

# WELCOME

First Reformed Church

December 23, 2018

## Welcome to First Reformed Church

We are so glad that you are here with us this morning. We want you to know the love and Joy of Christ this Christmas season. Christmas can be a joyful time of year. But that's not always the case. Sometimes the holiday season can become stressful, the worry builds and the added work can tear you down. God wants to give you joy this Christmas. That's a part of what the good news is all about, the Joy that Jesus brings. In the month of December we invite you to join us for our "Joy to the World" sermon series as we explore how the birth, life and work of Jesus brings joy to our lives. I am excited to see what God gives.

Chet Carlson - Sr. Pastor

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Our vision is to be a place where God is seen, Love is felt, and Lives are changed.

**"We are So Glad You Are Here"**

**Please fill out a Connection Card and place it in the offering plate.**

**Want to take the next step in your faith or ministry here at FRC?**

Contact Pastor Chet to sign up for the Welcome & Next Step Orientation coming in January.

## CONTACT US

Pastor Chet Carlson  
chet@firstreformed.com  
952-200-0684

Elementary Ed. Director –  
Mandy Stevens  
mandy@mitchelltelecom.net

Adm. Assistant – Mona Hento  
mona@mitchelltelecom.net  
Church phone 996-5449

Church website:  
[firstreformed.com](http://firstreformed.com) and on Facebook

To listen by phone, dial 990-6338 &  
put in attendee #13201

## WEEKLY EVENTS

December 23 - 30, 2018

### SUNDAY – the 23rd

Worship 9:00 a.m.  
Fellowship time following

### MONDAY – the 24<sup>th</sup>

Christmas Eve Candlelight  
Service 6:00 p.m.

### SUNDAY – the 30th

Worship 9:00 a.m.

### JANUARY VISION SERIES

"Reset: Jesus Changes  
Everything"  
What are we going to do  
about it? We'll be exploring  
the book of Acts along with  
our goals and plans.



**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE –  
DEC. 24 – 6 P.M.**

**COMBINED SERVICE – DEC. 30 – 9 A.M.  
Special 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday offering for Center of Hope  
No Sunday School**

**WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES RESUME JAN. 9, 2019**

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING –  
SUNDAY, JAN. 20, immediately following  
worship service at 8:30 a.m.**

**Nominees are:**

#### Elder

Curt Brands  
Gene Juffer  
Lyndon Overweg  
Bob Polly

#### Deacon

Kevin Adams  
Dale Houchin  
Jeff Schoenfelder  
Joel VanderPol

## FEATURES FOR THE WEEK:

**RightNow Media** is a resource to help you grow in your faith. FRC is giving you free access to this new tool and resource by having you fill out your connection card. You can also send an invite to a friend or family member as a way to give them the gift of faith. See the link on Facebook to share with a friend or go to <https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/FRC>

**Prayer Partners** will be available at the front of the sanctuary after each service to pray for your individual needs.

**Mailboxes** are set up for Christmas card exchanges. They are located near the youth room. PLEASE remember to check your boxes for cards.

## OTHER INFO:

Attendance Dec. 16: 217  
General offering Dec. 16: \$4,712.00  
Weekly offering needed: \$6,582.46  
Mission fund offering: \$2,211.00

## PRAYERS FOR:

Clarice Adema, Betty Anderson, Laura Docken, Gregg Hielema, Esther Pietz, Sharon Ligtenberg

**MESSAGE NOTES**  
**“JOY TO THE WORLD” SERIES**

**“The Great Gift Exchange”**  
**Luke 2:1-38**

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**Pastor Chet Carlson**  
**December 23, 2018**

**“Joy to the World” series**

**9:00 a.m. Service**

**Prelude by Praise Band**

**Lighting of the Advent Candle**

Josh Peterson family

**Special Music**

Debbie Asmus, Ellie Bleeker and Laurie Kent

**\*Singing**

“Joy - Unspeakable Joy”

#138 “Go, Tell It On the Mountain”

**\*Welcome and Greet One Another**

Pastor Chet

**(4 yr. olds - 2nd graders dismissed for Children & Worship)**

**Offering Our Gifts to God**

**Please sign the Connection Card during this time.**

**Scripture Video**

Luke 2:1-38

**Message**

“The Great Gift Exchange” ~ Pastor Chet

**Prayer**

**\*Worship in Song led by Praise Band**

#137 “What Child Is This?”

#132 “Angels We Have Heard on High”

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude played by Praise Band**

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**Celebrating 2018**

3 **Baptisms**

6 **Professions of Faith**

5 **New Members**

\$276,248.72 **Money invested into ministry by congregation**

\$43,223.49 **Money invested/given to missions**

\$72,106.91 **Money invested/given to building fund**