



# Living Life Reformed Church

## Informational Bulletin

### **Double Your Gift!**

- For the rest of 2021, your generosity in paying for the Family Life Center will be doubled! An anonymous donor has promised to match any gift given to the Church Building Fund until the end of the year, up to \$50,000!
- Please designate your gift as going to the "Building Fund" and then know that it will be matched!
- If you are giving online, please let Kendall Weber know that it should be applied to the building fund.
- Thank you for your generosity and vision for this great facility and how it can be used by the community and in the ministry of our church!

**This Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup>**, we will celebrate the baptism of Teddy John TeKolste!

**Consistory Update:** During our Congregational meeting we elected as Elders for 2022: Kendall Weber & Gary Hartgerink; and as Deacons: Brandon Cramer & Shawn Gouldin. We pray for God's guidance for all our Consistory members. Thank you to Deacons: Chad Bryant and Glen Gana, and Elders: Rick DeBoer and Tammy Goering for your service these past three years. Your leadership will be missed!!

**Information/Financial Reports** from the Congregational meeting are available on the table in the fellowship hall if you didn't get one at the meeting

**Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Gift!!** The annual Operation Christmas Child mission project is here! This is a fun and simple way to share Christmas with a child in need, while also teaching your family the value of giving. OCC is an easy mission project that you can participate in by bringing a gift filled shoebox. LLRC will provide shoeboxes if you would like to participate. The shoeboxes will be available in Fellowship Hall next to the library. Don't forget to take a label to mark the age and gender. The LLRC Great Commission team will cover the shipping cost donation. This year's national collection week is November 15th - 22nd, so we ask that all shoeboxes be filled and ready to send out **by Sunday, November 21st**. Please contact Beth Sieck or Robbie Morrison for more information and instructions. Please remember that your shoebox may be the only gift the child receives. So, plan to pack quality items that will last and don't forget to make it fun! You can also build a shoebox online by visiting [www.samaritanspurse.org/buildonline](http://www.samaritanspurse.org/buildonline).

Some ideas of items to pack include:

- Toys: small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, yo-yos, Etch-A-Sketch, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), Slinky, etc.
- School Supplies: pens, pencils & sharpener, crayons, markers, stamps & ink pads, coloring books, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, etc.
- Hygiene items: toothbrush, soap, comb, washcloth, etc.
- More: Sunglasses, wind-up flashlights, ball caps, socks, t-shirts, toy jewelry, hair clips, watches, small books, etc.
- NO Candy or Toothpaste in the boxes
- A Personal Note: You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. (If you include your name and address, the child may write back.)

Please remember that your box needs to remain open for inspections. Shoebox labels will be available at the OCC Table with boy/girl labels, and further instructions, please contact Beth Sieck for more information. Thank you again for helping to make *Operation Christmas Child* a success—

**Thanksgiving Service:** Bring family & friends to our Thanksgiving Eve Celebration on **Wednesday, November 24<sup>th</sup>** in the fellowship hall at 7:00pm. We will praise God and give thanks. Come, celebrate, and share what you are thankful for this year.

**Transformations Thrift Store** will be hosting their Small Business Saturday on November 27<sup>th</sup>. They will be serving cookies & hot chocolate. If you would like to donate cookies, please let Peg Hartgerink know at 402-219-4077. Peg needs the cookies dropped off to her house by Friday, November 26<sup>th</sup>. The address is 8340 Firth Road. She will deliver the cookies on Saturday morning.

**Cookies for December 4<sup>th</sup>?** Would anybody like volunteer to make or buy cookies for the Old-fashioned Christmas Parade on December 4th. They would need to be dropped off Thursday before at the Firth Community Center or possibly Friday so that we can individually package them, or they could be packaged in sandwich bags by the baker. If you have any questions, please call Jamie Schmidt with Firth Bible Church at 402-430-6674. Thanks.

**Advent begins next Sunday with the lighting of the Advent Candles:** The Advent wreath is made up of two basic parts: the wreath itself and the candles. The wreath is made of evergreen, either real or artificial. The circular shape represents eternity, for it has no beginning and no end. The evergreen was chosen as it symbolizes growth and everlasting life. There are four candles, three purple and one pink. They represent the four weeks of preparation. As another candle is lit each week, we are reminded of the growing light of Christ's presence. **The meaning of the candles is:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday, Purple candle: Represents HOPE
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, Purple candle: Represents PEACE
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, Purple candle: Stands for JOY
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Pink candle: Is a symbol of LOVE

The white candle in the center of the wreath is the Christ candle. It is white to represent purity and it is lit with the other four candles on Christmas Day (or Christmas Eve) to remind us that Christ has come as the light of the world. - from *rca.org*.

Sign up to light the candles during Advent will be on the table in the fellowship hall. Talk to Pastor Mark for details.

**Meal Train for the Doeschot Family!!** We would like to provide meals for the family through the month of December. There is a poster with a QR code that you can sign up for meals on the table in the fellowship hall or QR code below. If you have questions, please see Beth Sieck at 402-480-0079 and she would be glad to help you.



For:

**The Doeschot Family**

Visit this link or scan the QR Code:

[mealtrain.com/2v6wk7](https://mealtrain.com/2v6wk7)



**Family Meals, GKC, 4JC and the Fire:** There are no Family night events this week as we celebrate Thanksgiving together. Join us for our Thanksgiving Service in the fellowship hall at 7pm. All Family Night activities will resume on **Wednesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>**!

**We continue to pray for:** Thad Lienemann, F Street & Transformations Thrift Store, Courtney & Breck Doeschot, Doug Goering, Bill Wieskamp Lynn Gana, Everson Walvoord, and Sally Jennings.

**Newsletter:** The deadline for the December newsletter is on Monday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please be sure to get information to Beth as soon as possible. The newsletter will be mailed or emailed to you the week of November 29<sup>th</sup>!

## Epic Vocal Ensemble Presents A Night of Wonderous Joy

Please join us and the Epic Vocal Ensemble for A Night of Wondrous Joy, a Christmas musical celebration for the entire family! The concert will be held in the sanctuary, Sunday, December 5th, 2021 at 7 PM. This concert is free admission and open to the public with no ticket required. A free will offering will be collected at the doors and given to the EPIC (Every Person In Christ) ministry. Help us celebrate A Night of Wondrous Joy!

**Directory Updates:** Everyone was emailed updated forms for next year's church directory. Please check your 2021 directory or see Beth to review & update your information and email church@livinglifereformed.org back by Monday, **January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022**. If you would like to be added to the 2022 directory – please see Beth and she will get you a form to fill out by email or paper copy!

**Remember to get your Scrip Cards!** For those of you not familiar with the Scrip program, everyone here has the opportunity to purchase gift cards from a huge variety of organizations at their face value and Living Life Reformed Church will get a percentage (which varies by the retailer) of that price which we put towards various missions. We typically have cards for Hy-Vee, Super Saver and Wal-Mart/Sam's Club, but check the Scrip Card table in the Fellowship Hall or <https://shop.shopwithscrip.com/shop/product/browse> for a list of over 600 available merchants! Get those orders in for cards that make great gifts by December 5th, 2021, to receive them by Christmas! Members from the Great Commission Team will be at a table in the Fellowship Hall before and after Sunday morning worship with cards for purchase. All proceeds from November & December go to the Norris Area Food Pantry.

### Giving Options!

Don't forget to contribute so that God's vision and ministry can continue in the days ahead. There are numerous ways to give financially. You could:

- 1) Drop your gift in the offering plate by the door on Sundays.
- 2) Signup to give through an automatic withdrawal (ACH) from your Farmers & Merchants Firth Account—talk to Kendall Weber (402-430-0348) if you would like to start this. The form needs to be emailed or mailed to Kendall for him to submit to the bank.
- 3) Check out the online giving options through our church website at [livinglifereformed.churchcenter.com/giving](http://livinglifereformed.churchcenter.com/giving)  
This is a secure site with an easy set-up process.
- 4) "Or Text to Give": All you must do is text any dollar amount (example: \$20) to "84321" to give. There will be a quick set-up process needed that will tie your mobile phone to LLRC, your donation account (for year-end giving statements), and a payment source. After that initial setup, giving is as easy as sending a text message!

If you have questions about the online giving or text giving, contact Taylor at 402-450-4446.

<u>Offering</u>	<u>Nov 14</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget Needs (47 Weeks)</u>
Offering	\$15,542	\$310,450	\$329,893(7019 x 47)
SS			Norris Backpack Program
Building Loan:	\$585,289		