

First Christian Reformed Church
Lynden, Washington
December 20, 2020

CHURCH FAMILY & PRAYER CLOSET

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS:

Jane S will be celebrating her 83rd birthday on December 24.

THANK YOU:

Thank you to our First Church family for all the prayers, cards, calls, flowers, meals, and all the acts of kindness to both of us as we continue to undergo cancer treatment.

~ Rick & Ruth B

First CRC - we are thankful for the beautiful work you did in our courtyard this summer. It is a HUGE improvement for our families and is now a beautiful space. Thank you for being a light - Matthew 5:14.

~ Suzanne O, New Way Ministries

PRAYERS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

- Those in our community and around the world that are sick with the Covid virus.
- Vernon & Metdy S are adjusting to changes in their living situation and care. Metdy moved into Bellingham Adult Family Home this week, an assisted-living memory care facility, while Vernon will continue to live with Roger & Mary. Pray for this time of adjustment for everyone.
- Dave & Dara W and family will sell their home in Illinois soon.
- Nicole B will find a new place to rent for her and her sons in Lynden, Sumas or Everson.

RECOVERING:

- Clarice B is at home recovering from a severe blood clot in her leg.
- Liz V is at home recovering following surgery for an infection in her foot.
- John & Jean V are now at Meadow Greens as John recovers from a fall and hip surgery.

DEALING WITH CANCER:

- John B is undergoing a new chemo treatment.
- Rick B has completed his immunotherapy but is continuing additional treatment.
- Ruth B continues to recover from surgery and plans to start chemotherapy in January.
- Berny D is undergoing chemotherapy.
- Vernon S is undergoing immunotherapy.
- Al M (First CRC missionary) will be having ongoing procedures to help with his cancer.
- Pastor Phil K (former First CRC pastor) is declining in health.

ASSISTED LIVING AND CARE CENTER RESIDENTS:

- Bellingham Adult Family Home – Metdy S
- Cascade Christian Home – Amy B
- Christian Health Care – Jennie B, Mary K, Bennie M, Johanna R
- Lynden Manor – Edie M, Nellie H, Maggie S, Albert V
- Meadow Greens – Gussie B, Freda G, Grace H, John & Jean V, Andy V, Jo V
- Orchard Park – Eleanor & Carol Z
- Shuksan Healthcare – Kristi N

SHUT-IN MEMBERS that are separated from loved ones and assistance during this time.

CARE HOME AND MEDICAL FIELD WORKERS:

- St. Joseph's Hospital – Kim E, Kim A, Riley S, Roger P
- Christian Health Care Center – Julie S, Kari H, Anna E
- Meadow Greens – John & Karen M, Kirstyn H
- Stafford House – Janice S
- Cascade Connections – Tiffany B

PHASE III BUILDING and God's wisdom, clear leading and sufficient provision for building our future.

MOMS@1st and the moms and children involved that God will nurture a fruitful ministry.

HAUSA PEOPLE GROUP that God would open doors for the Gospel in northern Nigeria.

FIRST CRC MISSIONARIES:

Jeff & Melissa
Ray & Angie
Steve & Sandy
Dustin & Melissa
Memli & Luiza
Al & Julie
Tim & Charlene
Eric & Penny
Mitchell & Rochelle
John & Jean
Ken & Chris
Snehakunja Home

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CROSS CONNECTIONS WINTER NEWSLETTER:

The winter issue of Cross Connections will be sent to you via email or regular mail. An additional insert about the Hausa people is in your church mailbox because of security issues sending it via email. Printed copies of Cross Connections are available on the Welcome Center or at the church office.

CHRISTMAS CARD SEASON:

Just a reminder that you may want to check your church mailbox on Sunday or any weekday morning to pick up Christmas cards that have been placed in your mailbox.

SOCKS AND GLOVE DONATIONS NEEDED:

Cal B and Robert S are collecting **unused, WARM** socks (men's size 7-12) and gloves. Donations can be put in the box in the back of church. They would also appreciate prayer for their Tuesday night street ministry in Bellingham. If you have any questions, contact Cal B.

NEW WOMENS BIBLE STUDY STARTING IN JANUARY:

All women are invited to join us in studying "Ephesians: The Thoughts We Think, the Words We Speak". We will be meeting on Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. in the Education Building, starting on Thursday, January 7. For more information or sign up, contact Stephanie R.

WORSHIP SERVICES & CHURCH INFORMATION

*If you have cold-like or flu-like symptoms stay home until you are symptom free.
The state mandates that masks are required (available at the Welcome Center).
Please linger as briefly as possible in the narthex.*

IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICES:

Currently, we have two identical worship services at 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. on Sundays. During the time between services, the sanctuary and high touch surfaces are thoroughly cleaned, and masks and safe distancing are encouraged at all worship services. The congregation has been divided alphabetically for the worship services. If you cannot attend at your assigned time, you are welcome to attend the other service.

December 20	9:00 a.m. service	last names A – K
	10:30 a.m. service	last names L – Z

December 27	9:00 a.m. service	last names L – Z
	10:30 a.m. service	last names A – K

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SERVICES:

** Join us this Sunday evening, December 20 at 6:00 p.m. for a Traditional Festival of Nine Lesson and Carols with candlelight.

** Join us on Christmas morning at 10:00 a.m. for a time of joy and celebration because of the gift God has given us with the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Please note there will only be **one** service.

STREAMING WORSHIP SERVICES:

Sunday worship services will be live-streamed at 9:00 a.m. and replayed at 10:30 a.m. and the **candlelight and Christmas Day services will be live-streamed at their respective times**, all using the following link:

https://c.streamhoster.com/embed/media/WxsdDd/mc8FcKJsixL/F9Dehosccdy_5?preview=1

Past streamed services are available to view at the following link:

https://c.streamhoster.com/embed/list/WxsdDd/mc8FcKJsixL/OFrOSgTsiln_2_1?preview=1

WINTER WEATHER POLICY:

The office will try to send an email if a church service or meeting is cancelled. Otherwise, please listen to Praise 106.5, KGMI 790 or contact your district elder or group leader for more information.

NURSERY AVAILABLE:

A nursery is available for children under 3 years during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. The following are the safe practices for the nursery: no children with a cough or runny nose allowed, temperatures will be taken of ALL children, parents, and volunteers before entering, volunteers are required to wear masks, all toys and surfaces will be sanitized following the service, no food is allowed, and cups or bottles need to be labeled.

Upcoming Nursery Volunteer Schedule:

December 20 – Kristin and Jessica H
December 25 (Christmas Day) – Dara W and Swandel E
December 27 – Brenda and Pam R
January 3 – Bev H, Nathalie and Shannon T
January 10 – Sara B and family
January 17 – Jill B and family
January 24 – Michelle S and family
January 31 – Carly and Lane V

OFFERINGS AND WAYS TO GIVE:

Tithes and offering can be given on Sundays in the back of church, mailed to the church office (1010 Front Street, Lynden, WA 98264), dropped off at church (place in the outside mailbox), or electronically through Tithe.ly (www.tithe.ly) or a bill pay service. The deacons prefer to have a check designated to each offering, including different ones for weekly offerings. If you have questions, contact any deacon or the church office.

Upcoming Offering Schedule:

December 20 – Thereforego Ministries (formerly Youth Unlimited)
December 25 (Christmas Day) – Christian Hope Association
December 27 – Building the Future Fund
January 3 – Christian School Tuition Assistance

**** END OF THE YEAR GIVING** – If you would like to make contributions to the church before the end of the year, you can use any of the means above but it must be received by the church office or deacons no later December 31 or post marked by December 31.

CHURCH OFFICE AND STAFF SCHEDULES FOR CHRISTMAS:

The church office will be closed on Friday, December 25 and Friday, January 1. Due to these closures, the deadline for announcements will be Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. for the next two weeks.

Pastor Robert plans to be on vacation from December 25 – January 4. If you have a need during that time, please contact your district elder or the church office.

CHURCH OFFICE INFORMATION:

Office Hours	Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 12:00 p.m.
Office Phone	360-354-4560 (For all office staff)
Church Email	info@firstcrcllynden.org
Church Website	www.firstcrcllynden.org
Church Facebook Page	First Christian Reformed Church – Lynden
Church Instagram	firstcrcllynden (https://www.instagram.com/firstcrcllynden/)