

**Emden Christian Reformed Church
Pastor David Zigterman
Sunday, January 17, 2021**

**Sunday evening
5:00 pm**

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude a time to prepare our hearts for worship

Welcome and announcements

Call to Worship

*God's greeting

*Greet one another

*Song of Praise *Take My Life and Let it Be* SJ 436

Psalm 51

Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Song *Are You Washed in the Blood* SJ 376

Congregational Prayer

Song *Spirit of the Living God* SJ 150

Prayer for illumination

*Scripture Matthew 3:13-17

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

Congregation: Thanks be to God

Lord's Day 26

Message **Washed Clean**

*Song of response *Spirit Song*

*Parting Blessing

*Closing Song *Dwell in Me O Blessed Spirit* PH 427

*At Jesus' baptism, God declared his love for his son. In the desert,
God's angels gave Jesus strength. May our time together remind us of
God's love and provision during our celebrations and trials.
God bless you as we worship. May we all sense God's touch today.*

There will be a prayer meeting this Sunday at **5:00pm.**

This will be hosted on Google Meet.

To join the video meeting, go to this link:

<https://meet.google.com/mex-esp-fbs>.

Otherwise, to join by phone, dial +1 432-955-6421 and enter this PIN: 315 976 625#. This number will stay the same for the following weeks. Phone participants can press *6 to unmute their phone.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

10:00 am Morning Worship
5:00 pm Evening Prayer Time

Elders:

Duane Mulder - President

Nick Daugherty - Vice President

Doug Groen - Clerk

Deacons:

Samantha Link - Chairman

Curt Groen - Bldg / Benevolent Fund

Todd Groen - Treasurer

From Calvin University

Calvin University January Series - Each year Calvin University provides a publicly accessible series of speakers on various topics related to the Christian life and worldview. This year the January Series runs from January 6 through 26, 2021 and because of COVID-19 is offered to us in the safety and comfort of our homes. They are offering an impressive lineup of speakers and topics. The series is free of charge, but you need to register to watch it. More information on the content, speakers list, and REGISTRATION details can be found at www.calvin.edu/january

From Faith Formation Ministries

At-home Faith Formation Tip - The Practice of Engaging Scripture: N.T. Wright wrote, "Reading and studying Scripture [is] central to how we grow in the love of God." This coming week, start each day by reading 1 Corinthians 13 and praying that God's love will flow through you to others. (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit crcna.org/FaithFormation/Practices.)

From ReFrame Ministries

GROUNDWORK: WORSHIP - What makes worship a spiritual discipline? Study 1 Chronicles 15:16-22, Hebrews 10:19-25, Ephesians 5:15-20, and Isaiah 6:1-7 with Groundwork to learn why our pattern of worship matters and how habitually engaging in thoughtful, intentional, and Trinitarian worship is profoundly formative for our faith and life. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

How Do I Pray? - Prayer doesn't have to be complicated. And there is no single right way to do it. "How Do I Pray?", a free ebook from the ReFrame Ministries Prayer Team shows you six ways to reinvigorate your prayer life. It's yours free at reframeministries.org/ways-to-pray

TODAY

Todd Groen
Bldg / Benev Fund

*Sound System
Offering*

NEXT SUNDAY 1/24/21

Paul Knapper
CMCS Tuition Support

CHURCH CALENDAR

January 24 11:00 am *Annual Congregational meeting*

CHURCH FAMILY

Dear supporters, this week I'm very excited to share with you that the curriculum I've been working on for many years is finally finished - *Helping Without Hurting in Africa!* We expect the books to be available by next month from Oasis International and also on Amazon. The Chalmers Center is hosting a launching event for HWHIA through a webinar on zoom. In the webinar you can hear more about the authors, the content, and how the curriculum can be used.

I also would like to share with you one blog post at <https://anthsara.blogspot.com>,

Soroti TLT - Christian Stewardship

Thank you so much for your generous financial support, your prayers for us, and your encouragement to us as we partner together in ministry. Please pray for the presidential election here in Uganda which is tomorrow, the 14th. Things are tense here and we pray for both justice and peace. For those who are interested, the BBC has been publishing a lot of articles and videos about the Uganda election. We already are having issues accessing social media during this week of elections, and we expect the internet to be down completely tomorrow, so if we don't respond to your emails immediately, please don't get worried! We know those of you in the USA are also anxious about the political situation there, and we are praying for you also. —Anthony and Sara Sytsma

Our Christian sympathy to Michelle & Kevin Mulder on the death of Michelle's father, Loyis Eekhoff, this past week. May God surround them with his comfort, grace and peace.



CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

We will be continuing in-person worship. Please wear a mask. We have masks available. Feel free to take one and use. Please maintain a distance of 6 feet whenever possible. Hand sanitizer is also located throughout the building. If you do not feel well, we request that you refrain from coming. You can watch our services on our facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/>

Emden Christian Reformed Church PO Box 390—518 5th Street NW e-mail: emdenrc@centurytel.net Secretary: Judy C Groen (320) 905-3921 All Bulletin announcements due by Thursday noon. Pastor David's office hours: Tuesday - Thursday 8:30 am—12:00 Pastors Cell: 320-400-3023 Office phone: 320-329-3932	320-329-3932 Renville, MN 56284 web site www.emdenrc.org e-mail: j.k.groen56284@gmail.com e-mail: davidzigterman029@gmail.com You are welcome to stop in and visit without an appointment.
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emdenrc. The sermon will continue to be made available on the website.

If you would like to continue giving during this time you may send your offering to PO BOX 390, Renville, MN 56284 or drop it off in the clay pot in the narthex. There is now also an online option. Visit <https://www.emdenrc.org/online-giving> for more information.

Council Notes

Treasurer report

Beginning balance	\$28,624.29
Total deposits	\$9,364.98
Total expense	\$13,677.30
Ending Balance	\$24,311.97
Benevolent Fund	\$1,777.85
Building Fund	\$10,068.90

Council notes:

- Kevin and Danielle Engstrom will be welcomed as new members of our church on January 24
- The following names have accepted their nomination to serve on council

Elder: Tim Link, Paul Knapper
Deacon: Josh Groen, Heather Link, Heidi Link

Budget Envelopes: As Deacons, we have decided to discontinue using pre-printed budget envelopes. With payment by check, we will continue to keep record of your giving for tax purposes. We would appreciate if you would note on your check the designated cause. Offerings for the Building / Benevolent fund are usually divided equally, unless otherwise noted. We appreciate your continued giving toward the work of the Lord.

Next Sunday, January 24, we will be hearing God's word from Colossians 2:6-15 and Lord's Day 27 in the Heidelberg Catechism.



Sunday School will begin January 24 and will meet after the worship service.

Please consider this prayer challenge: spend 1 minute each night at 8:00 pm to pray for our nation.

We will be having our Congregational meeting on Sunday, January 24 immediately following the morning service. The following people have consented to having their names on the ballot for Council:

Elder - Paul Knapper and Tim Link,

Deacon - Josh Groen, Heather Link, Heidi Link.

Vote will be taken by casting lots.



Dalen and Donna will be auditing all the church books. If you have books that need to be audited please give them to Dalen & Donna as soon as possible. Thank you.

You are a Blessing! Thank you for your church's gift to ministry shares. Your gift makes it possible for us to share God's story of grace, hope and love. We could not impact the world through missions, media, and church development without your incredible and faithful support. To learn more about the work you support visit crna.org/ministryshares.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Unity CRC Library is depleting their existing library books. There is also a significant portion of the pastor's printed library included. Lots of great books from both libraries covering a wide array of subjects available in the area of the mailbox fellowship area. Suggested donations are \$.50 - \$1.00 per item, with all proceeds to go toward the Haiti Literacy Program. You are welcomed to stop by during office hours of 8:30-3:00 Tuesday thru Friday.



SPREAD SOME LOVE: Valentine's Day is right around the corner and the Haiti Literacy Team would like to help you express your love, care and appreciation for those who are important in your life...parents, coworkers, spouses, siblings, children...Check out our Facebook page or contact any of the team members by Feb. 1 to order your bouquets and/or Mr. B's chocolates to treat them this Valentine's Day. Thanks for your support! Christy Groen 320-212-9643, Kris TeBrake 320-894-6394, Valor Gorans 320-905-6164, Megan Erickson 712-363-3043, Stacy Schwitters 320-979-0196, Paulaine Jean Louis 813-367-6686.



Men: You are invited to attend the **No Regrets Men's Conference**. Rock of Life CRC will be hosting the conference via live stream on February 6, 2021. Plan to bring friends and family members who would benefit from being challenged to give our very best as we work at becoming the men of God we are called to be. This year we will be Live streaming from 8:30 am-12:30 pm. If you do not feel comfortable meeting in-person, we will email you a link where you can view the speakers in real time, on-line in the comfort of your own home. If you would like to meet in person the doors open at 7:30 am for coffee, donuts and check-in. We will be requiring the wearing of masks and will be practicing social distancing. Please register soon to reserve your spot. The cost of this half day conference is \$15, (includes donuts, coffee and snacks throughout the morning) and registration and payment is available on line at rockoflifecrc.org, or you can call Renae Kleinhuizen at 320-235-3060 if you would like to register over the phone, or email willmarcrc@gmail.com. Register by January 29 to reserve your spot.



Sermon Notes
Sunday, January 17, 2021
Matthew 3:13-17
Washed Clean

Enrollment forms for the Back-the-Pack program can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/backthepackprogram/>. If you know of anyone who might be interested or in need of this program, please share this link with them.

Patient attention, valuable discoveries

For many people, the coronavirus pandemic has been a test of patience — or worse. Medically vulnerable people face an anxious time of hypervigilance. Furloughed workers wait on hold or in lines for assistance. Special events have been canceled or rescheduled.

Those not impacted directly deal with assorted frustrations and inconveniences. Many people are learning the benefit of slowing down, being present (even virtually) to others and practicing patient attention.

Interestingly, scientist Isaac Newton did some of his best work when the plague forced Cambridge University to close. At home, the inquisitive student invented calculus and developed groundbreaking theories of gravity and optics. Later Newton called 1666 his annus mirabilis ("year of wonders") and reportedly said, "If I have made any valuable discoveries, it [owes] more to patient attention than to any other talent."

What have you discovered during the Covid-19 crisis? What appreciations have you developed for aspects of life you may have previously taken for granted? What has social distancing taught you about the value of neighbors, church, community volunteering?

During the pandemic, what have you learned about persistence and God's presence? What empathy do you now feel for writers of words such as "I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope" (Psalm 130:5, NIV)?



PRAYER CORNER

~ Please remember those in our congregation who have continuous

REQUESTS
—FOR—
PRAYER

health concerns: Marge Link, Linda Mayer, Darla Ruschen,
DeeDee Johnson, Carson Groen

PRAYERS FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH - Laos

Teenager Kicked Out of House for Following Christ

After several conversations about Jesus with Peng, her 14-year-old friend, 15-year-old Sa finally accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior. Leaders in Sa's village have a history of persecuting Christians, and numerous villagers hate Christians, evicting many believers. When Sa's parents learned she had accepted Christ and was attending church, they yelled at her for following the "religion of foreigners." Despite their anger, Sa remained firm in her faith. On Nov. 20, her parents took her clothes and threw them outside. They told her to "go live with the Christians." Sa is currently staying with Peng and her mother, who is a widow. Pray that Sa will continue to grow in her faith, and pray that God will bless Peng and her mother for their faithfulness and hospitality. Pray also that Sa's parents would hear the gospel and accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior just as their daughter did.

Continue to pray for area churches: Ebenezer Presbyterian, St. John's Lutheran, First Lutheran, United Methodist, Holy Redeemer, Our Saviors Lutheran, Temple of Jesus Christ, Hispanic Church and Emden. Ask God to continue to move through His church to the glory of His kingdom. Remember—we are part of God's kingdom and need to always be following Him.

Are you continuing to pray that God would use us to share His love and the Good News of the Gospel with our community? Pray that the presence of God will shine through us, the Emden Church Family, and that He will use us in His Kingdom will.

~ OUR MISSION ~

*Our mission is affirming the Lordship of Christ, expressing our faith through worship, fellowship, growth and service.
We would welcome you to share with us the joy of this exciting venture of faith.*

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God"
Philippians 4:6

