

First Christian Reformed Church

Lynden, Washington

Announcements for December 4, 2022

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday, December 4 - 10:30 AM – Second Sunday of Advent

John 3:13-18 "The Reality of Christmas - that He gave His only begotten Son" (Pastor Robert W)

Sunday, December 4 - 6:00 PM – Joint Service at Third CRC

King's Men of Song will lead us in worship, and we'll sing familiar Christmas hymns. All are welcome!

Sunday, December 11 - 10:30 AM – Third Sunday of Advent

John 3:13-18 "The Reason of Christmas – that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish." (Pastor Robert W)

Sunday, December 11 - 6:00 PM – Children's Christmas Service "Behind the Manger Scenes"

- Nursery is available for children up to 3 years in the Education Building during the Sunday morning service.
- Children's Church is available for children 3 years–3rd grade.
- After the Morning Worship Service, join us for a time of fellowship.
- If you are unable to worship with us in person, we invite you to join us online. Our morning worship service will be livestreamed from our website (firstcrlcynden.org) or can be viewed later from the livestream library on our website.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

- December 4 AM - Christian School Tuition Assistance - Christian School Assistance is used to help cover tuition cost of First church families who send their children to Christian schools.
- December 4 PM – Joint service offering will be for Project Hope
- December 11 - Mission and Outreach Fund
- December 18 - Thereforego Ministry
- December 25 - Building the Future

** You can also give to the operating fund at any time; please use a blue envelope (additional on the Welcome Center) or write "Operating Fund" on the memo line.

Tithes and offerings can be given the following ways: Placed in the offering bag on Sunday, mailed to the church office (1010 Front Street, Lynden, WA 98264), dropped off during the week (church office during office hours or in the outside locking mailbox after hours), or electronically through a bill pay service or with Tithe.ly.

PRAYER AND PRAISE ITEMS

SYMPATHY

- We extend our sympathy to Don & Rose S with the passing of Rose's sister, Joyce F, on Wednesday, November 30.

THANK YOU

- We want to thank you for your continued prayers for our daughter-in-law, Alina, our son Jesse's wife in her battle with cancer. Thanks be to God that two recent biopsies revealed no cancer! She remains on hormone therapy, as well as targeted infusion therapy. Blessings to you! Gary and Mary G

PRAYER ITEMS

- Nelly V is declining in health rapidly. Keep Nelly and her family in your prayers.
- Robert V is declining in health. He is at the Christian Health Care Center.
- Berny D is undergoing cancer treatment.
- Jeff S is recovering at home from back surgery.
- Ted S is recovering from hip replacement surgery.
- Dave L is recovering from knee replacement surgery.
- Mary V is at home healing from a broken shoulder.
- Ada V is at the Christian Health Care Center for rehab on her broken arm.

NEWS AND UPDATES

CHRISTMAS CONCERT - FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

A Christmas concert, featuring Mitchell & Rochelle S will be at Second Christian Reformed Church in Lynden **TONIGHT, Friday, December 2 at 7:00 PM**. The audience will be welcome to sing along with many of the Christmas carols. Children are welcome! An offering will be taken for Envision Mission.

JOINT WORSHIP AT THIRD CRC – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

You are invited to join with area Christian Reformed churches for a combined Advent service at Third CRC on December 4 at 6:00PM. The King's Men of Song will lead us in a service worship with familiar Christmas hymns. An offering will be taken for Project Hope. All are welcome!

MINISTRY TEAMS AND COUNCIL

Please note that unless you hear otherwise from your chair, ministry teams and Council will **NOT** be meeting in December. This is a correction from Council News in the December New and Updates.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

Our annual congregational meeting to approve the 2023 budget and to approve spending up to \$100,000 from the Building Fund to get architectural and engineering plans to a firm estimate of the building cost can be obtained will be held on Tuesday, December 6 at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary.

** Absentee ballots are available on the Welcome Center. Absentee ballots must be returned in a signed and sealed envelope to Council Clerk, Neil M before the start of the Congregational Meeting on December 6.

SINGERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS DAY CHOIR

We are planning a Christmas Day choir and we need singers! We will have 2 practices following the morning worship services on Sunday, December 11 and 18. For more information, contact Nancy Z or Ken Q.

SHOPPERS NEEDED FOR MALL HUNT

Volunteers are needed to be "hunted" for the Tribe and Oasis Mall Hunt on Wednesday, December 14. We are looking for people of any age to dress incognito and walk around Bellis Fair Mall for a few hours, starting around 7:30 PM - you can even get your Christmas shopping done while you are there! For more information, or to sign up, contact Pastor Mike B.

SENIOR CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON - THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

Save the Date! We will be having a Senior Christmas Luncheon on Thursday, December 29 at 12:00 PM. Mark your calendars and watch for more information.

ANGEL AND GIVING TREE DONATIONS

ANGELS AND WOOD ORNAMENTS - If you would like to bless those less fortunate in our community this Christmas, you are invited to take an angel or a round, wood ornament and purchase the items listed. Please return UNWRAPPED GIFTS to church no later than December 15. These gifts will be distributed in Lynden and the surrounding area through Project Hope and the Christian Hope Association.

WORLD RENEW GIFT ORNAMENTS - If you would like to bless those less fortunate around the world, you are invited to take a paper "GIFT" ornament. These items are in conjunction with the World Renew gift catalog and will be distributed through World Renew. Select the item or amount you would like to donate, then complete your order the following ways:

Online with your credit card at www.worldrenew.net/gifts

Call 1-800-552-7972

Mail check to World Renew, 8970 Byron Commerce Drive SW, Byron Center, MI 49315-7400

MOMS@1ST COOKBOOKS AVAILABLE!

These amazing cookbooks are available to purchase at the church office during office hours. Cookbooks are only \$20 and \$5 goes to New Way Ministries! They would be great for teacher gifts, Secret Santa and Christmas.

DOORS AND TABLE AVAILABLE

The church basement is being cleaned up and Ken has some items available for free for anyone interested. Items available: 1 - steal door, 1 - unfinished door, 1 - 4 panel finished door, 1 - round table (that needs the legs fixed). If you are interested in any of these items, please contact Ken H.

LIBRARY BOOKS RETURN

There are several library books that have checked out for an extended time. Please take a look around your house and return any books that you are not currently using. Thank you.

2023 BIRTHDAY CALENDAR UPDATES

The church birthday calendar is being updated for next year. If you have any corrections, additions, deletions or any 80+ birthdays or significant anniversaries, contact the church office at 360-354-4560 or info@firstcrelynden.org.

VOLUNTEER LISTS

As a new year approaches, the lists of volunteers will begin to be updated. So many things in this church are accomplished by volunteers, and for these people we are truly thankful! If you would be willing to be added to any of the following volunteer lists, your help would be greatly appreciated! Please contact the church office at 354-4560 if you would like to be added or removed from any of the following volunteer lists: Flowers, Nursery, Ushers, Sound, Video, Greeters, Cookies, Bus Drivers, or Drivers for John M.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 3 - Full Rehearsal - 10:00-11:30 AM

** PreK and K parents, please stay with your child, they will be dismissed at 10:15 AM.

** Treats in the Education Building after rehearsal!

Sunday, December 4 - Rehearsal during Morning Service

** All PreK through 5th grade children are asked to come to Children's Church during the morning service.

Saturday, December 10 - Full Dress Rehearsal - 10:00-11:30 AM

** Pizza Party in the Education Building after rehearsal!

Sunday, December 11 - Rehearsal during Morning Service

** All PreK through 5th grade children are asked to come to Children's Church during the morning service.

Sunday, December 11 - Program Night! Kids must be in costume and ready by 5:45 PM

EDUCATION CLASSES

Education classes for 3rd -12th grade and adults meet on Sunday mornings at 9:30 AM.

** Education classes will take a winter break from December 18 - January 1. Classes will resume on January 8.

Adults: The Truth Project (Part 2) Led by David W and Glenn G in church basement.

Infants – Kindergarten: Childcare available in the Education Building

1st grade - 3rd grade: Led by Stephanie R in the Education Building

4th grade – 5th grade: Led by Andrew R in the Education Building

6th grade – 8th grade: Led by Glen B in the Education Building

9th grade – 12th grade: Led by Pastor Mike B in the Loft

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The study of Matthew will meet on Monday, December 5 at 10:00 AM in the Loft, and study week 5 for this week. For more information or to sign up and order your book, contact JoAnn R.

MOMS@1ST (WOMENS MINISTRY)

We will be meeting on Tuesday, December 6 at 9:30 AM in the Loft. For more information about Moms@1st, please contact Carly V.

CADETS (1st - 8th GRADE BOYS MINISTRY)

Our next meeting will be Monday, December 5 from 7:00-8:30 PM in the church basement. For more information, contact Brian S.

GEMS (2nd - 6th GRADE GIRLS MINISTRY)

All girls in 2nd - 6th grade are invited to join us on Wednesday, December 7 from 6:30-8:00 PM in the Ed. Building for our Christmas Party. For more information, contact Kim A.

TRIBE (9th-12th GRADE MINISTRY)

Skating Night - All high school students are welcome to join us for a fun night of roller skating on **Wednesday, December 7 from 7:00 - 8:30 PM at Lynden Skateway**. Please meet or be dropped off/picked up at Lynden Skateway. The cost of skates will be covered, but bring money if you would like to purchase snacks.

Mall Hunt - All junior high and high school students are welcome to join us for our annual Mall Hunt on **Wednesday, December 14 from 7:00 - 9:00 PM**. Please meet or be dropped off/picked up at church.

For more information about Tribe or any of these events, contact Pastor Mike B.