



## Opportunities to Serve 2010-2011

This booklet reviews the many opportunities to serve at First Church. Please look them over and prayerfully consider where the Lord may be leading you to become involved this year.

In the next two weeks the office will email you a link to a survey, in which you can indicate where you would like to be involved in the coming year. We would like each person in 6<sup>th</sup> grade or older to complete a form. After the surveys are submitted, you will be contacted about your involvement. Each area also has a Contact: person listed should you have questions.

If you do not have email, we will place a form in your mailbox at church.

Thank you for taking time to see where God will use you this year!

Compelled by God's amazing love,  
First Church is called to live faithfully  
by building Christ-centered relationships  
that disciple and encourage all his people  
as we worship, serve, and grow in this place.

## **Sunday Worship Opportunities**

### **Word and Arts in Worship**

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**Scripture Reader:** Scripture Reader volunteers are called on approximately two times per year to read either the Old or New Testament passage before the sermon on Sunday mornings. You will be contacted prior to the service with the passage so that you will have plenty of time to read it over and prepare. Questions? Contact: Kathy Oostindie/Rachel Witte at the church office at 452-4370 or [office@firstcrc.org](mailto:office@firstcrc.org).

**Children's Message:** Children's Message volunteers are occasionally called on to offer a word to our young members (pre-school - 3<sup>rd</sup> grade) before they leave for Children's Worship. You will be provided with the scripture passage prior to giving the message and should check in with the Pastor on his focus. Children's Message volunteers are asked to craft their brief message in a way that is understandable for these children and is similar in content to the sermon that week. Questions? Contact: Carole DeJong at 248-4727 or [dejongc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dejongc@sbcglobal.net).

**Worship Writer:** Do you enjoy writing? The words used in our worship services come from a variety of sources, but often prayers, litanies and dramas are written by someone in a pew near you. If you choose this ministry, you will receive information regarding the scripture being used, the focus of the service, song texts and the piece of writing that is needed. You can then commit if available and inspired. Questions? Contact: Carole DeJong at 248-4727 or [dejongc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dejongc@sbcglobal.net).

**Artwork:** Occasionally the church has special artistic needs, anything from preparing bulletin covers or special flyers to creating logos for new programs. Questions? Contact: Kathy Oostindie/Rachel Witte at the church office at 452-4370 or [office@firstcrc.org](mailto:office@firstcrc.org).

**Drama:** Drama participants have two opportunities in sharing their gifts. First, our worship services benefit from the creating or adaptation of dramatic material such as choral readings or short dramatic scenes. We need writers! Second, drama participants assist in the presentation of these worship elements. We need readers and actors! Questions? Contact: Randy Buursma at 245-1355 or [buurra@calvin.edu](mailto:buurra@calvin.edu).

**Liturgical Dance:** Liturgical dance is a Christian expression of prayer or worship through body movement. Occasionally opportunities arises in which liturgical dance is incorporated into services. People of all ages are invited to join with others in this choreographed form of worship. If you would consider creating a liturgical dance, please indicate on the survey. Questions? Contact: Carole DeJong at 248-4727 or [dejongc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dejongc@sbcglobal.net).

**Greeter Team:** Greeters serve once a month as part of a team welcoming worshipers to First Church with an emphasis on welcoming visitors and helping them find the appropriate children's programs as well as the best route to the sanctuary. Questions? Contact: Mark Van Drunen at 334-7994 or [mark@firstcrc.org](mailto:mark@firstcrc.org).

### **Music in Worship**

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#### **Vocal Music**

**Praise Team:** Singers of all voice parts are welcome. There is a mid-week rehearsal and a Sunday morning rehearsal. The schedule is flexible and you can decide the dates and the frequency of your participation. All ages are welcome. Questions? Contact: Carole DeJong at 248-4727 or [dejongc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dejongc@sbcglobal.net).

**Solo:** Occasionally vocal solos are used in worship and special services. If you are interested, please indicate your voice part. Questions? Contact: Carole DeJong at 248-4727 or [dejongc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dejongc@sbcglobal.net).

**Adult Choir:** Consideration of the choir is still in progress, however, we recognize the importance of this "small group" ministry to First Church. Anyone who enjoys singing is invited to sign up with our hope that in some way, shape or form, we will enjoy choir again this year! As plans progress, we will contact you. Questions? Contact: the chair of the Worship Committee--currently Nancy Westra 452-3080 or [nancywestra@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nancywestra@sbcglobal.net).

**Youth Choir:** Let the children "Sing Praise to the Lord a new song, His praise in the assembly of the saints" Ps 149: 1. A Youth Choir will begin this fall, for grades 3 - 8. Rehearsal time will be 11:20 - 12:10, following the Sunday worship service. Music will coincide with the planned worship theme - music styles will vary: African American, Asian, Christian Contemporary, and Classical. Vocal technique, tone, rhythm, and harmony will be taught. Familiar songs and new music will be discovered and sung. Parents will be asked to be involved to serve a treat before choir rehearsal. Questions? Contact: Anne Crans 669-0387 or [dcransa@yahoo.com](mailto:dcransa@yahoo.com).

### **Instrumental Music**

**Piano Accompanist:** Pianists accompany the Sunday morning Praise Team, but pianists are also needed for the evening service. Song selections for the evening service are found primarily in the *Psalter Hymnal* or *Sing! A New Creation*. Pianists are also needed occasionally to accompany ensembles. Questions? Please Contact: Phil Vreeman at 485-1137 or [vreemanp@gmail.com](mailto:vreemanp@gmail.com).

**Instrumental Ensemble:** Ensembles can greatly enhance our worship. Occasionally such groups as a violin quartet, flute choir, harmonica duet or a trumpet trio bless us. If you play a wind, string, harmonica or percussion instrument and are interested in forming a group, or if you have something prepared and are looking for a service to plug it in, we can help. Otherwise, we may contact you with something in mind. Questions? Contact: Phil Vreeman at 485-1137 or [vreemanp@gmail.com](mailto:vreemanp@gmail.com).

**Praise Team Instrumentalists:** If you play an instrument and would be interested in playing with congregational singing in our weekly services, we would love to include you. There is a mid-week rehearsal and a Sunday morning rehearsal. The schedule is flexible and you can decide the dates and the frequency of your participation. All ages are welcome. Questions? Contact: Carole DeJong at 248-4727 or [dejongc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dejongc@sbcglobal.net).

### **Technical Support in Worship**

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**Projection System Operator:** Ideal for those with basic computer skills and willing/eager to receive grace from the congregation ☺. Some musicality is a bonus. A typical commitment is every 5 weeks for the Sunday morning rehearsal and service. Training is readily available. Questions? Contact: James Jo at 243-5322 [jamesdjo@gmail.com](mailto:jamesdjo@gmail.com).

**Sound System Operator:** Sound system operators perform a vital support using the church's microphones and soundboard for musicians, readers, the pastor and others. Each operator serves once a month during both the morning and evening services. Sunday morning services require being at church 60-90 minutes ahead of time for set-up and rehearsal. Evening services require no significant set-up or prep time. Prior experience running a sound system board is helpful. Questions? Contact: Phil de Haan at 241-4061 or [dehp@calvin.edu](mailto:dehp@calvin.edu).

**Create DVDs:** Great for a creative "techy." Combine music and visuals into a DVD that can be used in a worship service. You would be contacted when a DVD is needed, and could choose to commit if available and inspired. This creative work is completed at home and run by the Projection System operator during worship. Questions? Contact: James Jo at 243-5322 or [jamesdjo@gmail.com](mailto:jamesdjo@gmail.com).

**Create Power Points:** Great for a creative “techy.” Good working knowledge of PowerPoint features and timing is necessary. When a unique PowerPoint is needed, you will be contacted and can then commit if you are available and inspired. This creative work is completed at home and run by the Projection System operator during worship. Questions? Contact: James Jo at 243-5322 or [jamesdjo@gmail.com](mailto:jamesdjo@gmail.com).

**Videographer:** Do you enjoy videotaping people or capturing the spirit of an event on film? Do you have simple camcorder skills? If you sign up for this, your name will be added to the list of people to be contacted. You will receive information regarding the filming need. You can then commit if available and inspired. Questions? Contact: James Jo at 243-5322 or [jamesdjo@gmail.com](mailto:jamesdjo@gmail.com).

**Drivers:** Often we are in need of someone to transport people who would like to attend Sunday Worship, but do not have a way to get there. You can be scheduled as often as you like. Questions? Contact: Mark Van Drunen at 334-7994 or [mark@firstcrc.org](mailto:mark@firstcrc.org).

## **Education During Worship**

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**Little Lambs Leader:** Participate in introducing some of our youngest members (2 - 4 years old) to Bible stories through play (singing, story, craft, snack, games, creative play). Lessons from CRC Publications Little Lambs curriculum are used; story and craft materials are provided. Leaders are scheduled once per month and can commit on a per semester basis. Open to all adults! These little ones are a joy to get to know and are eager to learn. Questions? Contact: Cheri Witte at 293-7718 or [witte839@sbcglobal.net](mailto:witte839@sbcglobal.net).

**Little Lambs Helper:** Assist the Little Lambs leader in introducing 2 - 4 year olds to Bible stories through play (singing, story, craft, snack, games, creative play). Interact with the children by playing Play-Doh, assisting with craft and snack, reading books, and just

playing! Open to students entering 6th grade and up; no preparation is required. Helpers are scheduled approximately twice per semester. Questions? Contact: Cheri Witte at 293-7718 or [witte839@sbcglobal.net](mailto:witte839@sbcglobal.net).

**Little Lambs Adult Helper:** Because of the large amount of children in Little Lambs, we will be scheduling a 2nd adult to help the teacher each week. Assist the Little Lambs leader in introducing 2 - 4 year olds to Bible stories through play (singing, story, craft, snack, games, creative play) and with bathroom breaks. Interact with the children by playing Play-Doh, assisting with craft and snack, reading books, and just playing! Open to any adults; no preparation is required. Helpers are scheduled approximately once or twice per semester. Questions? Contact: Cheri Witte at 293-7718 or [witte839@sbcglobal.net](mailto:witte839@sbcglobal.net).

**Children’s Worship Teachers:** Children’s worship provides an opportunity to explore God’s love and his promises through the eyes of a child! Teachers lead the class, welcome the children, sing with them (with a CD, if preferred), tell the Bible story using the figures (the story is laid out in the teaching materials), lead the group in prayer, and fellowship during the feast time. Commitments are once a semester, more often if desired. Questions? Contact: Shelly Ydenberg at 957-1855 or [mydenberg@hotmail.com](mailto:mydenberg@hotmail.com).

**Children’s Worship Greeters:** Children’s Worship explores God’s love and his promises with children Sunday mornings. Greeters help the teacher keep the children’s attention on the message, serve the feast, and assist with other small tasks in the class. There is no preparation necessary to be a greeter! Greeters have tended to help less frequently. No prior Children’s Worship experience necessary! Questions? Contact: Shelly Ydenberg at 957-1855 or [mydenberg@hotmail.com](mailto:mydenberg@hotmail.com).

## Ministry Opportunities

**Nursery Attendant (Adult and Youth):** Nursery Attendants serve families by caring for children ages 0-2 during the morning worship service or for special evening services (i.e., Song Services). You will work with a minimum of one other attendant in the infant or toddler nursery, providing basic loving care and enjoying unstructured play time with the youngest members of our church. Attendants are scheduled three to four times per year. Questions? Contact: Marcia Van Drunen at 241-2721 or [Marcia.dhvd@gmail.com](mailto:Marcia.dhvd@gmail.com).

**Nursery Supervisor:** Supervisors assist attendants and parents by making sure they are familiar with the pager/projection system, greeting parents, making sure the children get signed in and distributing tags and/or beepers. The current rotation is every five weeks. Questions? Contact: Marcia Van Drunen at 241-2721 or [Marcia.dhvd@gmail.com](mailto:Marcia.dhvd@gmail.com).

**Rover:** We have added a Children's Ministry Rover position to comply with the Abuse Prevention Guidelines. This person will be stationed in the hallway by the mailboxes during the service. They will check in on the nurseries, Little Lambs and Children Worship programs. Questions? Contact: Kathy Oostindie at 452-6257 or [kathleen007@yahoo.com](mailto:kathleen007@yahoo.com).

**Sunday School:** Sunday school is currently offered for grades 1-12 and adults in the hour before the morning service. The classes for grades 1-12 also have participated in select services throughout the year. Volunteer opportunities exist for teaching or assisting Sunday school classes, leading music, planning a Christmas program or scheduling adult education speakers. Questions? Contact: Don Buchholz at 245-0738 or [buck\\_50@hotmail.com](mailto:buck_50@hotmail.com).

### Midweek

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Midweek provides a great opportunity to “build Christ-centered relationships”. Midweek is three Wednesdays each month, September – April. We serve a meal at 6 pm and break into different interest-based, intergenerational classes from 6:30 – 8 pm. Six large group activities are scheduled throughout the year (one each month). There are a lot of ways to serve at Midweek. Questions? Contact: Kathy Oostindie at 452-6257 or [kathleenoo7@yahoo.com](mailto:kathleenoo7@yahoo.com).

**Cooks:** Assist in preparing the Midweek meal. You can be scheduled as often as you like. Assistance in advance food prep is also needed. Questions? Contact: Tom Foerg at 389-4038 or [tom.foerg@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tom.foerg@sbcglobal.net).

**Clean up:** Come a little later and help with the clean up including putting away the tables and chairs. You can be scheduled as often as you like. Questions? Contact: Kathy Oostindie at 452-6257 or [kathleenoo7@yahoo.com](mailto:kathleenoo7@yahoo.com).

**Class Leader:** Share a passion, hobby, or talent with a small group of children and adults at Midweek between 6:45-8:00. Classes are held two times a month, and can last 2-6 sessions. Past classes have included Basketball, Adult Bible Study, Martial Arts, Gospel Choir, Grilling, Story Telling, Guitar Lessons. . .the possibilities are endless! Questions? Contact: Andrew Ippel at 648-8931 or [aippel62@gmail.com](mailto:aippel62@gmail.com).

**Mentor:** Some children come to Midweek without an adult and would benefit from a consistent person having dinner with them and attending the group/activity they choose. This is a great opportunity to build a relationship with a child who wants to be part of Midweek. Questions? Contact: Andrew Ippel at 648-8931 or [aippel62@gmail.com](mailto:aippel62@gmail.com).

**Kinder Klub Coordinator (s):** Help organize our Kinder Klub program (preschool - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade). Plan Bible story, crafts and small activity for the leaders to complete with their group. Use ideas already in place or bring your own. Questions? Contact: Kathy Oostindie at 452-6257 or [kathleenoo7@yahoo.com](mailto:kathleenoo7@yahoo.com)

**Kinder Klub Leaders and Helpers:** We need people to work with Kinder Klub (preschool – 2nd grade). You can build relationships with the 4-5 children you are assigned. No prep work necessary: the coordinators plan Bible, craft and activities for you. Questions? Contact: Kathy Oostindie at 452-6257 or [kathleenoo7@yahoo.com](mailto:kathleenoo7@yahoo.com)

**Babies and Books:** This program was developed for parents and their infants ages 0-18 months, which provides engaging early childhood materials, activities and instruction to enhance a child's lifelong capacity to learn. We are looking for people that would love to read to infants and would be with us each week to assist with babies during guest speaker presentations and to provide love and support to moms. Questions? Contact: Karen Witte at 901-3179 or [kpwitte@comcast.net](mailto:kpwitte@comcast.net).

**Nursery Attendant:** We provide nursery for the families that are involved in Midweek. You can be scheduled as often as you like. Questions? Contact: Ruth Ippel at 648-8466 or [ruthippel@gmail.com](mailto:ruthippel@gmail.com).

**Drivers:** Often we are in need of someone to transport people who would like to attend Midweek, but do not have a way to get there. You can be scheduled as often as you like. Questions? Contact: Mark Van Drunen at 334-7994 or [mark@firstcrc.org](mailto:mark@firstcrc.org).

## **Bates Place**

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**Hospitality and Coffee Shop Volunteer:** This year we are contemplating installing a coffee shop counter at Bates Place and modifying our ministry center to include a coffee shop counter. As

part of this we are hoping to serve coffee and baked goods to regular visitors as well as people from the broader community. Volunteers need to be able to serve for a 2-4 hour time block once a week or month. Questions? Contact: Bryan Blakely at 241-2283 or [Bblakely@firstcrc.org](mailto:Bblakely@firstcrc.org).

**Visiting in the Community:** This spring we will be forming a loose knit group of people who are willing to visit a particular block once a month. Volunteers will be teamed with one or two other people and be asked to go visiting at their convenience (after the initial training period.). Questions? Contact: Bryan Blakely at 241-2283 or [Bblakely@firstcrc.org](mailto:Bblakely@firstcrc.org).

## **Committees**

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Committees meet typically once a month as scheduled by the chair of the committee.

**Building:** The Building committee works to maintain and enhance the property of First Church. These include our historic 100-year old church building, the classic Parsonage (now Calvin College's Harambee House), the 60's Prep House (now Bates Place) and the landscaping of this corner lot. We oversee the continuing restoration and maintenance of the property so it will continue to be a vibrant part of our neighborhood and ministry as it has been since 1912 when First Church moved to the corner of Henry and Bates. We welcome new members to the committee. Questions? Contact: Paul Witte at 245-8064 or [kpwitte@comcast.net](mailto:kpwitte@comcast.net).

**Caring Church:** The Caring Church Committee is concerned with the elderly, sick and shut-in. Regular visits to the elderly and shut-in are done by the committee members. We also coordinate with households to see if help is needed as needs arise. We meet every other month. Questions? Contact: Judy Huizinga at 247-1134 or [gmhuizinga@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gmhuizinga@sbcglobal.net).

**Christian Education:** Our Christian Education Committee works to honor the requests of church members who need support for the Christian education of their covenant children. We hold meetings to consider requests and we raise funds to support our church family. Questions? **Contact:** Seth Davies at 246-1663 or [sethdavies@yahoo.com](mailto:sethdavies@yahoo.com).

**Education:** The Education Committee oversees the following programs: Middlers (6th-8th graders), Golden Hour, Oasis, Youth Group, Men's' Bible Study, Adult Education, and Sunday school. The Committee recruits leaders and purchases materials where needed for these groups. The Committee supports these groups in whatever is needed throughout the year. Questions? **Contact:** Don Buchholz at 245-0738 or [buck\\_50@hotmail.com](mailto:buck_50@hotmail.com).

**Fellowship:** Members of the Fellowship committee work to build relationships with the First Church community, including church members, visitors and our neighbors. We oversee many small groups and help in creating new ones. Some of the programs our committee oversees are Households, Dine with Nine, Church camp out and picnic, the Progressive Dinner and Greeters. We also keep tabs on our college-aged students in different ways. We would love to add more members to our committee. Questions? **Contact:** Wanda Cowan at 956-9188 or [jcowan36@comcast.net](mailto:jcowan36@comcast.net).

**Finance:** The Finance Committee provides direction, handling, and oversight for all church monetary affairs including the preparation and supervision of an annual budget. It is also charged with the continued development and management of The First Christian Reformed Endowment Fund. The committee is made up of the church treasurer, the bookkeeper, and at least 4 other members of the congregation. It meets up to 4 times per year on an as needed basis. Committee service is fun, rewarding, and life enriching. Questions? **Contact:** Joel Ruiter at 447-8658 or [joelruiter@comcast.net](mailto:joelruiter@comcast.net).

**Worship Committee:** Members of the worship committee (8-10 members) meet once a month to collaboratively evaluate and make recommendations on all aspects of Sunday worship. Discussion topics might include reviewing past services, Children's Worship/nursery programs, communion practices, giving direction for sermon series, summer worship, and children's messages as well as regularly evaluating our work in light of the Worship Committee Visioning. Questions? **Contact:** Nancy Westra at 452-3080 or [nancywestra@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nancywestra@sbcglobal.net).

## **Deacon Support**

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**Counting Committee:** Would you be willing to count with our Deacons two times a month? Dates and times are set by the Deacons. Questions? **Contact:** Karen Witte at 245-8064 or [kpwitte@comcast.net](mailto:kpwitte@comcast.net).

**Food Pantry Packer:** Our food pantry serves over 50 families a month. We need people to pack the bags each week. Directions are clear and concise. Sign up to be on the packer schedule. Questions? **Contact:** Kathy DeGraaf at 243-6743 or [kdegraaf@calvin.edu](mailto:kdegraaf@calvin.edu).

**Food Pantry Assistant:** Would you like an opportunity to meet the people that come to use our food pantry? You can meet, greet, and serve them on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings from 5:45-6:15 pm. We will check with you how often you would like to be scheduled. Questions? **Contact:** Kathy DeGraaf at 243-6743 or [kdegraaf@calvin.edu](mailto:kdegraaf@calvin.edu).

## **Other Opportunities**

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**Vacation Bible School (RAC):** The dates for VBS are June 28 – July 1 from 6-8pm. We will need team leaders, game leader, nursery attendants and kitchen staff. This year's leaders are Rob & Lucinda Poel (452-1509) and Marc & Shelly Ydenberg (957-1855)

**Middler and Youth Group leaders:** Work with our youth in grades 6-8 and 9-12. Both meet at least once a month. For more information Contact: Kathy DeGraaf (Middlers) at 243-6743 or [kdegraaf@calvin.edu](mailto:kdegraaf@calvin.edu) or Sarah VerMerris (Youth Group) at 245-7321 or [mstvermeris@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mstvermeris@sbcglobal.net).

**Focus on First (Church newsletter):** This is a great tool that keeps the congregation informed of what God is doing at First and allows us to get to know the people at First. Two main roles are needed this coming year. Those who are willing to contribute/write the stories and another to check over the final layout for consistency and errors (copy editor) before the office takes over for the publishing. Questions? Contact: Dave Leibson at 540-5743 or [djleibson@gamil.com](mailto:djleibson@gamil.com).