

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH of SOUTH HOLLAND

Third Sunday of Easter, April 23, 2023



Welcome...

Eastertide is the 50-day period beginning with Easter Sunday and ending with the celebration of Pentecost. How beautiful that the Church's celebration of New Life and Resurrection aligns with the season of Spring here in the Northern Hemisphere. As one hymn puts it, "See, the spring of souls today, Christ has burst death's prison!" Just as the dreary drab cold of winter bursts into green new life around us, we experience the life-giving power of the gospel as we meet Jesus here.

For 175 years, First Reformed Church has been a place celebrating the "spring of souls" that we find in Jesus. So, whether you've been worshipping here for 90+ years, whether this is your first time here, whether you're old or young, a lifelong Christian or someone seeking answers to life's questions, this is a place to meet Jesus, our risen Lord, and find new life, abundant life, changed life, meaningful life in him.

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER APRIL 23, 2023

WE APPROACH GOD

Organ Prelude

"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"
"My Only Comfort"
"Amazing Grace"

Welcome & Greeting

Pastor Jim Oord

Congregational Worship

"Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven"
"Beautiful Savior"
"Soul Will Sing"

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Anthony Bolkema

Song of Assurance

"Grace Greater Than Our Sin"

THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture

Heidelberg Catechism Q & A #45; II Corinthians 1

Sermon

"New Covenant Realities: Sharing in New Life"

WE RESPOND TO GOD

Congregational Prayer

Pastor Jim Oord

Offertory

"Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross"

*Doxology

*Benediction

Pastor Jim Oord

*Sending in Grace

"The Day of Resurrection"

Postlude

"His Grace Is Sufficient"

*Those who are able please stand.

Please join us downstairs in the Fellowship Hall after worship for a cup of conversation and a cookie.

CARE...

Bev Van Dommelen continues her recovery from a broken leg.

Carol Barnes broke her hip while in Florida and is in rehab at Buffalo Crossing Assisted Living, 3875 Watchwood Lane, Room 145 in The Villages, FL.

Alice Kats has been transitioned to hospice care in her home.

Norma Knopf has finished radiation treatments and is continuing to recover from the side effects of the treatments. She will be undergoing further tests and hormonal therapy.

Kathy Oord is recovering from surgery at home. She will now need four-to-six weeks of radiation treatments.

Rachel Wooley's tumor in the colon is gone. The tumors in the liver are now being treated with immunotherapy and chemotherapy.

Pray for **Marsha Pilipow** as she tends to the health of her aging mother, Patricia, whose medical condition has gotten worse.

Lula Brown, Felicia Flowers' mother, is recovering from breast cancer surgery.

OUR EXTENDED FAMILY: Viola VanDam, Providence Downers Grove, Room 63A, 3450 Saratoga Ave., Downers Grove, IL 60515

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES...

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONTINUES for all ages from 11:10am-noon. All are welcome to join us as we spend time learning more about God and His Word.

- All children from preschool to- 5th grade will meet in the Genesis Room for a time of singing and celebration. They will be dismissed to their classrooms from there.
- 6th - 8th grade meets in the Chapel
- Tibstra House meets in the Heritage Room
- Last day of Sunday School – April 30 •

OUR GIFTS...

Easter Sunday, April 16

Basket Total: \$18,774.12; Online Total: \$2,180.00
Giving Total: \$20,954.12; (Needed Weekly: \$11,500.00)

UP & COMING AT FIRST...

SUNDAY, APRIL 23

GREETERS: Cindy Nysten and Rodger Norris; **WELCOME CENTER:** Raylene Oord
WORSHIP TEAM: Joe Fransen, Bill Nyhanna, Nick Paarlberg, Lisa Triemstra, and Robert Wooley
PROJECTION: Lucas Bolkema
VIDEO: Mike Decker
SOUND: Aaron Wooley
ORGAN: Joanne Hoeksema; **PIANO:** Anthony Bolkema
NURSERY: Darcy Daly and Mary Decker
COFFEE SERVERS: Don & Noreen VanDeursen and Russ & Heidi Paarlberg
COOKIE VOLUNTEERS: Felicia Flowers, Dorothy Jacobsma, and Chandra Ondrejka

MONDAY, APRIL 24

7:00PM: Care Elders & Deacons meet followed by their separate meetings
7:00PM: Music Team Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

THURSDAY, APRIL 27

4:00 – 6:00PM: Clothing Closet open in the Activity Center

SUNDAY, APRIL 30

GREETERS: Dennis Woltzen and Don DeGraff
WELCOME CENTER: Nyla DeGraff
WORSHIP TEAM: Nolan Bolkema, Kim Bolkema, Gail Housman, Nate Housman, and Abby Veldboom
PROJECTION: Gwen Adams
VIDEO: Eric Pradelski
SOUND: Rhonda Hesselink
ORGAN: Joanne Hoeksema
PIANO: Pastor Jim Oord
NURSERY: Darcy Daly and Kim Bolkema
COFFEE SERVERS: Pastor Rich & Barb Grevengoed and Clair & Lynn Hoeksema
COOKIE VOLUNTEERS: Diana Abernathy, Trina Taylor, and Merley Verhagen

CHURCH LIFE...

THE FOLLOWING PERSONS have been placed in nomination for the office of Elder, Deacon and Trustees:

ELDER NOMINEES: Don DeGraff, Russ Paarlberg, and Clint Verhagen

DEACON NOMINEES: Sara Jabaay and Noreen VanDeursen

TRUSTEE NOMINEES: Mark Spiekhout and Don VanDeursen

(Our Consistory is working toward the goal of a team of 9 elders and 9 deacons.)

LEAN IN 2023: Our annual congregational meeting will be held on **Tuesday, May 9**, beginning at 6:00pm. This year's meeting will include a fellowship meal as we meet (this will be in lieu of our First Wednesday Fellowship Meal)! Our theme will be "Lean In 2023." Important information and ideas will be shared as we celebrate our 175th anniversary and look forward to an exciting future for our ministry. We will also approve a church budget and elect elders, deacons, and trustees (eligible communicant voters must be at least 18 years of age). Stay tuned for more details! Sign up at the Welcome Centers if you plan to attend this important meeting.

PROCEDURE FOR ABSENTEE BALLOTS: Absentee Ballots (also available in the church office) should be placed in a sealed envelope with the eligible voting church member's signature and the date on the outside and delivered to the church office prior to the meeting of May 9. Please note that voting will be by slate (collectively) for each office. Therefore, there may be one vote of "yes" or "no" for Elders, the same for Deacons and Trustees.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU: When you go downstairs for coffee, take a look at the screens in the Fellowship Hall. We're starting a series of "Getting to Know You" slides where our church family can meet various members and learn interesting tidbits about each other. We'll be starting with members of our staff but stay tuned... maybe you'll be interviewed next!

SUMMER BOOK CLUB: Over the summer, we will be reviving our Book Club for the months of June, July, and August. Books will be distributed at the beginning of the month; we will meet to discuss what we've read on the last Sunday of each month, following our church service. Sign up at the Welcome Center if you'd like to join us!

COOKIE DUTY MEMBERS: Please look in your mailbox for the next 4 months schedule for your cookie duty. Thank you.

CLOTHING CLOSET DRIVE: From now until Mother's Day (Sunday, May 17), we will be collecting items for our Free Clothing Closet. We are working on creating menstrual hygiene packs which will need the following items: tampons of various strengths, pads, small packs of wipes, individual-sized hand sanitizers, and small bottles of pain relievers. In addition, we are *always* looking to stock up on deodorant, toothbrushes, new socks (in packaging), and new underwear (in packaging). Please consider donating one or more of these items! Donations can be placed on the table in the Fellowship Hall.

AREA REMINDERS...

MAYOR'S PRAYER BREAKFAST: Join us on **Thursday, May 4**, at 7:30am at Spirit of God Fellowship, 16350 State Street. In observance of the National Day of Prayer, the South Holland Ministerial Association is hosting the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast. Join Mayor De Graff and South Holland pastors as they pray for our Village, State, and Nation. Rev. Roy Patterson from Moody Bible Institute is the keynote speaker. Admission is \$5 at the door.

THE 29TH CHICAGOLAND PRISON OUTREACH BANQUET will be held on **Tuesday, May 16**. It will be held at the Serbian Social Center in Lansing. Reception starts at 6:30pm and dinner will be served at 7:00pm. Please RSVP by Monday, May 1, to office@cpoministries.org or to Noreen at the CPO office 708-331-3301.

SAVE THE DATE: **Saturday, September 23**, is the Elim Dutch Festival. Please think of ways in which you can be part of this wonderful ministry serving children and adults with disabilities. We will need volunteers that day, baked or candy goodies, craft items, or any type of donation is appreciated. If you have any questions please call Judy Gill or Lynn Hoeksema.

ON DUTY FOR APRIL...

First Emergency: Tiffany Buchanan

First Security: Richard Thornton

SERMON NOTES...

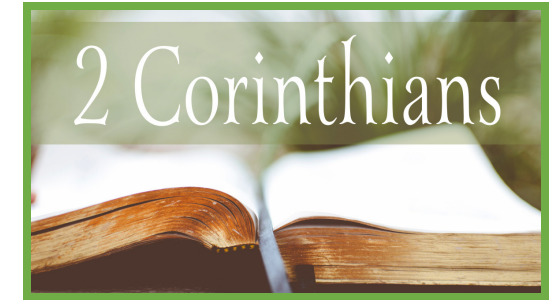
Heidelberg Catechism: Q & A #45

II Corinthians 1

“New Covenant Realities: Sharing in New Life”

Pastor Jim Oord

PRAYER ROOM: Need a word of encouragement or someone to pray with? Come to the prayer room after church until 11am. It is located outside the double doors west of the Chapel. A team of dedicated volunteers would welcome the opportunity to pray with you this morning.



15924 South Park Avenue • South Holland, IL 60473

Office: 708.333.0622 • Prayer Line: 708.333.8150

E-mail: office@frcsh.org • Online at www.frcsh.org

STAFF...

Rev. James Oord
Senior Pastor

Pastor Corey Buchanan
Associate Pastor

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