

# THE WEEKLY

First Christian Reformed Church of Detroit

February 19, 2012

## WORSHIP SERVICES

February 19

Series: Making Space

Text: Matthew 25:31-46

Title: *The Cost of (In)hospitality*

Choir

Offering: Pregnancy Aid

March 4

Series: Livin' on a Prayer

Text: Psalm 8

Title: *Who Are You? Who Am I?*

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Offering: Mission Partners

February 26

First Sunday of Lent

Guest Preacher: Pastor George Vander Weit

Offering: COTS

March 11

Series: Livin' on a Prayer

Text: Psalm 13

Title: *Why Does it Hurt So Bad?*

Choir

Offering: Community Assistance Program

Have something for The Weekly? Please submit it to [grossepointecrc@gmail.com](mailto:grossepointecrc@gmail.com) no later than **5:00 pm Wednesday**.

## NEWS AND EVENTS

**The Arab-American Friendship Center** is still in need of a few tutoring volunteers. If you are available for an hour and a half once a week and have an interest, please see Ken V. or contact the center at (313)584-2052.

## MINISTRIES AT FIRST

**Making Space:** First Church's theme for 2012 is also the title of our current sermon series: "Making Space." In this series we're studying Gospel stories in which Jesus models and teaches how to relate to people on the margins. As a way of applying this to our lives, we are going to spend 2012 practicing intentional hospitality as a congregation.

The Council and Mission Focus Committee have issued this challenge to the First Church Community: once a month, for the next year, invite someone you don't know well, or don't spend much time with, to join you for a time of fellowship (a meal, coffee, dessert, etc.). If you're uncomfortable or feel ill-equipped to entertain, there are several families willing to partner with you by helping host in their homes.

The Gospel is most effectively shared in relationships. The only way to nurture relationships with those who need the Gospel is making space - making space in our schedules for new people, and making space in our lives to accommodate them. If you have questions, or are looking for a "hospitality partner" to help you host, please contact Pastor Ben.

**Study Material for 2012:** Our first book for group study in 2012 is C.S. Lewis' *Mere Christianity*. Pastor Ben will continue to offer two weekly meeting times: 6:30-7:30 Monday mornings (at Caribou in the Village) and 10:30-11:30 Tuesday mornings (Pastor's Study). In addition, a monthly discussion group will be offered for those who can't attend the weekly meetings. Members are also encouraged to start their own groups for discussion of this year's study materials. *Mere Christianity*

can be easily acquired on Amazon; Barnes & Noble is also currently selling a recent reprinting.

**Daily Bible Reading Plan for 2012:** For those who are interested in a devotional reading plan, we are recommending a few different plans available at a website called "[www.youversion.com](http://www.youversion.com)". Pastor Ben will provide a link to this site on his blog as well as on the church website. If you prefer a printed list of daily devotional readings, Pastor Ben will provide printouts for the following plans:

- *The One Year Bible* - The same plan we followed in 2010, this divides the entire Bible into 365 daily readings.
- *Project 345 Plus* - With this plan you'll read the entire New Testament, plus the Psalms, divided into daily readings.
- *The Essential 100* - This plan gives a sample of 100 daily readings that provide an excellent overview of the content of the entire Bible.

To learn more, type <http://www.youversion.com/reading-plans/all> into your web browser. You'll find a great variety of reading plans that you can access on your computer or load on a mobile device. Youversion provides such services as a daily email reminder, tracking to show how far you've progressed, and even a "catch-up" function that allows you to start fresh today if you've fallen behind. Choose a plan, and enjoy God's Word!

**CAP:** We have a special opportunity to contribute to the Community Assistance Program in 2012. All year long, the deacons will be collecting non-perishable foods and personal items for CAP to distribute to the needy in the Nardin Park neighborhood of Detroit. This January and February, please bring canned meats (Vienna sausage, Spam, etc.) and crackers to church and place them in the basket in the back of the sanctuary. And thank you!

**Support for People in Job Transition:** First Church is a member of "Eastside Take Control", a local organization devoted to equipping and supporting those recovering from job loss and looking for work. If you are looking for support during your job transition process, or want to know more about ETC, please contact Pastor Ben (313-443-5446; [ben.vanarragon@gmail.com](mailto:ben.vanarragon@gmail.com)).

Upcoming ETC Seminars: [USAjobs.gov](http://USAjobs.gov), Parts 1 and 2. Learn how to navigate the USAjobs website and increase your chances of landing a job, with the expert guidance of Matt Paquette. This two-part seminar will introduce you to the US Government's online job application process, and provide opportunity to interact with someone who not only landed a job through USAjobs, but has helped many others do the same. March 20 and April 3, 6:30pm, at First Christian Reformed Church.

**Inquiries about Facility Use:** Any individual or committee that would like to use the church building for a one-time event can send a request to the church email account ([grossepointecrc@gmail.com](mailto:grossepointecrc@gmail.com)). Place "Building Use" in the subject line, and include in the body of the email the following details: event purpose and participants; event date; and facilities needed.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

Please pray for Mary and Larry H. and their family. Mary's mom, Lois D., passed away on February 5.

Please remember those in our congregation who cannot worship with us regularly because of health concerns. We especially want to remember Marge F., Wilma D., Carolyn V., and Johanna M.

## VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

	<i>February 19</i>	<i>February 26</i>
<i>Greeters</i>	Donna D.	Jim and Gayle C.
<i>Ushers</i>	Rick Z.	Ken R.
<i>Nursery</i>	Gayla B., Ken N., Tim M.	Scott S., Jen P., Justin M.
<i>Scripture Reading</i>	Mimi M.	Mary K.
<i>Offertory Prayer</i>	Jack K.	Nancy M.
<i>PowerPoint</i>	Tim M.	Paul M.
<i>Refreshments</i>	Potluck	Sunday School
<i>Children's Worship</i>	Kelly S., Randi B. The Sower	Jen P., John R. The Good Samaritan

## CALENDAR

Week of February 19 – February 25:

### **Sunday**

Choir Rehearsal 9:00am  
Worship Service 10:00am  
Potluck 11:30am

### **Tuesday**

Coffee Break 10:00am

Week of February 26 – March 3:

### **Sunday**

Youth/Adult Sunday School 9:00am  
Worship Service 10:00am

### **Monday**

Bible Discussion 6:30am  
Mission Focus Committee 7:00pm

### **Tuesday**

Coffee Break 10:00am  
Bible Discussion 10:30am

### **Wednesday**

Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm

## CONTACT US



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