

Emden Christian Reformed Church
Pastor David Zigterman
Sunday, May 17, 2020

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude a time to prepare our hearts for worship

Welcome and announcements

Song of Praise *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Congregational Prayer

Song of preparation *Christian Hearts in Love United*

Prayer for illumination

*Scripture 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

Congregation: Thanks be to God

Message **The Most Excellent Way**

Parting Blessing

*Welcome to this sacred time of praising and praying
together; of singing, speaking and listening together;
of being strengthened together in faith, for service.*

Though the Stay At Home order expires May 18, the new Stay Safe order limits group gatherings to 10 people and under. Gatherings and meetings will remain cancelled for the time being. Worship services will continue to be posted on our website and there will be an opportunity to gather virtually each Sunday during our prayer meeting.

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.emdencrc.org/online-giving> for more information and directions.

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

GROUNDWORK: I BELIEVE IN THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS - What is forgiveness? How can God forgive and be just? Join Groundwork as we study Psalm 103, 2 Corinthians 5:18-21, Romans 8:1-2, and 1 John 2:1-2 to discover the scriptures that lead us to declare with the Apostles' Creed that we believe in "the forgiveness of sins." Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

From Faith Formation Ministries

At-Home Faith Formation Tip - "The most powerful choices we will make in our lives are not about specific decisions but about patterns of life: the nudges and disciplines that will shape all our other choices. This is especially true with technology"—from The Tech-Wise Family by Andy Crouch (Baker Books). As summer vacation draws near, what technology patterns and disciplines might benefit you or your family? (Tip from Faith Formation Ministries; crcna.org/FaithFormation)

At-Home Faith Formation Tip: Ascension Day - Picture a kite soaring high in a summer sky. "Even though we know scientifically how kites fly, there is still something magical, mysterious, beautiful, and special about the sight of a kite battling back and forth on an invisible breeze, tail twirling in the wind. Talk about how the disciples must have felt seeing Jesus rise to heaven. What emotions would they have felt (nervous, sad, excited, inspired?)" (Tip from Faith Formation Ministries; crcna.org/FaithFormation)

~ 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: emdenrcrc@centurytel.net web site www.emdenrcrc.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 FAMILY

Adeline Groen's new phone number is 320-978-4140

Dear supporters, we have been praying for you, hoping that all of you are safe and growing in your faith and trust in the Lord during this time of crisis. If you have specific prayer requests, please let us know. We have the time and the desire to pray for you! We have one new blog post this week at <http://anthsara.blogspot.com>

New Radio Teaching Ministry

Prayer Requests:

1. Pray for the government leaders of Uganda to make good decisions about how to handle COVID-19 and when to lift the lock-down restrictions. There are many people around the country running out of food and not having money to buy more because they've been out of work for about two months. So far Uganda has had over 100 confirmed COVID-19 cases, but no deaths. It's very difficult to know what is really happening here, just as there is a lot of argument and discussion about what is happening in the USA as well. But our suspicion is that there are a lot more COVID-19 cases in Uganda than what is reported, and that for whatever reason it is not yet causing as many deaths as expected. We also think the government needs to somehow adjust their restrictions since Ugandans are saying, "*what's the point of protecting us from a virus if we die of starvation?*" Of course, no one knows for sure the perfect course of action, so just keep praying for the leaders to make good decisions.
2. Pray for us to have wisdom to know how to give and who to give to as we try to help those in need during this time.
3. Pray for peace in the Karamoja region in Eastern Uganda where desperate people have begun violent cattle raiding again.
4. Pray for people affected in various parts of Uganda by flooding.
5. Ask God to completely eradicate the locust swarms so that they don't explode again and eat people's crops in July.

—Anthony and Sara

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be a prayer meeting this Sunday (May 17) at 1pm. Anthony and Sara hope to join us for this. This will be hosted on Google Meet. To join the video meeting, go to this link: <https://meet.google.com/mex-esp-f-tbs>.

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.

Next Sunday, May 24, we will be hearing God's word from 1 Corinthians 15:1-26, 51-57.

On May 21 at 7 pm a combined (Emden, Raymond, and Bunde) Ascension Day service will be livestreamed on Raymond CRC's youtube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJa2-MhthcVjt9ULuI275OA>.

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

Upcoming dates:

May 21: Ascension Day service at 7:00 pm

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

CMCS Annual meeting - May 19th at 7:00

Due to the COVID-19 virus, the CMCS Annual Society Meeting will be taking place via Zoom virtual meeting on Tuesday, May 19th @ 7:00 pm. The voting process for new board membership will all be done by way of absentee ballot format. Ballots are available at the CMCS office, local supporting church offices, and will be distributed electronically with the Cable, along with instructions on how to return your ballot. An information packet will also be distributed to

all parents via email on Tuesday, May 12th which will include instructions on how to access the Zoom meeting and various other meeting materials. If you are not a parent and would like to be emailed the information packet, please contact the school office. 320-978-8700

Parade Honoring Seniors on Fri., May 22nd at 6 pm -

Come and help us honor the seniors at a parade through Prinsburg. The parade route will be posted on the school's website (www.cmcschool.org). If you do not live in Prinsburg we will have designated areas for those so we can practice social distancing and keep our community safe.

CMCS Graduation Information

Graduation Receiving Line on Fri., May 29th at 6:45 pm - We will be having a drive through receiving line after the closed graduation ceremony in front of school. Go to the school's website to see the map of traffic flow.

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.

2020 Decennial Census Operations

Do You want to work on the upcoming 202 Census Operations We are taking immediate applications for a variety of temporary jobs, including census takers, office staff, and supervisory staff. You can earn extra income while helping your community. The Census Bureau is committed to hiring people to work in the area where they live. They are the most familiar with the people and places within their own community. We offer: competitive wages, mileage reimbursement, weekly paychecks, flexible hours, paid training. Applying is easy! Do it Today! Applications are being taken immediately! Go Online: 2020census.gov/jobs. Or call 1-855-JOB-2020



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

CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH - Laos

Three Families Expelled from Village

Three Christian families from the Akha tribe were expelled from their village recently after refusing to renounce their faith in Christ. At the beginning of 2020, village authorities called the Christians to a meeting that included members of the Lao Patriotic Front. After accusing the believers of abandoning Akha customs and failing to follow the rules and traditions of the village, authorities told them that if they would not renounce their “Jesus religion” they would have to leave the village. The Christians told them they would not renounce their faith in Christ, pointing out they had not broken any laws, but wanted to stay in the village. At that point, village leaders loaded the Christians and their belongings onto a truck, drove them to some empty farmland outside the village and left them. The authorities then destroyed the Christians’ homes in the village. Pray that these faithful families will find a new place to live.

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

