

# First Christian Reformed Church of Oskaloosa

## Bulletin Supplement for 2/25/24

### CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

#### A TIME FOR PRAYER:

- You are invited to a time of prayer before our worship service every Sunday morning from 9:00-9:10 a.m. in the Conference Room. Everyone is welcome to join us.

#### BELIEVE SERIES:

- In our BELIEVE series we will be coming up on chapters focusing on “Spiritual Gifts”, “Giving My Time” and “Spiritual Resources”. These can be hard concepts for children, but most can understand the word GIVING. Starting this week (Feb. 25 – March 17) we will be asking the children of the congregation to bring their Sunday school offerings to the front when they come up for Children’s Message and drop their money gifts in our wooden church building. The offering this year is going to fund scholarships for children who want to attend Lake View Camp but can’t afford it.

#### FROM THE DEACONS:

- Monthly Offerings:** We would like the congregation to know that you may give at any time during the month to any of the causes we have scheduled. You DO NOT need to send separate checks each week, but one check with the offerings and other causes noted that you want the money to go towards would be fine.

#### March Offering Schedule:

Date	A.M.	P.M.
3/3	GEMS (Local)	Benevolence
3/10	Lake View Camp	Bible League
3/17	Mobility Worldwide	Many Hands for Haiti
3/24	Youth for Christ	Child Evangelism Fellowship
3/29		Luke Society
3/31	World Renew	Pacific Island Ministries

#### WINTER WORSHIP FOR 2023:

- Care Group Set-Up & Clean-Up Schedule:**  
Feb. 25 – Groups 6 & 7      March 3 – Groups 8 & 9
- Oversight:** As we continue our Winter Worship format we ask that you, as parents, please  
(1) keep your children from playing in the sanctuary between the services and  
(2) provide some supervision in the basement. We do not want anyone getting hurt or things getting broken. There are plenty of games downstairs for them to play. Thank you!

#### RETIREMENT PARTY:

- Pat Franje is having his retirement party from River Hills Community Health in our church fellowship hall tomorrow, Feb. 26, from 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. You are cordially invited.

#### GEMS SUNDAY AND FINALE:

- Please join us on Sunday, March 3, as we celebrate our GEMS year. GEMS will be playing piano prelude, the 8<sup>th</sup> Graders will lead us in Praise & Worship, and the GEMS group will share special music. There will also be photos shown during the Offertory. Coffee & cookies will be served after the morning service at 10:30 a.m. The GEMS Finale' will start at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary, where we will quickly highlight our classes and our year. We will end our GEMS celebration with a potluck lunch for everyone at 11:30 a.m.

#### FROM THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

- March 3 will be our last Winter Worship Potluck lunch. However, since that Sunday is also GEMS Sunday, the Fellowship Committee would like to ask the congregation to please bring extra food as we will be having guests for lunch that day. Thank you!

#### FROM THE FLOWER COMMITTEE:

- If you would like to purchase an Easter Lily in memory of a loved one, please contact Marilyn Vos at 626-3296. Plants will be \$10.00 this year. The deadline for ordering is Sunday, March 10. If you just put your money in Marilyn’s box, please be sure to include a note saying who is ordering and who the plan is in memory of. Thanks.

#### FROM IGNITE:

- The Ignite Youth Group would like to say a huge THANK YOU to everyone who made our Valentines Dinner a success. Thank you to all who came to enjoy the delicious meal of smoked bacon-wrapped pork loin, baked potato, green beans, toss salad, strawberry pretzel fluff and cheesecake. Your support towards our mission trip this summer

is appreciated very much!! Our summer mission trip will be to Pikeville, Kentucky at the beginning of June. More information will be coming in the near future to describe what we will be doing for them.

#### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:

- The Good News Chapel VBS Staff sign-up for 2024 Breaker Rock Beach Vacation Bible School has begun! Dates are June 3-7. If you are interested in volunteering this year, please contact Linda Kelley at [vbs@gncosky.org](mailto:vbs@gncosky.org) or text/call 641-660-3918.

#### QUILT TOPS:

- On our annual Sew Day, we got 41 quilt tops laid out. If you are interested in sewing some together, they are on the Information Center. After completion, just put them on the shelf across from the office and the committee will take care of them. Thanks, Delores & Ellize

#### BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES:

- Feb. 25 = Les Fynaardt
- Feb. 26 = Bethany De Bruin (Kurtis)
- Feb. 27 = Doug & Carol Richards
- Feb. 28 = Cora De Groot (Laremy)  
Elmer & Ruth Vos
- Mar. 2 = Laura (Brink) Robertson  
Ken & Linda Van Donselaar

#### OFFICE NEWS:

- Due to being out sick several days this week and time being an issue, the March Prayer Sheets and the March/April Newsletter will not be in your mailboxes this week. I just don't have it in me to get it all done and the information for Sunday and the Council/Elder Agendas were all I could handle. Thanks in advance for your understanding and patience.

### **REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

#### FROM PELLA CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS:

- **Merger Meeting:** A Special Meeting of the Pella Christian High School and Pella Christian Grade School Societies will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 27, to vote on a Motion to merge the Pella Christian Grade School and Pella Christian High School Societies into one legal entity. No presentation will be given that night. Information about the proposal, voting ballots, and upcoming presentations can be obtained at either school office or found on the school's website at [www.pceagles.org/merger/](http://www.pceagles.org/merger/). There is also a packet of details on the Information Center Table.
- **Fundraiser:** A Smoked Pork Fundraiser Meal will be held for the Ryan Natelborg Family on Wednesday, Feb. 28, from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the PCHS Commons. The meal will include Smoked Pulled Pork Sandwiches, Cheesy Potatoes, Baked Beans, Chips, Bonnie's Cookies, Cranberry Stone Cupcakes and drinks. Please contact Russ Van Wyk at 641-780-2829 with any questions.
- **Spring Drama:** PCHS's Theatre Troupe concludes their successful theatre season with Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Timeless and lingering, this hard-hitting work explores prejudice, compassion and the courage to do what is right. Set in a sleepy Alabama town in the midst of the Great Depression, Scout and her brother, Jem, live with their widowed father, Atticus Finch. Reminiscent of a bygone era, the children play outside in the summer, act out stories and fantasize about their mysterious neighbor, Boo Radley. The seemingly peaceful town begins to crack when a young black man is accused of a terrible crime and local lawyer Atticus defends the man with an unshakeable moral conviction. Under the direction of Marlo Van Peurse, *To Kill a Mockingbird* will be presented March 22 & 23, with reserved tickets available for purchase on-line beginning March 4.

#### FROM OSKALOOSA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL:

- **Kinder Kamp** at Oskaloosa Christian School will be held on Friday, March 1. Kinder Kamp is our readiness assessment for four-year olds who are interested in attending kindergarten at our school this fall. Any child who will be 5 years old on or before Sept. 15, 2024 is welcome. To sign up, visit our website at [www.oskaloosachristian.net](http://www.oskaloosachristian.net) and use the 'admissions' tab to register. Morning and afternoon sessions are available. All incoming kindergartners who are 5 by Sept. 15, 2024 are eligible for an Education Savings Account for the 2024-2025 school year regardless of income. Any questions? Call the school at 641-672-2174.
- **Job Opening:** Oskaloosa Christian School is looking to fill a position for a Kindergarten Classroom Aide for the 2024-2025 school year. A teaching certificate is not needed, but a love for kids and a desire to help them learn and grow in the Lord is required. If you or anyone you know is interested, application forms are available on our website ([www.oskaloosachristian.net](http://www.oskaloosachristian.net)) or in our school office. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Rietema at [rietemaj@oskaloosachristian.net](mailto:rietemaj@oskaloosachristian.net) or call the school at 641-672-2174.

FROM PEORIA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL:

- **Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten Round-Up:** PK and Kindergarten Round-Up will take place at Peoria Christian School on Wednesday, March 6, from 8:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. If you have a student that will be starting in Pre-K or Kindergarten next school year, we would love for them to attend school on this day. Please contact Michelle at [office@peoriachr.org](mailto:office@peoriachr.org) with any questions or to RSVP your student.
- **Open House:** POP on over to Peoria Christian School on Thursday, March 21, at 7:00 p.m. for our Open House. We will have a brief presentation at 7:00 p.m. followed by a time for individual questions and school tours. Join us for an evening of popcorn, snacks, and fellowship to learn more about Peoria Christian School! Please contact Michelle De Haan at [office@peoriachr.org](mailto:office@peoriachr.org) with any questions or to RSVP for this event.
- **Job Openings:** Peoria Christian School is hiring for the following positions for the 2024/2025 school year:
  - ~ 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Classroom Teacher (Full-Time)
  - ~ 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Teacher (Part-Time)
  - ~ IXL (Part-Time)
  - ~ 1<sup>st</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Spanish Teacher (Part-Time)

If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Jeremy Copenhaver at [principal@peoriachr.org](mailto:principal@peoriachr.org).

- **Contract:** The Peoria Christian School Board has extended a contract to Jeremy Copenhaver for principal for the 2024/2025 school year. Please join us in praying for Mr. Copenhaver, his wife, and their children as they discern God's will for them. *"And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, 'This is the way, walk in it,' when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left."* (Isaiah 30:21)

FROM SONSHINE PRESCHOOL:

- **Open House:** SONshine Preschool will host an Open House on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, from 4:30-5:15 or 5:30-6:15 p.m. for the 2024-2025 school year. Parents and children are invited for a casual come and go visit to the classroom, meet the teachers and learn about the Christ-centered learning at SONshine. We can also explain the process of online sign up at this time. SONshine Preschool is located within the Oskaloosa Christian School at 726 North "E" Street, Oskaloosa, IA.
- **Sign-Up:** Online sign opens on Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. Visit our website at [www.sonshinepreschool.org](http://www.sonshinepreschool.org) for more "Admissions and Registration" information. SONshine Preschool is limited to the first 40 students through on-line signup. After 40 seats are filled, students will be placed on a waiting list.
- **Other information:**
  - ~ Students must be 4 years of age by September 15 of 2024 to qualify for free tuition.
  - ~ Info about Final Registration will be presented after Online signup.
- **Questions:** If you have further questions about SONshine Preschool Admission & Registration, please go to [www.sonshinepreschool.org](http://www.sonshinepreschool.org).

FROM LAKE VIEW CAMP:

- Lake View Camp is excited to announce that summer camp registration is OPEN! Send your child on a great summer adventure where they will swim, fish, canoe, hike, and play crazy games – all while growing deeper in their faith. Lake View Camp offers day camps, overnight camps, service camps, and grand camps. More information and online registration available at [www.lakeviewconference.com](http://www.lakeviewconference.com). Registration forms are also available from the Information Center Rack.

YOU ARE INVITED:

- The Young At Heart Group from Pella Calvary CRC are taking a motor coach trip to Duluth, MN, June 17-21, 2024. You are invited to join them. Please contact Christy Van Zee at 641-628-1068 or [vanzeejc@gmail.com](mailto:vanzeejc@gmail.com) for more information.

FROM CRCNA:

- You are making a difference! On behalf of the ministries of the Christian Reformed Church in North America, thank you for your gifts to ministry shares. Your support enables congregations to do so much more to further God's Kingdom than any one church could do alone. Our denomination could not impact the world through missions, media, and church development without your incredible and faithful support. Thank you! To discover more visit [www.crcna.org/ministryshares](http://www.crcna.org/ministryshares).

FROM CRC NEWS:

- **From ReFrame Ministries:**
  - ~ *Groundwork – The Curse Of The Cross:* We were rightly cursed by God for our failure to keep his covenant. Join our Groundwork conversation as we study Deuteronomy 28:1-19, Deuteronomy 21:22-23, Galatians 3:10-14, 2 Corinthians 5:21, and Isaiah 53:4-11 to better understand the cursed nature of the cross and discuss the implications of this curse and Jesus' death under it for our lives of faith today. Listen now at [www.GroundworkOnline.com](http://www.GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

~ *Kids Corner – Names of God: The Righteous God* - Check out this week's kids' devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Psalm 145:17 says, "*The Lord is righteous in all his ways and faithful in all he does.*" So, what is it like to be righteous? Is it like being right? Check out all the great content at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net), like KC's Lent and Easter Collection.

- **Festival of Faith And Writing:** The Calvin Center for Faith and Writing invites you to attend the Festival of Faith & Writing, April 11-13, on the campus of Calvin University. The Festival features over 70 speakers, including plenary speakers Anthony Doerr, Yaa Gyasi, and Tracy K. Smith. Visit our website to see our full roster of fabulous speakers, purchase tickets, or to learn more. Questions? Reach out to [ccfw@calvin.edu](mailto:ccfw@calvin.edu).
- **World Renew:** World Renew DRS helps homeowners like Mrs. Brown who may not be able to recover from a flood, tornado, or hurricane on their own. Please give generously in today's offering for World Renew DRS. You can also give online at [www.worldrenew.net/drs](http://www.worldrenew.net/drs) or call 800-848-5818 to donate.
- **Thrive Faith Formation Tip:** Cornel West said, "Justice is what love looks like in public." How might you share the love of Jesus by practicing justice in public this week in your workplace, your neighborhood, or your city? Learn more at [www.crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject](http://www.crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject).

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### Stress Management

A lecturer, when explaining stress management to an audience,  
raised a glass of water and asked,  
"How heavy is this glass of water?"  
Answers called out ranged from 20g to 500g.

The lecturer replied, "The absolute weight doesn't matter.  
It depends on how long you try to hold it.  
If I hold it for a minute, that's not a problem.  
If I hold it for an hour, I'll have an ache in my right arm.  
If I hold it for a day, you'll have to call an ambulance.

In each case, it's the same weight, but the longer I hold it, the heavier it becomes."

He continued, "And that's the way it is with stress management. If we carry our burdens all the time, sooner or later, as the burden becomes increasingly heavy, we won't be able to carry on. As with the glass of water, you have to put it down for a while and rest before holding it again. When we're refreshed, we can carry on with the burden."

"So, before you return home tonight, put the burden of work down. Don't carry it home. You can pick it up tomorrow. Whatever burdens you're carrying now, let them down for a moment if you can."

*So, my friend, why not take a while to just simply RELAX. Put down anything that may be a burden to you right now. Don't pick it up again until after you've rested a while. Life is short. Enjoy it!*