week...

Greeter: Pat Brouwer

Helping Hands: Alfred Prins

Coffee: Allan/Anita Andersen

Nursery: Chris/Corina Harden, Barb Thompson