

First Christian Reformed Church of Oskaloosa

Bulletin Supplement for 8/17/25

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.

August Offering Schedule:

Date	A.M.	P.M.
8/3	Love, INC (In the Name of Christ)	Freedom House
8/10	Mobility Worldwide	Pacific Island Ministries
8/17	Areopagus	Benevolence
8/24	Crossroads Prison Ministry	**Parking Lot Praise
8/31	Oskaloosa Evangelism Committee	Missionary Support

NEWSLETTER:

- Deadline:** All articles for the September/October Newsletter are due by today.
- Society Leaders:** We would like to have a brief write-up from all the various groups explaining when you meet and who can attend. i.e. Cadets meet every Wednesday evening from 7-8:30 and is for boys in 4th – 8th grades. Please email it to the church office at firstercosky@gmail.com. Thanks.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS/SUBSTITUTES:

- There will be a short informational meeting on Sunday, August 24, immediately following the morning worship service. Please come to the front of the sanctuary (piano side) as soon as the service is over and then you can have fellowship time following the meeting.

PLP...it stands for PARKING LOT PICNIC & PARKING LOT PRAISE:

- Bring** – your lawn chair, a friend, neighbor – anyone who would enjoy a meal and worship in a relaxed setting! Here are the details:
 - ~ **Sunday evening**, August 24, 2025, in our church parking lot for PICNIC & PRAISE!
 - ~ **9 SQUARE in the Air**: 4:00 p.m...arrive early for a competitive game of “9 Square in the Air” on the church lawn!
 - ~ **A SQUARE Meal** served from 5:00 – 5:45 p.m. with Pastor Jon’s famous smoked brisket, along with baked beans and chips.
 - ~ **Musical SQUARES!** Familiarize yourself with music from the Christian Artists that will be performing at “Concert on the Square” the following Saturday, August 30. We’ll be listening to their songs in a friendly game of Musical SQUARES!
 - ~ **Children’s Message** by Pastor Jon.
 - ~ **Root beer floats** to finish off the evening.

TRANSPORTATION RELEASES:

- This year, there will be one Transportation Release per family. You will list your children, their grade and then circle everything that they would be involved in. For example, the Spronk Family would list the following: Ben – 12th; Finn – 11th; Leah – 9th; Nick – 8th. They would circle Cadets, Sunday School and Youth Group. Releases are in your mailbox today, please fill them out and turn them in to the office by next Sunday, August 24.

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES:

- Aug. 17 = Robbyn DB, Cheryl G
- Aug. 18 = Harbor B (Adam), Dustin H, Elmer V
Brent & Georgina DR
- Aug. 21 = Clara B (Ryan), Randall DG, Lyndsay V
- Aug. 22 = Jensen B (Jeremy)
Adam & Samantha DB
- Aug. 23 = Jay B

INFORMATION CENTER UPDATES:

- Perrin & Jodi Werner *From Sunrise Land*

OFFICE NEWS:

- Thanks to everyone who has turned in their society things for me to do before I leave on vacation. Just a friendly reminder that if you still need things done, to please get them to me ASAP. Thanks! 😊

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS:

BIBLE LEAGUE FALL RETREAT:

- Don't miss the Bible League Retreat on Thursday, Sept. 11, at Calvary Church in Pella, IA. This special event features dynamic keynote speaker Twila Belk. Whether she's speaking, writing, or sharing a laugh, Twila brings hope and encouragement, pointing hearts toward our amazing God as we study the theme, **STANDING STRONG THROUGH THE SEASONS**. Be inspired through worship led by organist Benjamin Spronk and the Pella Christian High School Worship Team. Bible League's CEO Jos Snoep will share about their ministry that brings God's Word to children across the globe. An offering will be taken in support of this mission. Conference registration is \$40 and includes lunch. Ticket fees help cover event expenses. Register at www.bibleleague.org/tickets. A \$5 late fee applies after August 25 – don't wait!

HUSBANDS/FATHERS:

- Husbands, do you desire to reignite romance in your marriage? Fathers, do you have a teenage son and need to have "the sex talk" with but don't know how? Faith Church of Pella (215 E. University St.) invites you to a two-day event with author and therapist Sam Jolman who will help us ignite romance in our marriages and equip us to have "the sex talk" with our sons that goes far beyond just biology. Join us at Faith Church on Friday, Oct. 3, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. for a couples evening where Sam will speak on "Recovering Your Romance" and again on Saturday, Oct. 4, from 7:30-10:30 a.m. for a Father/Son Breakfast where Sam will offer "The Not Awkward Sex Talk". RSVP is not required but appreciated. For more information check out the Faith Church website, www.faithcrcpella.org or to reserve your spot call or email Faith Church at 641-628-1335 or pastor@faithcrcpella.org.

ADVANCE NOTICE:

- Mahaska Connect will be held on Saturday, Nov. 8, at Fellowship Bible Church. Watch for more details and sign-up opportunities in the future.

FROM CRC NEWS:

- **From ReFrame Ministries:**
~ *Kids Corner Devotions: God's Grand Story – The Boy with the Supersized Supper:* Check out this week's kids' devotion, "God's Grand Story: The Boy with the Supersized Supper," at www.kidscorner.net. In today's Bible story, a boy thought that what he had was not enough. But like him, you will be surprised by what God can do with our "not-enoughs". Thank God for being the God of abundance. Check out all the great content at www.kidscorner.net, like the Kids Corner Bible Story Podcast Series.
- **CRC Heritage Fund:** Did you know that you can give cash and other assets into a single fund and then choose when and how to recommend grants to CRC Ministries with a Stewards Fund (donor-advised fund)? Learn more at www.crcna.org/heritagefund or call Josh Remer, CRCNA Planned Giving Advisor at 616-223-5885.
- **Calvin University 150th Anniversary Events:** Calvin University is celebrating its 150th Anniversary and you're invited to join us in marking the occasion all year long! Check the www.calvin.edu/150 website for details on many events going on at Calvin throughout the anniversary year. Some ways we're celebrating include Celebration Weeks on campus, Calvin On-the-Road events to 30 cities, an Anniversary Worship Celebration in March 2026, and a 150th Anniversary Hymn Text Contest.
- **Support The Banner Magazine:** The Banner's annual fundraising campaign continues! More than just an award-winning magazine, *The Banner* is a journalistic ministry dedicated to informing, inspiring, and connecting our CRC community. Available to you in both print and online, this vital resource is made possible by the generous support of individuals like you. Help meet the ambitious \$500,000 goal for the 2025 campaign by giving today! www.thebanner.org/donate
- **Get Involved with Generation Spark:** Generation Spark offers hands-on coaching, practical strategies, and extensive support to help all generations form meaningful relationships that result in sustained, lifelong faith. We invite you to learn more about what it might look like for your church to invest in intergenerational mentoring! Informational webinars are offered on August 21, 7:30 p.m. ET or September 11, 11:30 a.m. ET. Register here: shorturl.at/d7DEO
- **Thrive Faith Formation Tip:** In his book *Just Mercy*, Bryan Stevenson writes, "The true measure of our character is how we treat the poor, the disfavored, the accused, the incarcerated, and the condemned. We are all implicated when we allow other people to be mistreated." These words speak directly to the heart of Micah 6:8. As you go through this week, focus on aligning your actions with those of the one who seeks justice in all spaces. Note down your observations at the end of the week and consider what your daily practice can become moving forward. Brought to you by Thrive: www.crcna.org/Thrive.