

December 2, 2018
First Sunday of Advent

Welcome to the Dispatch Christian Reformed Church with Pastor Steve Boersma. Visitors are asked to please sign a guest book in an entryway. Worship services are held at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

GREETERS: west – Dustin & Alisa Pahls
east – Marion & Marianne Schlatter Family
December 9: west – Russell & Linda Groenendyk Family
east – Alfred & Karen Herredsberg

NURSERY: A.M. – Dennis & Mary Rotman
P.M. – Lynn Koops & Amy Toynton
December 9: A.M. – Beth & Jonny; P.M. – Jeff & Eli

USHERS: Junior VanderGiesen & Nathan Schlatter

ORGANIST: Linda Groenendyk

PIANIST: Sherri Eakin

SPECIAL OFFERING: December 9 – Dispatch Foundation

OFFERING TOTALS: November 18 – General Fund \$809

Dordt College Fall Drive \$256

HOSPITALITY COFFEE: Roy DeBey December 9 – Randy K.

LETTER WRITING SUPPORT: Michelson – Rich Verhage,
VanderGiesen – Junior VanderGiesen, Ramsey – Jed Toynton,
Zylstra – Dustin Pahls, Hoogeveen – Ileen Tanis

CARE GROUP FOR OCTOBER – DECEMBER: #2

The Lord's Day

Sunday School Classes will not meet due to program practice.

The Lord's Week

Monday: 9:00 a.m. – Agape Shop Clean-up

Tuesday: 4:45 p.m. – Children's Bible Class
7:00 p.m. – Congregational Meeting

Wednesday: 6:00 p.m. – GEMS Christmas Caroling & Party
7:00 p.m. – Young People's Society

Thursday: 10:00 a.m. – Dorcas Society; roll call “sacrifice”
lesson 7, lunch – Mary Rotman

Friday: Agape Shop – Sherri Eakin

Saturday: Agape Shop – Stacy DeBey

The Church Family

Our annual Congregational Meeting will be held Tuesday, December 4 at 7:00 p.m. The nominees for elder to replace Elders Roy DeBey and Bob Koops are George Eakin, Don Koops, Mike Nyhoff, and Marion Schlatter. The nominees to replace Deacon Dale Herredsberg are Ray DeBey and David Herredsberg. Copies of the agenda, special offering schedule, and proposed budget have been placed in everyone's mailbox in the fellowship hall.

If you cannot attend the congregational meeting, please submit your absentee ballots to a Council member before the meeting. Absentee ballots will be accepted in voting for elder, deacon, and/or the budget. Use one ballot for each item for which you are voting. The ballot for elder should have two names on it; the ballot for deacon should have one name on it. Place each ballot in a separate envelope and label the envelope with the item for which you are voting (i.e.: elder or deacon or budget). Place the envelopes containing your ballots inside another envelope and write your name on the outside envelope.

Council Meeting Notes: (1) The deacons report a balance of \$12,188.55 in the general fund as of October 31. (2) Dave Sytsma of Rehoboth Christian School will give a presentation at the evening worship service on December 9. (3) There will be no Sunday School during the month of December so that the students may practice for the Christmas program. The Sunday School Christmas Program will be held on Monday, December 24 at 6:30 p.m. (4) The worship committee is working on publishing an updated membership directory. (5) Policies and procedures for leading and participating in worship were presented and approved. (6) Pastor Steve is planning to offer a membership class beginning in January. (7) The date for the annual congregational meeting was set, and the 2019 special offering schedule and budget were approved and will be voted on at the congregational meeting.

The Lebanon UMC invites us to go Christmas Caroling with them on Sunday, December 9 at 2:30 pm. Caroling will start at the Legion building with a caroling warm-up and then spread out in groups to carol around town. The Lebanon UMC will provide beverages and snacks.

A total of sixteen Christmas boxes were received from our church for Operation Christmas Child. Thank you to all who participated in this outreach effort.

Giving Tree: Advent is "Uzima!" with World Renew! Uzima is the Swahili word meaning "fullness of life." You can help a person, family, and community begin to experience the fullness of life God intends for them through World Renew's Gift Catalog. Include a gift of enough food, better health, or literacy on your Christmas list this year. The Christmas tree in Fellowship Hall is covered with ornaments with giving suggestions. You are invited to choose an ornament and give it, along with your donation, to Sherri Eakin or Stacy DeBey by January 9. Ora et Labora will do the ordering of the "gift items" through World Renew. Learn more at worldrenew.net/gifts or call 800-552-7972.

Family Faith Formation Tips - Does helping your child grow in faith feel overwhelming? Great resources are key! Check out tinyurl.com/FamilyFaithResources for a list of family devotions ideas, Bible storybooks and picture books, music, and helpful books and websites.

Teach Us to Pray, published by the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, is a wonderful resource for family worship. If you are looking for a meaningful way to celebrate Advent at home, the Advent section of this book is available as a free download at tinyurl.com/CICWAdvent. Each day's page includes a Bible reading, questions to talk about, prayer ideas, and more. (Faith Formation Ministries; cena.org/FaithFormation)

A SAVIOR FORETOLD - We find the first talk of a Savior and the first indicator of Christmas while Adam and Eve are still in the Garden of Eden. Join Groundwork as we study Genesis 3:14-15 to allow the context from which God's promise of a Savior emerges to broaden our understanding of Christ's birth. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

HONOR YOUR FATHER - Do you know why Liz has been kicked out of baseball camp? Find out the real reason on this week's Kids Corner. Subscribe for free at getkidscorner.com.

**Dispatch Christian Reformed Church
December 2, 2018 (AM)**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship – Colossians 1:13-20 (Responsively):

Pastor: [God] has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

People: For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Pastor: And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.

People: For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

Prayer of Invocation

***Gathering Song: Lift Up Your Hearts #56**

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

***God's Greeting – Revelation 1:4-5**

***Hymn of Praise: LUYH #523 "Creator Spirit, by Whose Aid"**

Advent Reading

Lighting of Advent Candle

Advent Song: Sing! A New Creation #103

"Come, Lord Jesus"

Congregational Prayer

God's Will for Our Lives – Exodus 20:1-17

Song of Dedication: Lift Up Your Hearts #61, vs. 1, 2, 5, 7

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Offering: General Fund

***Song of Preparation: Sing! A New Creation #167**

"Gift of Christ from God Our Father"

Prayer for Illumination

God's Word – Psalm 33

Message: “The Holy Spirit – Working in Creation”

Prayer of Application

***Hymn of Response: LUYH #235 “Spirit, Working in Creation”**

***Benediction**

***Doxology: Lift Up Your Hearts #83**

“Gloria, Gloria / Glory to God” (Latin & English)

Dispatch Christian Reformed Church

December 2, 2018 (PM)

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship – Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14

***Opening Song: Lift Up Your Hearts #440 “He Leadeth Me”**

***God’s Greeting – Revelation 1:4-5**

***Hymn of Faith – LUYH #322 “I Need Thee Every Hour”**

Reading from the Psalms – Psalm 37

Song of Dedication: LUYH #329 “Lead Me, Guide Me”

Congregational Prayer

New Testament Reading – 1 Timothy 1:12-17

***Song of Preparation: Sing! A New Creation #16**

“I Love You, Lord” (2x)

Scripture – Numbers 27:12-23

Message: “Joshua Is Commissioned for Service”

Prayer of Application

***Song of Application: LUYH #859 “Be Thou My Vision”**

Offering: General Fund

***Confession of Faith – Our Faith, pg. 13 “The Apostles’ Creed”**

***Closing Song: Lift Up Your Hearts #754**

“Lord, Speak to Me that I May Speak”

***Benediction – Numbers 6:24-26**

***Doxology: Lift Up Your Hearts #394, vs. 1&4**

“All Praise to You, My God, This Night”

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