

**December 29, 2024**

*Carmel's mission is to further Christ's Kingdom  
through loving God and loving others.*

**MORNING WORSHIP (9:30)**

Prelude: *Shelly Van Otterloo*

Welcome

Call to Worship

\*Christian Greeting

\*Worship Songs: *"Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me"*  
*"Thank You Jesus for the Blood"*

Invocation

Ministry in Music: *Russ Vande Vegte*

Congregational Prayer

Hymn: **#512** *"Take Time to Be Holy"*  
(Offerings for the General Fund & Christian Care Fund)  
(Please pass the Guest Registers during this time)

Scripture: Deuteronomy 6:4-9 & James 1:22-25

Message: **"The Word That Guides Our Way"**

Closing Song: *"Ancient Words"*

\*Benediction

Doxology: *"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"*

Postlude: *Shelly Van Otterloo*

(\*please stand if you are able)

**EVENING WORSHIP (6:30)**

Prelude: *Shelly Van Otterloo*

Welcome

Call to Worship

\*Worship Hymns: **#12** *"Holy God We Praise Your Name"*  
**#349** *"He Keeps Me Singing"*

Invocation

Responsive Reading: **#1265 Selection #58**  
*"Put On the New Self"*

Congregational Prayer

\*Hymn: **#456** *"I'd Rather Have Jesus"*

Scripture: Matthew 3

Message: **"Prepare The Way"**

Closing Hymn: **#513** *"Whiter Than Snow"*

\*Benediction

Postlude: *Shelly Van Otterloo*

(\*please stand if you are able)

*Merry Christmas-yes, still! As the church continues to celebrate Christ's birth, I invite you to bask in the goodness of God. Welcome! Please join us for refreshments after the morning worship service.*

**Warm welcome** to Pastor Ross Hoekstra as he leads our evening worship service.

**Thank you** to *Russ Vande Vegte* for his ministry in music this morning.

**Guest Register:** During the offering this morning, please sign and pass the “Guest” Register down the row. Once it reaches the end and members and guests have signed, please pass it back to the center.

## TODAY

**Nursery Attendants:** Amy M., Jo M., Karlee L., Brody V.V.,  
**Door Attendant:** Jack. **Ushers:** Orlin (M), Marlin (NE), Brad (SW). **Audio:** Dan. **Video:** Janice. **Power Point:** Enrique. **After Service Greeters:** Dennis & Jerry (M), Mark (NE), Dan (SW).

## THIS WEEK

**Tuesday, December 31**  
**Church Office Closes at 12 p.m.**

**Wednesday, January 1**  
**Church Office Closed**

## NEXT SUNDAY, January 5

**Nursery Attendants:** Kristi Segar, Sara Sandbulte, Marcus Van Voorst, Slayden Sandbulte. **Door Attendant:** Doug Van Beek.  
**Ushers:** Gene Sandbulte (M); Adam Nibbelink (NE); Brady Punt (SW). **Refreshments:** Mike Haverhals, Jared Terpstra. **Cookies:** Gene Sandbulte, Mimi Sandbulte, Lorna Vander Vliet, Mary Lou Verburg, Linda Altena. **Special Music:** John Horstman. **Special Offering:** Property Fund.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

### **Uphold in Prayer**

*Tasha Oostra* is recovering from gallbladder surgery.  
*Landry Van Kekerix* is in the hospital with pneumonia.  
*Tate Van Essen* is recovering from surgery.  
*Vicki Fischer* is recovering from hip replacement surgery.  
*Bob Ver Mulm* is recovering from surgery on his hip.  
*Kyle Van Ginkel* serving in the army.

**Praying for our local congregations:** This week please be in prayer for God’s blessing for the United Reformed Congregation and Rev. Jon Bushnell.

**Please help us to help you:** When you have an illness, accident, upcoming surgery, birth or death in the family, or other needs, please notify one of the elders or the church office.

Pastor Ron and Karen will be gone on vacation from December 30-January 6. Pastor Ron will be back in the office on Tuesday, January 7. If you need any assistance during this time please contact an elder.

Following this Christmas season a couple of the church’s Christmas trees will be available as they are being replaced with new trees. If anyone is interested in these, please speak to Nikki Hulstein or Whitney Van Essen.

22:6 Group has frozen sweet corn available for purchase. \$10/bag. The freezer is located in the education wing by the side door. Please pay for corn when you pick it up.

There are hard copies of the January *HIGHLIGHTS* on the Coffee Station.

Sunday School teachers, your new Sunday School materials are in your rooms.

After taking a break for the holidays, the Wednesday Night Activities will resume at 7:00 p.m. on January 8! ACB (Answers Bible Curriculum) for Kindergarten thru 12th grade will meet every Wednesday night through March 5.

At the December consistory meeting a project was approved to replace the current 15 passenger van and to purchase an additional 15 passenger van. The current van is at a point where it needs to be replaced and as we assessed our needs it became evident that an additional van would be a great benefit to our church organizations, especially our youth groups. The total amount of this project will total \$125,000.00. If you desire to give to this project, please note "Van Project" in your check memo. The second offering on January 19, 2025, will go towards this project. Thanks for your support!

**New adult ed. Bible study coming soon.** Pastor Ron will be leading a Wednesday night Bible study using the new Ray Vander Laan class. In **RVL Discipleship: The Study**, join renowned teacher and Bible scholar Ray Vander Laan as he examines what it means to be a follower of Christ through the cultural, historical, and otherwise contextual lens of Scripture. The Study is a four-season video Bible study for small groups and individuals to consider the question: what did it mean to be one of the original disciples of Jesus, and what does that mean for us today?

Each week there will be a 10-12 minute video followed by a time to reflect on what was seen and a time to discuss questions from the series. I hope you will consider attending the class.

Come enjoy a Dueling Piano Show on Thursday, January 9 at The District in Sioux Falls featuring Andy and Ryno! This is the perfect event to enjoy some great music requested by the audience, spend a night with your friends, and support Hope Haven! Doors open at 7:00 p.m. and the show begins at 8:00 p.m. Purchase tickets at: [hopehaven.org/events](http://hopehaven.org/events)

**Bible reading plan 2025** - If you would like to participate in a Bible reading plan together as a church, there are two ways to participate. If you would like to join with an interactive app, you can scan the QR code with the device you would like to use. If you would rather participate using printed materials, please use the sign up form on the coffee table in the Fellowship Hall. If you choose the printed materials, please sign up soon so we can have those ready for you by the end of the year. There is still time to sign up for the app on your phone! If you signed up for the paper copy, it will be in your mailboxes.

