

Welcome to the Worship of God

Sunday, February 21, 2010 – *Lent 1*

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 – “Come Into His Presence”

Welcome/Announcements

Call to Worship

*God’s Greeting

*Hymns of Praise – PsH 250 “I’ve Come to Tell”

PsH 242 “Come, All You People,

Praise Our God”

PsH 232 “You Are Worthy”

*A Time of Friendship (Children dismissed)

Service of Reconciliation

Call to Confession

Song – “Your Mercy Flows”

Declaration of Forgiveness

Song – PsH 371 “Christ, the Life of All the Living”

Prayer for Guidance

Scripture Reading – Matthew 13: 24-30; 36-43

Message – **No Time to Weed**

*Hymn of Response – PsH 543

“Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer”

Pastoral/Offertory Prayer

Our Tithes and Offerings

First Church Ministry Budget

Building Fund

*Blessing

*Doxology – PsH 500 vss. 1, 2, 5

“How Firm a Foundation”

Serving Today...

Greeter: Pat Brouwer

Helping Hands: Alfred Prins

Nursery: Chris/Corina Harden, Barb Thompson

FIRST CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

...**Nicolette van Loo** was transferred to Red Deer hospital this past week continuing her recuperation from triple by-pass surgery. She is very thankful for the prayerful support she has received and grateful to God for the gift of healing.

...**Fenny Mlynarski** came home from the hospital on Thursday.

...continue to pray for **Sharon Lindhout** who is still a patient in 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.**



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: Allan & Anita Andersen

SCRIPTURE, PRAYER, MEDITATION – Please be reminded that this evening at 6:00 p.m. we have the Scripture, Prayer and Meditation journey. The goal is for the spiritual disciplines of scripture reading and prayer to be deepened so that we may have a closer walk with our Lord. This journey will be led by Pastor Jack.

PASTOR'S VACATION – Jo-Ann and I are leaving for a week's Mexican vacation tomorrow. This will be a totally new experience for us that we are looking forward to especially because we will be meeting up with some friends from Ontario. We plan to be back again on March 1. If you have any pastoral needs arise during this week, please contact Pastor Salomons. Next Sunday's worship service will be conducted by Pastor Jack Hielema. GJB

WEDDING CHIMES! Matt Andersen and Stephanie Salomons are planning to be married in our church on Saturday, March 6 at 2:00 p.m. May the Lord bless this special day and grant them many days and years of wedded joy.

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.

TELLING THE GOOD NEWS: It must be talked in all languages. On February 27 from 2.00p – 4.00p at the Public Library, Pastor Jack will help whoever is interested, children, grand children, to tell the Good News in Dutch. Please join us and enlarge your vision. More info on the bulletin board.

Youth Happenings....

-Foundations II meets tonight at 6 p.

-Acts of Light drama team meets Wednesday, 6.45 – 8.00p. Anyone grade 7 and up is welcome! We will **not** meet on Wednesday, March 2.

-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.

-Happy the Dog ministries will be here in Red Deer for the week of March 15-19 leading a spiritual emphasis week at Gateway Christian School. To take advantage of their presence here, we are planning several evening events here at First CRC. Please mark off your calendars and plan to take advantage of their knowledge and experience by joining in on those opportunities. More details to follow!

-Job Posting The Education Team of First CRC is seeking a **Summer Ministries Student**. Applicant must be a committed Christian, and must have completed at least one year of post-secondary education. We are seeking a mature, team player who can demonstrate self-motivation, responsibility and bring leadership to our ministries. The position will be given to someone with a love and joy for children and youth, as well as the capability of coordinating a diverse group of youth and young adult volunteers. Skills in volunteer recruitment will be an asset. Organizational and communication skills are a must. The successful candidate will provide leadership and coordination of our summer ministries, including but not limited to two week-long camps and Summer Sunday School. Also, you will be required to assist and aide in Vacation Bible School. This full time position (approx. 40 hours/week) will run from May 17 – August 27, 2010. Please apply by sending your email and references before April 15, 2010 to summerministriesjob@hotmail.com. Please include a pastoral reference.

-Loaves and Fishes/People's Place intergenerational service opportunity is scheduled for Friday, March 26, 2010. We would need a total of 10 volunteers (age 14 & up) to assist with the dinner service from 4:30 p to approx 7:00 p. All volunteers are provided with supper. This provides you with the opportunity to sit and visit with the people from the community who use this vital service. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Arlene Oosterhoff.

-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 Unity Baptist Church.

JUST A REMINDER that the Red Deer Christian Burial Society membership dues are due on February 28. Should anyone have questions regarding this Society or wish to join, please contact Nick or Ann Korver @ 403-347-5614.

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 (PONOKA) 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. The conference begins at 7:00 pm sharp on Friday, March 5. Saturday starts with breakfast at 8:30 am with the first session starting at 9:50. Lunch will be provided at noon and the final session goes from 1:15 – 2:30. Topics will include Seeking Friendships, Building Friendships, Blessings of Friendships, Christian Relationships, and Sustaining Relationships. There is no cost, and complementary meals will be provided on Saturday at the church. Billeting can also be arranged. All ages are invited! Please contact Janice Rypstra at 403-885-5638 or brijanryp@telus.net for any 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.

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.

PERSPECTIVE The Institute of Christian Studies is now posting their publication on line. You can access the current issue and past issues through the link on our web site: firstcreddeer.org on the Missions page.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE – Until 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!

DZEVAT'S CHILDHOOD in Macedonia was one of loneliness, poverty and rejection. His parents divorced soon after his birth, and his extended family was not interested in helping out. Despite this dreadful start in life, Dzevat did not lose hope. "I can see now that it was God who was encouraging me to live on." One day while scavenging, Dzevat found an old New Testament, and began to read – his first encounter with God. "I could not understand everything I read, and longed to fellowship with other Christians." He was led to a church, where he began to know God in a deeper way, and received a brand new Bible! Praise God for new hope! The Bible League of Canada, www.bibleleague.ca

FROM PASTOR HERMAN'S DESK: Richard Bewes of England wrote a delightful little book entitled "Talking About Prayer." He claims that the prayer-style of most Christians today has been moulded by the ritual prayers of our churches which means that we pray because it's the time to pray rather than because we sense a need or a desire to pray. In our church services, we have our prayers of confession, prayers for illumination and pastoral prayers, we open and close our meetings with prayers and in our homes we pray before and after meals as a matter of course, whether we feel like it or not.

My father was good at that. He prayed before and after every meal but they were more like "congregational prayers" than prayers for the Lord's blessing on our meal. He prayed for the sick in our congregation asking the Lord to "provide them with whatever they stand in need of." He prayed for our country and its leaders, for educators and healthcare workers, for farmers and business leaders and for almost everything one could think of. Often such prayers were much the same as the one said the day before!

Richard Bewes states that such prayers reflect a view of God as One who is "way up there" -- highly exalted and almost unreachable because of his absolute holiness and sovereign loftiness. And then he goes on to point out that we need to learn to talk with God in the same way we talk with a friend. Prayer should be conversational. We talk and listen. We ask

questions and wait for the answers. In the same way, our prayers should be reciprocal and less formal. "Good morning, Lord, how are you doing today?" And then you listen for an answer. "I'm doing quite well, Lord, but I do have a struggle with (--fill in the blank--), and I'm wondering how I should respond. Can you tell me what to do?" And then you listen again for the Spirit's nudging you toward an answer. Such praying is more meaningful than our formal prayers and much more enjoyable. You might even hear the Lord chuckle about your concerns and you might even hear the angels sing! Think about that!

- - Pastor Herman

Laugh or Thought... 'Finally'

As a professor at the Air Force Institute of Technology, I taught a series of popular courses on software engineering. The program was highly competitive and difficult to get into, but one student made our decision whether to accept him quite simple. When asked to fax over his college transcript, the student told me, "Well, I would, but it's the only copy I have."

This week at First Church...

Today	6.00p	Foundations II Evening Gathering
Mon	6.30p 7.00p	GEMS/Cadet's Friendship
Tues	9.30a 7.30p 7.30p	Coffee Break Evening Coffee Break Council Meeting
Wed	6.45p	Drama rehearsal
Fri	10.15p	Hockey – Kinex
Sat	8.00a	Men's Life Fiddle Jamboree
Sunday	10.00a 3.30p 6.00p	Morning Worship Afrikaans Worship Foundations II

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

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

Birthday Greetings!

Feb	21	Jackie Westera
	22	Jim Seinen
	23	Karen Drok Don Wielinga
	24	Jack Quartel
	25	Nell Drost
	27	Gerrit de Wit Erwin Meilink

Stewardship notes....

Today's Tithes and Offerings:

First Church Ministry Budget
Building Fund

Future Offerings:

Feb 28 – CRWRC – Witteveen's
Mar 7 – Food Grains Bank

Serving next week....

Greeter: Anja Borgman

Helping Hands: Nick Korver

Coffee: Alfred/Alice Prins

Nursery: Jane Sanguin, Gian/Trudy Urbani