

First Christian Reformed Church of Oskaloosa

Bulletin Supplement for 8/24/25

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

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:
 - ~ **This 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” on 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 were in your mailbox last week, please fill them out and turn them in to the office today.

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES:

- Aug. 25 = Mike Bo, Grant DB, Larry DG, Logan K (Pastor Erik), Chase N
Ben & Courtney DB
- Aug. 26 = Nicole DG
Roger & Cleo DG
- Aug. 27 = Keri S
Jeremy & Amy B
- Aug. 28 = Amanda B, Kristi J
- Aug. 29 = Sydnie B (Karl), Ben S (Pastor Jon)
BJ & Cassia B, Leon & Arlys VK
- Aug. 30 = Jeanette DB

DIRECTORY UPDATE:

- Elmer & Ruth Vos have dropped their landline. Please update your directories with the following numbers:
Elmer – 641-295-1241
Ruth – 641-638-0410

INFORMATION CENTER UPDATES:

- 1) Perrin & Jodi Werner’s *From Sunrise Land* 2) Ryan & Jody Faber’s *Days of the Harvest*

OFFICE NEWS:

- Misc. Stuff:** Just a few reminders as the society season starts up again:

- ~ Space: If you need to use areas of the church that you don't normally use, at a time you don't normally use them (i.e. Fellowship Hall &/or Kitchen on a Thursday afternoon), you need to talk to the office to reserve the space. Space is reserved on a "first come, first serve" basis.
- ~ Projects: I am more than willing to help you with your projects (designing, copying, cutting), just please get them to me in a timely manner. (Read "NOT Thursday or Friday" ☺)
- ~ Mailboxes: **PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE** let me put things in mailboxes for you. It is much easier for me to do the smaller things last. Just leave the items on the office table with instructions (if needed). Thanks!
- ~ Van Use: Please see the end of the supplement for van use guidelines. The van is reserved through the office on a "first come, first serve" basis.

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS:

BIBLE LEAGUE FALL RETREAT:

- **Men and women**, you're invited to the Bible League Retreat, **STANDING STRONG THROUGH THE SEASONS**, on Thursday, **Sept. 11**, at Calvary Church in Pella, hosted by Bible League Volunteers. Be encouraged by keynote speaker Twila Belk, who brings joy, hope, and heartfelt inspiration as she points us to our amazing God. The retreat also features powerful ministry updates from Bible League leaders and uplifting worship led by organist Benjamin Spronk and the Pella Christian High School Worship Team. Come for a day of inspiration, connection, and renewed purpose. Register today at www.bibleleague.org/tickets.

FROM LOVE, INC:

- **Attention Golfers!** Join us for a great day on the green! Love INC of Mahaska County is hosting a Golf Tournament on Saturday, **Sept. 20**, at Edmundson Golf Course.
 - ~ Shotgun Start: 10:00 AM
 - ~ Cost: \$90 per golfer or \$350 per foursome
 - ~ Location: Edmundson Golf Course
 To register, email your list of players – and let us know if you need a cart – to: events@loveincmahaska.org
 Questions? Contact Keith Van Donselaar at 641-780-6802. Come out, have fun, and support Love INC!
- **Mahaska Connect** will be held on Saturday, **Nov. 8**, at Fellowship Bible Church. There is a Volunteer Sign-Up sheet on the Information Center table. Church volunteers may also sign-up on our website at www.loveincmahaska.org under the "Mahaska Connect" tab. What a testimony for our community to see the partnership of churches working together to serve our neighbors. If you have any questions, please reach out to Susan at 676-3750.

HUSBANDS/FATHERS:

- **Husbands**, do you desire to reignite romance in your marriage? Fathers, do you have a teenage son you 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.

FROM CRC NEWS:

- **From ReFrame Ministries:** Check out this week's kids' devotion, "School -- Do It With All Your Might" at www.kidscorner.net. A new school year can feel exciting and a little scary, and that's okay! Whatever you do – learning, helping, or being kind – do your best like you're doing it for God, and He'll help you along the way. Check out all the great content at www.kidscorner.net, like the Kids Corner Bible Story Podcast Series.
- **Hymn Text Contest:** Calvin University will host an Anniversary Worship Celebration in honor of its 150th year on Sunday, March 29, 2026, at the Calvin University Covenant Fine Arts Center for Community Worship. You can help us celebrate by participating in our 150th Anniversary Hymn Text Contest! The Planning Committee invites hymnwriters to submit a hymn text to be sung at the worship service; submissions must be sent via email by November 1, 2025. The winner of this contest will receive a \$1,500 award.
- **Ride to Renew – Cycle for Change:** Join World Renew for the ride of a lifetime from November 1–9, 2025. One hundred riders will cycle through beautiful Florida and raise funds to equip 1,500 farmers with sustainable farming practices. Each rider commits to raising \$3,000, directly supporting 15 global farmers in achieving food security for their families and communities. Let's ride together for a more food-secure future! For more information and to register, visit www.worldrenew.net/ridetorenew.

- **Hope Beyond the Headlines:** Media outlets often move on quickly after covering the initial impacts of conflict, natural disasters, and other devastating events – leaving behind stories of loss, displacement, and communities struggling with hunger, poverty, and hopelessness. Yet God’s promise in Jeremiah 29:11 reminds us that He has plans for a hope and a future. World Renew, together with our Christian partners and as a member of the Integral Alliance, continues to walk alongside communities long after the cameras are gone – helping restore hope and rebuild lives. Now participating in the third Neglected Crises campaign, World Renew is calling for collective action to support people affected by long-term, complex, and overlooked crises – in Madagascar, Sudan, Haiti, and beyond. Your gift can help extend God’s hope to places where suffering persists long after public attention fades. Learn more or give today at: www.worldrenew.net/global-food-crisis.
- **Prayer for Our Immigrant Neighbors:** Over the past few months, many Christian Reformed Church leaders and members have been deeply impacted by the increased immigration enforcement activities taking place across the United States. We are asking every CRC congregation to set aside a special time of prayer for our immigrant brothers and sisters during worship on Sunday, Sept. 7. All congregations and members are also invited to join a virtual prayer vigil on Wednesday, Sept. 10 at 7:00 p.m. EST at www.youtube.com/crcna.
- **Thrive Faith Formation Tip:** In the book *Unsettling Truths*, theologian and professor Soong-Chan Rah writes: “Repentance is not just sorrow and confession, it is the turning around of wrong behavior towards right and just action. Repentance from sinful corporate behavior therefore requires systemic change.” Write down how you are going to pair your acts of repentance from “sinful corporate behaviors,” like racism, with acts of systemic change this week. Brought to you by Thrive: www.crcna.org/Thrive.

Van Guidelines

1. The van is to be used for 1st CRC church activities only.
2. Requests for the van will be handled through the church office and should be made at least 2 weeks prior to the date of use.
 - A. The church office has the right to approve/disapprove the use of the van.
 - B. Keys will be given out the day of your activity and must be returned as soon as possible.
3. A Transportation Release Form must be on file in the church office for all minors who will be transported for your event/activity.
4. No more than 15 passengers may ride in the van at any one time.
5. Seatbelts must be worn at all times.
6. Persons driving the van must have a valid Iowa Driver’s License and be at least 25 years old. No special CDL is required.
7. Each organization is required to fill out the Log Book in the van’s glove box with the requested info at the end of their activity.
8. Smoking and alcoholic beverages are NOT permitted in the van.
9. Food and drink are acceptable providing the van is returned in good, clean condition.
10. The van should be refueled and in clean appearance, inside and out, by those who use it.

It is a privilege to be able to use the van. We trust that you will treat it with respect and use the honor system with the above guidelines.