

Preaching: Pastor Scott VanOostendorp

Sermon Notes*Welcome*

Call to Worship

Songs: How Firm a FoundationAs the Deer*

Congregational Prayer

Songs: The Solid RockHe Will Hold Me Fast*

Offering

Scripture: Psalm 42 and 43

Message: **Exiles, Despair and a New Year****Song: Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me***Song: Lead Me, Guide Me*

Offerings

Building Fund: Monies for future improvements and repairs to the church and Bridge facilities.

Church Announcements

Items from Church | Any church members that are interested in items from our church, are asked to put their request in writing. You may place it in the collection plate or give to a Council member. These will be reviewed by Council and, if needed, forwarded on to the Properties Team.

Distribution of Church Funds | Church members can submit organizations or places they would like to be included in the disbursement of our funds. Please put the request in writing and give to a Council member. These will be reviewed by Council.

Voting | Information from our Articles of Incorporation as it relates to voting. You will be able to vote if you are a professing member in good standing and have attended church during the last 2 years. Absentee ballots will not be made available due to information that will be shared at the time of the vote.

Cookie Sign-Up | Just a reminder, cookie sign-up sheets are in the back of church. If you don't bake, you can always buy cookies! We appreciate any help with this!

Bad Weather Policy: | If there is a winter storm warning, tornado watch or warning, or any severe weather warning one hour before a scheduled event, the event will be canceled. If schools are canceled due to weather, all church activities will be canceled. The closing will be on Wood TV also.

Care and Prayer

Calling Elder | Calling Elder | In need of prayer or a visit? Wes VanderLugt is the Calling Elder for January. His phone number is 616.836.8054.

Prayers for Council and First | Please continue to pray for Council and 1st Church as we seek God's direction for our future. May His plans be made clear to us. "Because of the Lord's great love, we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22-23.

Randy Hop had outpatient shoulder surgery this past week. Pray for a good recovery.

Pastor Bernie and Vieve are having a great time with family in Florida and will be back with us in a few weeks! They are thankful for a new year and a caring congregation.

Church Calendar

The **Properties Team** will meet at 6:30 PM on Tuesday.

JANUARY BREAKFAST! January 14, 9 AM at Community. All are invited! Sign up sheet is in the back of church.

Coffee Break will meet Thurs., Jan. 15, at 10 AM.

Community Announcements

Unfading Truth | Our God is both fully just and fully merciful. See this on display this coming week as we read Genesis 6 - 15 together at UnfadingTruth.com. It's not too late to sign up for a daily reminder!

Thrive Faith Formation Tip | Galatians 3:28 reminds us of the profound unity we share as believers in Christ, regardless of our backgrounds or perceived differences. As members of God's diverse yet unified family, we are called to live into the vision proclaimed in this verse. This week, as we commemorate the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.—a faithful advocate of this very vision—consider how you and your family or friends might actively embrace and embody this unity by building relationships with families of different racial and cultural backgrounds. Brought to you by Thrive: crena.org/Thrive

Thank You

Gord and Henkie Beukema thank the congregation for the cards, concerns and prayers they received for Henkie's birthday and the passing of her sister. They appreciate everything that was done and give God all the glory and praise.