

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH  
OF SOUTH HOLLAND  
FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS, DECEMBER 26, 2021



Welcome...

The 12 Days of Christmas run from when we gather late on Christmas Eve all the way through January 6. This is a season of joy, wonder, and light; feasting, celebrating, and relishing the gift of Christ to the world. The Christmas story is about Jesus coming to unexpected places and gathering unexpected people to come and worship - dirty shepherds, foreign stargazers, a teenage mother, and the people you find in the pews around you. Whether this is your first Christmas season here at First Church or your eighty-first, we are so happy you have come to join us. We are celebrating that God is with us and we are glad you're here to share that good news, too.

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS  
December 26, 2021

**WE APPROACH GOD**

Organ Prelude	Steve DeVries
Welcome & Greeting One Another	Pastor Jim Oord
*Congregational Worship	<i>"Joy to the World"</i> <i>"Angels We Have Heard on High"</i> <i>"Go, Tell It on the Mountain!"</i>
Prayer of Confession	Pastor Jim Oord
Song of Assurance	<i>"It Came Upon A Midnight Clear"</i>

**THE WORD OF GOD**

Scripture	Matthew 2:1-16
Sermon	"Just Follow the Signs"

**WE RESPOND TO GOD**

Congregational Prayer	Pastor Jim Oord
Offertory	Steve DeVries
*Doxology	<i>"What Child Is This?"</i>
*Benediction	Pastor Wybren Oord
*Sending in Grace	<i>"O Little Town of Bethlehem"</i>
*Organ Postlude	Steve DeVries

\*Those who are able please stand.

Please join us downstairs in the Fellowship Hall after worship for fellowship and refreshments.

## **CARE...**

**Doris Boomsma** is in Community Hospital in Munster with congestive heart failure and on a-defibrillator.

**Betty Paarlberg** spent time in Community Stroke & Rehabilitation Center in Crown Point after breaking a vertebra and developing water on the heart.

**Abby Veldboom** is home recovering from knee surgery she had December 15 to rebuild her ACL and repair a torn meniscus.

**Craig Nelson** had an angiogram last week and then had a stent put in. He is scheduled to see doctor again in three weeks.

**Barry Voss** had his second cataract surgery Tuesday and is doing well.

**Lenora Anker** is in hospice care at Beecher Manor.

**Bev VanDommelen** will be undergoing a needed back surgery in February to address numbness and a compressed spine.

**Don Rietveld**, son of Betty Paarlberg, has been in Loyola Hospital for about a month. He was notified that a lung was ready, but it turned out it was not a good lung. He continues to wait for a match while being on oxygen.

**Lindsay Robertson**, brother-in-law to Larry and Phyllis De Young, has his different blood chemistry levels holding in the normal range. His chemo will continue, and he is tolerating it well. Pray this progress will continue.

Felicia Flowers' mother, **Lula Brown** was diagnosed with breast cancer. She is awaiting treatment plans.

**OUR EXTENDED FAMILY:** Ruth DeBoer, Village Woods Room 204, 2681 S. Rt. 394, Crete, IL 60417

### **ON DUTY TODAY:**

First Emergency: Trina Taylor

First Security: Keith Durkin

## **OUR GIFTS...**

### **Sunday, December 19**

Basket Total: \$9,526.00

Online Total: \$1,840.00

Gift & Memorial for Jean Schultz: \$25.00

Giving Total: \$11,481.00

(Needed Weekly: \$11,250)

## **REMINDERS...**

**VISIT THE WELCOME CENTER** in the narthex to sign cards for our shut-ins and hospitalized.

**KEEP THE PARKING AREA** that is lined in the front and on the north side of the church - which is closest to the elevator - available for those who have difficulty walking. Thank you!

**PLEASE CONTACT** the church office if you know of a friend or family member who has been admitted to the hospital.

## **SPECIAL PROJECTS FUNDING CAMPAIGN 2021...**



Let's reach our goal! It is a great time to be a part of our First Church Family. The deacons would like to encourage all members to continue your faithful support of the ministry of First Reformed Church through your tithes and your donations. Currently, we need to complete raising funds to pay for the renovation work that was done in the parsonage. We are making steady progress, but we still need to raise \$34,324.94 to add to the \$90,553.46 that has been raised thus far. For more information or with any questions please see Jim DeGroot, Elder VP, or Robert Wooley, Deacon Chairman. Thank you in advance for your generous support!

***UP & COMING AT FIRST...***

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26**

**USHER:** Mike Spitz

**GREETERS:** Raylene Oord and Alison VanderWoude

**WELCOME CENTER:** Don & Gerri VanBaren

**PROJECTION:** Felicia Flowers

**VIDEO:** Lucas VanderWoude

**SOUND:** Rhonda Hesselink

**ORGAN:** Steve DeVries

**PIANO:** Pastor Jim Oord

**NURSERY:** Darcy Daly and Aubrey Durkin

**COFFEE SERVERS:** Rodger & Sherry Norris and Clair & Lynn Hoeksema

**COOKIE LADIES:** Felicia Flowers, Amber Fransen, and Alison VanderWoude

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 27**

Day Care Closed All Week

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30 & FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31**

Church Office Closed

**COMMUNION SUNDAY, JANUARY 2 -TOLLING OF THE BELLS**

**USHER:** Lucas VanderWoude

**GREETERS:** Steve VanderWoude and Dennis Woltzen

**WELCOME CENTER:** Deb Woltzen and Liam VanderWoude

**PROJECTION:** Trina Taylor

**VIDEO:** Mike Decker

**SOUND:** Kevin Hesselink

**ORGAN:** Joanne Hoeksema

**PIANO:** Amy Veldboom

**NURSERY:** Darcy Daly

**COFFEE SERVERS:** Griff & Mary Decker and Mike & Cindy Nylen

**COOKIE LADIES:** Gwen Adams, Nancy DeVries, and Mary Decker

***SERMON NOTES...***

**Matthew 2:1-16**

**“Just Follow the Signs”**

**Rev. Wybren Oord**

## **CHURCH LIFE...**

**A HEARTFELT THANK YOU** to all the ladies on the First Church Cookie Committee, of which there is a total of 30 ladies! Each week, three ladies provide cookies for our fellowship time and graciously make/bake and bag cookies, so we are COVID protocol protected. Thank you, again, for your care and servants' hearts in this ministry.

**THANK YOU** for your prayers, cards, and calls during this difficult time. Also thank you for the beautiful flowers, cookies, and chocolate. I am so blessed to be at First Church. Thank you. - Arleta Hommes

**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY:** Sunday School will be taking a Christmas break today, December 26 and January 2. All classes will resume on Sunday, January 9.

**OUR ANNUAL TOLLING OF THE BELLS SERVICE** is next **Sunday, January 2.** We will be hearing the bell toll for the loved ones who have gone on to glory this past year and the young ones who have been baptized.

**FIRST WEDNESDAY FELLOWSHIP!** On **Wednesday, January 5,** we will be hosting a Taco Night in our Fellowship Hall from 6:00-7:00pm. Come join us for a fun post-holiday meal with your church family! Sign up online or at the Welcome Center in the Narthex or in the Fellowship Hall.

If your last name begins with **A-I,**  
bring a drink to share!

If your last name starts with **J-Z,**  
bring a dessert to share!

**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CELEBRATION** will be held on **Saturday, January 15** at the Spirit of God Fellowship at 10:00am. Everyone is invited to attend! This celebration honors the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with song and scripture.

**THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AT VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK** are now aglow! The spectacular light display will shine every night through January 3, 2022. Make sure to stop by and take a stroll!



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## **STAFF...**

**Rev. James Oord**  
*Senior Pastor*

**Pastor Corey Buchanan**  
*Associate Pastor*

**Dr. Anthony Bolkema**  
*Pastor of Worship & Ministry*

**Rev. Dr. Rich Grevengoed**  
*Pastor of Care & Visitation*

**Nyla DeGraff**  
*Church Administrator*

**Gerri VanBaren**  
*Administrative Assistant*

**Steve Alexander**  
*Church Custodian*

**Jane Ackerman**  
*Church Accountant*

**Darcy Daly**  
*Nursery Coordinator*

**Toni Smith**  
*Director of Family Life  
Christian Pre-School & Day Care*

**Visit us online at [www.frcsh.org](http://www.frcsh.org)**

To get to know you better, please fill out our **Welcome Card** in the pew and place it in the offering plate. If you want more information about the life of First Church, make sure to include your email address.

**SECRETARIES' OFFICE HOURS**  
**9:00AM – NOON / Monday – Friday**