

First Christian Reformed Church

Lynden, Washington

Announcements for December 8, 2024

WORSHIP SERVICES

December 8 - 10:30 AM - Second Sunday in Advent - PEACE

Preaching - Robert W

Isaiah 40:1-5; Luke 3:3-8; II Corinthians 1:3-7 "Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People"

December 8 - 6:00 PM

Preaching - Robert W

Esther 1:1-3, 11-12, 19; 2:15, 17; 3:13-14; 4:13-16; 7:3-6, 10 "A Walk Thru the Bible - Esther"

December 15 - 10:30 AM - Third Sunday in Advent - JOY

Preaching - Robert W

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 "The People That Walked in Darkness"

December 15 - 6:00 PM

Children's Christmas Program

- **Nursery** is available for children up to 3 years during the morning service in the Education Building.
- **Children's Church** is available for children 3 years – 3rd grade during the morning service.
- **After the Service**, join us for a time of fellowship in the basement.
- **Join us online**, services can be streamed at www.firstcreclynden.org.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERING SCHEDULE

- December 8 - Mission and Outreach Fund
- December 15 - ThereforeGo Ministries
- December 22 - Building the Future Fund
- Christmas Day, December 25 - Benevolence Fund
- December 29 - Envision Mission
- December 29, Love Offering - Eagle's Wings

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Any tithes or offering can be given the following ways:

- Placed in the offering bag on Sunday
- Mailed to the church office
- Dropped off at church during the week
- Electronically through a bill pay service or online through Tithe.ly

You can give to the operating fund of the church at any time; there is no scheduled offering time for this fund. Please use a blue envelope (on the Welcome Center) or write "Operating Fund" on the memo line.

END OF THE YEAR GIVING

If you would like to make contributions to the church before the end of the year, you can put it in the offering bag, give it to one of the deacons, or give it to the church office no later December 31 or post marked by December 31.

REPORT FROM THE DEACONS

The report for the month of November from the deacons is available at the Welcome Center or in your mailbox.

PRAYER AND PRAISE ITEMS

BIRTHDAY

- Lamar V will celebrate his 91st birthday on Thursday, December 12.

SYMPATHY

- We extend our sympathy to Ken H with the passing of his sister-in-law, Marie T on November 29.
- We extend our sympathy to Randy & Kara H with the passing of Randy's father, Roger, on Nov. 30.

PRAYER ITEMS

- Jacob A is recovering from knee replacement surgery
- Levi Bis back at home and continues to recover from extensive open heart surgery.
- Gert B is in the hospital dealing with pneumonia.
- Beth B anticipates returning home on Saturday as she continues to recover from knee surgery.
- Glen G is anticipating knee replacement surgery.
- Al M, mission partner in Belgium, continues to battle leukemia, infections and general weakness.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The proposed 2025 budget was passed at the congregational meeting on December 3.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Join us for our Children's Christmas Program, "Do Not Be Afraid Parade" on Sunday, December 15 at 6:00 PM. Be sure to invite your family, friends and neighbors for this wonderful service.

**** Children and Parents ****

- Kids from **3 years through 5th grade** are asked to leave during the morning worship service to practicing during the Children's Church time.
- Saturday, December 7 - Rehearsal, 10:00-11:30 AM
- Saturday, December 14 - Rehearsal, 10:00-11:30 AM, Pizza will be provided following rehearsal
- Sunday, December 10 - Program Night! Kids must be in costume and be ready by 5:45 PM

LIGHTED CHRISTMAS PARADE

If you are planning to watch the Lighted Christmas Parade this coming Saturday evening, you are cordially invited to watch the parade from in front of the church. There will be hot chocolate and various cookies served to anyone who would like to stop by during the parade. The parade begins at 6:00 PM on Dec. 7.

ANGEL/GIVING TREE

If you would like to bless those less fortunate this Christmas, you are invited to take an angel or an ornament and purchase items listed. Please RETURN ORNAMENTS with the UNWRAPPED GIFTS or donations 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.

MALL HUNT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

First CRC Youth Ministry needs volunteers to "hide" at Bellis Fair Mall for the youth group kids to find in our Bingo-style mall hunt. Join us for this fun, multi-generational event on Wednesday, December 11 from 7:30-8:30 PM. Do some Christmas shopping while the kids look for you and get your signature on their Bingo boards. To sign up, contact Cal or Laura B.

VOLUNTEER LISTS

If you would be willing to be added to any of the volunteer lists, your help would be greatly appreciated! Please contact the church office 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.

2025 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, please contact the church office.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

EDUCATION HOUR

Education Classes meet on Sundays at 9:30 AM.

Sunday, December 8 will be the last class before Christmas break.

- Adults: Led by Glenn G in the Church Basement
- Infants – Kindergarten: Childcare available in the Education Building
- 1st grade - 3rd grade: Led by Stephanie R in the Ed Building
- 4th grade – 5th grade: Led by Andrew R the Education Building
- 6th grade – 8th grade: Led by Glen B in the Education Building
- 9th grade – 12th grade: Led by Mike S in the Loft

TIRED AND RETIRED SOUP LUNCHEON

All those 40+ are invited to join us for a soup luncheon on Sunday, December 8 following the morning worship service in the Loft. RSVP and sign up to take a salad or dessert to share on the kiosk. For more information, contact Liz V.

FORGED@FIRST

All 7th and 8th grade students are invited on Monday, December 9 at 7:00 PM in the Loft. For more info, contact Jeff & Renee L or Patty R.

MISSIONS PRAYER

All those interested in learning more about the people group we have committed to praying for and praying for them, join us on Tuesday, December 10 at 10:00 AM in the Prayer Room. For more info, contact Chris R.

MEN'S PRAYER GROUP

Join us for prayer on Wednesday mornings at 7:00 AM at Pat's Place. For more information, contact Patrick J.

TRIBE (9th-12th GRADE YOUTH MINISTRY)

Join us for our annual Mall Hunt on **Wednesday, December 11 from 7:30 - 9:00 PM**. Please drop off/pick up at church at 7:00 PM or meet us at Bellis Fair Mall. For more information , contact Cal B.

DAUGHTERS OF ZION

Join us for a study of Prayer: An Adventure with God on Thursday, December 19 at 10:00 AM in the Education Building. Servers are Tina D and Leona O. For more information, contact Helene Y.

NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY STARTING

All women are invited to join us for a new Bible study, "Daniel: Finding Confidence That God's Power Is at Work" on Monday mornings at 10:00 AM in the Loft. Books can be picked up in the church office. We will start with the foundations week on January 6. For more information, contact Joanne K.

Study description: What if witnessing God move in others' lives *is* our proof that He is still a miracle-working God? A God who doesn't just hear but acts. A God who doesn't just see but rescues. This is where the book of Daniel shines. It's an account of the Lord doing mighty things over and over again, building our confidence not just in His power but His personal care toward us. While you wait on answered prayers or even hope for a miracle, the book of Daniel will quiet your fears and anxieties as you remember the God you have working on your behalf.

CHURCH INFORMATION

1010 Front Street, Lynden, WA 98264

360.354.4560 info@firsterclynden.org www.firsterclynden.org

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM