

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH
OF SOUTH HOLLAND
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
November 28, 2021



Welcome...

Advent, which means "the coming," is a time when we wait expectantly for the celebration of Jesus' First Coming at Christmas. For Christians in the Northern Hemisphere, Advent comes at the coldest and darkest time of the year.

During Advent....

- ✚ *we light candles each Sunday to remind us that darkness doesn't last forever,*
- ✚ *we sing carols of hope and joy to remind us that our tears do not define us,*
- ✚ *we share the warmth of Christian fellowship to remind us that loneliness will not last, and*
- ✚ *we wait, we work, we pray, we anticipate, we gather, always knowing the good news that Jesus is coming to make things right and end all sorrow.*

Come wait with us. Our doors are open to all who need hope, light, and good news.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
November 28, 2021
WE APPROACH GOD

Organ Prelude	<i>"Comfort, Comfort Ye My People"</i> <i>"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"</i> <i>"Wake Awake for Night Is Flying"</i>
Processional Hymn	<i>"Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"</i>
Lighting of the Hope Candle	Erick and Michelle Carter
Closing	<i>"Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"</i>
Welcome & Greeting One Another	Pastor Richard Grevengoed
*Congregational Worship	<i>"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"</i> <i>"Glory (Let There Be Peace)"</i>
Prayer of Confession	Pastor Corey Buchanan
Song of Assurance	<i>"Your Name (Christmas)"</i>

THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture	Luke 2:1-12
Sermon	To Proclaim Good News: "Grace for the Humble"

WE RESPOND TO GOD

Congregational Prayer	Pastor Corey Buchanan
Offertory	<i>"Advent Hymn"</i>
*Doxology	<i>"What Child Is This"</i>
*Benediction	Pastor Jim Oord
*Sending in Grace	<i>"O Little Town of Bethlehem"</i>
*Organ Postlude	<i>"I Cannot Tell"</i>

*Those who are able please stand.

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

CARE...

Carol Snyder has been admitted to Christ Community Hospital and had gall bladder surgery this past Tuesday.

Craig Nelson recently found out he has an enlarged heart and is waiting for test results from an echocardiogram.

Lenora Anker is in hospice care at Beecher Manor.

Celeste DeBoer continues in Ingalls Hospital.

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

Margene Paarlberg is in rehab at Riverside Miller in Kankakee.

Don Rietveld, son of Betty Paarlberg, has been approved for a lung transplant. Pray that a donor will be found soon.

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.

Jean Schultz, Deb Woltzen's mother, continues in Franciscan Dyer due to heart complications, Room 4512.

Rob, a roommate of Michael Spitz, has a daughter, **Olivia Morin** from Elgin, who is 16 years old and is missing. Prayers are needed to help find Olivia and to comfort her family.

OUR EXTENDED FAMILY: Mary Thompson, 16418 S. Dobson Avenue, South Holland, IL 60473

OUR GIFTS...

Sunday, November 21, 2021

Basket Total: \$15,935.45

Online Total: \$1,940.00

Giving Total \$ 17,875.45

(Needed Weekly: \$11,250.00)

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES...

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONTINUES TODAY; all ages are welcome to join us as we spend time learning more about God and His Word. Sunday School runs from 11:00am – noon.

- All children from preschool to fifth grade will meet in the Genesis Room for a time of singing and celebration. They will be dismissed to their classrooms from there.
- 3 - 4-year-olds – Elisha Room (behind the Heritage Room)
- K – 2nd grade – Library
- 3rd – 5th grade – Genesis Room
- The 6th – 8th graders will meet in the Heritage Room. The high schoolers will meet in the Loft.
- Our adult class will meet in the chapel from 11:00am – 11:50am.
- Need help finding a class? Ask at the Welcome Center in the narthex or in the Fellowship Hall.

THE FIRST CHURCH LADIES' BIBLE STUDY will meet on **Tuesday, November 30**, (please note this is the 5th Tuesday) at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall. We will watch video 3, "The Holy Spirit's Voice," from our study of Priscilla Shirer's "Discerning the Voice of God: How to Recognize When God Speaks."

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, NOVEMBER 28

USHERS: Steve VanderWoude, Lucas VanderWoude, and Robert Wooley

GREETERS: Alison VanderWoude and Liam VanderWoude

WELCOME CENTER: Trina Taylor and Don VanBaren

MUSIC TEAM: Kim Bolkema, Daniel Days, Kyle Derks, Kevin Hesselink, Nate Krygsheld, and Abby Veldboom

PROJECTION: Felicia Flowers; **VIDEO:** Eric Pradelski; **SOUND:** Rhonda Hesselink

ORGAN: Joanne Hoeksema

PIANO: Amy Veldboom

NURSERY: Darcy Daly and Gerri VanBaren

COFFEE SERVERS: Trina Taylor, Gwen Adams, and Faye Gowens

COOKIE LADIES: Joanne Hoeksema, Norma Smit, and Deb Woltzen

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29

6:00PM: Bell Rehearsal in the Fellowship Hall

7:00PM: Music Team Rehearsal

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

10:00AM: Women's Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1

6:00PM: First Christmas Party/Pasta Dinner in the Fellowship Hall

COMMUNION SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

USHERS: Dennis Woltzen, Wybren Oord, and Don DeGraff

GREETERS: Andy DeBoer and Nyla DeGraff

WELCOME CENTER: Deb Woltzen and Kathy Oord

MUSIC TEAM: Kim Bolkema, Peter Keep, Austin Parks, and Bill & Nikki Nyhanna

PROJECTION: Gwen Adams; **VIDEO:** Lucas VanderWoude

SOUND: Kevin Hesselink

ORGAN: Bonnie Feenstra

PIANO: Joanne Hoeksema

NURSERY: Darcy Daly and Abby Veldboom

COFFEE SERVERS: Mike & Cindy Nysten and Russ & Heidi Paarlberg

COOKIE LADIES: Laurel DeGraff, Barb Grevengoed, and Nikki Nyhanna

CHURCH LIFE...

COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHT: Meet the First Responders. Every Sunday, a member of our church who is trained in emergency response is designated to help out if there is a medical need during our time together. The First Responders team is prepared to alert this volunteer when help is needed. Meanwhile, a team of deacons and other volunteers monitor our building entrances during the service. **NOTE:** The First Responders will lock all entrances except the front (east-facing) doors at 9:45am. The Family Life entrance (nursery door) will be locked as the service begins. If you show up after the service begins, the front doors will always be open.

THIS YEAR we are again partnering with Chicagoland Prison Outreach in the Angels of Hope Christmas project. The Angel Tree is in the Fellowship Hall now with tags on it for Christmas gifts for children of inmates. Take an angel from the tree and **PRINT** your name and phone# on the angel list on the table. Buy the gift listed on your angel and return it by **Wednesday, December 1**. On your gift attach the angel (use it for the name tag and you can put your name as giver if you like.) Wrap the gift as securely as possible as it is handled many times getting to its destination. Please spend a minimum of \$10.00 on your gift as this may be the only present your "angel" will receive. If you are uncomfortable or cannot make it in to get a tag from the tree, please call Noreen (708-752-6706) and she will let you know what is available to pick from. Also, some gifts requested are expensive (ex. coats) so feel free to go together with another family. Thank you.

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.

WORSHIP...

TODAY MARKS the beginning of Advent, the season where the church waits and prepares our hearts for the coming of Christ. Advent is followed by the season of Christmas, where we celebrate the fulfillment of God's promises in the coming of Jesus. There are so many exciting opportunities to observe this time of year:

OUR SUNDAY SERVICES will continue through the story of Jesus' coming in the gospel of Luke, chapter 2. We will light our Advent candles to mark the passage of the weeks toward Christmas and sing beautiful hymns and carols to celebrate.

Beginning on Wednesday, December 1,

we will hold **Wednesday Advent Services at 6:00pm every Wednesday.**

- ✚ Wednesday, December 1: First Christmas Party (a pasta potluck and party with +our church family. If you are willing to share your favorite pasta dish (and soon to be ours 😊), please sign-up at the welcome centers.
- ✚ Wednesday, December 8: Advent with the Ancient Church (a candlelit service with hymns and readings from the Church Mothers and Fathers).
- ✚ Wednesday, December 15: A Carol Sing! (sing hymns old and new celebrating the coming of Christ).
- ✚ Wednesday, December 22: Evening Prayer (a quiet and contemplative service as we prepare for the busyness of the holidays).
- ✚ Friday, December 24, join us for our **Christmas Eve Service** at 11:00pm. This service is always a highlight of the year, as we stay up and greet Christmas Day with carols, candlelight, bells, and worship.

OUR ANNUAL TOLLING OF THE BELLS SERVICE will be **Sunday, January 2.** We look forward to 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.



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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

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