

First Christian Reformed Church of Oskaloosa

Bulletin Supplement for 4/20/25

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.

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.

April Offering Schedule:

Date	A.M.	P.M.
4/6	Forward with Faith	Cary Christian Center
4/13	SWIM (Safe Water Internat'l Ministries)	Samaritan's Purse
4/18 (Good Friday)		Bible League
4/20	ReFrame Ministries	No PM Service
4/27	Good News Chapel VBS Program	Missionary Support

RIDES NEEDED:

- Marilyn Vos would appreciate help with rides to Iowa City for her Chemo and Radiation treatments. If you can help out, please contact Marilyn at 1-641-780-4543 for dates and times.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC:

- The Education and Fellowship committee would like to invite the congregation to the Sunday School Picnic on May 4 following Sunday School. This year we will be serving Walking Tacos and baked goods. Please bring your lawn chairs and/or blankets and if the weather permits, we invite you to enjoy a time of lunch and fellowship in the south parking lot & lawn area.

BARS/COOKIES NEEDED:

- The Education and Fellowship Committees are requesting donations of bars/cookies for the upcoming Sunday School Picnic on May 4. There is a sign-up sheet on the Information Center Table. Please have your bars/cookies in the church kitchen by May 4. Thank you in advance.

CADET SUBS:

- SUBS:** The Cadets have a few SUBS left if anyone is interested. There are 2 bags of 12 (\$42) and 1 bag of 9 (\$31.50). You may also break open a bag to buy individual sandwiches at \$3.50 each.
- Summer Sausage:** We also have a few pounds of Summer Sausage left. We are selling that for our cost of \$9 /lb. It has been divided into 1 lb. packages.
- Payment:** They are all in the upstairs freezer. Please just put the money in the Cadet mailbox. If you pay by check, please write in the memo line what you purchased. If you pay with cash, please let us know who it's from and what you purchased. Thank you!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:

- Staff Meetings** at Good News Chapel:
 - *Bible Teachers – Monday, May 5, at 7:00 p.m.
 - *Craft Teachers & Helpers – Monday, May 19, at 7:00 p.m.
 - *Transportation & Rec Team – Tuesday, May 27, at 5:30 p.m.
 - *VBS Decorating – All are welcome to help! Wednesday, May 28, at 4:00 p.m.
 - *Worship Rally – Thursday, May 29, at 5:00 p.m.
 - *VBS Set-Up Team – Friday, May 30, at 5:30 p.m.

Set up classrooms and sanctuary, Teachers may decorate their rooms.

Note: All meetings will take place in the basement, use the basement door to enter. Any questions? Contact Linda Kelley at vbs@gncosky.org or call/text 641-660-3918.

- Display Board:**

*Activities: Hey Kids! Help yourself to the coloring pages and word search on the VBS table.

*Enrollment: Parents can fill out enrollment forms on the table.

*Prayer Calendar: Interested in praying for VBS? There's a prayer calendar available with daily ideas of what to pray for the month before VBS!

- **Van Volunteer:** We are in need of a volunteer to ride along on the van each day of Bible School, June 2-6. Must be able to get out at each stop to open the door for kids. Please email Linda Kelley at vbs@gncosky.org or call Ron Fleener 641-660-8557 to volunteer.
- **Thanks** to all who have volunteered to be a part of this important ministry!

CADET 5-DAY CAMPOREE:

- Cadet boys and counselors, just a reminder that your registration for the 5-Day is due back to Gene by May 1.

FROM THE BUILDING COMMITTEE:

- The Council approved a motion from the Building Committee to build a deck on the north side of the parsonage. There would be access to the deck through the existing door. To the north of the proposed deck a 16x20 foot concrete patio will be added including a built-in fire pit. Concrete work by G & S will be \$3,200; Deck material from R P Lumber will be an estimated cost of \$6,000. Members of the Building Committee will build the deck. The total cost for the project will be \$9,200. Please consider a gift to the Building Fund for the completion of this update to the parsonage.

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES:

- Apr. 20 = Amy F
- Apr. 21 = Lucas DG
- Apr. 23 = Tiffany R
- Apr. 24 = Betty H, Shirley VD
- Apr. 25 = Adam B, Trent VG (Joel)
Bruce & Jeannene V
- Apr. 26 = Karl B, Deacon H (Tony)

INFORMATION CENTER UPDATES:

- 1) Rodriguez's *Satisfied Wages* 2) Werner's *From Sunrise Land*

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS:

FROM OSKALOOSA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL:

- **Faith News Musical** – SONshine through fourth grade students are excitedly preparing for our musical FAITH NEWS! We get to share six Bible adventures of faith with singing and acting. TK-fourth graders will first perform for our grandparents at 9:30 a.m. and then SONshine will join with all of our family and friends for our 7:00 p.m. evening performance on Friday, April 25. We look forward to sharing these stories of faith while we grow our own faith!

FROM PELLA CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS:

- **Help Us Soar Campaign:** This year's Help Us Soar campaign at Pella Christian Schools will transform the new PCGS Playground and PCHS Capital Improvements at the high school campus, allowing us to remain focused on our mission and the Lord's transformation happening in the lives of our students. Show your support by donating online at www.pceagles.org/helpussoar or by sending in your gift via mail by April 25, 2025 to 300 Eagle Lane, Pella, IA 50219. Donations can be designated for Pella Christian High School, Pella Christian Grade School or simply Pella Christian Schools and it will be divided between both campuses.
- **Visit the Eagle Boosters' Booth at Tulip Time!:** Are you visiting Tulip Time this year? Be sure to stop by the Pella Christian High School concession stand located at East First and Franklin (in front of Bredeaux Pizza). We'll be serving Dutch spiced beef, Pella bologna, cotton candy, snow cones, cookies, chips and an assortment of drinks, and back by popular demand, the "Dutch Stack" sandwich (Dutch spiced beef, Pella bologna, and Gouda cheese). All proceeds support PC academics and our athletic, theater and music programs. We promise to satisfy your appetite and thirst while you support PCHS!

FROM OSKALOOSA COMMUNITY EVANGELISM COMMITTEE:

- **The National Day of Prayer** will be observed on Thursday, May 1. The local Fellowship of Evangelical Ministers and the Oskaloosa Community Evangelism Committee will be meeting at the Oskaloosa City Square at noon that day for a time of prayer. In case of rain, it will be moved to the Penn Central Mall Center Court. Please join us.
- **Advance Notice:** This is early, but the dates have been set for this year's annual Bible Reading Marathon. It will be held at Penn Central Mall Center Court, Wednesday, June 25 through Saturday, June 28, during mall hours. We would love to have you join us in reading through God's Word.

FROM BARNABAS FOUNDATION:

- Smart, Streamlined Giving through a Donor-Advised Fund. During this free, approximately 20-minute event, Barnabas Foundation's Cindi Riemersma will explain the benefits of using the Stewards Fund and share tax-wise strategies to help you streamline your generosity and make an enduring impact for the causes that matter most to

you. Join us on Wednesday, May 14, at 11 a.m. (Central) / 12 p.m. (Eastern). Please register using the following link that is available on the email that was forwarded 4/17. There is no cost, but advance registration is required.

FROM CRC NEWS:

- **From ReFrame Ministries:**

- ~ Groundwork: Easter – Jesus is Risen!: Christians around the world celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter. Join our Groundwork conversation as we study the story of Jesus' resurrection in Mark 16:1-8, Matthew 28:1-10, Luke 24:1-12, and John 20:1-10 to grow in faith by remembering and celebrating Christ's victory over death, and to see how we're invited to participate in telling the gospel story again. Listen now at www.GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

- ~ Kids Corner – Good News at Easter: Check out this week's kids' devotion "Good News at Easter" at www.kidscorner.net. Just like we know the voice of someone we love, Mary Magdalene knew it was Jesus when He called her name outside the empty tomb on Easter morning. That special moment changed everything for her! It reminds us to share the amazing news that Jesus is alive and loves us so much. Check out all the great content at www.kidscorner.net, like KC's Lent and Easter Collection.

- **From CRC Communications:** 40 Days of Prayer for Synod – You're invited into 40 days of intentional, guided prayer leading up to Synod 2025. The theme, *Journey With Jesus*, has been engaged with by a wide variety of CRC contributors. Learn more and sign up for either daily Scripture and prayers OR a week's worth of Scripture and prayers that will be emailed to you. www.crcna.org/synod/prayer
- **From CRC Heritage Fund:** Eggs in the Giving Basket - Savvy farmers who put some of their eggs – or grains, almonds, berries, corn, or even livestock – in the giving basket avoid taxes AND have tremendous Kingdom impact. Commodities are often more cost-effective to give than cash! Are commodities the right giving option for you? We'd love to tell you more. Write to plannedgiving@crcna.org or call Josh Remer, CRCNA Planned Giving Advisor at 616-223-5885.
- **From Resonate Global Mission:** Easter Greetings from Resonate - He is risen! When we follow Jesus, we have an opportunity to live into that truth a little more every day. We also step into a calling to work toward the kingdom transformation Jesus brought to earth. Resonate Global Mission, your mission agency, walks alongside you and your church as you join God on mission. Thank you for your prayer, care, and support for your missionaries and church planters! This Easter season we have a special opportunity for you to double your impact—see details at www.resonateglobalmission.org/double.
- **Thrive:** Next week, Thrive invites our church to imagine a more holistic approach to nurturing a safe and healthy church community where abuse itself becomes unthinkable and where survivors feel supported and safe. In preparation, learn more about Thrive's work toward safer churches and consider giving now to this valuable ministry that empowers all CRC's at their website: www.crcna.org/SafeChurch.



Why Did Jesus Fold the Napkin?



Why did Jesus fold the linen burial cloth after His resurrection? The Gospel of John (20:7) tells us that the napkin, which was placed over the face of Jesus, was not just thrown aside like the grave clothes.

The Bible takes an entire verse to tell us that the napkin was neatly folded, and was placed at the head of that stony coffin.

Early Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance.

She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, 'They have taken the Lord's body out of the tomb, and I don't know where they have put him!'

Peter and the other disciple ran to the tomb to see. The other disciple out ran Peter and got there first. He stopped and looked in and saw the linen cloth lying there, but he didn't go in.

Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrappings lying there, while the cloth that had covered Jesus' head was folded up and lying to the side.

Was that important? Absolutely!
Is it really significant? Yes!

In order to understand the significance of the folded napkin, you have to understand a little bit about Hebrew tradition of that day.

The folded napkin had to do with the Master and Servant, and every Jewish boy knew this tradition.

When the servant set the dinner table for the master, he made sure that it was exactly the way the master wanted it.

The table was furnished perfectly, and then the servant would wait, just out of sight, until the master had finished eating, and the servant would not dare touch that table, until the master was finished.

Now if the master were done eating, he would rise from the table, wipe his fingers, his mouth, and clean his beard, and would wad up that napkin and toss it onto the table.

The servant would then know to clear the table. For in those days, the wadded napkin meant, "I'm finished."

But if the master got up from the table, and folded his napkin, and laid it beside his plate, the servant would not dare touch the table, because.....The folded napkin meant, "I'm coming back!" And so He shall!