

Upcoming Worship Services (continued from front page)

- **October 19**—The men's group will be leading us in singing some hymns to begin the worship service. Your nominating ballots for elder and deacon are due today. Pastor Gary will conclude his series of messages on worship. Women's Discipleship group will meet at 3 p.m. Prayer time will be at 7 p.m. Men's Discipleship Group will also meet at 7 p.m.
- **October 26**—The praise band will begin the service with singing some praise songs. The Christian Reformed Church will be hosting a special Reformation service in the evening. Pastor Gary will bring be bringing a message from God's Holy Word.

Hy-Vee Receipts

If you turn in Hy-Vee (Brookings only) receipts to the basket along the north wall in the fellowship hall, you can be a part of a MESA fund-raiser. A check of \$1,000 was received from Hy-Vee when we hit \$200,000. The MESA Team decided to send a \$1,000 check to Family Back 2 School Project.

As of September 23, Dori has tabulated \$ 17,740.21 in total receipts.

A REMINDER: Please bring in your gas receipts also.

Keep eating, stay healthy and make every bite count!

Consistory Nominations

Nomination ballots will be in your mailboxes October 5.

All confessing members will receive a ballot to nominate new consistory members for 2026.

According to Article IV, Section 7a, *two members of the same family shall not serve on consistory simultaneously. "Same family" is defined as a parent-child, spousal or sibling relationship.*

Section 7b, *A person cannot serve on consistory until they have been a member of First Reformed Church for one year.*

Since we need two new elders and one new deacon, you may nominate four people for elder and two people for deacon.

Charles Sapp and Scott Vander Wal are the retiring elders.

Dean Vander Wal is the retiring deacon.

We thank these people for the years of service to the FRC congregation.

The congregational meeting is scheduled for December 7 immediately following the morning service.

First Reformed Church, Volga, SD

October 2025

Glad Tidings

"I bring you glad tidings of great joy..."
Luke 2:10

Upcoming Worship Services

Here are the details about our services in the month of October at First Reformed Church.

- **October 5**— The praise team will begin the worship service by leading us in some praise songs. We will celebrate World Communion Sunday. Pastor Gary will preach his 3rd of a 5-part series of messages on worship. The women's discipleship group will meet at 3 p.m. Prayer Time will be held at 7 p.m. You are invited and encouraged to attend and pray for the many needs of the church family as well as local, state and world needs. Men's Discipleship group will meet at 7 p.m. (1 Corinthians)
- **October 12**— A mixed quartet will begin our service by leading the congregation in singing some hymns. A fourth message on worship will be given by Pastor Gary. The ladies Bible study that is studying the book of Luke will meet at 3:30 p.m.



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

- Bob Olson had another surgery to remove an obstruction from his colon.
- Marion Read is undergoing drug therapy treatment for her ameloblastoma.

Congratulations to:



- Carter and Courtney Vander Wal on the birth of their daughter, Blakely Rose on August 21. Congrats also to grandparents, Dean and Polly Vander Wal and Aunt Lindsey and great grandparents Lawrence and Sally Vander Wal
- Collin and Sarah Vander Wal on the birth of their daughter, Paisley Raye on August 30. Congrats to grandparents, Kevin and Kari Vander Wal, and great grandparents Edward and Gina Vander Wal and extended family members.

Children are a heritage from the Lord. Psalm 127:3

Upcoming Team Meetings

- September 30 —Congregational Care Team
- October 7 – MESA Team
- October 18—Worship Team at 9 a.m.—also fall decorating
- October 20 — Consistory

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

John 14:27

No matter the worries I have, small or large, you, O God, are there ahead of me with promises of help and support that relieve me and free me from getting stuck in the mire of my fear. I am grateful.

Looking Back Ten Years—October 2015

- Baked chicken was served at Family Night followed by pumpkin carving. Hayrides were available for the youth groups. The MESA Task Force (Team) assembled Operation Christmas Child boxes rather than having Bible study groups for this Family Night.
- The October service project was warm winter clothing for the Center of Hope in Sioux Falls.
- Tiffany Bjorklund, Baylea Lucas, Daymein Lucas, Jared Peters, Nikki Peters, Lane Vander Wal, Lindsey Vander Wal, Andrea Vandermeer and Ashley Vandermeer make a public profession of their faith. Doug and Ruth Peters and their baptized children Jason and Justin were received in the FRC fellowship by a transfer of membership.
- Trunk or Treat was held in the church parking lot.
- Haluk Bilgen, a missionary we supported spoke at the morning service

Highlight of Last Month (September 2025)

- Vern and Shirley Lathrop served cookies in honor of their 66th wedding anniversary which was on September 6.
- Sunday School Kick-Off was held on September 7 with a dunk tank, a bead bracelet craft table, cookies and conversation.
- MESA Team organized and served a meal at the Harvest Table
- Pastor Irwin Van Leeuwen was the guest pastor on September 14 while Pastor Gary and Robyn were attending a Pastor’s Conference at The Cove
- At the special congregational meeting held on September 14, a vote was taken to shingle the entire church building. The vote was 95-5 to approve the shingling project.
- Sunday School classes have resumed. Pastor Gary is leading a new member’s class for junior and senior high youth.
- Several enjoyed an evening of music with Darwin Husby on September 21.

THANK YOU from Living Stone Prison Church

I would like to send thanks to everyone who has a part in Living Stone. I am so grateful for my church. It has saved my life. God has saved my life. He made me realize how a man is supposed to be. I get out January 2026 and am looking forward to taking my kids to church. I am a new changed man. So may the Lord bless you, may He keep you, may He shine His face upon you for your family and children. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Lord bless—TA

Service Project for September and October

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. Good blue and/or black jeans for men would be appreciated. The boxes will be set up until the end of October.

NEW TO THE LIST: New or in good condition blankets—any size.

Greetings from the Compassion children that FRC Supports

(Raj is 4 years old and lives in Bangladesh.)

Dear sponsor, Greetings and love from Raj. He and his family are doing well. He hopes you and your family are doing well. He wants to be a pilot in the future. He lives in a village with his parents. He said he likes to play soccer. May God bless you and your family. (Raj's writer tutor)

Some questions Raj responded to in the 'Dream' section of his letter:

When I grow up, I want to become—a pilot.

When I grow up I want to help my family—financially.

Someday I would like to visit—Sundarban

Someday I would like to meet with my sponsor because—to thank my sponsor.

Nellie is another Compassion child we support.

(She is 17 years old and lives in Bolivia.)

Dear Friends, I greet you with the Lord's blessing, hoping you are well. I want to tell you that I am well, as is my family. I also want to tell you that my studies are going well. My school has implemented some technical careers that are taken starting in 10th grade, so I am taking that course this year. The technical careers to choose from were food processing and computer systems. I wanted to study food processing, but I chose computer systems since I am interested in systems and learning how to use the computer. I also want to tell you that here we have already went on winter vacation, which is usually two weeks. However, it was extended by one more week due to an illness that is spreading (measles) in my city. It was not serious though. During the second week, I went to visit my cousins on my dad's side since I hadn't see them in a while. One is 17, just like me, but she is my oldest by 4 months. We are in the same grade so it was very fun to chat and play some board games. Without anything else to say, I say goodbye to you.

I ask for your prayers for me and my family and also for my studies so that I do a little better. Sincerely, Nelly

