

## This Week @ First CRC

### Heidelberg Catechism

Today after service



### Common Ground Today @ 4:30 PM

### Women's Bible Study

Proverbs

Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30



### Women's Evening Coffee Break

Hebrews

Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 PM



### Men's Life Bible Study

Romans

Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6:30 AM



### Women's Morning Coffee Break

Genesis

Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> @ 9:45 AM



### Cadets Hamburger Fry

Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> @ 5:00 PM

(GEMS will not be meeting)



## Prayer Requests

### Church Family

**Joanna Banta** - Had finger surgery, pray for a complete recovery.

**Shelaine Goebel** - Broken leg, pray for continued recovery

**Janet Henshaw** - Pray for a complete recovery in rehab.

**Ginger Hernandez** - She is on a prescribed diet preparing for surgery.

**Nancy Hird** - Pray for complete recovery from surgery.

**Steven Koelewyn** - Valley Fever.

**Anita Lemos** - Pray for a complete recovery in rehab.

**Francisco Macias** - Healing & employment.

**Ruth Stryd** - Had back surgery this week, pray for complete recovery.

### Extended Church Family

**Rachel Bradley** - Surgery went well, recovering.

**Michael Cuellar** - Needing more tests to determine treatments.

**Chuck Dyer** - Cancer is back, receiving treatments.

**Elijah & Elizabeth** - Genetic eye disease, under top specialist care.

**Betty Johnson** - Cancer.

**Rachelle Riggs** - Cancer in lymph nodes.

**Rick Stryd** - Cancer.

**Elizabeth Young** - Stage 4 pancreatic cancer, on chemo.

**Michael Young** - Recovery from recent stroke.

### Shut-Ins

Martha Chandler, Rose DeRuiter, Janet Henshaw, Ginger Hernandez, Harriet Johnson, Sondra Koelewyn, Dave & Vera Krumpe, Marilyn Maccagno, Linda Reenders, Grace Schraa, Jeanette Stout.

We welcome this morning Rev. Jul Medenblik. Jul was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and grew up in Fulton, Illinois as the son of a hog farmer. A "retired" attorney from South Florida, Jul is also the founding and former senior pastor of New Life Christian Reformed Church in New Lenox, Illinois, where he served from 1995 until 2011. Pastor Jul is now in his fifteenth year as President of Calvin Theological Seminary in Grand Rapids. Jul and his wife Jackie celebrated their 43rd wedding anniversary this past summer. They first met at Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, Illinois.

CADETS HAMBURGER

FRY WED 21<sup>ST</sup>

5 - 7 PM

CADETS

GOURMET BURGERS

WHOLE PIES ICE CREAM

### Office Schedule

Monday - Friday 8:30 - 2:30 pm

The deadline for church publications is Thursday at 1 pm.

Send to [communications@hanfordcrc.org](mailto:communications@hanfordcrc.org)



FIRST  
CHRISTIAN  
REFORMED  
CHURCH

THE GOSPEL IN COMMUNITY

**January 18, 2026 9:30 am**

Guest Preacher: Rev. Jul Medenblik

Sermon: Ladder Theology

Scripture: Ephesians 2:1-10

Offering: Faith Promise

Welcome Center: Jimmy & Dena Holden

Greeting: James DeGroot & family

Lions: Cheryl Zonneveld, Raina Neal

Lambs: Heather Zonneveld, Presley Zonneveld

Nursery: Hanna Zonneveld, Michelle Lawrence  
Sonya Zonneveld, Anneke Clark

Snacks: Bob Beede  
Marisa Phelps  
Pastor Andy & Gail Hanson

**Lead Pastor Search:** Join us to pray for our Lead Pastor search immediately following today's service in the Music Room at the front of the Sanctuary.

Nursery is available for infants and toddlers. Children aged 3 through 2nd Grade are invited to Children's Worship. Kids are called forward during service and then dismissed to their classrooms. Pick-up is upstairs following the service.

### Our Mission

To glorify God by making  
"More and Better Disciples"

### Our Vision

We see everyone intentionally building caring relationships with one another, and with the unchurched and unbelieving, for the sake of the Kingdom of God

**We believe** that the Bible is the infallible and authoritative word of God. (1 Tim. 3:16)

**We believe** God created the world; the world fell into sin; God redeemed and is redeeming the world. We believe that Jesus Christ saves us from the consequences of sin and that the world will be complete when He comes again.

**We believe** God is a God of Grace. His grace, not human decision is the decisive factor in our salvation. Believers do not choose God as much as God chooses believers. (John 3:5)

**We believe** that covenant is the richest biblical concept to describe God's relationship with His people. In covenant God binds himself to His people in promise and commitment. Covenant relationship is why God sent Jesus, because of a commitment to save His people. (Jer. 31:31-34)

**We believe** in God's sovereignty. God is the main actor in creation. He is ultimately in control. So despite a world we humans have broken with sin, ultimately God's plans will triumph and all will be made new. (Jer. 29:12 & Rom. 8:28)

New or Visiting? Let's Connect!!  
Complete the connection card in the pew and drop in the offering bag, visit us here: [hanfordcrc.org](http://hanfordcrc.org) or QR code.





# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## JANUARY 18, 2026

**GOD CALLS**  
WE GATHER

God’s Greeting & Call to Worship

*Meet With Me*

Mutual Greeting

Time of Celebration: Calvin Theological Center

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

God’s Guide for Grateful Living

**GOD SPEAKS**  
WE LISTEN

*In Christ Alone*

Children’s Moment

Sermon: Ladder Theology

Scripture: Ephesians 2:1-10 (Pg 1242)

Rev. Jul Medenblik

**GOD PROVIDES**  
WE GIVE THANKS

*Blessed Assurance* (PsH 490)

Prayers of the People

Offering – Blue: General/Red: Faith Promise

*Lord, I Need You*

**GOD SENDS**  
WE OBEY  
AND SERVE

Sending

*Your Grace Is Enough*

God’s Blessing

Doxology: (PsH 638, a capella)

After Worship Prayer for a Lead Pastor in the Music Room

## SERMON GUIDE

### LADDER THEOLOGY

Ephesians 2:1-10

Have you ever made a New Year’s Resolution? What kind?

Many people make a resolution because they want to be a \_\_\_\_\_ person. Many people also make a resolution because they want to be a better \_\_\_\_\_ person.

If a person believes in God, they also have an idea of how to “\_\_\_\_\_” to God.

I would suggest that many people live with some understanding and even acceptance of “\_\_\_\_\_.”

Today, we will focus on one of the central Bible passages which shaped what is called the “\_\_\_\_\_.”

#### **Ephesians 2:1-10**

1 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, 2 in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. 3 All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh[a] and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. 4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. 6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, 7 in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. 8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. 10 For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

The Apostle Paul is \_\_\_\_\_ an advocate of “Ladder Theology.”  
\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ through Jesus Christ!

What is the problem with “Ladder Theology?”  
“Ladder Theology” leads to either \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.

Ladder Theology is when we “rewrite” Ephesians 2:8-9:  
“For it is by \_\_\_\_\_ that you are saved ....”

An illustration of how “Ladder Theology” works:

**PRIDE**–Climbing the Ladder and Looking \_\_\_\_\_ on Others

**ANXIETY** – Slipping down a step on the ladder and always being anxious  
and wondering – “Have I \_\_\_\_\_ Enough?”

Ladder Theology is a type of “\_\_\_\_\_” with God!

Lesson from Heidelberg Catechism Question and Answer #2:

What do you need to know in order to live and die in the joy of this  
comfort?

First, how great my sins and misery are;  
second, how I am delivered from all my sins and misery;  
third, how I am to be thankful to God for such deliverance.

S\_\_\_\_, S\_\_\_\_\_ and S\_\_\_\_\_ or G\_\_\_\_\_, G\_\_\_\_\_ and G\_\_\_\_\_.

Instead of “Ladder” Theology, we need to hold onto “\_\_\_\_\_” Theology  
Immanuel – God \_\_\_\_\_ Us

Story of Father Damien de Veuster

Instead of Pride or Anxiety, we can have \_\_\_\_\_  
that God is with us and He is shaping us – day by day.