

**FIRST REFORMED CHURCH**  
of SOUTH HOLLAND  
Sunday, March 16, 2025  
**Welcome to First Reformed Church!**



The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday (March 5) and ends with the victory of Easter (April 20).

Lent is a season of disruption.

It disrupts our arrogance and invites us into humility.

It disrupts our comfort and invites us into repentance.

It disrupts our stagnancy and invites us into new growth.

As we journey with Jesus through the stories of His suffering and death, we are invited to take up our own crosses and follow Him. During Lent, we surrender our pretense and draw close to Christ, acknowledging just how much we need Him as our Savior and Friend.

We're glad you're joining us at First Reformed Church as we follow Jesus together!

**SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**  
Sunday, March 16, 2025

**WE APPROACH GOD**

Organ Prelude

*"How Blest Is He Whose Trespass"*  
*"O Love That Will Not Let Me Go"*  
*"Nearer My God to Thee"*

\*Welcome & Greeting One Another

Pastor Corey Buchanan

\*Congregational Worship

*"Fairest Lord Jesus"*  
*"Let There Be Glory and Honor and Praises"*  
*"O Praise the Name"*

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Anthony Bolkema

Song of Assurance

*"O The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus"*

**THE WORD OF GOD**

Scripture

Luke 9:18-27

Message

*"To Proclaim Good News: The Way of Sacrifice"*

Song of Response

*"Take Up Your Cross"*

**WE RESPOND TO GOD**

Congregational Prayer

Pastor Corey Buchanan

Offertory

Lenten Hymn Jar

\*Doxology

\*Benediction

Pastor Jim Oord

\*Sending in Grace

*"May the Grace of Christ Our Savior"*

\*Organ Postlude

*"Am I A Soldier of the Cross"*

\*Those who are able please stand.

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

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

### SUNDAY, MARCH 16

**GREETERS:** Barry Voss and Dennis Woltzen; **WELCOME CENTER:** Deb Woltzen  
**WORSHIP TEAM:** Kim Bolkema, Joe Fransen, Bill Nyhanna, Nick Paarlberg, Abby Veldboom, Benjamin Wooley, and Robert Wooley  
**PROJECTION:** Liam VanderWoude; **VIDEO:** Keith Flowers  
**SOUND:** Aaron Wooley  
**ORGAN:** Joanne Hoeksema; **PIANO:** Jeremiah Green  
**NURSERY:** Abby Veldboom  
**COFFEE SERVERS:** Russ & Heidi Paarlberg and Gwen Adams  
**COOKIE VOLUNTEERS:** Gail Housman, Nancy DeVries, and Mary Koster  
**PRAYER ROOM ELDER:** Don DeGraff

### MONDAY, MARCH 17

**6:00PM:** Bell Rehearsal in the Fellowship Hall  
**7:00PM:** Music Team rehearsal in the Sanctuary  
**7:30PM:** Strategic Planning Committee meets in the Heritage Room

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

**6:00PM:** Vespers Service in the Chapel  
**7:00PM:** Bell Rehearsal in the Fellowship Hall

### SUNDAY, MARCH 23

**GREETERS:** Rodger Norris and Cindy Nylen  
**WELCOME CENTER:** Barb Grevengoed  
**WORSHIP TEAM:** Anthony Bolkema, Kim Bolkema, Nolan Bolkema, Gail Housman, Nate Housman, and Lisa Triemstra  
**PROJECTION:** Lucas Bolkema; **VIDEO:** Eric Pradelski; **SOUND:** Rhonda Hesselink  
**ORGAN:** Joanne Hoeksema; **PIANO:** Amy Veldboom  
**NURSERY:** Darcy Daly and Gerri VanBaren  
**COFFEE SERVERS:** Don & Noreen VanDeursen and Griff & Mary Decker  
**COOKIE VOLUNTEERS:** Nyla DeGraff, Joanne Hoeksema, and Gerri VanBaren  
**PRAYER ROOM ELDER:** Joanne Hoeksema  
**6:30PM:** OASIS meets in the Loft

## *CARE...*

**Ralph Paarlberg** has been able to return to Bickford Senior Living, Room #248, where he is receiving hospice care.

**Ken Groeneveld** is receiving hospice care at home.

**Phil Capone** continues his physical therapy for his neck injury.

**Jan Nelson** is recovering from shoulder replacement surgery.

**John DeYoung's** surgery was a success although 5 pins were needed for the ankle. He is in a lot of pain and discomfort. A "meal train" link is included in the Friday Newsletter.

**Continue to pray for those** battling cancer, going through treatments, facing side effects, or caring for a loved one with cancer.

**And for those** giving care to parents, spouses, siblings, children, and/or friends who are struggling.

**OUR EXTENDED FAMILY:** Ralph & Margene Paarlberg, Bickford Senior Living, 100 Jones Drive, Bourbonnais, IL 60914

## *OUR GIFTS...*

### Sunday, March 9, 2025

Offering: \$11,361.49

Total Giving: **\$11,361.49**

*(Needed Weekly: \$11,500.00)*

Reach 175: \$539.80

UPDATED REACH 175 TOTAL: \$126,460.61

## *ON DUTY FOR MARCH...*

**First Security:** Rich Thornton

**First Emergency:** Tiffany Buchanan

*CHURCH LIFE...*

**THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE** who made soup, served our congregation, and cleaned up at our recent Ash Wednesday Soup Supper.

**ANNOUNCING: FIFTH SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP DINNERS!** Every year, there are four months that have 5 Sundays (in 2025, those will be March 30, June 29, August 31, and November 30). This year, we will be holding church meals on those Sundays following the worship service (and an abbreviated Sunday School). Each meal will have a special theme and include a potluck aspect. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for details about each meal!

**COLOR POTLUCK:** Join us on **Sunday, March 30**, for a Fifth Sunday Fellowship Dinner (see announcement above)! Our Fellowship committee will be serving corned beef sandwiches, and we'll look to you to supply the desserts and sides... every person who signs up to attend will be randomly assigned a color, and you have to bring a side or dessert of that color! The pot of gold at the end of this edible rainbow will be the fellowship we treasure as a church family. Sign up at the Welcome Centers!

**LENTEN WEDNESDAY SERVICES** will be held in the Chapel at 6:00pm. Join us for these midweek opportunities to center our hearts on Christ!

**Wednesday, March 19:** Vespers Service

**Wednesday, March 26:** Vespers Service

**Wednesday, April 2:** Vespers Service

**Wednesday, April 9:** Vespers Service

**HOLY WEEK SERVICES:**



**Thursday, April 17:** Maundy Thursday Service is in the Fellowship Hall (6:00pm)

**Friday, April 18:** Good Friday Service is in the Sanctuary (7:00pm)

**Sunday, April 20:** Easter Service in the Sanctuary (9:30am)

**CLOTHING CLOSET:** We rejoice that our Clothing Closet is continuing to be a blessing to our community, and we are so appreciative of all your donations! If you have clothes or other items to donate to the Clothing Closet, we ask that you drop them off during our open hours (the 2nd Saturday of each month from 9:00-11:00am and the 4th Thursday of each month from 4:00-6:00pm). Thank You!

*LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES...*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CONTINUES** today for all ages from 11:10am - noon. All are welcome to join us as we spend time learning more about God and His Word. **PreK-5th Grade gather to sing, work on memory verses, and collect an offering in the Genesis Room from 11:10-11:30am, then move to their classrooms from 11:30am-noon.**

- PreK–2<sup>nd</sup> Grade meet in the Genesis Room
- 3<sup>rd</sup>–5<sup>th</sup> Grade meet in the Library
- 6<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> Grade meet in the Heritage Room
- 9<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> Grade meet in the Balcony
- Tibstra House meets in the Chapel

**THE LADIES' BIBLE STUDY** will meet on **Tuesday, March 25**, at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall. Please complete the Session 6 study guide assignment, "Jesus and the Woman on the Southern Steps," pages 109-117. We will discuss your findings. Hope to see you there!

*REMINDERS....*

**BE SURE TO VISIT THE WELCOME CENTERS** to sign up for church events, sign cards for our shut-ins, and remember to empty your mail slot!

**PLEASE 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!

**CHURCH COOKIES AND NUT ALLERGIES:** Our wonderful cookies served during fellowship time following church are made by volunteers from our congregation. It's our practice that any cookies containing nuts of any kind are clearly labeled.

*AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS...*

**THE BIBLE LEAGUE LUNCHEON** will be **Thursday, March 20**, at Smits Farms, at 11:30am. Come and hear how the Lord is blessing the ministry. Illiana Chamber Singers will provide music. Tickets are \$30.00. Call Becky Wright at 708-672-4476.

**STARTING APRIL 8**, South Holland Ministerial Association will resume their monthly **One Hour of Power** meetings. This is a gathered time of prayer, Bible study and fellowship. The men's session is every 2nd Tuesday from 12-1pm at the Heritage House. The women's session is every 2nd Tuesday from 6-7pm at the South Holland Community Center. All are welcome to attend.

### *SERMON NOTES...*

Pastor Jim Oord

Luke 9:18-27

“To Proclaim Good News: The Way of Sacrifice”

**PRAYER ROOM:** Every Sunday, an elder is assigned to pray in our Prayer Room for 20 minutes following the service. The Prayer Room is located through the doors and down the hallway from the Chapel (exit the Sanctuary from the door by the piano). The praying elder will be praying for those who attended the service, the needs of our congregation, and various parts of our church's life together. If you have a particular prayer request, stop by and the praying elder will pray with you (or you can join her or him in prayer for our church).



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**SECRETARIES' OFFICE HOURS**

**9:00AM – NOON / Monday – Friday**

### *STAFF...*

**Rev. Dr. 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](http://www.frcsh.org)**

Find us in the app store by searching for  
"First Reformed Church South Holland" or by visiting [get.theapp.co/1779](http://get.theapp.co/1779).



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.