

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 7, 2025 9:30 A.M.

Pastor: Gary Mulder

Organ: Carol Kleinjan

Keyboard: Michelle Vander Wal

Mixed Quartet

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMNS: 174 – *Open My Eyes, That I May See*

176 – *Holy Bible, Book Divine*

* 177 – *Wonderful Words of Life*

* OPENING PRAYER

* GREETING ONE ANOTHER

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES TO 3RD GRADE STUDENTS

INTRODUCTION OF TEACHERS

PRAISE MINISTRY: *Amazing Grace* – Bell Solo by Robyn Mulder

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

OFFERING (General Fund and Building Fund)

CHILDREN'S OFFERING (Compassion Children-Nelly and Raj)

(Please sign the friendship pads as the offering is received)

* DOXOLOGY (page 623)

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

SCRIPTURE: Proverbs 4:1-9

p. 989

MESSAGE: *Wisdom is Better than Knowledge*

* HYMN: 179 – *How Firm a Foundation*

* BENEDICTION

* CLOSING HYMN: 182 – *More About Jesus* (vs. 1)

POSTLUDE

*Please stand if you are able.

TODAY

A WARM WELCOME to all who have come to join us in worship today. We have a special day of worship and praise as we kick off our education year. You are invited to the fellowship hall for fellowship and conversation.

Bibles will be given to the third-grade students. Those receiving Bibles are: Brielle Franklin, Tyden Moldenhauer, Sawyer Sinner, Kensi Vander Wal, Blaike Volkers.

ANNIVERSARY COOKIES: Vern and Shirley Lathrop will be serving cookies today in honor of their 66th wedding anniversary (September 6).

There will be a TRY IT FOR YOURSELF session IMMEDIATELY following the morning service for those that would like to know more about playing the bells and possibly forming a bell choir.

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF – DUNK TANK! You won't want to miss the Sunday School Kick-Off immediately following the morning service. We will be having a dunk tank with Pastor Gary and many of your Sunday School teachers participating. Just grab a snack in the fellowship hall and join us outside. There's a craft for the children as well.

SERVING THE LORD TODAY:

Greeters: Edward and Gina Vander Wal

Ushers: Allen Van Hoepen and Dave Nettleton

Nursery: Melissa Olson and Marcus Olson

Coffee Servers: Dan and Melanie Gerdes

3 p.m. – Women's Discipleship Group (Proverbs)

PRAYER TIME WILL NOT BE HELD TONIGHT.

NEXT SUNDAY (September 14)

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: The consistory has approved a special congregational meeting immediately after the service to vote on spending approximately \$66,000 to shingle the roof of the church building. We will have a shortened fellowship time and then run our Sunday School time as normal. Absentee ballots are available on the back table.

Pastor Irwin Van Leeuwen will be leading us in worship.
11 a.m. – A group will be going to Dakota Sun for a worship service

3:30 p.m. –Ladies Bible Study (Luke)

THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHRISTIAN GROWTH

MONDAY: Serve a meal at the Harvest Table

The MESA Team is looking for volunteers to help prepare and serve the meal at the Harvest Table in Brookings. Six people are needed to prepare the meal and set up, 10 to serve the meal and 8 pans of bars would be appreciated. Please sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall.
Your help would be appreciated!

WEDNESDAY: 7 p.m. – Senior High Youth

THURSDAY: 2 p.m. – Ladies Bible Study

Romans 6 – *Why Do Good if Justification Comes by Faith Alone?*

Leader and Refreshments – Roberta

3:45-5:30 p.m. GEMS will begin their new season with a kick-off meeting at the Christian Reformed Church. All girls grades 1-8 are invited to join the group.

FUTURE DATES:

September 14.....	Special Congregation Mtg. Dakota Sun Service Ladies Bible Study 3:30pm Men's Discipleship - 7 p.m.
September 15.....	Consistory
September 16 at 6:15 p.m.....	Buildings and Grounds
September 16.....	Worship Team
September 18.....	Dakota Sun Program 2 p.m.
September 21.....	Evening of music with Darwin Husby

PRAYERS AND PRAISE

PRAYER CONCERNS:

Your on-going prayers for others in need of healing and those taking treatments would also be appreciated: **Gary Egeberg, Whitney Goetsch, Jodi Koerner, Bernita Kooima, Dawn Lucas, Bob Olson, Marion Read, Emily Schaefer, Joel Schonewill, Lee Vande Weerd, Harold Van Hoepen, and Amy Vandermeer.**

Also continue to pray for **Howard Rozendal** who resides at United Living Community in Brookings, **Donald Langland** who is at the Estelline Nursing and Care Center, and **Adriana Kleinjan** and **Harold Van Hoepen** who are homebound.

Bob Olson had surgery on Thursday to remove an obstruction from his colon. Continue to pray for as he recovers from another surgery.

CONGRATULATIONS to Collin and Sarah Vander Wal on the birth of their daughter, Paisley Raye on August 30.

Congrats also to grandparents, Kevin and Kari Vander Wal, great grandparents Edward and Gina Vander Wal and extended family members.
Children are a heritage from the Lord. Psalm 127.3

PASTOR GARY AND ROBYN will be at a Pastor's Conference this coming week. If you have any spiritual needs during this time, please contact one of the elders, Bryon Mullett, Charles Sapp, Daniel Ostrem or Scott Vander Wal.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS FOR THIS YEAR ARE:

Superintendent – Michelle Vande Weerd
Assistant. Superintendent – Nicole Vande Weerd
Roving Sub: Robyn Mulder
Music – Paisley Raml
Preschool – Paisley Raml
K-1st Grade – Michelle Vander Wal
2nd & 3rd Grade – Heidi Ostrem; Sub- Susan Vander Wal
4th & 5th Grade – Michelle Vander Weerd and Nicole Vande Weerd
Sub – Laci Volkers
Middle School – Caleb Schaefer; Sub – John Sapp

High School – Roberta Volkers and Vickie Vander Wal; Sub – John Sapp
Adult Sunday School – Pastor Gary in the sanctuary; Sub – Ron Koerner
Adult Sunday School – Daniel Ostrem in the consistory room:

Sub – Larry Franklin

Youth Group Leaders: Pastor Gary and Robyn Mulder;

Pastor Joshua Carpenter, Daniel Ostrem.

Thank you to all the teachers for your willingness to lead and guide these classes.

New Sunday School classes:

Ron Koerner will begin our study on the **gospel of Luke**. This class will walk through the first half of Luke through a short video by J. D. Greear followed by discussion. Come and join us in the sanctuary.

Daniel Ostrem will be leading a **study on the prophets** in the consistory room. They would appreciate you adding to their discussion.

Pastor Gary will be taking four weeks to **lead/review a new member's class for our high school and junior high youth**. All youth are encouraged to attend even if you've taken it before.

MEAL FOR THE YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS: If you are willing to serve a 'quick' meal for the Wednesday night youth groups, please sign on the sheet on the small table by the south bulletin board. Suggestions for food are on the sign-up sheet as well as how many to serve and time of delivery. You do NOT need to serve the food. Thank you in advance.

YOU ARE INVITED! Ladies, we'd love for you to join us for our **Women's Discipleship Group**, gathering on Sundays at 3 p.m. on September 7 and 21.

In the midst of our busy lives, it's easy to feel like there's no space for rest reflection or connection. But God calls us to something deeper. Through our current study of **Proverbs**, we are learning how His wisdom speaks into our daily routines, our challenges, and our hearts – right where we are.

This is a space for **encouragement, real conversations, and gospel-centered growth** – a time to be refreshed by scripture and strengthened by the support of other women – walking in faith.

Whether you are new to the group or have been before, you are welcome just as you are.

Come be reminded that you're not alone, and that God's truth brings joy, peace, and purpose – no matter the season. **We hope to see you there!**

ON SEPTEMBER 21, we will have an evening of music with Darwin Husby. He will sing many songs that you know and love. Invite a friend or neighbor to this special concert.

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER SERVICE PROJECT: Boxes are set up in the fellowship hall as well as the coat room along the south hallway for you to place your **(IN GOOD CLEAN CONDITION)** warm winter clothing. These will be given to the Center of Hope in Sioux Falls. There is a special need for **MEN** and **CHILDREN'S** items. The men's clothing is usually for the men coming out of prison. Good blue and/or black jeans for men would be appreciated.

NIGHT OF WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP AT PRESTON CHRISTIAN CHURCH

You are invited to a night of worship and fellowship at Preston Christian Church on Sunday, October 5 at 6 p.m. with snacks and fellowship to follow. The music will be contemporary and geared toward youth groups, but all ages are welcome.

NEXT SUNDAY, September 7, 2025

Greeters: Kelly and Vickie Vander Wal

Ushers: Dave Nettleton and Allen Van Hoepen

Nursery: Bev Cotton and Mathew Olson

Coffee Servers: Dan and Melanie Gerdes

Offering: General Fund and Building Fund

The following are encouraged to worship with the residents at Dakota Sun at 11 a.m.: Wayne & Chris, Chr., Ron & Jodi, Carolyn Cotton, Larry & Sandi, Jerry & Cam, Preston Liedtke, Howard & Loretta, Charles & Ruth, Jeff & Sarah, Darin & Megan, Bill & Sherry, Nick & Nicole, Kelly & Vickie, Kevin Kari, Jake & Roberta, Jason & Laci, Kevin & Angie
Even if your name is not on this list, you are invited to worship and visit with the residents.

(September 7, 2025 bulletin)