



**Emden Christian Reformed Church**  
**Pastor David Zigterman**  
**Sunday, April 5, 2020**  
**PALM SUNDAY**

Prelude: a time to prepare our hearts for worship  
*Amazing Grace*

**Announcements**

- Council met on March 31 and we decided, based on current condition caused by COVID-19, we will not be having any services or activities at church through all of April. Services will continue to be recorded, including for Maundy Thursday.
- An effort by the council is being made to contact everyone in the congregation. If you have any needs or prayer requests, please let myself or a member of council know.
- Finally, 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.

Call to worship  
 Song of Praise                      *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*                      PH 378

Prayer of God's people  
 Song                                      conclude with the Lord's Prayer  
    *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*                      PH 375

Prayer for illumination  
 \*Scripture                              Mark 11:1-11, 14:3-9  
    Reader: This is the Word of the Lord  
    Congregation: Thanks be to God

Message                                      **Stumbling Toward Easter**  
 Prayer of Application

Parting Blessing  
 Closing Song

*We hold in tension the emotions of this day: the joy of the exuberant crowd welcoming Jesus, the scorn of those so threatened by him as to seek his death, and the concerns of this present day and our world.  
 Lord, have mercy.*



Blessed is he  
 who comes in  
 the name of  
 the LORD!  
 Psalm 118:26, ESV



<p><b>SUNDAY SCHEDULE</b>          9:00am Sunday School          1st &amp; 3rd Sunday          (Sept.—May)          10:00am Morning Worship</p>
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<p><b>Elders:</b>          Duane Mulder - President          Nick Daugherty - Vice President          Doug Groen - Clerk</p>	<p><b>Deacons:</b>          Samantha Link - Chairman          Curt Groen - Bldg / Benevolent Fund          Todd Groen - Treasurer</p>
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### From Back to God Ministries International

GROUNDWORK: I BELIEVE IN THE SON'S LIFE AND DEATH. - Jesus Christ is the foundation of the Christian faith. Join Groundwork as we examine Luke 1:26-35, Matthew 27:11-26, Luke 23:44-46, and 1 Peter 3:18-20 to help us better understand what we profess to believe about Jesus' life and death in the Apostles' Creed. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

### From Faith Formation Ministries

Good Friday At-Home Faith Formation Tip - Take some time today to reflect on the events of Good Friday. Read the story, and then use questions like these as you wonder about it: What would it be like to be a friend of Jesus that day? How would you feel? What would you do? (Tip from Faith Formation Ministries; [crcna.org/FaithFormation](http://crcna.org/FaithFormation))

Lent At-Home Faith Formation Tip - Spend time in the Easter story this week by engaging with it in a variety of ways. If you have kids in your life, read it and then retell it together as you act it out or use crayons, markers, collage or even Lego to depict various scenes. With other adults or on your own, read the story out loud several times, pausing in between to reflect and to circle or write down words that stand out for you. (Tip from Faith Formation Ministries; [crcna.org/FaithFormation](http://crcna.org/FaithFormation))

### From The Banner

The Banner Available Online - You can access all of our content for free, including online extras at: [thebanner.org](http://thebanner.org). You can also sign up for our weekly email newsletter at [thebanner.org/Signup](http://thebanner.org/Signup). Or download our free mobile app, giving you real-time online content. Follow us on Facebook ([crcbanner](https://www.facebook.com/crcbanner)) and Twitter ([@crcbanner](https://twitter.com/crcbanner)).

~ 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: [emdenrcrcc@centurytel.net](mailto:emdenrcrcc@centurytel.net)      web site [www.emdenrcrcc.org](http://www.emdenrcrcc.org)  
Secretary: Judy C Groen (320) 905-3921      e-mail: [j.k.groen56284@gmail.com](mailto: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 FAMILY

Dear Friends,

Greetings from quiet Soroti where the sun is shining and all but the most vital of services are shut down. This week we are sharing our April prayer letter so you can get a summary of what is going on around here.

Additionally, I wanted to let you know that I've decided to take some online Biblical counseling courses. As you have heard before, Anthony and I have had a lot of requests from friends for counseling over difficulties they're going through. I want to have more to offer our friends who make these requests, so I've registered for the first course in an online certificate program through Christian Counseling and Educational Foundation (CCEF). It will take me a while to get through all the courses since I will only be able to take one or two per term, in my free time. I will take a total of 9 classes to get the two certificates which would be most helpful, but the classes are not cheap - most courses are \$650 each, coming out to a total of \$5,650. I would really appreciate if you would consider helping me out with the cost of this program. If you are interested, please let me know.

—In Christ, Sara and Anthony

### CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council met on March 31 and we decided, based on current conditions caused by COVID-19, we will not be having any services or activities at church through all of April. However, services will continue to be recorded and published on our website <https://www.emdenrcrcc.org/> sermons including the Maundy Thursday service. These recording are also available on most major podcast distributors (i.e. Spotify, Overcast). Simply search for Emden updates. Bulletins will continue to be made and can also be found on our website: <https://www.emdenrcrcc.org/resources>. If you would like a bulletin mailed to you, please let a member of council or Judy Groen know. An effort by the council is also being made to contact everyone in the congregation. If you have any needs or prayer requests, please let myself or a member of council know. Finally, thank you for your continued support, encouragement, and prayer. 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 will be a Maundy Thursday service recorded.

Next Sunday, April 12, we will be hearing God's word from Mark 16:1-8. Please consider this prayer challenge: spend 1 minutes each night at 8pm to pray for our nation.

Ladies Bible Study on Wednesday nights has been postponed until further notice.

Evening Bible Study is postponed until further notice

Men's Bible Study is postponed until further notice.

### **Upcoming dates:**

April 28: council meeting

Rachael Zigterman - I've been trying to think of ways to give back to our community and I'm hoping you will join me. There are so many people we could thank who are working hard; however, I would like to focus on our health care workers. This week I would like to specifically focus on the staff who work at RenVilla Health Center/ Nursing Home. Many of us have people we know and love living there and I would like to thank the staff for their hard work, going the extra mile to connect families to their loved ones and being family for the residents during this difficult time. I was hoping to provide lunch and supper this next week however because of the governors stay at home orders I am staying in contact with the nursing home and Barts to plan a future date. We will be supporting a local restaurant (Bart's Place) as they will provide the meals and (Maynards) for drinks. Please join me in raising enough money to purchase meals for around 55 health workers.

You may donate via the Go Fund Me page or you can mail a check to Emden Christian Reformed Church - 512 Emerson Ave. NW Renville, MN 56284. Make checks payable to "*Emden Christian Reformed Church*" and write "**health care meals**" in the memo. Thanks in advance for supporting and thanking our healthcare workers for their service. Once a date is set I will update you.

## **REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CMCS Annual Society Meeting Postponed**

Due to the current school closures, the CMCS Board of Directors has decided to postpone the Annual Society Meeting scheduled for April 14 to a

date later to be determined. As the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve, the CMCS school board and Leadership Team will continue to monitor the most current information and directives from the Minnesota Department of Health, the Governor of Minnesota, and the Centers for Disease Control. A new date and meeting format will be communicated once a date has been determined. Thank you for your continued partnership and support during this time.

A message from our denominational leaders:

We are living in unusual times. As we struggle to do and be church in the midst of COVID-19, we want to encourage you all to shift your attention and remember the Holy Season that we are in. While life may seem chaotic and out of our control, the Easter story reminds us that God is the same yesterday, today, and forever. The gospel proves that his grace triumphs over all else, including our temporary anxiety.

As we prepare for Good Friday and Easter, we would like to call every church to a day of prayer and fasting on Good Friday. Let's have all CRC members join together, as an entire denomination, in lamenting the brokenness in our world, grieving with those who are sick or affected by COVID-19, ultimately praising God for his blessings that shine through even in times of darkness.

CCT buses are available to pick up and take seniors/shut-ins to the grocery store, etc OR, they can deliver groceries to them. CCT Olivia: 320-523-3589; if you have any questions, you can contact Tiffany at the Willmar office at 320-214-7433.

### **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

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**THE PERSECUTED CHURCH: Syria  
Children Targeted by Extremist Ideology**

A VOM (Vice of the Martyrs) partner who operates a summer camp and supports a school in Syria has requested prayer for the many children affected by the conflict there. “As most of these refugee kids have been exposed to devastation, they are desperate to hear that God loves them in the midst of all they have suffered,” he said. Children are targeted by Islamic extremists, facing relentless pressure from political, religious and social groups in the war-torn country. “Pray that the children exposed to devastation and hardship will be equipped to begin to deal with the trauma they experienced,” he added. “Pray there will be an increasing hunger and thirst for God and His Word.”

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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.

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

