

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH OF SOUTH HOLLAND

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

THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT
Sunday, December 15, 2019



Welcome...

The season of Advent, a season of waiting, is designed to cultivate our awareness of God's actions—past, present, and future. In Advent we hear the Genesis promises of the Messiah's coming as addressed to us—people who rejoice in Jesus' fulfillment of this promise even as we wait for His return. Our waiting is heightened and enriched as we contemplate the Promised One for Whom we are waiting. Who is this Jesus – our Prophet, Priest, and King?

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Sunday, December 15, 2019
WE APPROACH GOD

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Prelude | Steve DeVries |
| Opening Song of Worship | <i>"For Unto Us"</i> |
| Lighting of the Joy Candle | Ray Housman and Felecia Flowers |
| Welcome & Greeting One Another | |
| *Congregational Singing | #171 <i>"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"</i> <i>"We Have a Savior"</i> <i>"Joy to the World"</i> |
| Prayer of Confession | Pastor Corey Buchanan |
| Song of Assurance | #194 <i>"Jesus Came, the Heaven's Adoring"</i> (vs. 1 – 3) |
| THE WORD OF GOD | |
| Scripture | Isaiah 9:6-7 |
| Sermon | <i>"The Promise of a Righteousness King"</i> |
| WE RESPOND TO GOD | |
| Congregational Prayer | Barb Grevengeod |
| Offering | Steve DeVries |
| *Doxology | |
| *Benediction | Pastor Corey Buchanan |
| *Sending in Grace | <i>"Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending"</i> |
| *Postlude | Steve DeVries |

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, DECEMBER 15

GREETERS: Pastor Rich & Barb Grevengoed and Bob & Nancy Asmus
COFFEE SERVERS: Ray & Barb Housman and Griff & Mary Decker
NURSERY: Darcy Daly and Rachel Wooley
MUSIC TEAM: Daniel Day, Kevin Hesselink, Julia Keep, Bill Nyhanna, & Nick Paarlberg
ORGAN: Steve DeVries
PIANO: Amy Veldboom
PROJECTION: Gwen Adams
SOUND: Rhonda Hesselink
VIDEO: Rhonda DeBok
PRAYER ROOM: Dave Wright
WELCOME CENTER: Rhonda Hesselink
FIRST RESPONSE TEAMS: First Emergency: Tiffany Buchanan; First Security: Rick Furst
COOKIE VOLUNTEERS: Diana Abernathy, Nancy DeVries, Arleta Hommes & Nikki Nyhanna

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

9:30AM: Knitters & Quilters meet in the Fellowship Hall
7:00PM: Music Team Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

7:00PM: Choir Rehearsal
8:15PM: Bell Rehearsal in the Fellowship Hall

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

GREETERS: Dave & Becky Wright and Mike & Cindy Nylén
COFFEE SERVERS: Trina Taylor, Gwen Adams and Faye Gowens
NURSERY: Darcy Daly and Abby Veldboom
MUSIC TEAM: Joe Fransen, Bill & Nikki Nyhanna, Nick Paarlberg, & Rachel Wooley
ORGAN: Joanne Hoeksema
PIANO: Amy Veldboom
PROJECTION: Tiffany Buchanan; **SOUND:** Aaron Taylor
VIDEO: Ron Rietveld
PRAYER ROOM: Roger & Judy Gill
WELCOME CENTER: Roger DeGraff
FIRST RESPONSE TEAMS: First Emergency: Tiffany Buchanan; First Security: Rick Furst
COOKIE VOLUNTEERS: Celeste DeBoer, Felicia Flowers, Joanne Hoeksema & Alice Kats

CARE...

Roger and Arleta Hommes were in an automobile accident December 3. Arleta was able to return home the day after while Roger had surgery at the University of Chicago and is now recovering at home. Please continue to keep them in your prayers.

Jeannie Spike has had her treatments suspended due to interstitial pneumonitis.

Chinedu Akoma continues her recuperation at home.

David Besser has entered hospice care and is experiencing pain with the cancer. Please pray for Dave and his family. (Jessica Housman has organized a meal train for Dave's family. To help with a meal, go to the link <https://mealtrain.com/3q5q91> and sign-up.)

Lilly Simnick, great granddaughter of Ken and AnnaMae Groeneveld has been able to return home after being at the hospital with pneumonia.

Bob Griffin continues with his treatments for lung cancer. Pray for signs of improvement.

Dave Schultz, brother of Deb Woltzen, continues with treatments for lung cancer. Deb's mother, Jean Schultz has bleeding in her eye and has started injection therapy to save the eye.

Christopher Nelson, son of Craig and Jan Nelson has completed his treatments for Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. His recent Pet Scan showed an improvement and thankfully he will not need additional treatments at this time.

OUR EXTENDED FAMILY: Harriet DeYoung, Elevate Senior Living, Room 409, 16300 Louis Avenue, South Holland, IL 60473.

WORSHIP...

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS is tonight **Sunday, December 15** 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. Refreshments will be served following the concert. Let's fill the Sanctuary as we celebrate this Advent Season. Nursery provided.

CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE is **Tuesday, December 24** at 11:00pm in the Sanctuary. Come to greet the infant King through song, prayer, proclamation, the lighting of the Birth Candle and a candlelit sending.

MARTIN LUTHER KING CELEBRATION will be held on **Saturday, January 11** here at First Reformed Church at 10:00am. Pastor Jim, Pastor Corey, Anthony Bolkema, and our Day Care children will be participating at this event. Everyone invited to attend! This celebration honors the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with song and scripture.

SPECIAL PROJECTS FUNDING CAMPAIGN 2019...



We are now addressing the improvements needed for our parsonage. For more information or with any questions please see Don DeGraff, Elder VP, or Ray Ondrejka, Deacon Chairman. "Special Project" envelopes are available on the narthex shelves.

OUR WORSHIP SERVICES, as well as Faith & Fellowship formation ministries are in full swing and it's a great time to be part of our First Church Family. With that in mind, as we begin the second quarter of our fiscal year, the deacons would like to encourage all members to continue your faithful support the ministry of First Reformed Church through your tithes and donations.

Though our expenses are less than budgeted due to our senior pastor vacancy, it's important to note that our weekly giving has also been less than budgeted. We are currently in week 23 of 52 and are behind in receipts vs budget by \$32,762. As we approach the end of this calendar year during this time of transition, please continue your faithful giving. As we grow together in the Grace of Christ, we are so very thankful to God for 1st Church and eagerly anticipate the work He will continue to do in and through us.

CHURCH LIFE...

I WANT TO THANK all of you for your prayers during my stay at the hospital and now at home. I want to give a special thanks to Pastor Rich Grevengoed for his visits everyday for several weeks. Above all, thanks be to God!
- Bill Rietveld

THE LETTER OF RESPONSE Pastor Jim issued to our call to serve as our next Senior Pastor is available in your mail slot this morning. Please consider sending Pastor Jim and family a card as we welcome them to our church family.

CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORTS for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 are available in a single marked mail slot located on the north end of our mail slots. If you have any questions please contact Deacon Treasurer, Griff Decker.

PLEASE VISIT THE WELCOME CENTER in the Fellowship Hall after the service to sign cards for our shut-ins who are celebrating birthdays or are hospitalized.

ANOTHER ROSELAND MINISTRIES THRIFT STORE workday is planned for **Thursday, December 19**. Please call Barb Grevengoed @476-1341 for ride-sharing details. Thank you.

RESTORATION MINISTRIES is selling live Christmas Trees at the South Holland Thrift Store. The Christmas Tree Lot is set up in front of the store. Hours are 9am to 9pm, Monday - Saturday until Dec. 23. The trees are 5-8 feet tall and cost \$40. All proceeds support Restoration Ministries.

LEARNING...

THE GOSPEL PROJECT: For ALL ages!

All **students** (3-year-old through 5th grade) can be dropped off in the Genesis Room at 11:00am and picked up there at 12:00pm. The adult class meets in the Chapel from 11:00am-12:00pm.

- ❖ December 15: "God's New Name for Jacob"
What's in a name? What did Jacob's new name mean for his new life, and what does our new name - Christian - mean for our new lives? Join us at 11:00am this Sunday morning as we discuss these questions together in light of God's continued provision for his people through the life of Jacob.
- ❖ December 22: "The Prince of Peace"

THE HEIDELBERG CATECHISM FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING: This **multi-generational class** is open to learners of all ages from 6th grade on up!

- ❖ December 15: "The Second Commandment" (Q & A 96-98)
What are the principles of Reformed and Biblical worship?
- ❖ December 22: "The Third Commandment" (Q & A 99-102)

BOOK CLUB will next meet on **Tuesday, January 14** at 9:30am in the Library. We will be reading The Pioneers by David McCullough. Questions? Call Nancy Bates @596-7314.

OUR GIFTS...

Sunday, December 8

Basket Total: \$10,373.21
Online Total: \$1,690.00
Special Projects: \$1,034.63
Giving Total: \$13,097.84
(Needed Weekly: \$11,250.00)

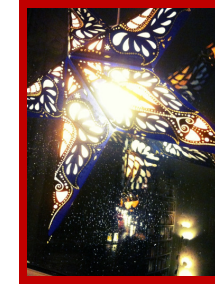
SERMON NOTES...

Isaiah 9:6-7

“The Promise of a Righteousness King”

Pastor Corey Buchanan

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.



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STAFF...

Pastor Corey Buchanan

*Director of Mercy & Justice
Ministries*

Anthony Bolkema

Director of Worship & Student Life

Rev. Dr. Rich Grevengoed

Pastor of Care & Visitation

Nyla DeGraff

Church Administrator

Gerri Van Baren

Administrative Assistant

Toni Smith

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

Steve Alexander

Church Custodian

Darcy Daly

Nursery Coordinator

Jane Ackerman

Church Accountant

Judy Gill

Care & Visitation Assistant

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.