

Weekly Word – For Sunday, October 30, 2022

Worship this Sunday:

This Sunday is Reformation Sunday, the day we remember those who helped reform the Christian faith and continue that work today. The gospel lesson focuses on the call of Zacchaeus and reminds us God continues to call and equip us today. Following worship, the Discipleship Team will host Coffee Fellowship outside around fire pits with s'mores and special treats. The High School Youth Group will offer a Trunk or Treat with games for our young folk. Feel free to wear a costume and let's have some fun together! In case of inclement weather the festivities will be moved to the Fellowship Hall. Join us and invite a friend!

Link to Livestream Worship: <https://youtu.be/9Iiv2YtBz9A>

Sunday Bulletin

This Week

Sun., Oct 30	9:00-9:45 am	Sunday Morning Text Study in the Youth Room
	9:00-9:45 am	Brass Group Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
	9:45-11:15 am	Nursery Open
	10:00-11:00 am	Worship Service in the Sanctuary and Livestream
	10:30-11:15 am	Sunday School (Pre-School – Grade 8)
	11:00-11:30 am	Coffee Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall
	11:00-11:30 am	WEVR Broadcast 106.3 FM
	11:00 am-12:30 pm	Trunk or Treat
Tues., Nov 1	9:00 am-2:00 pm	Among Friends
	9:00-10:00 am	Yoga
	9:00-10:00 am	Men's Group
Wed., Nov 2	12:00-1:00 pm	Investment Committee Meeting
	1:00-2:30 pm	Bible Study
	3:45-5:15 pm	Wednesday School
	5:15-6:15 pm	Wednesday Meal (Sign up!)
	6:00-7:00 pm	Jubilee Ringers
	6:30-7:30 pm	Confirmation Year 3 (Grade 9)
	6:30-7:30 pm	Middle School Youth Group
	7:00-8:00 pm	Chancel Choir
Thurs., Nov 3	9:00-10:00 am	Yoga
Sun., Nov 6	9:00-9:45 am	Sunday Morning Text Study in the Youth Room
	9:00-9:45 am	Choir Group Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
	9:45-11:15 am	Nursery Open
	10:00-11:00 am	Worship Service in the Sanctuary and Livestream
	10:30-11:15 am	Sunday School (Pre-School – Grade 8)
	11:00-11:30 am	Coffee Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall
	11:00-11:30 am	WEVR Broadcast 106.3 FM

Assisting in Sunday's worship service are:

Liturgist:	<i>Traci Hagberg</i>
Cantor:	<i>Sarah Plum</i>
Brass Group:	<i>Marsha Pearson, Tim and Jamie Mills, Alex Plum, Jason Bystrom</i>
Coffee Fellowship:	<i>Discipleship Committee</i>
Deacons:	<i>Karen Lloyd</i>
Organist:	<i>Marsha Pearson</i>
Nursery:	<i>Kahla Fuller</i>
Video Team:	<i>Ryan Luedtke</i>
Trustee:	<i>Scott Nelson</i>
Counters:	<i>Marie Roe, Trish Graves</i>

All Saints Sunday: This year in addition to remembering the ‘saints’ of our church, we will also remember the lives of those ‘ordinary saints’ outside our church walls who have died this past year. Please submit their names on the sign-up table or church office by **Wednesday, November 2.**

Loving God

Sunday Morning Text Study: Sunday morning Bible text study is held at **9:00 am on Sundays.** Please join us for an engaging discussion of the texts. All are welcome!

Adult Bible Study: Adult Bible Study is held on **Wednesday afternoons from 1:00–2:30 pm** in the Youth Room. The year will begin with a study of Hebrews. The book is available in the church office for \$25. Join us!

Loving Neighbor

Fall Clean-Up, Saturday, October 29, 9:00 am: Please bring your gloves, rakes, blowers, pruning shears, etc. to help clean up the grounds at the church. Back-up date is Saturday, November 5. Please sign up and join us!
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054BA9AD29A4FF2-fall>

Christmas Shoebox Project: The yoga group and members have supported a “Christmas Shoebox” for the men at the Kinnic Drug and Alcohol Rehab Center in River Falls. We are collecting items and will fill the boxes and bags and deliver them to the Kinnic Rehab to show that we all care! These shoeboxes contain socks, playing cards, puzzles, soap, toothpaste, and many other items. A list of items is on the sign-up table. Cash donations will be used to purchase any needed items. If you have questions, please contact Jean Smith at jsmithler@yahoo.com or at 715-781-6880 or call the church office.

Cookie Making Event: The Shoebox Project would like to have home-made Christmas cookies to deliver with the items to be given to the Kinnic Drug and Alcohol Rehab Center residents on December 14. There is a sign-up sheet on the table for people to sign up to volunteer their time and recipes for this cookie making event on **Friday, December 9 at 10:00 am in the church kitchen.** All supplies will be furnished. If you have a special recipe that you wish to share, please contact Jean Smith at 715-781-6880 or Eunice at 715-497-4514. Will be an exciting time. We will even order pizza for lunch and, of course, there will be tasting. Join us!

Among Friends is a community-based social respite program serving adults who have memory loss who reside in Pierce and St. Croix Counties. For more information, contact them at (715) 293-2651. Check out the website: amongfriendsrf.com and Facebook page. It is held at the church on **Tuesdays 9am to 2pm.**

Volunteer Opportunities at Among Friends: We are seeking one or two volunteers on Tuesdays to provide transportation for 2 female participants who live in Hudson. Clients could be picked up at 9:00 am from their locations in Hudson and returned home from the church to Hudson at 2:00 pm. Mileage reimbursement would be provided. Also, we need a volunteer to set up for lunch and do dishes from 11:30 am–12:30 pm. For information, call Norma at (651) 260-5725.

Loving Self

Wednesday Meals: On Wednesday nights we offer a home-cooked meal in the Fellowship Hall. The cost is \$8 per person with a family max of \$30. **Meals are served from 5:15 to 6:15 pm.** Confirmants and interns are \$5 each and are encouraged to eat with their classes at 6:00 pm prior to class or activities at 6:30 pm. We will not be offering drive thru service this year, but you may go through the serving line and a meal will be packaged for you to take home. **Reservations must be placed by noon on Tuesdays.** You can make a reservation online, the sign-up table or by calling the church office.

Nov 2 Spaghetti and meatballs, salad, garlic toast

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054BA9AD29A4FF2-wednesday43>

Nov 9 Taco Bar (chicken and beef) with fiesta corn salad and Spanish rice (youth leave for FMSC at 6pm)

Nov 16 Meatloaf, garlic mashed potatoes, mac and cheese, vegetable, bread

Giving Thanks Meal: The Annual Giving Thanks Meal will be **Sunday, November 13 after the 10:00 am worship service** in the Fellowship Hall. The cost is \$8 per person. Join us for a home cooked Thanksgiving meal as we kick off the season of giving thanks. Taking time to sit, eat and converse with one another is a gift that has been taken away from us for too long. Come and enjoy a feast prepared for you. Invite your friends and neighbors to join you, but please be sure to sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054BA9AD29A4FF2-giving2>

Men's Group: Our church men's group will meet **every other Tuesday from 9:00-10:00 am**. The next meeting is **Tuesday, November 1**. We will meet in the church Youth Room. Coffee and a treat are provided. Pastor Chris will lead us with a brief devotion, give us our topic to discuss and we will have lots of time to meet up and catch up. Join us! Talk to Pastor Chris or Brad Williams for more information.

Cribbage Night: The group meets on the second Monday at the church. Players are asked to donate \$2 which is given to a charity. Playing time starts at **7:00 pm**. All players & abilities welcome. The next game will be **Nov 14**.

Church Yoga: Jan Hansen's church yoga group meets on **Tuesdays and Thursdays** in the church Fellowship Hall from **9:00-10:00 am** and via Zoom. Please call the office to receive the Zoom link.

Pierce County Public Health will be hosting a Pediatric & Adult COVID-19 Moderna Bivalent Booster Clinic on **Saturday, November 5 from 10:30 am-12:30 pm** in the basement of the River Falls Library. See the flyer for more information.

Youth Group News

Sun, Oct 30 - Trunk or Treat: All youth should wear their costumes to church that morning and then go to the trunk or treat event after worship!

Wed, Nov 9 - Feed My Starving Children: All Confirmants, Interns, Pre-Confirmants. We will depart at 5:45 pm from church for our work reservation from 7:00 to 8:45 pm. We have 60 spots available! All youth and adults welcome. We need 10 parent chaperones. Please contact Pastor Chris to sign up.

Sign Ups

Coffee Fellowship Hosts Needed: Please sign up to help host and serve. Everything you need is provided, you just need to get there a little early to get things ready, serve and do a quick clean up. Sign up at church or here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054BA9AD29A4FF2-coffee>

Liturgists Needed: Please sign up to be a Sunday liturgist. You will lead us in the Call to Worship and a Scripture text. The bulletin will be sent via email to you on Thursday. Sign up at church or here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054BA9AD29A4FF2-liturgist>

Welcomers Needed: Please sign up to be a welcomer on Sunday morning before the worship service. One person is needed for at the bottom of the stairs & one person is needed at the ramp entrance. Please arrive 20 minutes prior to the service. Sign up at church or here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054BA9AD29A4FF2-welcomers>

Altar Table Flowers: Please sign up to provide flowers for the altar for Sunday worship. Sign up at church or here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054BA9AD29A4FF2-altar>

Church App: The church has a mobile phone app. You can download it from the church website or by scanning the QR Code found on a flyer on the sign-up table and Facebook.



Offering QR Code

1. On your mobile device, open your Camera app or QR Code app
2. Point your camera at the QR Code
3. Click the tab 'Give Online'

Finances

THANK YOU to all of you for your support of the mission and ministry of our church through your tithes, offerings, and gifts. Your generosity empowers our church! Please be sure to sign up for e-giving or mail/drop off your gifts. There is also now an option to give online via our church website.

	<u>Oct 23, 2022</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
General Fund Income*	\$ 6,345	\$ 386,438
General Fund Operational Needs	\$ 9,909	\$ 426,087

A full accounting of all income and expenses is available in the church office.

*Includes annual and monthly gifts.

Do you Smile? Do you Amazon Smile? - Did you know the church has received nearly \$500 from Amazon through its Amazon Smiles charity program? It is fast, free and easy to set up. If you have an Amazon account go to smile.amazon.com and register First Congregational Church of River Falls. Then each quarter the church will receive a small portion of total amazon shopping. Start smiling today!

Mortgage Summary – As of October 30, 2022

Original cost of Facilities Expansion Project	\$2,386,970.00
Remaining amount on Bank Loan	\$280,776.19
Cash on hand in the Building Fund	\$215,636.52
Interest Rate (Locked in through January 2027)	3.39%
Monthly Payment	\$2,622.76

People

- For Heidi and Mason Wilhelmy who baptized their daughter Murphy Rose on October 23, together may they grow in faith
- For those who will enjoy the Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 30 after worship put on by our youth, may it bring some needed joy to all of us
- For the gift of our choir and our choir director Sarah Plum, bless you for the gifts your all bring to our church
- For Evelyn Purdy who polished our communion ware, it looks beautiful
- For our Church Interns who prepared a meal for the Simpson Homeless Shelter recently and for Carole Mottaz who delivered it to the shelter in Minneapolis, you all rock
- For Joe Querna and Marlee Gram who were married on October 8, and Michelle Vrieze and Ben Ratzlaff who were married in Scandia on Oct 1, may they grow in love

Do you have upcoming news or celebrations to share with the congregation? Graduations? Birthdays and Anniversary celebrations? Please email them to office@firstchurchrf.org by Wednesday of each week to be included in the Weekly Word which is sent out on Thursdays.

Prayer: Prayer connects us with God and our neighbors. Each week in the bulletin there is a prayer list of people, situations and thanksgivings that is also sent out by email to help people in their prayer life. You can sign up by contacting the office at office@firstchurchrf.org

Church Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday – 8:30 am to 4:00 pm
Friday – 8:30 am to 12:00 pm

Church Staff Contact:

Church Office - 715-425-2052

Pastor: Chris Myers - chris@firstchurchrf.org

Office/Finance: Missy Luedtke - missy@firstchurchrf.org

Education: Stacy Johnson Myers - stacy@firstchurchrf.org

Youth: Alex and Sarah Plum – rfyouthgroup@gmail.com

Music: Jamie Mills - degolierjamie@gmail.com

Choir: Sarah Plum – sarah.e.plum.95@gmail.com

Building: Farnum Fuller – farnumfuller@gmail.com

Maintenance: Tim Bylander - timthefixitguy@gmail.com