

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH

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

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 13, 2018



Welcome...

For freedom Christ has set us free, my friends. Free to live for Him in gratitude. Free to walk out of here with your head held high knowing you are a forgiven people. Free to tell others this amazing good news about a carpenter turned Savior of the world named Jesus. For freedom Christ has set us free. Brothers and sisters in Jesus, we are a free people. Leading up to Pentecost, we're going to be carefully reading together a circular letter written to a cluster of churches in Galatia. We know it as the book of Galatians. The author is the Apostle Paul. Yes, the same Paul who in a former life was a militant persecutor of Christians. Yes, the same Paul who stood by as St. Stephan was stoned. Yes, the same Paul who had a wild conversion story on the road to Damascus, was blind for three days and with the help of a fellow named Ananias regained his sight and was set free to live for Christ. There is no question as to the purpose of Paul's letter. Paul wanted to make it crystal clear that our salvation was a free-gift of God's amazing grace.

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Sunday, May 13, 9:30AM

WE APPROACH GOD

Prelude	Margaret Oetjen
Opening Song of Worship	<i>"Total Praise"</i> – Chancel Choir
Welcome & Greeting One Another	Pastor Corey Buchanan
*Time of Worship	#728 "Jesus Saves!" <i>"Praise the King"</i> <i>"Lord, I Need You"</i>
Prayer of Confession	Pastor Corey Buchanan
Song of Assurance	<i>"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"</i> – Chancel Choir

THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture	Galatians 6:11-18
Sermon	"Living Free: Large Lasting Letters"

WE RESPOND TO GOD

Song of Response	<i>"I Have Decided"</i>
Congregational Prayer	Barb Grevengoed
Offering	
*Doxology	
*Benediction	Pastor Matt Waterstone
*Sending in Grace	<i>"The Lord Bless You & Keep You"</i> – Chancel Choir
*Postlude	Margaret Oetjen

*Those who are able please stand.

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

OUR GIFTS...

Online Giving April 29th thru May 6

Current Expense – \$2,251.00; Special Projects - \$20.00

Sunday, May 6

Current Expense – \$8,474.40

Benevolent – \$195.00

Missions – \$345.00

Building – \$225.00

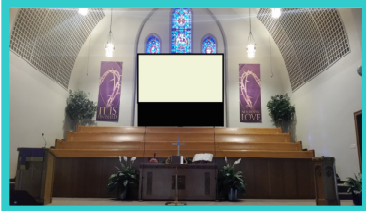
TOTAL – \$9,239.40

(Needed Weekly: \$10,850.00)

Special Projects – \$120.00

Up-to-date 2018 Special Projects Funding Campaign Total – \$61,723.00

SPECIAL PROJECTS FUNDING CAMPAIGN 2018...



The Consistory has approved a new projection system for the church. The dual screens and the center hanging projectors will be removed and replaced with a center retractable screen and single projector in the chancel area. Your offerings to Special Projects, “over and above” your regular weekly offering are still encouraged. Approximately \$64,000 of the \$75,000 needed for this project has already been raised thanks your gracious support. Your prayers over generosity to this important project are encouraged. For more information or questions regarding this campaign, please contact Clair Hoeksema, Elder V.P. or Mike Decker, Deacon Chairman. “Special Project” envelopes are available in the narthex or through the church office. To all of you who support this campaign every Sunday, THANK YOU!

CHURCH LIFE...

AT THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING on Tuesday, May 8 the following members were elected to office: Elders: David Besser, Don DeGraff, Russ Paarlberg, and Don VanBaren. Deacons: Griff Decker, Brad Housman, Ray Ondrejka, and Clint Verhagen. Trustees: Charles Dix, Ron Scheffers, and Rich Zimmerman. The Consistory and congregation take this opportunity to give thanks to God for the leading of these individuals to service in our church. We pray for God’s blessings on each of them as they will take important leadership positions in 2018-2019. We also bless God for the humble leadership and tireless service of Andy DeBoer, Dan Dieck, Barb Grevengoed, James Kuyper, Paul Paarlberg, Tiffany Surrel, Rich Thornton, and Robert Wooley who are outgoing members of the Consistory.

THANK YOU to all who baked brownies for Uptown; they were greatly appreciated. Also, thank you to the faithful volunteers who go and prepare a spaghetti dinner each month; you are a blessing to many. Our next time to go will be September 10, 2018. – Norma Smit

HAPPY 65TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY to Barb and Bill Rietveld on May 16! With love and gratitude from your family!

CHICAGOLAND PRISON OUTREACH SERVICE DAY - Monday, June 25: This is the first of FOUR one-day mission trips we are doing as a church this summer. We are looking to get groups together to serve CPO at their school and in the Cook County Jail. There are three service teams: painting/flooring, landscaping/cleaning, and service at the jail. We will meet at church at 9:00 for breakfast and worship before serving and we'll come back to church at 4:00 for a time of sharing experiences and pizza. Will you consider using your gifts to serve in this way? There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. For questions, contact Sara Jabaay at sara.jabaay@gmail.com or (708)302-2612.

THE CHAPEL is available for you to use to participate in the morning worship service. Please feel welcome to use this space to accommodate your family's needs.

PASTOR MATT has published a devotional book of his Friday Letters titled "Dear Church." If you would like a devotional book, a signup sheet is located downstairs in the Fellowship Hall at the Welcome Center. Books are available for \$15 each and all proceeds go to the Church.

FIRST CHURCH WOMEN'S AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY will have their annual luncheon on **Thursday, May 17** at 12:30pm at Tricia Paarlberg’s home (15942 Parkside Avenue, SH).

BOOK CLUB meets **Tuesday, September 11** at 9:30am in the Library. We are reading “Island of Sweet Pies and Soldiers” by Sara Ackerman. Questions? Call Ann Koval @ 331-4338.

CARE...

OUR EXTENDED FAMILY: Paulette Adams, 16301 Drexel Avenue, South Holland, IL 60473

Tom Peterson has been hospitalized in Georgia.

Rich Riddering has developed a severe infection while attending his granddaughter's wedding in St. Lucia.

Ralph Knopf has three new cancer spots on his liver and has started chemo treatments.

Kathryn Vinke is in Hospice Care at Arden Court.

Arlene Anker is recuperating from knee replacement surgery.

Ken Gardiner has been released from the hospital.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS...

EXODUS PROJECTS needs your help! We are gathering cleaning supplies for a giveaway. Bring in a bucket of supplies or bring in a few items. Items needed: Bucket, dish soap, sponges, SOS pads, toilet bowl cleaner, multi-purpose cleaner and paper towels (feel free to put your donation in the bucket). A suggestion is to shop at DOLLAR TREE and you will be able to purchase all these items for \$7.00. Supplies need to be brought to church by today.

CHICAGOLAND PRISON OUTREACH'S Annual Banquet will be **Tuesday, May 15** at 7:00pm (punch reception at 6:30). It will be held at the Serbian Social Center in Lansing. For more information or to make your reservations call the office at 708-331-3301. Thank you.

ALL ARE INVITED to join us at Cottage Grove Christian Reformed Church (16556 Cottage Grove Avenue) for an evening of worship, fellowship, and food on **Sunday, May 27**. Worship starts in the sanctuary at 5:30 pm followed by a bonfire on the green behind church with the usual campfire type food (hot dogs, fried pies, s'mores, munchies, etc.). You may bring food to share, cooking utensils, lawn chairs, blankets, and the like. If you have any questions, please call [708-331-0391](tel:708-331-0391).

UP & COMING AT FIRST...

SUNDAY, MAY 13

GREETERS: Ray & Barb Housman and Ron & Shirley Scheffers

COFFEE SERVERS: Russ & Heidi Paarlberg and Griff & Mary Decker

NURSERY: Kelly Bruinsma and Izzy Veldboom

ORGAN: Margaret Oetjen

PIANO: Joanne Hoeksema

VIDEO: Ron Rietveld; **PROJECTION:** Gwen Adams; **SOUND:** James Kuyper

MUSIC TEAM: Kim Bolkema, Kevin Hesselink, Dacia Hill, Bill & Nikki Nyhanna, & Nick Paarlberg

PRAYER ROOM: Roger & Judy Gill

WELCOME CENTER: Rick Furst

FIRST RESPONSE TEAM: First Responder: Tiffany Surrel; First Response: Ray Ondrejka

COOKIE VOLUNTEERS: Dorothy Jacobsma, Barb Grevengoed, Gail Housman & Carol Barnes

MONDAY, MAY 14

7:00AM: Trustees meet in the Heritage Room

7:00PM: Music Team Rehearsal

THURSDAY, MAY 17

12:30PM: Women's Bible Study Luncheon at Tricia Paarlberg's home

PENTECOST SUNDAY, MAY 20

GREETERS: Craig & Jan Nelson and Rich Zimmerman

COFFEE SERVERS: Trina Taylor, Gwen Adams and Faye Gowens

NURSERY: Ramelle DeVries and Kaylee Kuyper

ORGAN: Joanne Hoeksema

PIANO: John DeVries

VIDEO: Rhonda DeBok; **PROJECTION:** Tiffany Surrel; **SOUND:** Kevin Hesselink

MUSIC TEAM: David Besser, Daniel Day, and Abby Veldboom

PRAYER ROOM: Roger Hommes; **WELCOME CENTER:** James Kuyper

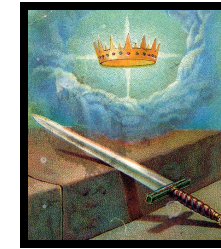
FIRST RESPONSE TEAM: First Responder: Tiffany Surrel; First Response: Rick Furst

COOKIE VOLUNTEERS: Mary Decker, Diana Abernathy, Rhonda DeBok and Arleta Hommes

OASIS: Meets from 6-7:30pm in the Loft

SERMON NOTES...

Living Free: "Large Lasting Letters"
Galatians 6:11-18
Rev. Dr. Matt Waterstone



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STAFF...

Rev. Dr. Matt Waterstone
Senior Pastor

Pastor Corey Buchanan
*Director of Mercy & Justice
Ministries*

Anthony Bolkema
Director of Worship & Student Life

Rev. Mel De Vries
Pastor Emeritus

Nyla De Graff
Church Administrator

Gerri Van Baren
Administrative Assistant

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

Ben Plascencia
Church Custodian

Darcy Daly
Nursery Coordinator

Jane Ackerman
Church Accountant

Visit us online at www.frcsh.org

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.

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.