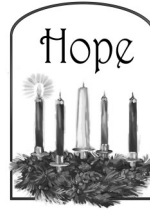




Emden Christian Reformed Church
Pastor David Zigterman
Sunday, December 1, 2019



WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude a time to prepare our hearts for worship

Welcome and announcements

Advent Candle Litany **Hope Candle**

Opening Prayer

*Call to worship

*God's Greeting of His People

*We Greet One Another

*Songs of Praise

Here I Am to Worship

As With Gladness Men of Old

LUYH 567 vs. 1,2

SJ 219 vs. 1-3

WE ARE RENEWED IN GOD'S GRACE

Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon

Prayer of God's people

Offering

conclude with the Lord's Prayer

Ministry Shares

Noisy Offering

Song of preparation

Tell Me the Story of Jesus

SJ 343 vs. 1-3

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Prayer for illumination

*Scripture

Jeremiah 33:14-18

pg. 1232

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

Congregation: Thanks be to God

Message

Field of Dreams

Prayer of Application

*Song of response

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

PH 329 vs. 1-4

*Profession of our Faith

Our World Belongs to God, stanza 5

WE DEPART TO SERVE

*Parting Blessing

*Closing Song

Love Divine All Loves Excelling

SJ 71 vs. 1-3

Today is the First Sunday of Advent. We begin the season of anticipation, hope and preparation for the coming Messiah. Let us engage in sincere worship and vow to walk daily with God. A warm welcome to each of you!

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

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

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

Elders:

Duane Mulder - President
Kim Mulder - Vice President
Doug Groen - Clerk

Deacons:

Todd Groen - Chairman
Curt Groen - Benevolent / Building Fund
Bob Swyter - Treasurer

From World Renew

Advent starts today. Is your heart ready? - Orient your Christmas season with Advent devotions from World Renew and the CRC Office of Social Justice every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, starting Dec. 2. This year’s devotional series, *How Long, Lord?*, explores how destruction and injustice can lead us to ask the question that God’s people and prophets in the Bible asked: “How Long, Lord?” The series also explores how we can have hope that our pain will not be forever and that the God who made us is with us, now and forever. To sign up, go to crcna.org/advent.

Double your donation 4 Just Girls - For \$50 you can equip 4 Bangladeshi girls with the tools they need to paint a brighter future for themselves and their communities. And, between now and December 24, your donation to “4 Just Girls” to World Renew will be matched 1:1 by One Day’s Wages. Watch a video and learn more at worldrenew.net/4justgirls.
Give: onedayswages-worldrenew.funraise.org

From Back to God Ministries International

GROUNDWORK: WONDERFUL COUNSELOR - In the famous passage Isaiah 9:6, the prophet begins by describing the Messiah as a Wonderful Counselor. As we look toward Jesus Christ’s birth, join us in studying Isaiah 9:2-6, John 14:15-17, and John 16:12-15 to discover the divine wisdom and help we receive from Jesus Christ our Messiah. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

From Faith Formation Ministries

Advent At-Home Faith Formation Tip - During Advent, we light the candle of Hope. Through Jesus Christ, God provides us with hope for our daily living and hope for our future. How can you be a messenger of hope this week? Wonder and talk about that with someone this week. (Tip from Faith Formation Ministries; crcna.org/FaithFormation)

Jesse Tree: God's Big Advent Story - is now available FREE for CRC families! This downloadable package from Faith Formation Ministries includes 25 simple devotions for kids of all ages and printable ornaments that follow God's story from creation to the birth of Jesus. Each day’s reading invites families to read and wonder about a Bible story together, pray together, and step away from the busyness of the season. Learn more and download these Advent devotions at dwellcurriculum.org/home.

Emden Christian Reformed Church
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e-mail: emdenrcrc@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—12:00
Pastor’s Cell: 320-400-3023
Office phone: 320-329-3932

320-329-3932
Renville, MN 56284
web site www.emdenrcrc.org
e-mail: j.k.groen56284@gmail.com

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

TODAY, December 1, 2019

Heidi & Samantha Link
Julie Link
Randy & Verla Zieske
Brad Link
Harold Groen
Jane Groen
Julie Link
Ministry Shares
Doug Groen

Greeters
Library
Coffee Hour
Sound System
Usher
Nursery
Congregational Visitor
Offering
Visiting Elder

Next Sunday, December 8

Tim & Dawn Link
Julie Link
James & Phyllis Santjer
Curt Groen
Butch Mayer
Isabelle Daugherty
Julie Link
General Fund
Doug Groen

CHURCH CALENDAR

Wednesday 2:00 pm ***Ladies Aid***
7:00 pm ***Ladies Bible Study*** - Lesson 3 (meet at Meadows)

CHURCH FAMILY

The Zigtermans would like to invite anyone who is interested to the Zigterman home for a lunch. This is meant to be a time to spend together in a smaller group setting with fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. A sign up sheet is in the back of church. There is a limit of 6 people. Please sign up to bring a lettuce salad, fruit/veggies, side dish, or dessert.
Date: Thursday December 5th Time: 12:30pm

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School and Catechism will meet the 1st, 3rd, and 5th (when applicable) Sunday of each month. Catechism (7th grade through High School) meets from 9:00 am to 9:45 am. Sunday School (6th grade and below) meet during the service. In addition to this, the Sunday School will collect a Noisy Offering on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th (when applicable) Sunday. The money collected for this offering will go toward the leadership training initiative Anthony Sytsma is overseeing as part of the Timothy Leadership Training of World Renew.



Catechism will meet every Sunday morning during the month of November.

Next Sunday, December 8, we will be hearing God’s word from Isaiah 40:1-11.

On Wednesday, December 4 Ladies Aid will meet at 2 pm at Meadows on Main.



Our next Bible Study will be December 15 at 6pm. For this time we will watch: ***The Christmas Experience***. This 80-minute film tells the story of Jesus' birth in a dramatic way. Kyle Idleman begins and ends this 80-minute film with a Christmas devotional for families and individuals. Food will be provided.

Upcoming dates:

Dec. 4: Ladies Aid at 2pm

Ladies Bible Study at 7:00 pm

Dec. 8: Combined communion service at Unity CRC (4pm)

Dec. 15: Bible Study

Dec. 22: Candlelight service at 6pm

Dec. 25: Christmas Service 10 am

Jan. 16: *The Man in the Mirror* book study (time TBD)



Reminder The Deacons request that you return your Thanksgiving envelopes by December 1. Please prayerfully consider blessing others as God has blessed you.

If you would like to help decorate the church for Christmas with purchasing a Poinsettia plant, please sign up on the back table and pay Samantha \$22.50 by **TODAY**, December 1.



Would you like to give a lasting Christmas gift to someone this year?

Please consider giving a gift through World Renew. There is a catalog by the mailbox window for you to look at and consider a gift or go to the World Renew web site - worldrenew.net/gifts to help a family in need.

Through the act of giving you are following Christ's command to love others, especially those who are oppressed and in need.



New 2 You has a program called *Corners of the Field* which benefits families in need. Every time you donate items to New 2 You, be sure to tell them to credit Emden CRC. The church then receives discount coupons to be given to someone in need to be used at the New 2 You store. If you know of someone who could use a coupon to purchase clothing, furniture or household items, please contact Pastor David.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS



The Renville County Christmas Choir will perform their 2019 cantata ***And on Earth, Peace*** on Thursday, December 5 at 7:00 pm at St. Aloysius Catholic Church in Olivia and also on Sunday, December 15 at 4:00 pm at the Emden CRC. This concert is sponsored by the Olivia Kiwanis Club as a fundraiser for Renville County Food Shelf and Santa's Closet. Everyone is invited to join us to begin the Christmas season with inspirational music and fellowship.



A Harvest Hope Community Service will be held on Sunday, December 8, at 4:00pm, hosted at Unity CRC in Prinsburg. We gathered in October to pray and ask God for Harvest weather, and He graciously granted it. We gather on December 8 to give thanks to Him for the harvest weather, harvest provision, and the harvest hope realized. We also gather to continue to intercede for the crop that remains unharvested, fields needing fall tillage, and for a number of farm families for whom the season has taken a devastating toll, emotionally and financially. This service will include a Communion commemoration, a coming together of the body of Christ in love for one another and to honor Christ. An offering will be taken once again for relief for farmers impacted by the difficult growing conditions of this season in the upper Midwest. Let's come together with thanks and prayers to remember and believe and renew our hope in God.

Unity CRC is hosting the Family Promise the week of December 8th - 15th. We are in need of volunteers to help in different areas. You can use this link to put your name into the area that you would like to volunteer for or sign up on the sheet on the table in the fellowship hall. <https://bit.ly/2qMU0II>

Renville County Food Shelf - On the first and third Tuesdays of each month we need help from 8 am 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.

For information regarding both student as well as adult Driver's Training courses, go to the website at: www.212drivingschool.com.



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.

The Village Children's Museum in Willmar, MN is in need of volunteers. If you are interested or have any questions, call Arlene at 320-894-2338.



From Calvin Theological Seminary - Paul's Missionary Journeys In Greece

(April 2-14, 2020): Travel by motor coach (8 days) and cruise ship (3 days) to sites connected with Paul's 2nd and 3rd missionary journeys, as well as visit other major sites of Biblical, archaeological, and cultural interest. Jeff Weima, at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading Pauline scholar, hosts this inspirational tour. For more information, visit www.jeffreyweima.com or contact Dr. Weima at 616-328-3110 or eimje@calvinseminary.edu



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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

**The Persecuted Church: Algeria
Authorities Continue to Close Churches**

Authorities shut down three more churches in Algeria last month. On Oct. 16, days after Christians protested the government’s crackdown on churches, authorities forcibly removed Light Church worshippers from their building in north-central Algeria and sealed its doors. The Light Church was Algeria’s largest place of worship. Earlier in the week, the Protestant Church of the Full Gospel and the Source of Life Church, also in the area of Tizi Ouzou, were closed. These three churches closed in October were among the largest congregations in Algeria and bring the total number of sealed worship buildings to 15. “The police intervened to force us out of our church — a church that exists and has been active legally and in the light since 1996,” said Pastor Salah Chalah, head of the organization representing protestant churches in Algeria. “May everyone know that we have been beaten and abused ... for one reason only — our Christian faith. And because that’s the cause of our pain, we’re proud of it.”

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**



Sermon Notes
Sunday, December 1, 2019
Jeremiah 33:14-18
Field of Dreams

1. Jerusalem besieged

2. A branch of hope

