



Last Sunday after the Epiphany

February 19, 2012 9:30 AM Morning Worship  
 Rev. Dr. Gary Hegstad, Pastor Mr. Joel Dykstra, Youth Director

\*All who are able, please stand L: Leader; C: Congregation

- Prelude
- Song Service Led by the Youth Praise Team
- \*Invocation
- Ministry of Music by the Voices of Praise
- Responsive Reading, 1 John 1:1-2:2 (On Insert)
- Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance (On Insert)
- \*Hymn No. 431, "Shine, Jesus, Shine"
- Time for Children
- Scripture, 1 John 3:16-24; page 1134
- Message, "LOVE: IT IS MORE THAN A SENTIMENT, IT IS A DECISION"
- Morning Prayer
- Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
- \*Hymn of Prayer, "The Lord's Prayer" (On Insert)
- Offertory Sentence (Please Sign and Pass the Fellowship Pads)
- Offertory and Offering
- \*Hymn No. 815, "Doxology" and Offertory Prayer
  - Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.** (Copyright License #738072)
- \*Hymn No. 79, "My Jesus, I Love Thee"
- \*Congregational Response and Benediction (On Insert)
- \*Parting Response Hymn No. 454, "The Family Prayer Song"
- \*Postlude

**THIS MORNING WE CELEBRATE** the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Everyone who has made a public profession of their faith in Jesus as their Savior and Lord, and who is in good standing in a Christian congregation, is invited to participate.

"Live a life worthy of the calling you have received...be patient, bearing with one another in love...  
 Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." Ephesians 4:1-3

**A PASTOR'S CLASS** meets today in Pastor Gary's office during Sunday School with professions of faith on Sunday, March 25.

**SPECIAL CLASSIS MEETING** for the Ordination of Dr. Mitchell Kinsinger into the office of Minister of Word & Sacrament is 2:00 PM today at American Reformed Church, Orange City.

**ATTENTION MOTHERS, GRANDMOTHERS & OTHERS:** RCWM will have the "Children in Covenant" (Baby Roll) meeting on Thursday, March 1 at 7:00 PM in the fellowship hall. If you wish to enroll a child, please give the child's name, birthdate and parents' names to Harriet Van Veldhuizen (930-3650) by Thurs., Feb. 23. A child of any age not previously enrolled may be enrolled for a gift of \$5.00 which will be given to "Gifts for the Children" which helps support Save Orphans Ministries.

**WEATHER CANCELLATION POLICY:** If school lets out early because of weather, or if they cancel after school activities (sport practices) due to weather, we will automatically cancel our Family Night ministries. The weather committee will make decisions for Sunday worship services and other activities as needed. Cancellations will be broadcast through KICD & KIWA.

**CONGREGATIONAL LIFE TEAM** is seeking new members. The duties are to welcome visitors, help assimilate new members into church activities, develop and promote fellowship activities for the church, oversee and schedule the lists for Sunday morning coffee time, nursery attendants and secure Head Ushers at the beginning of each year. If you have ideas and are willing to help with any of these areas, please consider joining. Contact either Elder Terry Hill or Deacon Scott Vollink if you are interested or want additional information.

<b>CHURCH SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK:</b>		
TODAY	9:30 AM	Morning Worship Service
	10:45 AM	Sunday School and Pastor's Class
	5:00 PM	Junior Youth Group at Hartley
WED	7:00 PM	Senior Youth Group at Hartley
	12:00 PM	Lenten Luncheon at Lutheran Church
	6:30 PM	All Choirs Rehearse
	7:15 PM	Catechism and WOW
	7:30 PM	High School Bible Study at Parsonage
	8:00 PM	Church Health Team Meeting

LOVE IN THE NAME OF CHRIST requests prayers for the first resident in our House of Hope. We are so grateful for the many hands and many hours it took to get the house ready for her. Pray that she may use this opportunity to better herself.

**KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

**ELLA VAN KLEY** (Mina Van Kley's great granddaughter) had surgery last week.  
**TERRY WALBURG** is recovering at home after his recent surgery.  
**RUTH STERK** has been diagnosed with cancer.  
**SUE HENGEVELD** is home recuperating from her recent surgery.  
**PETE KROESE** is recuperating at home following his back surgery.  
**ANNETTE ELGERSMA** continues with her recovery.  
**ARLYCE KROESE** (Pete/Pickle's daughter-in-law) continues with her treatments.  
**MARILYN KUYPER** (Joyce Wallinga's sister-in-law) began chemo treatments.  
**KATHERINE KUIPER** (Leola Van Ravenswaay's aunt) was diagnosed with cancer.  
**BONNIE LEE** (Lois Wolfswinkel's daughter) is recovering from her surgery.  
**IRENE MAGGERT** (Evelyn Post's sister) has started chemo and radiation.  
**BETTY KIEL** (Linda Vander Velde's sister-in-law) is undergoing treatments.

**THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH** for the cards, food, visits, calls and especially for all the prayers during the time of my recent surgeries.  
--Mary Ann Grooters

**AFTER GETTING MY NEW HEART** on my mother's birthday on October 9 and having to stay in an apartment in Rochester for check ups, I'm now living in Des Moines in my apartment and getting along just fine with my new heart. Thank you for all your thoughts and prayers.  
--Rachel Scholten

**TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY:** We deeply appreciate the acts of kindness shown to us these past few weeks. Thank you kindly and God bless you. In Christian love, Russell & Marilyn Muur

**THANK YOU** for all your prayers when I had my colon surgery.  
--Iris Post

**GREETERS TODAY WEST DOOR: JOHN AND JUDY VAN WYK**  
**EAST DOOR: KEITH AND MARY VAN MEETEREN**

**GREETERS NX WK WEST DOOR: Cory and Charity Verbrugge**  
**EAST DOOR: Duane and Ronda Van Veldhuizen**

**NURSERY TODAY: Nancy Wesselink and Tara Pennings**

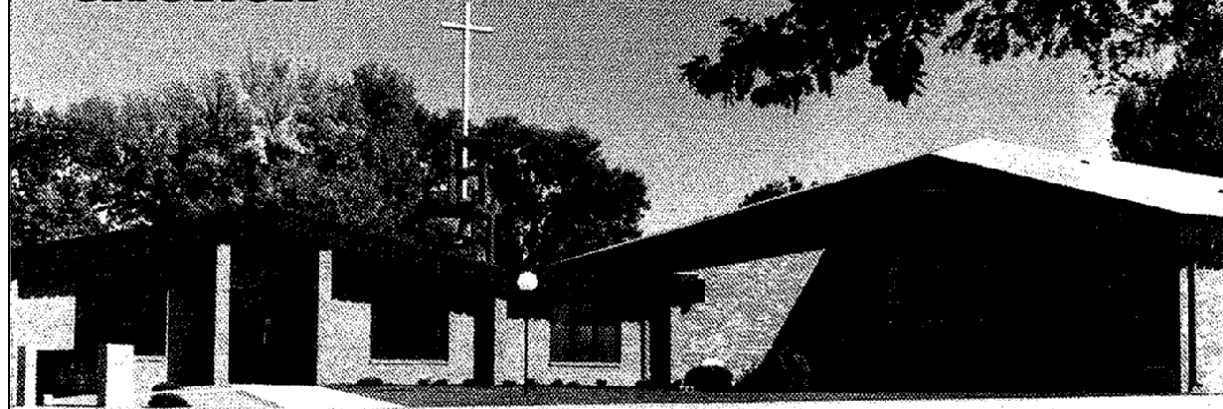
**NURSERY NX WK: Rachael Enger and Travis Enger**

**COFFEE TODAY: Jerilyn Marra, Lois Hakeman and Judy Dykstra**

**COFFEE NX WK: Janice Vander Schaaf, Rachel Reuter, Darla Brown**

**REMEMBER TO CHECK YOUR MAILBOX EACH TIME YOU COME TO CHURCH!**

# FIRST REFORMED CHURCH



**512 Summit Street  
Sanborn, IA 51248**

**Church Phone 930-3340  
Parsonage Phone 930-5455  
Youth Director's Cell Phone 605-680-3277**

**Missionaries:**

*Good Samaritan Hispanic Ministry  
Rev. Arturo Gomez  
Estherville & Sibley, Iowa*

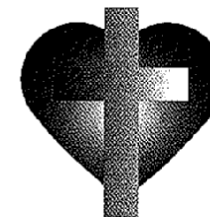
*Love, INC  
Sheldon, Iowa*

*Words of Hope Broadcasts*

*Larry & Linda McAuley  
Malawi, Africa*

*Project Hospitality  
Terry Troia, Director  
Staten Island, New York*

**The Cross is the Heart of**



**Our Message - Jesus Saves  
Our Mission - Telling Others  
Our Ministry - Loving Service**

**Rev. Dr. Gary Hegstad, Pastor  
Mr. Joel Dykstra, Youth Director**

**E-Mail: [firstref@tcaexpress.net](mailto:firstref@tcaexpress.net)  
E-Mail: [joeldykstra@gmail.com](mailto:joeldykstra@gmail.com)**

Responsive Reading, “1 John 1:1-2:2”

L: That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life.

**C: *The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us.***

L: We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.

**C: *We write this to make our joy complete.***

L: This is the message we heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth.

**C: *But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.***

L: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

**C: *If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word has no place in our lives.***

L: My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

**C: *He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.***

Prayer of Confession (*In unison*) [*The Worship Sourcebook, p.697*]

***Spirit of God, you are the breath of creation, the wind of change that blows through our lives, opening us up to new dreams and new hopes, new life in Jesus Christ. Forgive us our closed minds, which barricade themselves against new ideas, preferring the past to what you might want to do through us tomorrow. Forgive our closed eyes, which fail to see the needs of your world, blind to opportunities of service and love. Forgive our closed hands, which clutch our gifts and our wealth for our own use alone. Forgive us our closed hearts, which limit our affections to ourselves and our own. Spirit of new life, forgive us and break down the prison walls of our selfishness, that we might be open to your love and open for service in your world through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

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**A BOX FOR SOLES-4-SOULS**, a ministry of Northwest Village, is set up in the church fellowship hall. Any old shoes may be placed in it to be given to this ministry.

**CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTION DEADLINE** is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Congregational Response and Benediction, Psalm 62:5-12

L: O God, you are our God

**C: *Find rest, O my soul, in God alone;***

L: He alone is our rock and our salvation, He is my fortress; I will not be shaken.

**C: *My salvation and my honor depend on God; He is my mighty rock, my refuge.***

L: Trust in Him at all times, O people; put out your hearts to Him, for God is our refuge.

**C: *One thing God has spoken, two things have I heard: That You, O God, are strong, and that You, O Lord, are loving. Surely You will reward each person according to what he has done.***

L: Now our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God, even our Father, who has loved us, and has given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, Comfort your hearts, and establish you in every good word and work. Amen. (*II Thessalonians 2:16, 17*)

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**CONCERT BY REVELATION** is today in the Sibley Christian Reformed Church at 3:00 PM. *Revelation* is a group from Sioux Center who have been singing and playing together since 2000. The group is made up of 4 vocalists, a pianist, violinist, bass guitar, drummer and soundboard operator. They sing songs similar to Point of Grace, Selah, and other contemporary groups.

**CHURCH HEALTH TEAM** meeting is Wednesday, February 22 at 8:00 PM.

**THE BRIDGE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM** is overflowing. The Lord has brought 3 one year old babies to our already full house of women and children. Consequently, our resources have been depleted. We are in great need of size 5 and 6 diapers, baby lotion, wipes, shampoo etc. Your financial gifts would also be GREATLY appreciated! If you'd like more information please contact Sandi at 441-2528. If you'd like to provide childcare or transportation, please call Hannah at 395-3344. Your prayers for our families and our staff are also coveted.

**LOVE INC** has many current requests for Budget Mentors. Christian volunteers can be trained & equipped to walk alongside someone for up to a year, meeting with them weekly to go over their finances. If you are interested in finding out more about what Budget Mentoring looks like, please join us for a Mentor Training on Thursday, March 1. Training will start at 6:00 PM. Call Love INC at 324-9707 to sign up.

**DAFFODIL DAYS** is the week of March 12. Contact Evelyn Kroese at 729-3785 to place an order or for more information.

# The Lord's Prayer

"In this manner, therefore, pray."—Matthew 6:9

MALOTTE  
Albert Hay Malotte  
Arranged by Fred Bock

Matthew 6:9-13

Unison

Our Fa - ther, which art in heav - en, hal - low - ed

be Thy name. Thy king - dom come,

Thy will be done on earth as it is in

heav - en. Give us this day our dai - ly

bread, and for - give us our debts as we for - give our

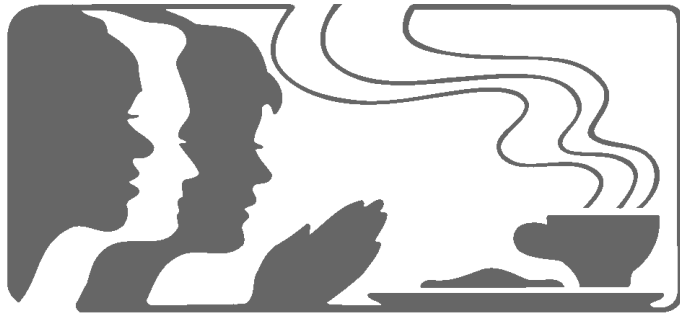
debt - ors. And lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from

e - vil, for Thine is the King - dom and the Pow - er and the

Glo - ry, for - ev - er. A - men.

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# Community Lenten Luncheon Schedule

COMMUNITY LENTEN LUNCHEONS begin Ash Wednesday, February 22, with the devotional series, “*Crying at the Tomb*”, from 12:00 Noon to 1:00 PM.

A free-will offering will be taken. The schedule for this year is:

- February 22 - St. John’s Lutheran Church; Pastor Jesse Burns  
*Looking for Rainbows*, {Genesis 9:8-15}
- February 29 - St. Cecilia’s Catholic Church; Father Tim Hogan  
*Acting on Faith*, {Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16}
- March 7 - First Presbyterian Church; Pastor Gregg Johnson  
*Responsible Living*, {Exodus 20:1-17}
- March 14 - Christian Reformed Church; Pastor LeRoy Christoffels  
*The Handiwork of God*, {Ephesians 2:4-10}
- March 21 - St. Andrews United Methodist Church; Pastor Tom Connors  
*Truly, Truly, I Say to You*, {John 12:20-33}
- March 28 - First Reformed Church; Pastor Gary Hegstad  
*After the Parade*, {Mark 11:1-11}

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*Easter White Breakfast* is Friday, April 6 at 9:00 AM with the program,  
“*He Bore the Cross for Me*” presented by Irma Jacobsma

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*Easter Sunrise Service* is 7:00 AM at the First Reformed Church  
~ A light continental breakfast will follow ~

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*Offerings beyond expenses will be given to S.O.S.*

1 John 3:16-24, 4:7-21    “Love: It is More than a Sentiment, It is a Decision!”    S021912  
Questions to Ponder

- How does the world try to define for you what love is or isn’t?
- People say they “fall in love,” and “fall out of love” simply on the basis that they “have or no longer have feelings for the other”. Are feelings the barometer of love?
- True love does what?
- “Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love”. (vs8. On what basis do people try to argue against the teaching of Scripture?
- How did God show His love for us?
- “If anyone says, ‘I love God’, yet hates his brother, he is a liar”. How is this verse accurate?
- People fail. Expectations fail. But - “Love never fails”. How have you experienced this truth?
- When Paul wrote his first letter to the Christians in Corinth, he was writing to people who lived in a community where immorality was mistaken for love, living for the moment was the mindset. What comparisons can you see of that mindset in our own society?
- The world is trying to sell us a cheap imitation of love. Love is not cheap. It is not something we simply “feel”, it is not something that we simply fall into or out of. As a society we have bought the advertised imitation. That is one reason that relationships and marriages never seem to live up to the hype of our commercialized world. We have bought into the wrong idea as to what love is! How can we change this?