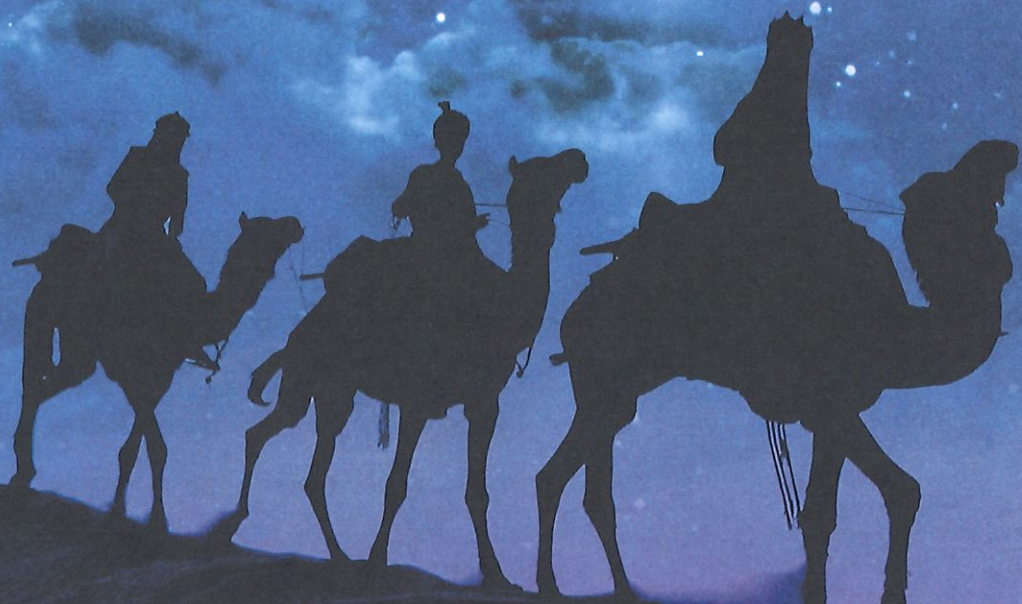


BELIEVE
in the true meaning of
CHRISTMAS



First Reformed Church

December 9, 2018

A sincere welcome to all who have come to worship.
May the incomparable blessings that come from God alone touch each of us.

A nursery is available in the lower level of the church.

Children's bulletins, children's activity bags and large print bulletins
are available at the back of the sanctuary.

Worship Service Participants

	<u>This Week (December 9)</u>	<u>Next Week (December 16)</u>
Greeters	Roy & Lori Lemmenes	Maureen Buteyn and Marilyn Hopp
Ushers	Wes Dalka Jeff Freriks Clayton Jahns	Gary Beek Josh Damsteegt Randy Flier
Door Greeters		
Upstairs	Howard Loomans	Randy & Lori Flier
Downstairs East Door	Gary & Jan Beek	Bill & Carol Eichstadt
Nursery	Sherry Winter Josie Williamson	Cindy De Vries Amanda De Vries
Elders Greeting	BJ DeMaa Ron Schaalma Wayne Tavs	Ray Freriks Keith Jansma Jerry Riel
Soundboard	Howard Loomans	John De Vries
Power Point	Amanda and Ryan De Vries	Kaylin DeMaa

December Schedules

Hospital: Steve Towne

Flowers: Kim Perry

Transportation: Jon & Winky Dobbratz

Library: Donna Freriks

Opportunities This Week

Sunday:

Prayer Time: Please join Pastor Barry 15 minutes before the service for prayer. We would love to have you join us for a brief time of prayer before the service. We will meet in the chapel by the grandfather clock at 8:45 am.

Sunday School: Will not meet this week. Please join in a time of fellowship and refreshments in Fellowship Hall following the Christmas Program.

Tuesday:

Women's Christmas Party: Meet at church at 12:45 pm to go Christmas Caroling at the Christian Home. We will then return for a Christmas Party! Bring a \$5 gift exchange. Sign-up in the entryway if you are able to attend. ALL women are invited!

Wednesday:

XYZ: 9:30 - 10:30 am in the Triple Room.

Awana: 5:45 - 7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall for Grades K-5. This week's theme is WISEMAN NIGHT! Dress like a wiseman/woman or a star.

Jr. High Youth Group: 6:00 - 7:30 pm in the Youth Room for Grades 6-8.

Sr. High Youth Group: 7:30 - 9:00 pm in the Youth Room for Grades 9-12.

Sr. Choir Practice: 7:15 pm in the sanctuary.

Thursday:

Bell Choir Practice: 6:15 - 7:15 pm in the sanctuary.

Saturday:

Men's' Huddle: 7:00 - 8:00 am at Helen's Kitchen in Waupun.

Sunday School December Schedule

- December 9: Classes will not meet. Refreshments will be served following the program in Fellowship Hall.
- December 16: Classes will be held.
- December 23 & 30: Classes will not meet.
- January 6, 2019: Sunday School Classes Resume

Congregational News

Lord's Supper: The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be held during next Sunday's worship service.

Christmas Eve Worship Service: Will be held on December 24 at 7:00 pm.

Nursery Need: We are in great need of some leadership and volunteering in our Sunday morning nursery program. We have a sign-up in the entryway if you are interested. This is a vital ministry for our church. We need to make sure we are supporting our young parents by providing a safe space for their young children to go when needed.

Birthday Open House: Pastor Barry and Nicole will be hosting a Birthday Open House on Tuesday, December 18, from 6:30 - 8:00 pm at the parsonage (512 Taylor Street, Waupun). Anyone celebrating a birthday in December, along with anyone who hasn't been able to attend this year, and their families are invited to stop by for a treat.

Prayer Chain Signup: If you wish to be on the 2019 prayer chain list, please sign-up on the sheet in the entryway by December 23. When you sign-up indicate if you would like to be contacted by phone (either day or evening) or if you would like to be contacted by email.

Focus Newsletter: Items for the next Focus are due to the church office by Friday, December 21.

Fellowship Time: Many people enjoy a time of fellowship following the worship service. If you would be able to help with serving refreshments during that time, please sign-up in the entryway for a Sunday that fits your schedule. All drinks, cookies and supplies are provided.

Disability Advocate: The RCA Disability Concerns Office is looking for a disability advocate at First Reformed. This is a point person within the church that maybe wants to do a little more for those with disabilities. No, it's not a huge commitment. No, it's not super time-consuming. No, you do not need to have all the answers to everything disability-related. Head to <https://www.rca.org/disability-awareness> to find out more about disability concerns in the RCA. If you are interested in taking on this role, talk with Pastor Barry and he will get you in touch with Sonrisa Cortes with the RCA Disability Concerns Office.

Crop Walk: The Crop Walk in Waupun has taken place in early October on a Saturday to raise money for the Waupun Food Pantry and for global hunger needs. For 2019 and 2020, First Reformed is being asked to lead it. The main responsibilities would include: 1) Setting a date and notifying other churches, 2) Getting pledge envelopes and event posters to the other churches, 3) Planning the walking route, 4) Have a time of fellowship before and after the walk with coffee and snacks. If you are interested in helping to lead this, let Pastor Barry know or leave a message in the office.

Contributions: December 30 is the final Sunday of 2018 and will be your last opportunity to make a tax deductible gift for this year.

Sunday School Teacher Needed: We are currently looking for a teacher for Sr. High Sunday School. Kristin is available to work with a volunteer in a rotation or cover when you are unable to be there. This is a great opportunity to get to know and teach some of our youth about your love for God. If you are interested, please contact Kristin Braaksma.

Congregational Care

Sympathy: Congregational sympathy is extended to Pastor Barry's family. His uncle, Jim Ruden of Marcus, Iowa, passed away this past week. Jim was Pastor Barry's uncle on his father's side (married to his dad's sister Diane). He was a grandfather, farmer and had worked many years, before retiring, at Wells Blue Bunny Dairy.

Thank You: Thank you to everyone for your prayerful and compassionate support and for your financial gift to our family of three. We are so grateful and will put the blessing into having a place to call home and helping our medical expenses. From the Renners (Steve, Jill & Arabella).

Thank You: Over the past few weeks First Reformed members have contributed to several programs making an impact locally and around the world:

- ◆ 55 shoeboxes were collected for Operation Christmas Child
- ◆ 285 pounds of food items brought to the Thanksgiving Service were donated to the Waupun Food Pantry
- ◆ the Christmas Carol Sing offering for C.A.R.E. for Dodge County was \$1,618.00

Christmas Offering

The Christmas Offering will be divided between three families with medical needs:

- ◆ Travis Mulder (Jeremy Mulder's brother) is undergoing treatments for a rare form of leukemia. He recently suffered a decline with unexplained symptoms and is hospitalized for treatment and testing.
- ◆ Mike Beekman's stepson Dylan (step-grandson of Wally & Linda Beekman) was in a car accident earlier this fall. He has been in a coma since the accident but recently had the ventilator removed. He is being cared for in a specialized care facility.
- ◆ Sheila Wilkum (granddaughter of Don & Ann Boss) was born with congenital heart disease. She was free of any issues for over 30 years, when she collapsed while on vacation and was med-flighted back to the U.S. for emergency surgery and will need further surgery.

Invitations

CWC Concert: The Jr. High and Sr. High Christmas Concert will be held on Thursday, December 13, at 6:30 pm featuring the bands, choirs and New Generation Singers.

Christmas Invitation: A delicious homemade Christmas dinner will be held at noon on December 25 at the Wesley Center (Forest Street, Waupun). All are invited to attend but please RSVP to 920-318-2744 or 920-928-3310. Transportation is available in the Waupun area. There is no charge for the dinner.

Union Dance: The Union of Waupun holds a middle school dance each month as a way to connect to middle school students. The next dance will be held Friday, December 14, from 7:00 - 9:30 pm. Cost for students is \$4. Adult chaperones are also needed. If you are able to help out, contact Jess Niemeyer at jess@badgerlandyfc.org or 620-245-4140.

Sunday Worship Service

December 9, 2018

9:00 am

Advent Candle: A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him - the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding. We light these candles as a sign of our waiting and hope for the coming Christ.

Prelude: Jon Schmaltz

Greeting

Sr. Choir - "Christmas Medley"

Prayer

Offering

First Christmas Video - Innkeeper

Sunday School Christmas Program

White Gift Offering (as children enter).

The offering is designated to the Noah and McKenzie Mulder family who recently lost their infant child.

*Benediction

*Please stand if you are able

Church Contact Information

Pastor Barry Lang

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Church Email: office@firstreformedwaupun.com

Website: www.firstreformedwaupun.com

Sunday School Christmas Program



December 9, 2018

White Gift Offering: Offering is designated to the family of Noah & McKenzie Mulder, who recently lost their infant child.

Everyone's Part: Arabella Renner, Payten Thurk, Vaeya De Vries, Quinten Thurk and Simon Lemmenes

Song: Oh Come, Little Children

Only Three: Blayne Flier

Song: Jesus Loves Me

Christmas Wish: Chaz Arriens, Austin Lang and Kyan De Vries

Song: We Wish You a Merry Christmas

Congregational Hymns led by the Praise Team

#284 - The Birthday of a King

#250 - O, Little Town of Bethlehem"

Just a Little Christmas

Narrators: Kaylin DeMaa, Abbey Lang and Zander Disbrow

Mary: Brianna DeMaa

Joseph: Aaron Lang

Angel: Ella Lemmenes

Soldier: Carter Disbrow

Emperor/King Herod: Gage Van Buren

Wisemen: Austin Lang, Chaz Arriens and Chase Van Buren

Shepherds: Chase Beahm, Devin Zimmerman, Kyan De Vries and Jack Lemmenes

Cow: Blayne Flier

Sheep: Arabella Renner

Mouse: Payten Thurk

Cat: Vaeya De Vries

Donkey: Quinten Thurk

Camel: Simon Lemmenes

Dove: Mady Sturtz

Song: Come On, Ring Those Bells





Invitation: Following the program, everyone is invited to celebrate with refreshments in the Fellowship Hall located downstairs.

The Sunday School children will receive treat bags in their classrooms. There are extra treat bags available for any other children attending the program - please feel free to take one.

**THANK
YOU**

Special THANKS goes to many people who have given their time and talents to make this Christmas Program possible.

Props and Costumes: Rose & Jerry Riel and Ray Freriks

Pianist: Jon Schmaltz

Sound Board: Howard Loomans

Power Point: Amanda and Ryan De Vries

Treat Bags for all Children: Sr. High Youth Fellowship

Refreshments: Jim & Betty Korte, Nancy Auchtung, Harlan & Judy Hopp, Wilbur & Elayne Van Buren, and Shawn & Roxanne Walker

Teachers: Pastor Barry and Nicole Lang, BJ and Katie DeMaa and Ellen Decker

A GREAT BIG THANK YOU goes to all the parents and teachers for helping the children learn their parts and bringing them to all the program practices. I am especially grateful to my family for all their love and support they have given me. I would like to wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
Kari Loomans, Children's Director

