

## SUNDAY, September 10, 2017

**WELCOME** to all who have joined us for worship today!  
Please join us for coffee/tea/juice in the fellowship hall after the service – we would like to get to know you!

### Hearing assistance



A telecoil hearing-loop system sends a signal into the sanctuary. If your hearing aid is t-coil equipped, try switching to the t-coil receiver. An FM hearing assistance system is also available for ears without hearing aids. Consult the sound operator for assistance.

## WORSHIP NOTES

### Worship Today

In the morning service, we continue our series on the church as a community of love by considering together the ways in which love is at the heart of all we do and say. We will also hear an update from Miriam McAuley on her work and celebrate the start of a new year of church ministry together. In the evening service, we continue our series on the book of Numbers by considering God's call to provide space for justice and considering particularly one way in which we may be able to respond to the needs of our local immigrant community as a church. The elders hope you will join us as we share more about the conversation that Covenant has been having with other local churches.

### Next Sunday's Lectionary Readings

Pastor Kory is currently preaching from the Revised Common Lectionary. We encourage you to take time during your week to read all of the lectionary readings for the upcoming Sunday.

Readings for **September 17**:

- ✦ Old Testament Reading: Exodus 14:19-31
- ✦ Psalm 114
- ✦ New Testament Reading: Romans 14:1-12
- ✦ Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:21-35

### Offerings for September

	AM	PM
17	Missions Fund	The Luke Society
24	Tuition Assistance Fund	Farmer to Farmer

<b>Last week's offering</b>	Compassion Fund	\$459.00
	World Renew: General Fund	\$251.60

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY



### Happy Birthday this Week

Laura Lappenga, Adam Kramer, Kelly Crull

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please be in prayer for God's blessing on the United Reformed congregation and their current pastoral search.

### Updating the Church Directory

Can you take a few minutes to check if your directory listing is up to date at the welcome table? We'd love to make sure our information is as current as possible. If you are not currently in the directory but plan to make Covenant your church home and would like to be added, please sign up at the welcome table as well!

### Song of a Scientist

Several Covenant scientists get giddy when they talk about the total eclipse. They are filled with wonder, and if you listen to them, you realize that their wonder is a form of praise to their Creator God and that their scientific knowledge enhances their ability to praise. The more they know and see, the more they have with which to praise God. Cal De Wit's book, *Song of a Scientist: The Harmony of a God-Soaked Creation*, is a book that oozes with this same kind of wonder as he examines from a scientific perspective some of the systems and creatures of our Father's world. If you would like to have more knowledge with which to praise God, pick up the book at the office and join Jeff Ploegstra as he leads a 5 week discussion of it in Covenant Sunday Morning (adult Sunday School) beginning on **September 17** at 9:00 AM.

### All Church Picnic

We will kick off the Sunday school year with an all church picnic at Children's Park after our morning service today! Serving will begin around 12:00 PM. The Council will be grilling hamburgers and hot dogs. Members of the congregation whose name begins with A-J are asked to bring a large salad and those beginning with K-Z are asked to bring a large dessert. Chips and drink will be provided. Dordt students are encouraged to join us! Please bring your own table service – some will be available for students and guests.

### Sanctuary Church Dialogue

Over the past several months, Covenant has been engaged in dialogue with the other churches in Sioux Center about how best to respond to the needs of immigrants within our community. At the invitation of CASA, we have been discussing the idea of sanctuary churches. Sanctuary Churches do not hide or harbor undocumented immigrants, but provide a place to stay while a legal means of remaining in the country is pursued. The elders would like to invite the church to a time of discussion and learning tonight at 6:00 PM. We will hear a brief message about Numbers 35 to consider the call to care for the marginalized in our community and then look together at the discussion that has been happening among the churches. More detailed information is available on the welcome table.

### Coffee Break Registration

Coffee Break begins on Wednesday, **September 13** with a time of registration here at Covenant at 9:30 AM. We will begin the year studying the second part of Romans – "Led by the Spirit" with our first lesson on **September 20** at 9:30. Nursery and Story Hour will be provided. Questions? Contact Rin Goedhart (722-4394). We also still need help in the nursery if you are able to help!

**GEMS Kickoff**

GEMS will have their kickoff for all girls in grades 4-8. Join us at Children's Park from 6:00-8:00 PM on Wednesday, **September 13**. Bring along your labeled roasting sticks for roasting hot dogs and s'mores. We will introduce this year's theme and make our theme t-shirts. Contact Valerie (northstar\_gems@hotmail.com, 712-449-8150) with any questions.

**Cadet Registration**

Cadet Registration will take place at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, **September 13**, at Faith CRC. All boys in 5th -8th grades are invited. We need one parent to accompany their son to fill out the forms with the counselors. The cost is \$35 for 6th-8th graders and \$45 for 5th graders. If you have any questions, please email fc cadets@gmail.com.

**Pork & Bands Fundraising Opportunity**

Pork & Bands is coming to the Fruited Plain Parking lot on **September 16!** Covenant will be serving a meal beginning at 5:00 PM to support the Christian Education Fund. We are looking for volunteers to serve and also to bring items. There is a sign up sheet on the welcome table if you would like to help with an evening of fun for a good cause.

**Sunday Evening Bible Study Group**

The Sunday Evening Bible study group will be meeting again beginning on **September 17** after the evening worship service. We will viewing a DVD by Tim Keller. Everyone is invited to join the group. Please bring a snack to share if you are able. The group will be meeting the first and third Sunday of each month.

**Volunteers Needed!**

- The Covenant/Faith/Bridge of Hope GEMS group is still looking for a few helpers for any grades. We'd love a few helping hands from Covenant! Contact Valerie Van Beek if you are interested in helping (712-449-8150, northstar\_gems@hotmail.com).
- Nursery attendants are needed for Coffee Break Bible Study on Wednesday mornings from 9:20-11:00 AM starting **September 20**. This can be a paid position. Please call Rin if you're interested (722-4394).

**NAMI**

It's not too late to join! The NAMI Iowa Family-to-Family Education Program for family members of persons with serious mental illness is being offered at Central Reformed Church from 7:00-9:30 PM on Thursday evenings until November 16. The course is free and is taught by trained family member volunteer leaders, Barb Addink (712-567-4727), Shirley Matheis (722-4462 or nsmath@mtcnet.net), and Lynn Wielenga (722-1828). Call immediately to register.

**Financial Peace University coming to Sioux Center!**

The Center for Financial Education is offering Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University at the Sioux Center Public Library Meeting Room A. Classes are held every Thursday evening from 6:30-8:15 pm beginning **September 14** through **November 9**. You can sign up by calling CFE (722-3527) or online at <https://fpu.com/1047293>.

**Community Unity Meal**

Everyone is invited to a free "Community Unity" meal in Sioux Center on Thursday, **September 14**, from 6:00-7:00 PM at New Life Reformed Church. The meal host of the month is Trans Ova Genetics.

*If you are unable to serve on your assigned day, please find your own replacement. Thank you.*

	TODAY	NEXT SUNDAY, September 17
<b>Greeters</b>	<b>AM:</b> Alejandro C, Barb H, Cheri H ♦ <b>PM:</b> Ruth Clo, Laremy DV, Marilyn M	
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>AM:</b> Kathy DW, Rin G, Eldon W ♦ <b>PM:</b> Marge DB, Andy L	
<b>Coffee</b>	Jenni B, Vicki H, Shirley M, Lee R, Stan VB, Jan V	
<b>Subs</b>	Wil A, Duane B, Luanne G, Daryl H, Jake VW, Kurt V	
<b>Sound/Projection</b>	Andy L ♦ Marty VP	Doug DB ♦ Austen/Dave G
<b>Nursery</b> <b>Sept. POM:</b> Hannigans	<b>AM INF:</b> Eldon & Marcia W, Rebecca DS <b>TODDLER:</b> Alejandro & Isabel C, Bob DS <b>PM:</b> Dennis & Pam DJ, Ron & Carol O	<b>AM INF:</b> Don & Sherri TN, Val Z <b>TODDLER:</b> Erik & Barb H, Ryan Z <b>PM:</b> Rob & Megan H, Nick & Jenni B

**GREETERS, PLEASE EMAIL:**

Troy & Faith Bierma    Kelly & April Crull    Dan & Jeananne Kuiper    Sos & Kara Maletoungou    Mike & Megan Ribbens  
 tbierma@gmail.com    crulls@caimail.net    djkuip@aol.com    smaletoungou@crcna.org    mribbens@gmail.com

**THIS WEEK AT COVENANT**

<b>Today</b>	9:00 AM	Sunday School & Catechism (grades 1-12)
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship
	12:00 PM	All Church Picnic (at Children's Park)
	6:00 PM	Evening Worship
<b>Monday</b>	7:00 PM	Full Council Meeting
<b>Tuesday</b>	7:00 PM	Deacons Meeting
<b>Wednesday</b>	9:30 AM	Coffee Break Registration
	6:00 PM	GEMS Kickoff (at Children's Park)
	7:30 PM	Cadet Registration (at Faith CRC)
<b>Saturday</b>	5:00 PM	Pork & Bands Fundraiser Meal (at The Fruited Plain Café)
<b>Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup></b>	9:00 AM	Sunday School & Catechism (grades 1-12)
	9:00 AM	Covenant Sunday Morning
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship
	6:00 PM	Evening Worship
	7:30 PM	Sunday Evening Bible Study Group