

Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart this November (continued from front page)

- **November 25**—Thanksgiving Eve Service at 7 p.m. An offering will be received for the Food Pantry in Brookings. More details will be coming about the pie fellowship which will follow the service.
- **November 29—First Sunday in Advent** The Worship Team will begin the service by leading the congregation in singing –maybe Advent/Christmas carols? We will also be celebrating the Lord’s Supper together.

Center of Hope Fall Benefit

You are invited to the 24th Annual Fall Benefit for Hope Haven on Saturday, November 7 at Celebrate Church in Sioux Falls from 4:30-7 p.m. The church is located on 1000 S. Sycamore Avenue. This is a special evening of worship including a delicious meal, guest testimonies, ministry updates, a silent auction, fun activities and much more. They have a goal to raise \$30,000. More information is posted on the bulletin board.

Midwest Network Meeting

The Network meeting is open to anyone interested in the Alliance of the Reformed Church. The meeting will be held at the Bethany Reformed Church in Canton on November 13 and 14. This year’s theme “Faithful”, invites the group to consider what it means to faithfully follow God’s Word in the life and ministry of the church. Rather than simply asking, “*What works?*”, you will consider the most important question, “**What is Biblical?**” The Friday evening session begins at 7 p.m. with worship and communion. On Saturday, there will be sessions on Faithful Evangelism, Faithful Oversight (for elders), Faithful Discipleship, Faithful Service, and Faithful Conflict. Lunch will be served at noon followed by the State of the Network and business. Pastor Gary and some consistory members and spouses will be attending. Contact pastor Gary if you would like to go.

First Reformed Church, Volga, SD

November 2026

Glad Tidings

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

Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart this November

- **November 1** —To begin the service, a praise team will lead the congregation in singing some praise songs. Pastor Gary will continue with his 6-part series of messages on the prophet Elijah. You are invited to a noon ‘potluck’ meal honoring Pastor Gary and Robyn on Pastor Appreciation and recognizing and welcoming our new FRC members. A combined Reformation Day service will be held at FRC at 6:30 p.m.
- **November 8**— The mixed quartet will lead the congregation in singing some well-known hymns. We will witness the baptism of Walker Sterling Johnson. A short worship service for the residents at Dakota Sun Assisted Living will be held at 11 a.m.
- **November 15**—The men’s group will be leading us in singing some hymns to begin the service. Pastor Gary will continue the 6 part series on the prophet Elijah.
- **November 22**—The praise band will begin the service by leading the congregation in singing some praise songs. Pastor Gary will continue his series of messages on the prophet Elijah.

(continued on back page)





Your ongoing prayers for those in need of healing and those taking treatments would be appreciated: Gary Egeberg, Kathy Engel, Sandi Franklin, Whitney Goetsch, Gene and Lois Kleinjan, Jodi Koerner, Bernita Kooima, Dawn Lucas, Bernice Mullett, Tammy Mullett, Joel Schonewill, Harold Van Hoepen, and Gina Vander Wal

- Darcy Kasdorf had another surgery on her spine to alleviate extreme pain.
- Gene Kleinjan was in the hospital as his oxygen level was low and he was retaining fluid.

Upcoming Ministry Meetings

November 8—Consistory
November 10—MESA Team

Where Are the Nine by Lucy Bossenbroek Waupun, Wisconsin
(based on Luke 17:11-19)

God showers His blessings upon you and me, Upon all of His people impartially
He yearns for our gratitude—Yours and mine
Just one turned to thank Him, But where are the nine?

God sends us His blessings in bounteous store
To supply all our needs, and then He sends more,
He patiently waits for our thanks—Yours and mine
Just one turned to thank Him, But where are the nine?

God sends us the sunshine, the dew, and the rain
Our health and our strength and freedom from pain,
He’s waiting still for our thanks—Yours and mine
Just one turned to thank Him, But where are the nine?

God showers His blessings, our bins overflow
With more fruit and grain than we’ve room to stow,
Does He still wait in vain for our thanks—Yours and mine?
Just one turned to thank Him, But where are the nine?

- Looking Back Ten Years..... November 2016!**
- Several 'helping those in need' projects were going on in November: Operation Christmas Child boxes; Jackets for Jesus, Salvation Army bell-ringing and making fudge for the prisoners at the Springfield Prison.
 - An Election Prayer meeting held on Sunday afternoon from 4-6 p.m. It was a come and go time for individuals to gather at the church to pray.
 - Pastor Dave and Elder Al Kooima attended the annual Dakota Classis in Sioux Falls, November 11-12.
 - It was a sad day when the RCW ladies voted to disband on November 9

- Highlights of Last Month (October 2026)**
- Pastor Duane Smith and Cody Moret brought messages from God’s Holy Word for the two Sundays Pastor Gary was on vacation.
 - Nomination ballots were provided for the congregation to nominate one person for the office of elder and one person for the office of deacon.

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. When we reach **\$200,000** in receipts, Hy-Vee will donate \$1,000 toward a MESA project yet to be determined. As of **October 19**, Dori has tabulated **\$104,057.38** in total receipts. This is an increase of \$3,111.75 since last month. Thank you, Dori, for keeping track of the receipts. A REMINDER: Please bring in your gas receipts also. Keep eating, stay healthy and make every bite count.

Service Project for November
Samaritan’s Purse Shoeboxes are available in the fellowship hall. Pick up a box and fill it with suggested small gifts for a child in need somewhere around the world. Boxes must be returned by **November 22**.

Share Christ's Love through a Hope Haven Wheelchair Distribution Trip

Hope Haven International Ministries is looking for volunteers to serve on upcoming wheelchair distribution trips in 2027. These trips offer the opportunity to work alongside local partners, share Christ's love, and help provide wheelchairs and mobility equipment to children and adults in need. Upcoming trips include Kenya, March 6-17, 2027; Uganda, April 25-May 5, 2027; and Thailand, April 29-May 9, 2027.

No medical experience is required, and there are a variety of ways to serve as part of a distribution team. To learn more or apply, visit hopehaven.org/international-ministries/distribution-trips or contact Luke Russen at lrussell@hopehaven.org

THANK YOU— Veterans and Present Day Military Personnel



Thank you to all who have served us so well in the past and those who continue to serve during the present time. Last year, nine military men and women were featured in the November newsletter. Today some of the FRC National Guard members continue to serve our country. This year, we are adding one more.

Jordan Raatz enlisted in the South Dakota National Guard in July 2025. He took his basic training in Ft. Jackson, SC and attended AIT in Ft. Lee, Virginia. Jordan is part of Bravo Battery in the 147th FSC and attends drill in Sioux Falls. He is a 91H, tracked vehicle repairer. This includes vehicle repair, maintains and repairs vehicles and any equipment with a diesel engine.

A Prayer of Gratitude for Veterans

Gracious God, we thank You for the men and women who have served our country with honor and courage. Bless them with Your peace, comfort, and strength. Heal those who bear wounds of body and spirit. Be with the families of those who have fallen, and grant them Your eternal hope in Christ. Keep us mindful of the cost of freedom and help us to be faithful servants of Your peace. Amen.

News and Notes from the Center of Hope

Things are going smoothly although each day is an adventure. Brett Rockvam stepped down from leadership two and a half years ago and started training Adam Hofer in the Executive Director role years prior to that. This made the transition almost seamless. However, Brett will be missed.

Center of Hope is now open on Saturdays! The Monday-Saturday hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Steve Harrison is a new Spiritual Counselor on staff.

The Coats for Kids program through the Sioux Falls school district will pick up speed in the coming months. In fact, all winter gear programs will step up!

Almost 1,000 bikes have been donated, serviced and are now being used by those that need transportation to and from work.

Overall services by year (not including people coming in for clothing).

January—October 8, 2026—6,741 completed services

2025 - 6,041 completed services

2024—4,586 completed services

Center of Hope appreciates FRC's involvement in collecting winter gear.

Invitation from Gideons International (Brookings Camp)

Dan Heighway, executive director of Gideons International has participated in research on the pastors they serve across the United State. The findings show that pastors are especially interested in how Gideons can support discipleship, evangelism and community impact. In response, the local Gideons plan to offers Conversations, a free training program for Christians who want to share the Gospel of Jesus with others.

√ Do you love Jesus?

√ Know Jesus as your personal Savior and Lord?

√ Desire to share Jesus one-on-one with someone?

If your answer is Yes! to all three of these questions, then you are a candidate for training in Conversation with Gideons International.

Conversations - introducing someone to the Gospel of Jesus with training in one-on-one evangelism through lectures, discussion, and hands-on role playing

Training will take place on Saturday, November 7 from 10am-12:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church in Brookings. There is no cost to attend.

You must enroll by November 4 by sending an email of inquiry that includes your best email address and cell phone number to jabrawand@yahoo.com or to rcolgrove2015@gmail.com