

CHURCH PROFILE FORM

Church Information:

Name: **First Christian Reformed Church**

Location of church [City, State/Province]: **Sioux Falls, SD**

Search Committee Contact:

Name: **Co Chairs: Dave Dressen, Mark Veurink**

Address: **2901 E 26th Street Sioux Falls, SD 57103**

Church: (605) 338-6904 Dave:(605)201-1506 Mark: (605)553-0999

Email address: **search@firstchristianreformed.org**

Community Setting:

Location

- Rural
- Small Town
- Metropolitan
- Suburban
- Inner City
- Small City

Function

- Industrial
- College/University
- Agricultural
- Recreational
- Military
- Bedroom Community

Growth

- Growing
- Static
- Declining

Approximate population of community: **225,000 City of Sioux Falls, 300,000 Metro Area**

Church Profile:

We are open to:

Male and Female pastors

Female pastors only

Male pastors only

List all staff positions:

Lead Pastor

Administrator

Director of Youth Ministry

Director of Worship

Director of Communications

Administrative Assistant

Director of Connections

Director of Children's Worship

Day/Evening Custodians

Position Available: **Pastor of Congregational Life**

Date of vacancy: **New position**

General position description:

The Pastor of Congregational Life provides leadership and oversight for the church's pastoral care and discipleship, equipping leaders and care teams to offer compassionate, comprehensive support across the congregation. This role develops and leads initiatives for spiritual formation through small groups, mentoring, and teaching, while collaborating closely with the Lead Pastor and staff to advance the church's vision and mission. Responsibilities also include crisis care, staff oversight, communication improvement, conflict mediation, and occasional preaching, as well as officiating weddings and funerals as needed. Candidates should be ordained and willing to pursue ordination within the CRCNA or a partner denomination if not already obtained.

Full-time

Part-time

Bi-vocational position?

Yes

No

Number of years preferred of ministry experience of potential candidate:

Required languages: **English**

Church Demographics:

Average Sunday attendance: **600-650**

Active adult professing members: **660**

Profile of church members:

Age:

17 % 0-11 **14 %** 12-18 **8 %** 19-24 **8 %** 25-34
21 % 35-49 **12 %** 50-64 **20 %** 65+

Occupation:

47 % Business, Professional & Trades **3 %** Stay-at-home parent
2 % Agriculture **18 %** Retired **30 %** Student or child

Percentage of members belonging to the congregation:

Less than 5 years **18 %**
5-10 years **14 %**
10 or more years **67 %**

Racial/Ethnic composition of congregation and surrounding community:

Sioux Falls 79% White, First CRC 95% White

Composition of congregation:

Mono-Cultural

Multi-Cultural

Specific Ethnicity (specify:

)

Worship:

How are members involved in planning and participation in the liturgy/worship?

Members are heavily involved in music including praise team, organ, brass/ strings ensembles, choir and bell choir. The Director of worship selects the songs, music, readings as well as arranging the volunteers.

Describe the worship services in your church:

Worship services are held on Sunday mornings at 8:30 and 10:30am. The 8:30 service is a traditional service with organ led music. Our 10:30 service is praise team led using contemporary praise and worship style music that features everything from hymns to songs you hear on the radio. Both services have occasional special music featuring the organ, bell choir or brass/strings ensembles.

Describe the discipleship practices in your church for all ages of members and attenders:

Discipleship at First Christian Reformed Church is a lifelong journey that begins in childhood and continues through every stage of life. We believe children are a gift from God, and we embrace our covenant responsibility to pass on His story—sharing again and again His mighty acts and praiseworthy deeds. Through both teaching and example, we seek to model lives shaped by grace and faith. Our children’s ministry includes Nursery, Children’s Church, Sunday School, and additional programs designed to guide young hearts as they grow in their understanding of God’s love and their place in His kingdom.

- **For elementary and middle school students, midweek ministries provide intentional discipleship in a relational setting. GEMS (Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior), for girls in 2nd through 8th grade, focuses on helping them develop a personal, living relationship with Jesus Christ through small groups that nurture faith and build lasting friendships. Cadets serves boys in 3rd through 8th grade, helping them grow spiritually, mentally, physically, and socially as they are mentored into Christlike manhood. GEMS meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays, while Cadets meets on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Supporting these ministries, our Wednesday night meal ministry provides dinner for families and the congregation on the first and second Wednesdays each month, creating space for fellowship and connection before evening programs.**
- **As students grow, discipleship opportunities continue to deepen. Catechism for 7th and 8th graders offers a structured, question-and-answer study of core biblical truths, helping students learn, understand, and be shaped by the doctrines of the Christian faith. Catechism meets Sunday mornings from 9:45–10:15 am between worship services. Junior High Ministry (JHM), also for 7th and 8th graders, meets on the second and fourth Sundays and focuses on strengthening students’ relationships with God while fostering meaningful connections with peers and adult mentors.**
- **High school students are disciplined through Faith Talk, which meets Sunday mornings from 9:45–10:15 am, and Catalyst Youth, which provides a safe and engaging environment for students to belong, ask important questions about life and faith, and grow spiritually. Through worship, small groups, and shared activities, students are encouraged to build authentic relationships and deepen their trust in God and one another.**
- **For adults, discipleship continues through various Bible studies for men and women of all ages, offering opportunities to grow in faith and community. MomCo. supports and encourages mothers with young children in a Christ-centered environment, meeting on the first and third Thursdays of each month. In addition, our music ministries—including Adult Choir, Bell Choir, Orchestra, and instrumental ensembles—provide opportunities for members to use their gifts in worship, contributing to the spiritual life of the congregation.**

Together, these ministries reflect our commitment to forming disciples at every stage of life—helping each person know Christ, grow in faith, and live for Him within a vibrant, intergenerational community.

Building/Financial:

Present annual budget: **\$1.35 million**

Last year's annual budget: **\$1.3 million**

Percentage of financial obligations met (last complete year reported):

Budget 100%

Denominational Ministry Shares 100% of pledge

Classical Ministry Shares 100%

Facilities:

Describe facilities:

The church campus includes a sanctuary, fellowship hall, fireside Room, coffee shop area, library, nursery rooms, and an activity center on the upper level. The lower level features several large meeting rooms, a kitchenette, choir room, youth room, workshop, and multiple smaller classrooms used for Sunday school. Staff offices are located in a separate office building on the west side of the parking lot. The congregation is currently preparing for a building project that will replace the existing sanctuary with a larger space and add a lower level to provide additional classrooms and meeting areas.

Are your buildings adequate for your ministries?

Yes

No

If no, please explain:

Our limited sanctuary size has required the use of overflow seating for several years. The worship experience in the overflow is less than ideal for worship.

The facilities are also lacking enough large group meeting spaces for our current needs.

Is a building program projected?

Yes

No

If yes, describe what and when:

Congregation has just approved moving ahead with the building of a new sanctuary in place of the old as well as a basement edition below it for expanded ministry spaces.

Does the church own a parsonage?

Yes

No

Location of office or study: **separate office building on east side of parking lot**

Compensation:

The salary range we are prepared to offer our new pastor is based on the CRC Minister

Compensation Survey for our area:



Housing:

- Housing allowance
- Parsonage only
- Either of the above

Benefits and expenses:

- Pension
- Medical insurance
- Life insurance
- Social Security or Canada Pension
- Travel/mileage
- Continuing Education funds
- Continuing Education time allotted
- Sabbatical policy in place
- Annual vacation (# weeks)
- Other (please specify)

Church Characteristics:

[Check which one(s) are closest to your church's characteristics]

Presently, the FOCUS OF OUR CHURCH'S MINISTRY is

	Community exclusively	Community primarily	Community & current members/ participants equally	Current members/ participants primarily	Current members/ participants exclusively	
External	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Internal

In our church, the WORSHIP SERVICE IS DESIGNED FOR

	Designed for unchurched	Emphasis on unchurched	Unchurched and believers	Emphasis on believers	Designed for believers	
Unchurched	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Churched

In our church, the STYLE OF MUSIC used in the worship service is

	Contemporary	Mostly contemporary 10:30am	Blended	Mostly traditional 8:30am	Traditional	
Contemporary	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Traditional

In our church, LEADERSHIP is generally provided by the

	Predominantly lay leaders	Frequently lay leaders	Lay leaders & pastoral staff share leadership	Lay leaders function under pastoral staff	Predominantly pastoral staff	
Congregational members	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Pastoral staff

Our church seeks to ENCOURAGE SPIRITUAL GROWTH through

	No specific ministries	Ministries for a few groups	Ministries for selected groups	Ministries for most groups	Ministries for all groups	
Informal	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Formal

In our church, EVANGELISM STRATEGIES AND METHODS are

	Predominantly unplanned	Generally unplanned	Equal emphasis	Generally planned	Predominantly planned	
Unplanned	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Planned

Our church is representative of the ECONOMIC DIVERSITY of our community

	Strongly representative	Mostly representative	Moderately representative	Mildly representative	Weakly representative	
High representation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Low representation

Our church is representative of the ETHNIC DIVERSITY of our community

	Strongly representative	Mostly representative	Moderately representative	Mildly representative	Weakly representative	
High representation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Low representation

Our church's RESPONSE TO COMPASSION, MERCY, AND JUSTICE NEEDS is

	Commitment to church-based action	Encouragement of church-based action	Church-based and personal action	Encouragement of personal action	Commitment to personal action	
Church-based	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Personal

Our church's MISSIONAL FOCUS is

	All local	Mostly local	Equally local and global	Mostly global	All global	
Local	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Global

Narrative:

In what ways does your church participate in ecumenical activities?

- **Our CAP Meals Project (Caring About People) provides 300 Thanksgiving meals to families from the Sioux Falls School District**
- **First CRC hosts a Nepalese Congregation in our space weekly**
- **Many members involved with The Banquet, The Furniture Mission, Cornerstone Prison Ministry and various other organizations throughout the city**
- **Working on establishing relationships with other community organizations such as Collision Youth Ministry and Washington High School**
- **Stephen Ministry is a complete program to train people to provide one-on-one Christian care to the hurting in our congregational community.**

Reflect on your strengths/gifts as a church:

- **Supporting children's & youth ministry programs- GEMS, Cadets, VBS, Sunday School, SERVE etc.**
- **Financial giving**
- **Congregation consistently holds scripture at the core of who we are and what we do**
- **Global Outreach to Ukraine, Togo Africa, , Haiti, Guatemala, and more. We send yearly teams to Dominican Republic to build churches, as well as support individual students on school trips.**
- **Have strong support and a close relationship with Sioux Falls Christian Schools**

List specific problems with which your congregation struggles:

- **Maintaining a stable staff**
- **Community outreach beyond financial giving**
- **Maintaining connection between 2 services**
- **Engaging young adults (after college to birth of first child)**
- **Engaging a larger volunteer base**

Do you have a recently articulated mission/vision for ministry?

Yes

No

We are in the process of defining a new vision/mission for ministry

What has been the most interesting and challenging event in the life of your church in the last three years?

The last 3 years have been spent rebuilding after Covid, the sudden exit of a long time pastor, several staff changes, as well the gradual exit of many long time families. We have been adjusting to the rythm of a new pastor and steadily growing back to pre-covid numbers

List major goals that this congregation has set for itself or opportunities the congregation anticipates:

- **Develop strong leadership.**
- **Grow and develop a stable collaborative staff**
- **Further develop ministries that collaborate with and serve our local Sioux Falls Community.**
- **Become a welcoming church known to the community**

Describe what being Christians of Reformed accent means to you:

Being a Christian of Reformed accent means understanding that all of life is centered on God—from Him, through Him, and to Him are all things. We are Christian because our faith begins from Him: out of the Father’s love, He sent Jesus Christ, the ruler over all, to redeem sinners and invite us into new life through the Holy Spirit (Colossians 1:15–20). Our salvation, identity, and hope originate entirely in God’s grace, not our own effort.

We are Reformed because our lives are sustained through Him. Jesus is not only our Savior but the ongoing source of our daily life (Colossians 3:1–4). Through His Word and Spirit, He continually shapes us as we study Scripture and seek to obey it (2 Timothy 3:16–17). This means submitting every part of our lives—our thoughts, desires, and decisions—to His authority, trusting that He is actively at work in us. We are the Church because our purpose is directed to Him. God calls us together to live lives worthy of Christ (Colossians 3:5–14), not for ourselves, but for His glory. As a community, we seek to reflect Jesus in the world, serving as His ambassadors and faithfully advancing His mission.

In all things, then, to be a Christian of Reformed accent is to live a God-centered life—one that begins in His grace, is sustained by His power, and ultimately exists for His glory.

Describe your understanding of the relationship between the local church and the Christian Reformed denomination:

The local church is part of a larger community of Reformed churches that mutually support, encourage and serve in God's Kingdom. The local church is part of, and agrees with, the greater denomination through it's local Classis and through Synod.

Identify some of the cultural challenges facing Christians and Christian churches today:

- **Recognizing and understanding the issues surrounding gender identification and non-traditional relationships**
- **Secularism drawing people away from Christ**
- **Nurturing young people to join, participate, and grow into lifelong, active church members**

What have been the three most important events in the history of your church?

- **The first significant chapter in our history is actually a series of decisions that have shaped where First CRC is located today. In the 1960s, the church relocated to 26th Street, which at that time was outside the city limits. As the congregation continued to grow in the 1990s, leaders began exploring potential relocation opportunities. In 2008, land was purchased on the far south side of Sioux Falls with the possibility of building there. However, it was later decided to remain at the current site and instead pursue a major expansion, which included the addition of an Activity Center and several new classrooms. In 2015, the church sold the south-side property and is now using the remaining funds to help initiate a new building project focused on a larger sanctuary and expanded ministry spaces.**
- **First CRC helped establish Shalom CRC in 1978, Heartland Community CRC in 1995, as well as Cornerstone Prison Church.**
- **We celebrated our 100 year Centennial in September 2023**

Leadership:

How many council members does your church have? **10 Elders/ 10 deacons and 6 Ad Board Members**

What is the length of term for council members? **3 years**

How often does the full council meet? **As needed. Each of the Elders, Deacons and Ad Board groups meets 1x month.**

What subgroups of council exist, how do they function and how often do they meet? **Ad Board 2x/mo**