

December Church Calendar



Sundays:

Except for morning Congregational Worship services, ALL regularly scheduled Sunday activities listed below will NOT meet on 12/21 or 12/28.

- Congregational Worship: 8:30 & 10:30 AM
- Promise Kids: dismissed from worship
- College Breakfast: 9:30 AM
- Children (PK-5) Sunday School: 9:40 AM
- Youth (MS & HS) Bible Study: 9:45 AM
- Adult Education: 9:45 AM
- Children's Christmas Program: 5:30 PM; 12/7
- Blue Christmas Service: 5:30 PM; 12/14
- FUEL Young Adults Christmas Party: 6:00 PM; 12/14
- *Parables* Book Study: 7:00 PM; 12/14

Mondays:

- PiYo: 6:30 AM
- Siouxland Soup Kitchen Serving: 2:45 PM; 12/8
- Women's Advent Study: 6:30 PM; 12/1, 8, & 22

Tuesdays:

- Men's Bible Study: 6:30 AM
- Staff Meeting: 8:30 AM
- Women's Advent Study: 7:00 PM; 12/16
- Consistory Meeting: 7:00 PM; 12/16

Wednesdays:

- Blocks & Knots: 1:00 PM; 12/10
- Library Board Meeting: 1:30 PM; 12/3

Wednesday Evenings:

ALL regularly scheduled Wednesday evening activities listed below will NOT meet on 12/24 or 12/31.

- Bountiful Table Food Distribution: 5:00 PM; 12/17
- Beast Feast Wild Game Fundraiser: 5:15 PM; 12/3
- Evening Meal: 5:15 PM
- K-5 Christmas Program Practice: 6:00 PM; 12/3
- K-5 Ministries: 6:30 PM; 12/10
- K-5 Popcorn Movie Night: 6:00 PM; 12/17
- JAM Middle School Youth Group: 6:30 PM
- Men's Bible Study: 6:30 PM
- Prayer Warriors: 6:30 PM
- Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal: 7:30 PM; 12/3, 10, & 17
- SURF High School Youth Group: 8:00 PM
- Christmas Eve Service: 4:00 & 6:00 PM; 12/24

Thursdays:

- PiYo: 6:30 AM
- Mary Martha Circle: 12:30 PM; 12/4
- Senior Adults: 2:00 PM; 12/11
- Women's Volleyball: 8:00 PM; all except 12/25

Saturdays:

- FUEL Young Adults Activity: 8:00 AM; 12/6

For more information or to join these activities please visit our website at frcoc.org or call the church office at 737-4909.

Please note: The church office will be closed on Wednesday and Thursday, December 24 and 25, for the Christmas holiday. The office will also be closed on Thursday, January 1 for New Year's Day.



Why does Advent Matter?

Because Jesus changes everything!

New Sermon Series begins November 30 @ 8:30 & 10:30 AM.
Register for the Advent Bible Reading plan at frcoc.org/advent2025.



December Birthdays & Anniversaries

**Content of this section not
available online.**

____ = Anniversary | * = 80+ | ** = 90+ | *** = 100+



Tell Me A Story

**FRC Kids Christmas Program
December 7, 5:30pm**

Service will be broadcast on all our regular outlets.

A graphic for 'Blue Christmas' featuring a stylized Christmas tree composed of blue and white stars of various sizes, set against a dark blue background with a subtle wave pattern at the bottom.

Blue
CHRISTMAS

A service of remembrance, reflection,
and hope for hurting hearts.

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14
AT 5:30 PM**

THE FOCUS

First Reformed Church
December 2025

December College Breakfast Servers



December 7:

- Arlen & LeeAnn Smit
- Kevin & Paula Lourens
- Dann & Glenda De Vries
- Diane Koele
- Judy Cleveringa
- Eric & Rachel Van Ravenhorst
- Jon & Kate Jeltema

December 14:

- Brett & Nora Mulder
- Riley & Dana Jeltema
- John & Dianne Van Wyk
- Josh & Whitney Fakkema
- Lyle & Vicki Korver
- Beth Tullar
- Dave & Sandy Harmelink
- Sara Crane

December Connections Volunteers

Coffee Servers

December 7:

- Reese & Cristi Kelch

December 14:

- Galen & Laurie Kleinwolterink

December 21:

- Melinda Fedders & Kayla Tindall

December 28:

- Ron & Diane Koele

Sanctuary Greeters

December 7:

- Marie Vermeer - North Door
- Barry Brandt - Center Door
- Lora Brandt - South Door

December 14:

- Janice Noto - North Door
- Bill Van Marel - Center Door
- Jenny Bruxvoort - South Door

December 21:

- Gary/Linda Te Grotenhuis - North Door
- Bonnie Poppen - Center Door
- Brent Carmichael - South Door

December 28:

- Rose Vande Brake - North Door
- Breanne Van Gelder - Center Door
- Pat Van Gelder - South Door

Outside Door Openers

December 7:

- Meg Otto - North Door
- Pat Brenneeman - South Door

December 14:

- Eli Haverdink - North Door
- Maci Haverdink - South Door

December 21:

- Darbi Gustafson - North Door
- Tyler Vellinga - South Door

December 28:

- Suzanne Haverdink - North Door
- Gary/Judy Cleveringa - South Door

Welcome Center

December 7:

- Jeff Otto

December 14:

- Mary Oldenkamp

December 21:

- Jim Aberson

December 28:

- Betty Vande Brake



Welcome

BOUNTIFUL TABLE

Free Food
Distribution

plus
DIAPER DISTRIBUTION
WITH GUIDING STAR

WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 17
5:00 – 6:30 PM

First Reformed Church
420 Central Ave. NW, Orange City
Use the south canopy drive-thru.

BEAST FEAST

In Memory of Aden De Jong

Wednesday, December 3 | Doors open at 5:15

Pulled Pork | Wild Game | Silent Auction | Wildlife Display

Freewill donation meal with proceeds going to
Aden De Jong scholarship fund at NWC
and Special Youth Challenge Ministries of Sioux Rapids.



THE FOCUS.....

First Reformed Church
December 2025

The Henry G. & Charlotte E. Huitink Endowment Fund was established to provide financial assistance to graduate students pursuing training for pastoral ministry and/or ministry work. For additional information or to apply for a scholarship, please contact Mark Bloemendaal in the church office.

We would like to thank all those who offered prayers on our behalf. Thanks to Pastor Mark and Craig Pennings for their visits. Thanks to friends who helped with the harvesting. God is truly good.
Harlan and Phyllis De Haan



A Ray of Light That Reaches Farther Than We Can See

In June 2023, our church partnered with Dave Nonnemacher and the New Horizons Foundation to assemble light kits for people living in war-torn areas of Ukraine. Recently, Dave shared an update that shows just how far those lights have reached.

The photo here comes from a trauma-informed art therapy cohort meeting in the basement of an apartment building in the village of Terasivka. The women gathered there—IDPs from Toretsk, Makeyevka, Luhansk, Shakhtarsk, Avdiivka, and Energodar—live without power. Their only light in that space comes from some of the first Ray of Life kits that arrived in Ukraine, quite possibly the very ones assembled by our church.

The art therapist leading the group wrote:

"We bring life and hope for the future to those who have lost it. We are laying the foundation for the restoration of this and future generations. We bring the LIGHT of Christ into the very darkness. Your lamps ministered to these people!!"



When we give our time and resources, we rarely know the full impact. But God uses even small acts to bring light into dark places. Thank you for helping make that possible.