



# MAURICE REFORMED CHURCH

*Following God, loving others.*

Sunday, December 3, 2017



— FIRST SUNDAY OF —  
**ADVENT**

## This Sunday at MRC

**8:30 & 10:45 Sunday Morning**

**Teaching** led by Rog Voskuil

*"Impossible!"* Luke 1:5-25

This morning we welcome Memo Luna and Luke DeKoster as they bring us the gift of music. Thank you for using your talents to bless MRC!

## Next Sunday at MRC

**8:30 & 10:45 AM Worship** led by Rog Voskuil

*"Model of Faith"* Luke 1:26-38

**6:30 PM** All Church Caroling

### **Church Family Prayer**

#### **Prayer Concerns:**

- Please pray for **Marty Driggers** as she had hip surgery this past week. The surgery went well but we continue to pray for a quick recovery, and that the pain will finally be gone.
- Please pray for **Marlene Van Beek** as she anticipates an upcoming knee surgery. Keep her in your prayers during this time of waiting.
- Keep **Joel Leusink** in your prayers as he had foot surgery this past week. Please pray for a speedy recovery.
- Remember **Eric Vander Schaaf** and the Life Action Team as they will be returning from Minsk, Belarus. Pray for safety for them.
- Keep **Greg Haverdink** in your prayers as he will be having knee surgery on Tuesday. Prayers for a successful surgery and a speedy recovery.
- Remember **Loren Vander Schaaf** in your prayers as he recovers from gall bladder surgery. Pray that the recovery goes smoothly.

And we continue to remember **Alison Lenters, Ryan Palsma, and Brent De Kok** in our prayers.

410 Main St. Maurice, IA    [www.mauricereformed.org](http://www.mauricereformed.org)  
Office: 567- 4665    Prayer Line: 567-3950

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

### Sunday, December 3

8:30 & 10:45 AM Morning worship led by Pastor Wick  
9:35-10:35 AM Sunday School

### Monday, December 4

8:30 AM Fellowship Through Fitness  
6:30 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal

### Tuesday, December 5

9 AM Staff Meeting  
1-5 PM Stitches of Love

### Wednesday, December 6

5:15 PM Family Meal  
6:30 PM Pioneer Club  
6:45 PM Jr. GAP & Sr. High  
8:05 PM Adult Choir Practice

### Thursday, December 7

8:30 AM Fellowship Through Fitness

### Sunday, December 10

8:30 & 10:45 AM Morning worship led by Rog Voskuil  
9:35-10:35 AM Sunday School  
6:30 PM Christmas Caroling in Maurice

#### Wednesday Night Family Meal

Join us this week for tater tot casserole, roll, snicker salad, peaches, and bread pudding/cookie!  
Come and enjoy a great time of food and fellowship!



## VOLUNTEERING AT MRC

	THIS WEEK	NEXT WEEK
<b>PIANO/ORGAN</b>	8:30 - Janene VG/Rachel VK 10:45 - Marge VO/Julie V	8:30 - Janene VG/Carissa J 10:45 - Janene VG/Kristi H
<b>LITTLE BLESINGS &amp; BIG PROMISES NURSERY</b>	8:30 - Rob & Wendi G Shianne Borchers 10:45 - Steve & Julie V Cali Mulder	8:30 - Dave & Sara J 10:45 - Mark & Priscilla J Miranda Mulder
<b>PRAYER ROOM</b>	8:30 - Jerry Vermeer 10:45 - Lori Van Gorp	8:30 - Marissa Maassen 10:45 - Don Van Horssen
<b>WELCOME CENTER</b>	8:30 - Julie Leusink	8:30 - Evelyn De Vries 10:45 - Jerry Vermeer
<b>FLOWER CHAIRPERSON</b>	Sharon Plendl	Sharon Plendl

# MRC Happenings

**Thank you from the Deacons and Mission team for all those who donated to the disaster relief. There was \$5,130 raised!**

**In Memory** - The Nativity Set on top of the organ was purchased with memorial money in memory of Irene Cose.




**Due to repeated vandalism, minor theft and disregard for rules of use of the MRC church building, the Consistory has decided to purchase a security camera system and remote access door locking system.**

Starting December 1st only the two main East doors and the West entrance near the Refuge will be open on the following Schedule.

Doors will be open on Monday - Friday from 8 am to 9pm, Saturday from 8 am to 11 am, and Sunday from 7 am to 9 pm on weeks with Sunday evening activities. On weeks with no scheduled Sunday evening activities the building will be closed at 4 pm. We ask that if other doors are used that they are closed securely when you are finished. If you need access to the building other than the scheduled times please contact Mike Kamerman. If you have questions please direct them to Aaron Maassen or Alan Muilenburg.

**The Recycled Teenagers will have a Christmas Party on Friday, December 15, 2017, at 6:15 pm** at the Triple Box located at 4758 Ironwood Ave., Orange City, IA. Call Evonne Wielenga (567-4235) to RSVP or for more details.



The logo for the Angel Tree ministry, featuring a red silhouette of an angel's wings and the text "ANGEL TREE" in a serif font.  
**The Angel Tree will be set up again this year to help purchase gifts on behalf of inmates who would like their children to receive gifts this Christmas.** The tree will be set up on Sundays in December until all angels are adopted. Gifts will be due back by Wednesday, Dec. 13 to ensure time for delivery! Thank you for continuing to bless this ministry. If you are interested in delivering gifts to Sioux City or Sioux Falls, please contact Kelli Bartlett at 712-441-4220 or Emily Borger in the office.

**Starting this Sunday, we will be offering an opportunity to donate to The ATLAS Christmas Store OR with DONATIONS of WATER and COFFEE, for the ATLAS Orange City office during the holiday season.**

ATLAS Orange City Area is one of MRC's mission partners who helps those who are struggling, wanting to grow, or seeking a mentor. Together they work through a helping process by walking alongside and supporting those who are hurting. At Christmas, people and families are welcome to shop and purchase new items at the Christmas store at greatly reduced prices, creating an experience of dignity, respect, and stewardship for all involved: customers, donors, and volunteers. Items on the tags are suggestions for store inventory, but if you have something you would like to donate that would make a good gift this can be donated as well. These opportunities to give (Christmas store items, coffee and bottled water) are available now and are due back Sunday, December 3. Also, if you would like to volunteer at the store on December 9, Saturday AM, or have questions contact La Donna De Vries.



**Poinsettias - Thank you to everyone who ordered poinsettias!** The cost is \$12 and can be paid at the church office. Please pay before December 24, as poinsettias will be available for pick up after the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

**Maurice First Reformed Church**  
**Thanksgiving Offering - November 22, 2017**

Amistad	350.00
Atlas - Orange City	250.00
Children's Home Society	300.00
Crisis Center	200.00
Dordt College	200.00
Faith Temple	300.00
Family Crisis Center	550.00
Farmland Inputs	500.00
Heifer International	100.00
Hope for Life Community Church	300.00
Hope Haven	1,000.00
Inspiration Hills	2,250.00
Ireton Christian School	600.00
Jonathan & Erin Haverdink	750.00
Life Action Ministries	200.00
Local Missions	350.00
Maranda & Vasil Heytsi	3,950.00
Navigators	200.00
Northwestern College	200.00
Open Door Orphanage	300.00
Orange City Christian School	100.00
Paradise Bound Ministries	3,600.00
Sack Pack Program	4,936.59
Salvation Army	300.00
Sioux Center Christian School	100.00
Sioux City Gospel Mission	300.00
Sioux County Food Pantry	100.00
The Banquet	300.00
The Bridge	1,450.00
Village Northwest	1,000.00
Wednesday Night Meal Ministry	520.00
World Renew	3,550.00
Zestos	200.00
MRC Building Fund	500.00
MRC Mission Fund	<u>91,225.25</u>
	<b>121,031.84</b>

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***Sunday Evening, December 10th***



***All  
Church  
Caroling***

Meet in the  
church  
Fellowship  
Hall  
at 6:30 pm

# Children's Ministry

A CD has been placed in the mailbox of families who have children ages 3 years old through fifth grade. These CD's have the songs your children will need to know for the Christmas program. If you did not get one in your mailbox please contact Bonnie Wolf, she has a few extra in her office!

## Practice Schedule for Christmas Program 2017 - 5th Graders



### **December 3:**

9:35-10:35 am - Meet in the multipurpose room

5-6:00 pm - Practice - 5th graders - Fireside Room

**NOTE THE TIME CHANGE**

### **December 10:**

9:35-10:35 am - Meet in the multipurpose room

5-6:30 pm - Practice - 5th graders - Fireside Room

### **December 17:**

9:35-10:35 am - Meet in the multipurpose room

4:40 pm - Meet in your child's singing room

5:00 pm - Christmas Program 2017

# Community Events

## Join us for the annual Reach Out event sponsored by Unity Christian/MOC-Floyd Valley on Saturday, December 9!



Unity is hosting the event this

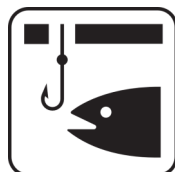
year. Basketball games between MOC-FV and Unity begin at 12:00 (girls & boys JV games, girls & boys varsity games). A silent auction will run from 1:00 through half



time of the boys varsity game. Pre-orders of reach out t-shirts is closed but extras will be available on a first come first serve

basis. All proceeds from this community event will benefit local families with high medical costs.

Unity Christian High School's annual Christmas concert will be presented on Thursday, December 14 at 7:00 pm at the Unity Christian Knight Center. All the school's music ensembles will participate. A free will offering will be received for the Music Department. Come and celebrate the birth of the King!



Ireton Christian School will be hosting its 2nd annual ice fishing tournament on January 20, 2018 at Emerson Bay on West Lake Okoboji.

More details and info to come on the school website: [www.iretonchristianschool.com](http://www.iretonchristianschool.com)



MRC Youth Ministries



## Jr. GAP Ministries

### Schedule:

- **December 6** - *Driven by Eternity* led by Jon Eveland
- **December 13** - Jr. GAP Christmas Party (Pajama Theme Night)

### Lunch:

- **December 6** - Karsen Van Oort, Seth Vander Sluis, Maddie Schwarck
- **December 13** - Jr. GAP Leaders

\*Lunch is a pan of bars/2 dozen cookies and 2 2-liters of pop or juice

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:



**Theme Night - December 13** - Come for our Jr. GAP Christmas party dressed in your PJ's!

**Jr. GAP T-shirts are in!** If you have not picked up your Jr. GAP t-shirt, please contact Jon Eveland.

### Jr. GAP & Sr. High Announcements

#### Wednesday Night Student Worship!

- **Who:** Jr. GAP & Sr. High students and leaders
- **What:** A time of prayer, song, and renewal
- **When:** Wednesday, December 13 from 6:15-6:40 pm
- **Where:** *The Refuge*



### Jr. GAP & Sr. High - VOLUNTEERS - Jr. GAP & Sr. High students needed for the Christmas Eve Candle Light Service.

We need volunteers to help hand out candles at the doors, as well as a group of students to help at the beginning of the service with the opening song. We would love to have you be a part of this! If you are interested in helping, contact Jon Eveland or Elaine Leusink.

## Sr. High Ministries

### Schedule:

- **December 6** - Small Group Night - *Rooted Week 3: The Best News Ever*
- **December 13** - Sr. High Travelling Nativity at Nursing Home (Be in Sr. High Youth Room at 6:30 pm)

### Lunch:

- **December 6** - In Small Groups
- **December 13** - Sr. High Leaders

\*Lunch is a pan of bars/2 dozen cookies and 2 2-liters of pop or juice

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

#### **Sr. High Outing - Saturday, December 16**

#### **Air Madness (Harrisburg, SD)**

Join us for a fun outing to Air Madness Trampoline Park on Cosmic Night, which includes Ninja Warrior courses, Bull Riding, Dodgeball, Laser Maze, King of the Beam, Face Off Wall, and, of course, Trampolines. We will leave MRC at 5 pm and be home by 11:30 pm. The cost is \$15 per person, plus covering the cost of 1 meal. Contact Jon Eveland if you are interested!



**Sr. High t-shirts are in!** If you have not picked up your t-shirt, please contact Jon Eveland.

## Summary Consistory Meeting November 14, 2017

Dan De Vries opened the meeting with devotions taken from Psalm 27, and the Consistory viewed a short video themed on teamwork.

Consistory recognized that the congregational meeting went very well. Appreciation was expressed to those consistory members that led the meeting, and also those that worked behind the scenes.

Heard a congregational report from Pastor Wick. It was noted that MRC will host a fundraiser to help with expenses in securing a diabetic service dog for Brooke De Jong.

Mike Vermeer reported that revenues from the church's cropland harvest will help offset some current fund deficits. Church fund balances were reviewed, and approved.

Consistory then heard three questions posed by West Sioux Classis to the member churches concerning the future of the RCA denomination. The purpose of these questions was to start a dialog between the member churches, and to provide feedback to the classis. Dan De Vries gave the consistory a quick review on the issues faced by the RCA. The consistory of MRC responded by affirming that RCA member churches need to continue to be united in Christ, continue to be in unity with each other, and that the Reformed Church in America denomination needs to remain biblically based. Dan De Vries will compose the MRC response to these questions posed by West Sioux Classis.

Consistory then approved the pastoral expectation package for Ross Hoekstra, and also made some necessary amendments to the MRC continuing education policy.

The process to reorganize the consistory teams for 2018 was then discussed. The Elders and Deacons will each determine where there are team vacancies. The Vision Administration team will then review these recommendations and bring the final team member structures back to the full consistory at our next meeting.

A letter from the MRC Elders concerning the worship services at MRC was then read to the consistory for information. Feedback from the consistory discussion following the reading of this letter will be reviewed by the Elders and then a decision on how best to proceed will be made.

Meeting was then adjourned.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### October Offerings

Mission Fund	65,884.19
Special Offering for The Center Financial Education	620.00
Disaster Relief	1,970.00
Building Fund	<u>210.00</u>
	\$ 68,684.19

### MISSION FUND REPORT

Balance October 1, 2017	\$ (38,102.54)
Mission Fund Offerings	65,884.19
Special Offering for Public Schools/Banquet	620.00
Disaster Relief	1,970.00
Misc Receipts	153.00
Partial sale of crop	<u>5,671.50</u>
	\$ 36,196.15
October Disbursements	<u>(59,920.75)</u>
Balance November 1, 2017	\$ (23,724.60)

### BUILDING FUND

Balance October 1, 2017	\$ 92,417.03
Offering	210.00
Cookbook	305.00
Interest	481.38
Youth Addition Construction	<u>(15,290.54)</u>
Balance November 1, 2017	\$ 78,122.87

\$ 74,886.43 in RCA Growth Fund

\$ 3,236.44 in savings account