

WEEK AT A GLANCE February 19-25

SUNDAY

9:30 am—Worship Service and baptism of Shelby Mae Scheeringa

MONDAY

9-10 am—Fitness Class

TUESDAY

6:30 pm—Circuit Class
7 pm—Friendship Class

WEDNESDAY

9-10 am—Fitness Class
7-8 pm—Prayer Team Meeting
7-8:45 pm—GEMS

THURSDAY

9:30-11 am—Coffee Break
3:30-5 pm—Jr. GEMS

FRIDAY

9-10 am—Fitness Class

SATURDAY

7:30 am—Circuit Class

LEADERSHIP TEAM

PASTORAL STAFF

Randy Bergsma (Lead Pastor)
Kelli Hofstra (Director of Student Ministries)

ELDERS

Hank Balkema, Rick Brouwer, Keith Bruxvoort, Dale Eriks, Tim Huizenga, Tom Knapper, Gerald Leep, Tim Scheeringa, Tom Schoon, Pat Vassar

DEACONS

Dan Eriks, Dave Eriks, Jim Haan, Matt Hiskes, John Horvat, Ed Leep, John Vander Pol, Joe Scheeringa, Mike Van Rosendale

FIRST CHURCH



Worship Service February 19, 2012

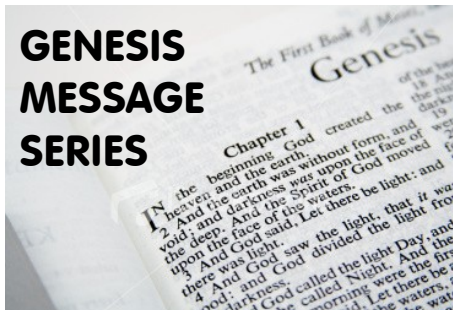
Abba Father
Here Is Love
In the Lord Alone

Prayer
Offering & Announcements

Message:

“When Fathers Don’t Love their Children”
Genesis 34
--Pastor Randy Bergsma

Godly Men
The Reconciliation Song



GENESIS MESSAGE SERIES

WHO we are

First Church is a ministry of the Christian Reformed Church. Our church is not a building, but people committed to one another, united in the belief that God has given us a new life and a new future through our shared relationship with Jesus Christ.

WHAT we believe

First Church believes that the decisions we make in life must be governed by our faith and our understanding of God’s Word. Our desire is to teach the Bible in such a way that all will understand its relevance to our everyday life.

WHY we exist

First Church has one primary purpose: to help people put Christ first in their life. Our desire is to help equip you and your family to exercise your faith as you face the challenges of daily living.



8910 Grace Street, Highland, Indiana 46322
219-838-6231
office@firstchurchhighland.com

firstchurchhighland.com

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!

CONNECTION CARD—If you are a first-time guest at First Church, fill out a *Connection Card* (located in the benches) and drop it off at the Welcome Center in the foyer to receive a free gift.

AVAILABLE TO YOUR FAMILY—In addition to our worship services, First Church offers many opportunities to grow in relationship with God and others through a number of ministries, classes, and events. Please read the bulletin to find out what is available to you and your family this week.

ABOUT THE OFFERING—An offering is collected during each of our worship services to support the ministries of First Church. As our guest, you are not expected to participate in the offering.

TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

9:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE—Pastor Randy will continue the Genesis series with a message entitled, “When Fathers Don’t Love their Children” based on Genesis 34.

BAPTISM—This morning we are blessed to witness the baptism of Shelby Mae Scheeringa, daughter of Joe and Jessica Scheeringa.

OFFERINGS—The offering will be received for Highland Christian School.

COFFEE TALK—Coffee is available in the Social Hall and at the Welcome Center immediately after the service. Everyone is welcome to grab a cup of coffee and a snack and to make some new friends.

NURSERY—Childcare for infants and toddlers (up to age 3) is available. Nurseries are located down the hall on the east end of the foyer. Contact: Larissa Vander Pol or Lisa Blocker .

CHILDREN’S CHURCH—Children’s Church will meet this morning in the Children’s Ministry Room (west end of foyer) during the worship service. Watch the screen for dismissal time.

PROMISELAND—There is no Promiseland today due to a school break. Promiseland will resume next week.

STUDENT CLASSES—The following student and adult classes will not meet today due to a school winter break. Classes will resume next week.

- *Questions Worth Asking*—(grades 7-8) meets in Kelli’s basement; teacher—Don Zuidema.
- *HC and Me*—(grades 9-10) meets in the Sun Room; teacher—Tim Huizenga
- *Faith Lessons from the Holy Land*—(Adult Classes: Senior High & Older) meets in the Loft; teacher—Pastor Randy

NEED PRAYER?—Please place your prayer requests and praises in the box at the Welcome Center in the foyer. Prayer cards are located in the pews by the song books and at the Welcome Center.



Encounter (youth group for students in 9th-12th grade) is meeting **TONIGHT**, Sunday, February 19th at Kelli’s from 6-8 pm. All High School students are welcome to join us.

Save the date for upcoming High School Activity:
30 Hour Famine and Lock-In March 23-24.

High School Coffee House: Tuesday, February 28th at Panera in Schererville 7:30-9 pm. Enjoy a free beverage with Kelli.

High School Ski Trip: All will be back at 1:30 Sunday afternoon.

Vida’s next meeting is next Sunday, February 26th at New Life CRC from 6-8pm. All 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students are invited to join us for a night of food, Bible study and games. We will be talking about who defines you.



Save the date for upcoming Junior High Activities:
Girls’ sleepover March 2-3.
Guys’ Video Game Night March 9th.



UnderGrounds COFFEEHOUSE*

(in the basement of Kelli’s house—southwest corner of First Church’s parking lot)

Tuesday, February 21st
Roller Skating at Lynwood 7-8:30 pm

\$6 includes admission, skate rental, piece of pizza and a pop.

***Junior High Coffee House**—All students must have a permission form/medical release filled out along with a signed copy of the Code of Conduct to come to Coffeehouse. Email: hofstra.kl@gmail.com or check out the website: vidaencounter.wordpress.com/vida to get a copy.

GETTING INVOLVED

FREEDOM BOUND JAIL MINISTRY—Volunteers are needed each week to write notes of encouragement, hope, and love to the following inmates: Arlandis Lewis WA and Amanda Hiller YB at 2293 N. Main Street, Crown Point, IN 46307.

RECYCLE TODAY—Please recycle your used *Today* books by placing them in Steve Mills' church mailbox. They will be donated to area rest homes to plant God's seed. .

TERRACYCLE—Would you like to help clean up our environment and help Highland Christian School? Then go GREEN. Bring your empty chip bags, candy wrappers, and snack wrappers to the bin outside the office door. Each wrapper is worth money for HCS when they turn them into Terracycle, a company that recycles waste.

BLOOD DRIVE—If you give—others will live. First Church is hosting a blood drive on Sunday, February 26, from 10 am—2 pm in Heartland's Mobile Coach in First Church's parking lot. Please call or email the church office to make an appointment. Photo ID is required. A free T-Shirt will be your gift.

FIRST FAMILY NEWS

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Please keep Connie Eriks in your prayers as he continues to recover from recent health issues and hopes to come home soon. Currently he is at Kindred Transitional Care and Rehabilitation Center, 2300 Great Lakes Drive, Dyer, IN 46311. Phone: 322-3555

80 AND OVER BIRTHDAYS

- **Ella Van Prooyen** will celebrate her **100th birthday** on March 1! (PHRC Room109, 16300 S. Wausau, South Holland, IL 60473)

**Please keep the information above with you to show loving support of those listed by prayer, a visit, or contacting them.*

CONNECT—Connect is a ministry for young adults (singles and couples, college age-young adults) to meet together to socialize, study God's word and serve others in the community. Connect will meet tonight, February 19, at 6 pm in the Social Hall. Contact: Larissa Vander Pol

COMING UP THIS WEEK

FITNESS CLASSES—Everyone is invited to low-impact Fitness Classes in the Social Hall every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning from 9-10. Instructor: Karen Pobereyko . Cost: \$3 per one-hour session.

CIRCUIT CLASS—A co-ed Circuit Class will meet Tuesday, February 21, at 6:30 pm and Saturday, February 25, at 7:30 am in the Social Hall. This class incorporates multiple types of physical training. You move at your own pace. Instructor: Lisa Blocker .

FRIENDSHIP—Friendship, a ministry for adults and teens from our church and community who are developmentally disabled, will meet on Tuesday, February 21, at 7 pm. Contact: Amy Boshears or Bridget DeYoung

PRAYER TEAM—The First Church Prayer Team meets every Wednesday evening at 7 pm in the Prayer Room (west end of foyer). Anyone who would like to join the team for prayer is welcome to attend. Please contact Marian Huizenga .

COFFEE BREAK—Coffee Break will meet on Thursday, February 23, from 9:30-11 am in the Social Hall. Ladies of all ages are invited to participate! Childcare is provided for children from birth to kindergarten. Contact: Amy Bobb .

GEMS—The GEMS (Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior) for girls in 4th-8th grades will meet Wednesday, February 22, at 7 pm in the Social Hall. Contact: Sherri Horvat .

JR. GEMS—Jr. GEMS (girls in grades 2-3) will meet on Thursday, February 23, from 3:30-5 pm in the Social Hall. Contact: Vicki Huizenga .

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING—Pastor Randy will begin *The Beloved*, our Lenten message series. Part 1 is entitled, "Taken" and is based on Titus 1:1-3.

NEXT SUNDAY'S OFFERING—The offering will be received for First Church's Tuition Assistance Fund.

NAPADA HANDICRAFTS—You have an opportunity today to support Napada, an outreach program in Dave Veldhorst's church in Thailand, by purchasing handmade handbags, jewelry, and stationery. Check out the beautiful objects in the hallway. All proceeds will benefit the women crafters and their families who struggle in a low-income neighborhood. See your bulletin insert for more details about Napada.

CLASS DAY—The next Class Day is Sunday, February 26, from 1-5 pm. Anyone interested in making public profession of faith or in becoming a member of First Church, please sign up at the Welcome Center for Class 101 taught by Pastor Randy. Those who wish to take their spiritual life to the next level should sign up for Class 201, The Discovering Spiritual Maturity Class, taught by Tim Huizenga. Class 201 is where you will learn what God has to say about how to read the Bible, how to pray, why we should give, and the benefits of involvement in small groups. Class 301, taught by Kelli Hofstra, is available for those who have completed 101 and 201 and wish to discover their spiritual gifts and how to use them in ministering to others. Please email or call the church office with questions or to sign up. **NURSERY WILL BE AVAILABLE** but you will need to contact Larissa Vander Pol or Lisa Blocker to help determine the number of nursery attendants needed.

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT—Free childcare is offered on Friday, March 2, from 6-10 pm for parents to have a night out. Bring your kids to the Social Hall where they will have lots of fun in a safe environment. Contact: Jeff and Staci Riemersma

LADIES' BIBLE STUDY—Ladies who are interested in going deeper with God are invited to attend the Ladies' Bible Study on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 in the Sun Room. The next meeting will be February 28. Contact: Betty Stammis .

CADETS— Come join the Cadets on Wednesday, March 7, for a gym night at Highland Christian School's gym (3040 Ridge Road) from 7-9 pm Contact: Mark Hoeksema .

PRAYER SHAWL—The Prayer Shawl ministry will meet Thursday, March 8, from 1-3 pm in the Prayer Room. Anyone who enjoys knitting is welcome to join us. If you have a family member or friend whom you feel would be blessed by one of our prayer shawls, please contact Gail Voskuil or Marry Homans

COMEDIAN JEFF ALLEN—Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 17 when First Church welcomes the amazing and hilarious Jeff Allen. Jeff is an inspirational and entertaining comedian for all ages! Doors will open at 6:15 pm. Ticket prices are \$10 adult and \$5 for child 18 and under. **TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW THRU THE CHURCH OFFICE or at the Welcome Center on Sunday mornings!** All proceeds go to benefit First Church's charities. Follow the link on our web site to learn more about Jeff Allen's minstry.

HONDURAS MISSION TRIP—Due to lack of participation, the mission trip to Honduras is being postponed to a later date. In the mean time, the E-Team is searching for alternatives to replace this trip.

ANTIQUÉ ROAD SHOW—The early morning ladies Bible study group is hosting an Antique Road Show on Wednesday evening, March 21, in our Social Hall. An experienced antique specialist will be available to appraise your possible antiques. This event has no cover charge but you are limited to one item for appraisal per person. Please remember to bring a friend!

MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

PREVIEW ILLIANA—Discover what Illiana Christian High School has to offer at our *Preview* on Tuesday, February 28 beginning at 7 pm. Parents and students interested in meeting Illiana's faculty, taking a tour of the facility, and being able to ask questions about Illiana, are welcome and encouraged to attend our *Preview*. No preregistration is necessary. For more information, call 708-474-0515 or visit www.illianachristian.org.

KINDERGARTEN SCREENING AT HCS—Highland Christian School's Kindergarten Screening for the 2012/2013 school year is scheduled for Thursday, March 1. If you have a child who will be five years old by Sept. 1 and are considering sending him/her to Highland Christian, please contact the school at (219) 838-0356 to register for the screening.

GROUNDWORK—*The Cross as Our Example*—How do you react when someone treats you wrong—a friend betrays you, or you're accused unfairly of something you didn't do? Even when it's a little thing, like getting cut off on the highway, how do you react? Do you get mad? Do you scream and curse? Do you try to get even? Jesus shows us a better way. Join the Feb. 26 Groundwork conversation based on 1 Peter 2:21-25. Find a local radio station or listen online at www.GroundworkOnline.com.

CROSSROAD CONNECTION—*How to Avoid Congregational Conflict*—The director of Shalem Mental Health Network explains how restorative justice can ease conflict within schools and churches. Go to www.cbi.fm to listen to *Crossroad Connection*.

BIBLE LEAGUE LUNCHEON—Tickets are on sale for the Bible League Women's Luncheon at Teibel's Restaurant on Thursday, March 15, at 11:30 am. Tickets are \$16 (chicken) and \$20 (perch). Our featured speaker is Marilyn Laszlo, former missionary to Papua New Guinea and employee of Wycliffe Bible Translators. An offering will be taken to raise funds for Bibles for India. Contact



Have you logged on to our web site lately?

Check it out!

www.firstchurchhighland.com