

# First Christian Reformed Church of Oskaloosa

## Bulletin Supplement for 3/17/24

### 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. Through today, 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:

| <u>Date</u> | <u>A.M.</u>        | <u>P.M.</u>                 |
|-------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| 3/3         | GEMS (Local)       | Benevolence                 |
| 3/10        | Lake View Camp     | Gospel Singers Male Chorus  |
| 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   |

#### HOLY WEEK PRAISE TEAM:

- We are looking for a Large Group Praise Team of Mixed Voices of All Ages to lead our Congregation in the singing of two songs. “*Then Will the Very Rocks Cry Out*” and “*Alleluia, for the Lord God Almighty Reigns*” will be led by the Praise Team at the conclusion of our March 24 AM Palm Sunday Service. Rehearsals will be held as follows:  
Today, March 17 – in the Music Room downstairs from 8:50 – 9:20  
Next Sunday, March 24 – in the sanctuary from 8:45 – 9:00  
Music is available on the Information Center Table. Thanks, The Worship Committee.

#### NCAA BRACKET:

- You are invited to join in a church NCAA Bracket challenge. Go to [www.espn.com](http://www.espn.com), select “Men’s Tournament Challenge”, log in (your personal info), and join the “First CRC Osky 2024” group, password “hoops.” You may also see the link on our church Facebook page. Starting this evening until Thursday, March 21, at 11:00 a.m., choose your bracket. If you can, make your bracket name easily identifiable to the others in the group so we know who we are playing with/against. Also, one entry per person (multiple entries are allowed per username so that spouses and kids can play).

#### CAN YOU HELP?:

- They gave us 95 slots for our Blood Drive to be held on Monday, March 25. If you’ve ever thought about donating, this would be a good time to try it as we have a lot of slots to fill! The drive is from 2:00 – 7:00 p.m. If you would like to donate and have not been contacted, please contact Gene & Sue De Bruin. Please eat before donating and bring your photo ID. Thanks!

#### CLEAN-OUT NEEDED:

- The Cadets are making SUBS on Wednesday, March 27. In view of that, we ask that the fridges and freezer in the upstairs kitchen be cleaned out by then so that we have room to temporarily store SUBS. Thanks!

#### CADET SUB MAKING:

- We will pick you up from the Oskaloosa schools on Wednesday, March 27, in order to make SUBS. If you are homeschooled, please be at church by 2:30; if you attend outside the Oskaloosa schools, please get here as soon as you can. Snacks will be provided before we begin, so that you don’t eat all the profits. ☺ Gloves will be provided **and** required while you are making the SUBS. When we are finished making SUBS, we will enjoy pizza for supper. We should be done by 5:00 and we ask that you be picked up then. Everyone benefits from this, so everyone is expected to help out.



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.

#### FROM PELLA CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS:

- 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 Peursem, *To Kill a Mockingbird* will be presented March 22 & 23, with reserved tickets available for purchase on-line beginning March 4.

#### LOVE, INC GALA:

- Love, INC of Mahaska County invites you to a Dinner/Dessert/Auction Gala. Please join us on Friday, April 5, at the Gateway Nazarene Church (140 Gateway Drive, Oskaloosa). A social time will begin at 6:00 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. Please RSVP by March 29 to 641-676-3750 or [loveincofmahaskacounty@gmail.com](mailto:loveincofmahaskacounty@gmail.com). If you are unable to attend, please consider making a donation. For more information, please visit our website at [www.loveincmahaska.org](http://www.loveincmahaska.org). There was also a flyer attached to last week's supplement.

#### SAVE THE DATE:

- **Salad Luncheon:** The Bible League Spring Salad Luncheon will be held on Monday, April 8, at Cornerstone Church (1020 East Oskaloosa St.) in Pella, IA.
- **Pro-Life Gala:** Pathways of Pella will hold their Spring Pro-Life Gala on Friday, April 12, at Federated Fellowship Church (309 Roosevelt Road) in Pella, IA.

#### FROM OSKALOOSA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL:

- **Job Openings:** OSCI has the following job openings for the 2024-25 school year:
  - ~ Kinder Kids Classroom Aide
  - ~ Part-time Art Teacher
  - ~ Part-time 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Math Teacher

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.

- **New Full-Time Administrative Position:** OSCI is excited to announce an opening for a new full-time administrative position! We are currently collecting applications for a new Director of Learning and Advancement. This person will serve the school in various capacities including Teacher & Student Support, Marketing/Promotions, Admissions, and Administrative Assistance. If you or anyone you know might be interested in applying, please stop by the school office or contact Joel Rietema at [rietemaj@oskaloosachristian.net](mailto:rietemaj@oskaloosachristian.net) for an application packet.
- **Coaching Opportunity:** OSCI is also seeking a Boys' Basketball Coach for the 2024-25 school year. If you are interested, please contact Athletic Director Shannon Semini at 641-660-7036.

#### 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 PELLA WELCOME CORP:

- Pella Welcome Corps welcomed its first refugee family from Central America to Pella in February. They have been busy settling into a new home, learning a new language, applying for jobs and meeting many new friends. Please pray for this family as they adjust to life in the U.S. We thank you for the generous support you have already shown! To learn more about Pella Welcome Corps, visit our Facebook page or go to [www.crossroadspella.org/welcome-corps](http://www.crossroadspella.org/welcome-corps).

FROM CRC NEWS:

- **From ReFrame Ministries:**
  - ~ *Groundwork – The Complete Sufficiency Of The Cross:* Christ’s sacrifice is completely sufficient to satisfy God’s wrath, and yet, sometimes we forget. Join Groundwork as we study Isaiah 53:6; Galatians 2:20-21, 3:1-3, 3:24-27, & 6:14-15; and Romans 5:9-11 & 6:1-4 to discuss the source of this truth, how we can keep our fears at bay, and how we can keep a right perspective about our salvation and our deeds. Listen now at [www.GroundworkOnline.com](http://www.GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.
  - ~ *Kids Corner – The Not-So-Triumphal Entry:* Check out this week’s kids’ devotion at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Ever wonder why Jesus chose to ride a donkey? By selecting a donkey, he declared that he was there to get to work—God’s work—and he wasn’t threatening anyone. Donkeys aren’t flashy. Check out all the great content at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net), like KC’s Lent and Easter Collection.
- **Thrive Faith Formation Tip:** What would happen if we all listened to others just as deeply and lovingly as God listens to us? How would that change our family life, our work life, our interactions with our neighbor, or our online presence? Learn more at [www.crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject](http://www.crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject).

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**Packaging**

A young man was getting ready to graduate from college. For many months he had admired a beautiful sports car in a dealer's showroom, and knowing his father could well afford it, he told him that was all he wanted.

As Graduation Day approached, the young man awaited signs that his father had purchased the car. Finally, on the morning of his graduation, his father called him into his private study. His father told him how proud he was to have such a fine son and told him how much he loved him. He handed his son a beautiful, wrapped gift box. Curious, but somewhat disappointed, the young man opened the box and found a lovely, leather-bound Bible, with the young man's name embossed in gold. Angrily, he raised his voice to his father and said, "With all your money you give me a Bible?" and stormed out of the house, leaving the Bible.

Many years passed and the young man was very successful in business. He had a beautiful home and wonderful family, but realized his father was very old, and thought perhaps he should go to him. He had not seen him since that graduation day. Before he could make arrangements, he received a telegram telling him his father had passed away, and willed all of his possessions to his son. He needed to come home immediately and take care of things.

When he arrived at his father's house, a sudden sadness and regret filled his heart. He began to search through his father's important papers and saw the still new Bible, just as he had left it years ago. With tears, he opened the Bible and began to turn the pages. His father had carefully underlined a verse, Matt 7:11, "And if ye, being evil know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your Heavenly father, which is in heaven, give to those who ask Him?" As he read those words, a car key dropped from the back of the Bible. It had a tag with the dealer's name, the same dealer who had the sports car he had desired. On the tag was the date of his graduation, and the words...PAID IN FULL.

How many times do we miss God's blessings because they are not packaged as we expected? I trust you enjoyed this. Pass it on to others. Do not spoil what you have by desiring what you have not; but remember that what you now have was once among the things you only hoped for...

IF YOUR GIFT IS NOT PACKED THE WAY YOU WANT IT,  
IT'S BECAUSE IT IS BETTER PACKED THAT WAY!  
ALWAYS APPRECIATE LITTLE THINGS;  
THEY USUALLY LEAD YOU TO ATTACHMENTS!