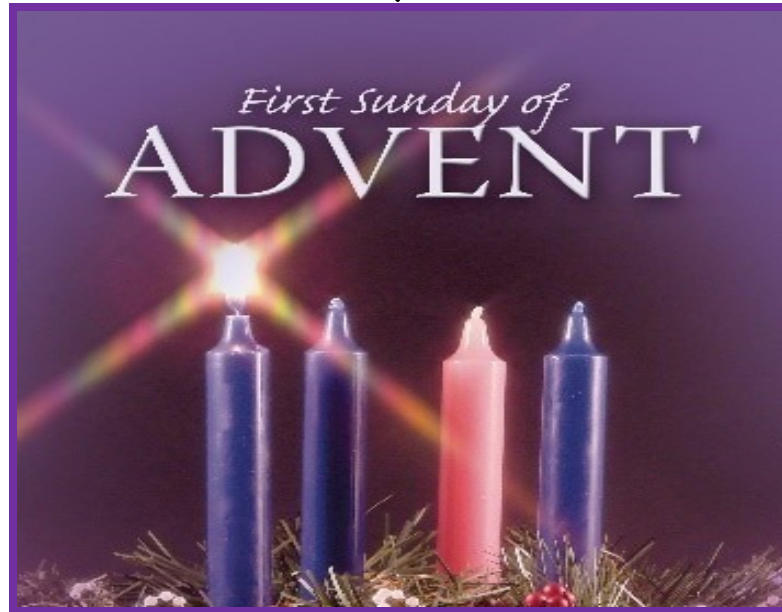


FIRST REFORMED CHURCH
OF SOUTH HOLLAND
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Communion Sunday -December 5, 2021



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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 5, 2021
WE APPROACH GOD

Organ Prelude

"How Great Our Joy"
"While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks"
"The First Noel"

Processional Hymn

"Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"

Lighting of the Love Candle

Closing

"Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"

Welcome & Greeting One Another

Pastor Corey Buchanan

*Congregational Worship

"Love Has Come"
"We Have A Savior"

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Corey Buchanan

Song of Assurance/Response/Preparation

"God With Us"

THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture

Luke 2:8-12

Sermon

To Proclaim Good News: "Fear Not!"

WE RESPOND TO GOD

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Congregational Prayer

Pastor Jim Oord

Offertory

"Gesù Bambino"

*Doxology

"What Child Is This?"

*Benediction

Pastor Jim Oord

*Sending in Grace

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

*Organ Postlude

"Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow"

*Those who are able please stand.

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

CARE...

Carol Snyder is recovering from gall bladder surgery she had November 23.

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.

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, has returned home to Deb's house.

Felecia Flowers' mother, **Lula Brown** was diagnosed with breast cancer.

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: Wayne & Joyce Deinema, 2440 186th St., Apt. 1-3, Lansing, IL 60438

OUR GIFTS...

Sunday, November 28th
offering will be posted on the bulletin next week!

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, December 14** in The Fellowship Hall. We will briefly discuss the homework from Session 5, "The Holy Spirit's Voice", p. 72-101 in your study guide, then have a time of fun and Christmas festivities. Hope you can attend.

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...

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 Nylen and Russ & Heidi Paarlberg

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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

9:30AM: Knitters & Quilters meet in the Fellowship Hall

6:00PM: Bell Rehearsal

7:00PM: Music Team Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8

6:00PM: Advent Service in the Chapel

7:00PM: Family Life Board Meeting in the Heritage Room

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

USHER: Robert Wooley

GREETERS: Jim DeGroot and Rodger Norris

WELCOME CENTER: Keith Durkin and Cindy Nylen

MUSIC TEAM: Joe Fransen, Nick Paarlberg, Matthew Rietveld, Abby Veldboom, & Robert Wooley

PROJECTION: Tiffany Buchanan; **VIDEO:** Rhonda DeBok

SOUND: Rhonda DeBok

ORGAN: Joanne Hoeksema; **PIANO:** Amy Veldboom

NURSERY: Darcy Daly and Mykah Lett

COFFEE SERVERS: Don & Nyla DeGraff and Don & Gerri VanBaren

COOKIE LADIES: Dorothy Jacobsma, Chandra Ondrejka, and Raylene Oord

CHURCH LIFE...

THANK YOU for your prayers and thoughtfulness during my recent hospitalization and surgery, I am home and doing well. – Carol Snyder

THANK YOU FROM CHICAGOLAND PRISON OUTREACH to all those who donated food and coats as a part of the Thanksgiving Eve services! Our food pantry shelves are looking full, and many people have already received a warm winter coat. Thank you for helping us share the love of God with those around us!

COMMUNION: With the advice of medical professionals and the latest data about how COVID spreads, the Elders have approved returning to a more traditional service of communion, with bread and grape juice being served separately. This will not increase our risk of COVID transmission and will better remind us of the family meal nature of the sacrament. Starting this Sunday, the bread we use for communion is baked by members of our congregation, another way of celebrating the connection we enjoy as a congregation as we serve one another with our gifts and talents. If you love baking artisan bread and want to join our eucharistic baking team, speak to Pastor Jim.

NEW ADDRESS: Ralph & Margene Paarlberg, Bickford Senior Living, Room 128, 100 Jones Drive, Bourbonnais, IL 60914

SOUTH HOLLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT TOY DRIVE: All toys must be new and unwrapped. Donations can include anything from baby toys to baseballs, Barbie dolls to bicycles. Donations of gift-wrapping paper and bows are welcomed. Also collecting children's gloves and mittens. These donations are for Restoration Ministries! Deadline: Thursday, December 9!

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!

ON DUTY TODAY:

First Emergency: Trina Taylor

First Security: Keith Durkin

WORSHIP...

TODAY is the 2nd week 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 participate in 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.

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS is Sunday, December 12 at 6:00pm. Join us in the Sanctuary for a celebration of Christmas music including Vocal Ensembles, Instrumental Pieces and a Children's Choir as we hear and sing the story of Christmas. Let's fill the Sanctuary as we celebrate this Advent Season.

Continuing this Wednesday, December 8,
we will hold Wednesday Advent Services at 6:00pm every Wednesday.

- 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 <i>Senior Pastor</i>	Gerri VanBaren <i>Administrative Assistant</i>
Pastor Corey Buchanan <i>Associate Pastor</i>	Steve Alexander <i>Church Custodian</i>
Dr. Anthony Bolkema <i>Pastor of Worship & Ministry</i>	Jane Ackerman <i>Church Accountant</i>
Rev. Dr. Rich Grevengoed <i>Pastor of Care & Visitation</i>	Darcy Daly <i>Nursery Coordinator</i>
Nyla DeGraff <i>Church Administrator</i>	Toni Smith <i>Director of Family Life Christian Pre-School & Day Care</i>

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