



## Cadet Camporee 2017

The 2017 Cadet Camporee took place July 12-19 at Camp Elk Run in the Black Hills. Marty Vander Plaats and Joe Eggebeen were both in Camp on July 8 to help with the set-up of camp. This involved running over 5000 feet of water line, distribution of over 2000 tent poles, slab lumber, and 2x2s, 208 sheets of **30'x40' plastic, 60 twine bales. In addition,** all of the big tents needed to be set up, including a **60'x210' big top, a 40'x60' food tent, a 40'x100' medical tent/staff sleeping area, a 20'x20' camp store, and a 40'x40' staff sleeping tent** in the food/equipment area.

Joe served as a Cadre counselor and Marty **was on Equipment staff. Marty's days involved** making sure the water system in camp stayed functional, as well helping with any unexpected challenges we came across. (He did

take Monday morning off to hike Black Elk Peak!)

On Tuesday afternoon, the cadets and counselors started showing up, including those from the Three Rivers counsel. From Faith/Covenant/Bridge of Hope churches, this included Bennet Swager and Levi Landman. A storm blew through on Tuesday night, so they had to scramble to get gear covered and make sure those staying under the big top were dry.

On Wednesday, the rest of the counselors and cadets showed up and they started building their tents. All told, about 1,200 men and boys arrived and got to work. From our churches, this included Hunter Hofland and Derek Heynen. Each Cadre (7-8 boys and 2 counselors) were given 2 sheets of plastic and 20 poles and access to twine to build their shelter for the week.

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# Notes from the Pastor



## On the Revised Common Lectionary

As a child, my exposure to the church calendar was relatively limited: we lit a candle for each week of Advent, we might (or might not) have a dedicated Lenten series, and we would probably observe Pentecost. That was pretty much the extent of it. I was a student in seminary before I learned of the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL).

For those who are unfamiliar with the Lectionary, it is a 3-year cycle of assigned readings for each Sunday in the life of the church. Each week includes four readings—usually one from the Old Testament, one from the New, one from the Gospels, and one from the Psalms. Within the three year cycle, several broad patterns are observed: the season after Pentecost, for instance, follows the broad story of the Old Testament over the course of three years; each year focuses on one of the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark, and Luke; John is interspersed over the whole cycle). Sometimes the readings are intentionally paired together, exploring a common theme; sometimes the lack of a common theme still helps the passages illuminate one another.

In my time so far at Covenant I have seen the lectionary as one of the tools in a kit of sermon planning resources, usually planning at least two or three series per year that coincided with the lectionary. For this coming year (beginning in mid-August), I have decided

to adhere to the lectionary completely, limiting my preaching texts and series to those assigned by the RCL.

To be honest, I am sort of nervous about this. There is an element of control one has when choosing preaching passages. I spend the better part of the summer thinking about and wrestling with series ideas, praying about what themes we may be overlooking in our life together as a church, discerning what parts of the story of Scripture to which we could use more exposure. To give up that control is an act of trust and an act of self-discipline.

In the commitment to following the lectionary is the trust that God will speak to the life and needs of our congregation. When pastors discuss the lectionary, those who object to it **will often say, “I need the ability to respond to needs that may arise in my choice of preaching text.” This is invariably followed by the question, “What pastor didn’t change their sermon text the Sunday after September 11, 2001?” September 16, 2011 was the 15th Sunday after Pentecost in Year C of the Lectionary. The Old Testament reading for that day was from Jeremiah 8: “My joy is gone, grief is upon me, my heart is sick... Is there no balm in Gilead?” The New Testament reading was from 1 Timothy 2: “I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity.” Wow. That may be an extreme example, but it demonstrates a key principle: the lectionary intentionally explores the full range of the human experience and the full range of the story of Scripture. As such, much**

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of the life of the congregation will come out over the course of the lectionary. Additionally, the goal of the sermon is to expose us to the Good News of the Gospel and the ways in which the Gospel speaks to and transforms our life here and now. When viewed in this light, the readings of the lectionary are always tied into the broader story of the Gospel which will always speak to our lives.

As we anticipate the coming year of ministry together, I trust that God will continue to work through the life of Covenant and through Scripture to gather us around the broad story of Scripture and to be transformed together more and more into the likeness of Christ.

-Pastor Kory

Want to learn more about the Revised Common Lectionary? The go-to lectionary resource for both Rebecca and Sara at church is [lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu](http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu).

**And if you haven't already picked one up,** grab a copy of *Teach Us to Pray: Scripture-Centered Family Worship through the Year!* This is another way to follow along with the



lectionary and make connections at home with what is happening here at church. The books are available on the welcome table for \$12. (Leave a check in the box.)



## Grandma Alert! Grandpa Alert!

Len & Lee Rhoda have a new great-granddaughter! Harper Evann, a first child, was born on June 28 to Cody and Shelley Huizenga. Her unique middle name combines the names of two great grandmothers, Eva and Ann. Grandparents are our daughter, Dawn, and husband, Darren Huizenga, from Orange City. Our Fourth of July celebration was a trip to Des Moines with them to see and hold this precious little one. Now we have three great granddaughters in our family, and we thank God for each of them!



Hi! My name is Olivia Jo Dykhuizen. When I was born on June 20, 2017, I weighed 8lbs and was 21 inches long. My mom and dad are Fredrick and Alexis and they shed many tears of happiness

when I was born. I already like to be rocked by my Grandma, Sharon Dykhuizen, and Averie says she is going to read to me. I just love all the attention I am getting from aunts, uncles, and cousins. I already figured out that I just squirm and someone picks me up so this family really loves me and I love them.

# August Birthdays & Anniversaries

1	Marge DB	7	George F Erik & Brenda F Jeff & Sara P	19	Steve C
2	Ruth Clo Pat E John & Sanneke K	8	Rin G Ron O Ryan P	20	Barb M
3	Rob H Sos Maletougou Laurey Z Dave & Luanne G Ben & Pat K	9	Ron & Carol O	21	Derek F John & Linda V
4	Max H Ryan & Angela H	11	Dani W Robbin & Sara E	23	Jordan Dornbierer Chris G John Z
5	Dave V Caden Z	13	Kathleen VT	24	Judah Plockmeyer
6	Henry Dornbierer Ezra L Lee M	15	Deb H	26	Len & Lee R
		16	John & Laurey Z	27	Faith Bierma Matt D
		17	Jake & Trena VW	29	Shonna P Dave S
		18	Del & Lois VZ		



## Offering Schedule

August 6

- AM General/Building Fund,  
Compassion Fund
- PM World Renew: International  
Disaster Relief

August 13

- AM Christian Education Fund
- PM Siouxland Habitat for Humanity

August 20

- AM Missions Fund
- PM Back to God Ministries International

August 27

- AM Tuition Assistance Fund
- PM Safe Church Implementation  
at Covenant



## Evening Worship Schedule

August 6 Teaching Service

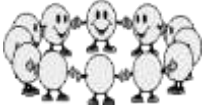
August 13 Teaching Service

August 20 Communion Service

August 27 Service of Evening Prayer

# August Assignments

Here are the assignments for members to “practice hospitality” this month...  
Remember to wear your name badges!



## Nursery

Parents of the month: Davey & Kate H

### August 6

AM INF Laura L, Sharon V  
TODDLER Mark & Sara H, Kurt V  
PM Chris & Rin G, Daryl & Deb H

### August 13

AM INF Davey & Kate H, Merrill MC  
TODDLER Dave & Emily K, Mark MC  
PM Ethan & Donna B, Jo F

### August 20

AM INF Dave & Jeri S, Sara P  
TODDLER Mark & Cheri H, Jeff P  
PM Laremy & Rebecca DV, Kathy DW

### August 27

AM INF Dave & Jan V, Robin F  
TODDLER Jason & Dani W, Adam F  
PM Steve & Pat C, Barb T

### September 3

AM INF Jake & Trena VW, Laura J  
TODDLER Ryan & Angela H, Lee R  
PM Paul & Ruth C, Doug & Marge DB



## Coffee Servers

Steve C, Rob H, Len R,  
Shirley T, Marv W, Jason W



## Greeters

AM John K, Betty VP, Val Z  
PM Bernie DW, Sharon D, Jeri S



## Ushers

AM Jo A, Mark C, Beth VB  
PM George F, John Z

## Substitutes

*If you are unable to serve on your assigned date for coffee, usher, or greeter, contact*

Howie H, Cal J, Ron O,  
Sherri TN, Kris VP, Trena VW

## Courier Copy—It's up to you!

The *Courier* is issued monthly at Covenant church. If you have copy that you wish to be included, send it to the church office. Each issue is distributed on the last Sunday of the month. Copy deadline is Monday, August 21 for the September issue.

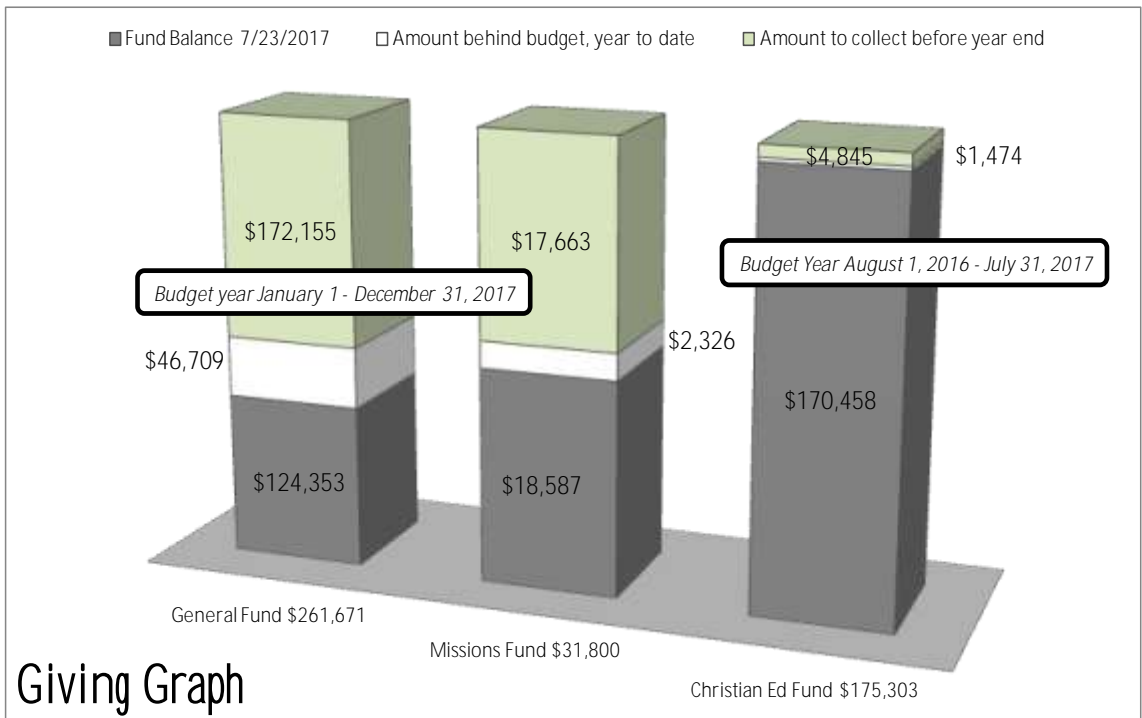
# From the Maletougous

Dear Friends and Ministry Partners,  
 Thank you to each of you for your continued prayers, encouragement and financial giving towards the ministry God has given to us in West Africa. We are grateful to share that together with you we reached our minimum support raising goal for the 2016-2017 fiscal year, which ended on June 30. Your gifts enable us to continue in the work of discipling, mentoring, and training Christian educators in this part of the world. Thank you again for being a part of what God is doing here!

Blessings,  
 -Sosthene and Kara Maletougou



We're bringing back "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" in September! Curious about what this is? Talk to Beth Vanden Berg or Lauren Plockmeyer. Interested in helping to coordinate the event? Talk to Rebecca De Vries. Willing to host? Contact Lisa Christians. Look for more information to come!



# Thank You!

During the week of June 12-16, students in the Pipe Organ Encounter, hosted by Dordt College, used area churches' organs, including the organ at Covenant, for lessons. We received this thank you:

Thank you very much for allowing the students and teachers of our Pipe Organ Encounter to use the organ at Covenant CRC! It was a very special week, and the feedback from students was overwhelmingly positive. We are very confident that our students will draw upon all that they learned and experienced for many years.

-John MacInnis

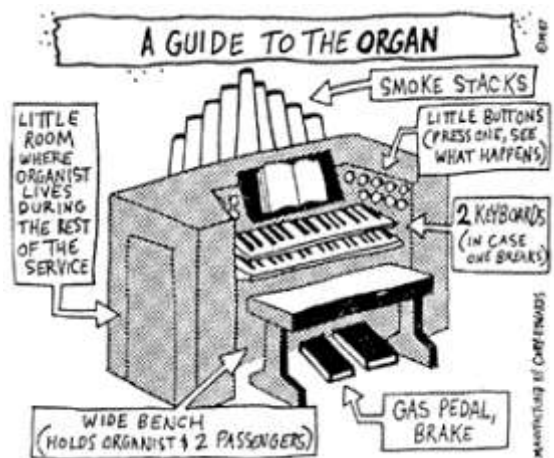
## For the Kids:

### 7 Fascinating Facts About the Pipe Organ

1. Organists play with their hands and feet.
2. Pipe organs are the largest instrument in the world played by a single person.
3. Pipe organs were the most complex machine created before the Industrial Revolution.

4. Organs were banned in Soviet-controlled Europe because they were a symbol of the church and monarchy.
5. Pipe organs have stops (groups of pipes) named Oboe, Flute, and Trumpet, but they sound differently from their orchestral counterparts.
6. The Vox Humana organ stop is supposed to imitate human voices.
7. Oftentimes the visible pipes in a church or concert hall are a façade and the real pipes are hidden in the wall or ceiling.

Reprinted from <https://www.theodysseyonline.com/7-fascinating-pipe-organ-facts>



## Denominational Resources

### Connect with Other Ministry Leaders

Have you ever wondered how other churches do a particular ministry? There's a website where you can find out! You can ask questions, share experiences, get resources, read blogs, and more. It's called The Network and it covers dozens of ministry areas and roles. Check it out at [www.crcna.org/Network](http://www.crcna.org/Network)

### Do You Receive *The Banner* at Home?

*The Banner* is the official magazine of the CRC in North America, showing how the Christian faith in its Reformed expression makes sense for today's world. All members of the CRC can sign up to receive the monthly magazine. Visit [www.thebanner.org](http://www.thebanner.org) to subscribe or to read it online!

## Cadet Camporee 2017

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Thursday, Friday, Monday, and Tuesday were activity days. The day started at 6:00 AM with a bugle call and morning assembly at 6:30, followed by breakfast and then on to morning activities. These were the activities Cadets participated in:

- Hiking Black Elk Peak (formerly Harney Peak, the highest point in the US east of the Rockies) in the morning, followed by lunch and swimming at Sylvan Lake in the afternoon.
- Visiting Mount Rushmore
- Souvenir Craft (Glass Etching)
- Service Project—cutting down and piling up jack pines to allow aspen to flourish
- Archery/Marksmanship
- Camp Games
- Geocaching

Saturday was a day for camp crafts and to prepare for Sunday visitors, followed by a trick shooting exhibition by the Gould Brothers and an evening concert by Happy The Dog (our worship band for the week).

On Sunday, we had a church service, followed



*The Covenant/Faith/Bridge of Hope group: Marty Vander Plaats, Bennett Swagger, Derek Heynen, Joe Eggebeen, Hunter Hofland, Levi Landman*



*A group of Cadets build the shelter they will sleep in for the week.*

by a meal, and then a chance for visitors and families to walk through camp.

Monday evening, we had a challenging message by Pastor John Lee from Bethel CRC.

Wednesday morning came all too quickly, and we began hauling luggage out at 7:00 AM. By 11:30 we had all the luggage out and camp was dismissed. Our tent guy showed up at about 12:00, and by 4:30, we had all tents down and on trailers back to Sioux County so they could be used for Ragbrai in Orange City.

The rest of the day on Wednesday included dismantling the water system and stage and hauling out all the tent plastic and poles. By 6:30 on Thursday night, camp cleanup was done, and the 5 semis of materials and equipment were on their way back to SE South Dakota, SW Minnesota, and NW Iowa.

Thankfully the medical staff was underused.

God truly blessed camp, the staff, counselors, and cadets. This is an undertaking we could not have done without the help and support of numerous volunteers. To God be the glory.

**-Joe Eggebeen and Marty Vander Plaats**