

**Emden Christian Reformed Church
Pastor David Zigterman
Sunday, March 22, 2020**

Sermon outline
Sunday, March 22, 2020
Mark 12:28-40

The Great Commandment

Welcome and announcements

A scribe asks Jesus about the great commandment (vs. 28-34)

Prayer of God's people

Scripture Mark 12:28-40

Message **The Great Commandment**

Jesus' question concerning the Messiah (vs. 35-37)

Parting Blessing

*God has promised to be our God and to let us be his people.
May we focus confidently on the blessing of such a loving relationship
as we worship God today.*

Jesus denunciation of the scribes (vs. 38-40)

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
9:00am Sunday School
1st & 3rd Sunday
(Sept.—May)
10:00am Morning Worship

Elders:

Duane Mulder - President
Nick Daugherty - Vice President
Doug Groen - Clerk

Deacons:

Samantha Link - Chairman
Curt Groen - Bldg / Benevolent Fund
Todd Groen - Treasurer

From Back to God Ministries International

FAMILY FIRE - FAMILY FIRE is an online community exploring Spirit-led family, marriage, parenting, in-laws, blended families, and intimacy. Find encouraging articles and devotions at familyfire.com. Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.

GROUNDWORK: I BELIEVE IN GOD, THE CREATOR - Why can we trust God when bad things happen? Study Psalm 19:1-6, Job 28:34-41, and Psalm 104:27-30 with Groundwork to discover why we can believe in the creator God and his providence, and why this belief gives us comfort. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

From Faith Formation Ministries

Lent At-home Faith Formation Tip - As Holy Week nears, create a worship space—a table or corner of a room where you can be intentional about spending time with God this week. For now, decorate it with purple or black cloth, a cross, and other symbols. Then on Easter morning, decorate this space with flowers, butterflies, white and gold cloth, etc. Talk with kids about what these symbols mean. This space can continue as a worship area even after Easter is finished. (Tip from Faith Formation Ministries; crcna.org/FaithFormation)

From The Banner

The Banner magazine wants to hear from you! - Please take our survey at thebanner.org/survey. Help us improve to serve you better. Your participation is voluntary, confidential, and will only take about 10 minutes. Thank you!

~ 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.

Emden Christian Reformed Church 320-329-3932
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e-mail: emdencrc@centurytel.net web site www.emdencrc.org
Secretary: Judy C Groen (320) 905-3921 e-mail: j.k.groen56284@gmail.com
All Bulletin announcements due by Thursday noon.
Pastor David's office hours: Tuesday - Thursday 8:30 am—12:00 Pastor's
Pastors Cell: 320-400-3023
Office phone: 320-329-3932 **You are welcome to stop in and visit**
without an appointment.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

All church services and meetings are postponed until March 31 at which time the council will meet again. Each Sunday morning on our website, <https://www.emdencrc.org> sermons, announcements, congregational prayer, and a message will be posted. If you would like to give 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. If you have any prayer requests or needs please contact the pastor or a member of council.

Next Sunday, March 29, we will be hearing God's word from Mark 13:1-8, 24-37.

Ladies Bible Study on Wednesday nights has been postponed until after Easter.

Evening Bible Study is postponed until further notice

Men's Bible Study is postponed until further notice.

Upcoming dates:

April 9 Maundy Thursday service with communion at 7 pm

Council Notes

Treasure report for February

Beginning Balance:	\$12,265.17
Total Deposits:	\$6,676.53
Total Expense	\$9,753.42
Ending Balance:	\$9,188.28
Benevolent Fund:	\$1490.73
Building Fund:	\$11,401.77

- * Noisy offering: another \$600 was sent to Anthony's TLT initiative
- * The membership status of Mike and Amber Simons is now lapsed
- * We will be having a Maundy Thursday meal at 6 pm followed by a service with communion at 7 pm
- * On Easter day we will have a sunrise service at 8am, followed by a pancake breakfast, and our regular service at 10 am.
- * Visiting Elder for April: Duane Mulder

CHURCH FAMILY

From Anthony & Sara Sytsma: Dear Friends and Family, as you are in quarantine and depressed about the world, please read our blog to be uplifted and encouraged about what God is doing! We have two new posts at <http://anthsara.blogspot.com>

Crazy Uplifting TLT Testimonies

Devotional for Development Workers and Missionaries

Although Uganda has no confirmed cases yet, the President of Uganda, Museveni, announced a 30 day closure of churches, schools, and other public gatherings. So now we are joining you in social distancing, or as I like to call it - quarantine. We are saddened that so many of our trainings, preaching invitations, small groups, and other programs are canceled or delayed. Yet we also look forward to time at home catching up on books, emails, research, and other projects. We are praying for all of you, and we thank you for praying for us.

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Blood Drive - Renville Community Center - On Wednesday, March 25 from 1pm to 7pm there will be an opportunity to give blood at the Renville Community Center. Those who are healthy are strongly considered giving at this time.

Restorative Justice volunteer training is postponed until further notice.

BACK-THE-PACK The Renville County Back-the-Pack Program provides free meals and snacks to students for RCW who may need additional help to obtain nutrition over the weekends. This program ended in December. The Renville Ministerium is trying to determine if this program can be restarted. For that to take place, volunteers are needed. Volunteers are needed to transport meals on Tuesdays and Fridays. If this interests you, contact Pastor David.

Renville County Food Shelf

On the first and third Tuesdays of each month we need help from 8 a.m. to 9:30 or 10 a.m. moving food into the food shelf and sorting food rescue produce. On Mondays and Fridays from 12:45 to 3:15 Wednesdays from 9:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. and Thursday evenings from 4:45 to 7:00 p.m. we need volunteers to assist the clients with their shopping. If you are able to help at one of those times, stop in at the food shelf at 108 S. 9th Street in Olivia or call us at 320-523-5339.

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.



PRAYER CORNER

REQUESTS
—FOR—
PRAYER

~ Please remember those in our congregation who have continuous health concerns: Marge Link, Linda Mayer, Gerald Mulder, Darla Ruschen , DeeDee Johnson, Lilah Kleinhuizen, John & Dorothy Aalderks, Carson Groen

**THE PERSECUTED CHURCH: China
Online Preaching Banned**

The two official church bodies in Shandong province announced in a joint statement that authorities have banned all online preaching. The Three-Self Patriotic Movement (TSPM) and China Christian Council (CCC) sent a joint statement to all member churches on Feb. 23, 2020, stating that “leaders of supervision departments” ordered all livestreamed preaching should cease and that churches that gather should be sought out and stopped. Both the TSPM and the CCC are state-run religious organizations, meaning that they report to the Chinese Communist Party. As the government has systematically moved to close churches (both official and unapproved), many congregations have moved online. However, it looks like the government wishes to clamp down on this religious activity as well. Continue to pray for Christians in China.

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.

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

