

Emden Christian Reformed Church  
 Pastor David Zigterman  
 Sunday, March 17, 2019

**Sunday Evening Service  
 6:00 pm**

We will not be having an evening worship service at Emden.  
 You are encouraged to attend a service at one  
 of the neighboring churches.

Raymond CRC 5:30 pm  
 Prinsburg First CRC 6:00 pm  
 Bunde CRC 5:30 pm

**WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP**

Prelude a time to prepare our hearts for worship  
 Welcome and announcements  
 Opening Song *How Lovely Is Your Dwelling Place* PH 243  
 Opening prayer  
 \*Call to worship Isaiah 57:15  
 \*God's Greeting of His People  
 \*We Greet One Another  
 \*Songs of Praise *God Himself Is with Us* PH 244 vs. 1-3  
*How Firm a Foundation* PH 500 vs. 1-5

**WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE**

Confession of sin  
 Ministry of Music *Though Your Sins Be as Scarlet*  
 Assurance of pardon Ezekiel 36:25-27  
 Song of gratitude *And Can It Be* PH 267 vs. 1,2,4  
 Prayer of God's people conclude with the Lord's Prayer  
 Offering Building Fund/Benevolent Fund  
 Noisy-offering Anthony's TLT initiative  
 Song of preparation Ministry of Music *To You, O Lord*

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD**

Prayer for illumination  
 \*Scripture Matthew 18:12-35 pg. 1527  
 Reader: This is the Word of the Lord  
 Congregation: Thanks be to God

Message **Love That Confronts and Forgives and Pursues**

Prayer of Application  
 \*Song of response *Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive* PH 266 vs. 1-4  
 \*Profession of our faith *Boundless Grace*

**WE DEPART TO SERVE**

\*Parting Blessing  
 \*Closing Song *I Then Shall Live* SJ 133 vs. 1-3

*Welcome, guests and members, to worship and Christian fellowship on this  
 second Sunday in Lent! May our faith be strengthened during this time.  
 Thank you for being here, adding your voice to the others in prayer and praise.*

Next Sunday, March 24, 2019		<u>SUNDAY SCHEDULE</u>
Greeters:	Todd & Jane Groen	9:00 am Catechism
Library:	Julie Link	(1st & 3rd Sunday Sept.—May)
Coffee Hour:	Loren & Rhonda Marcus	10:00 am Morning Worship
Sound System:	Curt Groen	
Nursery:	Donna Fuls	
Usher:	Zach Johnson	Gene & Dawn Michelson
Letter to Michelsons:	Butch & Linda Mayer	B.P. 2210, Bamako
Congregational Visitor:	Julie Link	Mali, West Africa
Offering: am	CMCS Tuition Support	E-mail address Usamaan@hotmail.com
<b>Elders:</b>		<b>Deacons:</b>
Duane Mulder - President	Todd Groen - Chairman	
Kim Mulder - Vice President	Curt Groen - Benevolent / Building Fund	
Doug Groen - Clerk	Bob Swyter - Treasurer	

## From Back to God Ministries International

A Lent Devotional Series - Lent is a season to focus on the hope of Jesus Christ. Receive a free Today devotional email series to help you refresh, refocus, and renew your faith during Lent. Or download the ebook! Subscribe at [TodayDevotional.com/Lent](http://TodayDevotional.com/Lent).

Biblical Guide to Discipline - Discipline is one of the most important—and challenging—responsibilities of parenting. "Biblical Discipline: A Guide for Christian Parents," an ebook from Family Fire, offers encouragement and answers your questions about child discipline. Get the ebook with your free email subscription at [FamilyFire.com/Discipline](http://FamilyFire.com/Discipline).

GROUNDWORK: DEBORAH AND GOD'S UNLIKELY HEROES - Women did not commonly hold leadership positions in the Old Testament, yet here in Judges, we find Deborah. Explore Judges 4-5 with Groundwork to discover why her leadership was God's answer to Israel's cry for help and see how God continually makes heroes out of unlikely people. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

**From Faith Formation Ministries** - Lent Family Faith Formation Tip - Observing Lent with your family can be a very meaningful experience. Check out [tinyurl.com/FlameLentActivities](http://tinyurl.com/FlameLentActivities) for a bunch of creative things to make and do with kids of all ages. (Faith Formation Ministries; [crcna.org/FaithFormation](http://crcna.org/FaithFormation))

## From CRC Communications

Pray for Inspire 2019 - Inspire 2019 is a conference to connect people from across the 1000+ churches in the Christian Reformed Church for three days of worship, workshops, speakers, and conversation. As we plan and prepare for this event, happening August 1-3 in Windsor, Ont., please join us in praying for the event and all who will attend. This week, please pray for the ministries, businesses, and organizations who will be presenting and interacting in the EXPO at Inspire 2019. Pray for helpful and gracious interactions and conversations that will bless both representatives and those with whom they're sharing.

Emden Christian Reformed Church  
PO Box 390—518 5th Street NW  
e-mail: [emdenrc@centurytel.net](mailto:emdenrc@centurytel.net)  
Secretary: Judy C Groen (320) 905-3921  
All Bulletin announcements due by Thursday noon.

320-329-3932  
Renville, MN 56284  
web site [www.emdenrc.org](http://www.emdenrc.org)  
e-mail: [j.k.groen56284@gmail.com](mailto:j.k.groen56284@gmail.com)

**Pastor David's office hours: Tuesday - Thursday 8:30—12:00**  
**Pastor's Cell: 320-400-3023**  
**Office phone: 320-329-3932**

**You are welcome to stop in and visit  
without an appointment.**

## TODAY

Greeters:	Harold & Norma Groen
Library:	Julie Link
Coffee Hour:	Tim & Dawn Link
Sound System:	Paul Knapper
Nursery:	Dawn Link
Usher:	David Daugherty
Letter to Michelsons:	Bob & Jill Marcus
Congregational Visitor:	Julie Link
Visiting Elder:	Kim Mulder



## CHURCH CALENDAR

Monday 7:00 pm **Ladies Bible Study** Meet at Verla's - movie night **War Room**  
Bring a snack to share if you would like to

Wednesday 7:00 pm **Lenten service at Ebenezer Presbyterian**

## CHURCH FAMILY

Thank you for your loving thoughts and gifts. I love them and thank you very much.  
— Lilah Kleinhuizen

Greetings from Uganda to our friends, family, and supporters. We appreciate all of you. Thank you for taking the time to read about our lives and ministry. We have one new blog post this week at <https://anthsara.blogspot.com> *21 Alcoholics Trust in Christ!*

We value your prayers. Here are some prayer requests:

1. Our night-guard Julius who became a Christian is no longer working for us because we had to make a switch from that guard company for other reasons. But we will still be talking to him and meeting him to encourage him and help him grow in his faith. Julius continues to read the Bible and discuss it with his girlfriend and other friends. He has stayed strong and not gone back to his alcohol addiction. He is preparing and saving money in order to get married. We believe his faith is very real, but some bad habits are hard to change. We had regular frustrations with him concerning negligent work and dishonesty. But we kept on forgiving him and being patient with him. We know God is working in his life and Julius will keep growing in his faith and character. We ask that you keep on praying for him and his other friends who got saved, some of whom we are able to talk to from time to time and others who have moved away from Soroti.

2. Please pray that the government here would renew our work permits, and would do it within a short time before our current work permits expire.

3. Sara has another trip to Kenya and Tanzania coming up to lead a training and lead a spiritual retreat. Pray for her preparation and safety as she travels. This time she will travel by air and having other people drive her. Thank you — Anthony and Sara

## CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Sunday School and Catechism will meet the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month. Catechism (4th grade through High School) meet from 9:00 to 9:45 am. Sunday School (3rd grade and below) meet during the service. In addition to this, the Sunday School will collect a Noisy Offering on the 1st and 3rd Sunday. The money collected for this offering will be go toward the leadership training

initiative Anthony Sytsma is overseeing as part of the Timothy Leadership Training of World Renew. More information about this initiative can be found here: <https://www.myworldrenew.net/timothyleadershiptraining>

### Upcoming dates:

- March 18: Ladies Bible Study
- March 20: Lenten Service with Ebenezer Presbyterian at Ebenezer
- March 27: Lenten Service at Emden with Ebenezer Presbyterian
- April 3: Lenten Service at Ebenezer
- April 10: Lenten Service at Emden with Ebenezer Presbyterian
- April 18: (Maundy Thursday) at Emden with Ebenezer Presbyterian



Easter Lilies



If you would like to purchase an Easter Lily to help decorate the church for Easter, please sign the list by the mailbox counter and pay Samantha Link by March 24. \$21 each

Next Sunday, March 24, we will be hearing God's word from Matthew 22:1-14.

### Council Notes

Treasurer's Report - February

Beginning Balance	\$4,000.28
Total Deposits	\$7,339.60
Total Expense	\$7,103.00
Ending Balance	\$4,236.88
Building Fund:	\$13,050.43
Benevolent Fund:	\$5,307.92

Visiting elder for January: Kim Mulder

Decision made: If there are insufficient funds in the general fund, the Building Fund can be used to pay necessary bills

### REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TODAY: MS Fundraiser** at Bart's Place on Sunday, March 17 from 11am-1pm. Free will donation and bake sale.



Lenten Prayer Breakfast

**Men's Lenten Breakfasts** will be Wednesdays, March 13 – April 17, starting at 6:30 – 7:05 am at Bethany Reformed Church in Clara City. Men and sons are invited to join us for pancakes & sausage and a brief message from area speakers. This year's theme is "*Glory of the Cross*".



Men's Chorus

The West Central Men's Chorus will have a rehearsal TODAY, Sunday, March 17 from 2:00 - 4:30 at First CRC in Prinsburg. If you have any questions, contact Michelle Mulder at [mkmulder@hotmail.com](mailto:mkmulder@hotmail.com).

\* The Chorus will be performing on Sunday, March 31 at 2:00 pm at the First CRC in Prinsburg and also on Sunday, April 7 at 2:00 pm at the Vineyard Methodist Church in Hutchinson. Everyone is invited to come and hear the men in concert.

### The Digital Culture of Kids Parent Presentation



Attention Parents and Grandparents!

You do not want to miss the opportunity to hear Chris McKenna from Protect Young Eyes that will be at CMCS on March 18th @ 6:30pm at the Central MN Christian School Event Center. Even if your kids do not own a phone yet, they are still connected to technology. We must be proactive and informed as parents with the ever-changing technology that our kids have at their fingertips. In order to make this event even more accessible to parents, we are offering FREE childcare for 4k-5th grade students. This will be led by Miss Megan Rustad and a few junior high students. Please RSVP on our school's website [www.cmcschool.org](http://www.cmcschool.org) We will see you on March 18th.



JAM's Soup and Homemade Pie Supper will be held at Bunde CRC on Wednesday, March 20 from 5-7:30pm. Money raised will be used to support JAM and Jr. JAM Ministries



Soup Supper

**Safe Church Training:** Rock of Life CRC is inviting all who are involved in church council, leadership in Youth Programs (Youth Group, Children's Ministries, Sunday School, Nursery) and leadership in ministries for vulnerable adults to a half day Safe Church Training Seminar on March 23 from 8:30 am-12:00 pm. Speaker Kasey Baker from Safe Avenues will be giving the presentation "*Hidden in Plain Sight: The Realities of Domestic & Sexual Violence and the Impact on Children.*" The purpose of the seminar is to show us practical ways that we as a church can identify the signs and advocate for those who are victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse. Doors will open at 8:00 am for coffee and donuts. If you are able to attend please RSVP by calling Renae at 320-235-3060 or email [willmarcrc@gmail.com](mailto:willmarcrc@gmail.com)

You are invited to a concert entitled, "*We are Not Alone*" performed by the Rehoboth Christian High School Band. Rehoboth Christian School was founded in 1903 as a ministry to the Native American people. Come and worship with us! Tuesday, March 26 at CMCS, Prinsburg, MN at 6 pm. We hope you join us!

**Host Families Needed!**

These 66 students and chaperones need places to stay for the night before continuing their tour at 7:45 the next morning. If you have room in your home and are willing to host students for the night of March 26th, please email Devin Veenstra at devinv@cmcschool.org.



Take a trip back to 1965 and relive the old TV series "*Get Smart.*" Join the CMCS



Drama Department and witness Maxwell Smart, Agent 99, and the Chief as they take on the evil villain Mr. Big and his KAOS agents to keep them from taking over the world with the "Inthermo!" Performances are March 28 and 29 at 7:00pm. There will be a Dinner Theater on March 30 at 6:00pm. Tickets available starting Thursday, March 7. Please contact the High School Office, 978-8700, for purchasing tickets.

Rescheduled for Saturday, March 30 - **Classical Home Missions Committee Presents: *Becoming Effective Churches!*** Is it possible to build a Biblically healthy, family friendly church, attract the younger generation and still mobilize and inspire the older generation? Come to a seminar in Bunde, MN at Bunde CRC, March 30, 9:00am-12:30pm to find out! You'll enjoy the teaching, the stories, the comradely and even the food! All are invited. No registration necessary...just come.

\*Bible School Fund Raiser - Join us on Sunday, March 31 from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. for a **Belgian Waffle Feed** at the Renville Community Center. Come, fill your tummy and experience the spirit of Bible camp. The Waffle Feed on March 31 for the Ecumenical Vacation Bible School **is in need of volunteers.** There are shifts at 8:30 am, 9:30 am, 11 am, and 12:30 pm. Please contact Samantha Link if you are interested.



**Soles4Souls:** Wearing out Poverty - If you have any shoes you are no longer using, please consider giving your shoes to this organization by placing them in the blue container near the entrance of the church.

For information regarding both student as well as adult Driver's Training courses, go to the website at: [ww.212drivingschool.com](http://ww.212drivingschool.com).

**April 2019 Mississippi "Helping Hands" Project**

A "Helping Hands" trip is being organized to the deep south over spring break. Junior and Senior high school students are invited to come along to lend a helping hand at the Cary Christian Center in Cary Mississippi. Will you join us? The Lord has blessed us GREATLY on previous trips!!! Please pray about it....and if the Lord is prompting you to join us, please sign up in the school office.



**MISSION TRIP**

If you have questions, please contact Duane Bonnema at 320-212-9660 (cell) or 320-967-4472 (home); or Andy Ypma at 320-510-0142 (cell) or 320-978-6206 (home). The cost will be \$175 per student. If this cost places a burden on you, contact Duane or Andy.

Our group will be leaving Friday, April 12, at 6:00 a.m., and returning Saturday, April 20 (the evening before Easter). We are in need of a couple more adult leaders, especially with skills in carpentry, shingling, and home repair. If you know someone who is interested, please contact Andy or Duane. We are also looking to borrow a van or suburban type vehicle. If you have one available, please let us know. If you are unable to join us on this trip, but are willing to help, you can be a part of this ministry effort by praying for us. We need your prayers and we need God's guidance as we prepare to lend a helping hand to those in need.

*...This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. -1 John 3:16-18*

Three in One

Everyday objects can serve as simple lessons about Biblical truth. To illustrate the profound concept of the Trinity, for example, some teachers use an apple, an egg or a three-leaf clover. During winter, you can point to a kid-friendly snowman to describe how God is Three in One.

The ball of snow on the base represents God the Father, our Creator and strong foundation. The middle ball, with stick arms reaching to the side, reminds us of Jesus, who died on the cross. And the snowman's head stands for the Holy Spirit, our ever-present Counselor who helps us and speaks God's truth to us.

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**PRAYER**

~ Please remember those in our congregation who have continuous health concerns: Melvin Link, Marge Link, Linda Mayer, Gerald Mulder, Darla Ruschen, DeeDee Johnson, Lilah Kleinhuizen

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**The Persecuted Church: Syria**

**Church Serves Needy in Homs**

A church in Syria recently distributed food packages to 100 displaced families near the city of Homs. Many families had come to the church seeking help, so ministry teams visited the families at home to verify their need before assembling and distributing food parcels containing items like olive oil, cheese, pasta, fava beans, rice and spices. Most of the families who received the food packages do not receive help from any other source. "We thank the Lord ... and pray He will help us be able to offer help to more families whose lives were changed and damaged by the war," said the church's pastor. Help them in their want and joy for food for their physical needs but more than that, that they hunger for the Lord more. Pray that those receiving the food aid will experience the love of Jesus, and pray for the believers in Syria who are caring for others in Jesus' name. Protect, provide for, comfort, strengthen, encourage & guide them. May they stay strong, united in faith, committed to Christ & growing in numbers & maturity. May they keep showing Christ's love to these families.

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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.

Sunday, March 17, 2019

Matthew 18:12-35

**Love That Confronts and Forgives and Pursues**

- Love that confronts (vs. 15-20)
- Love that pursues (vs. 12-14)
- Love that forgives (vs. 21-35)

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

