

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES SHEET
December 3, 2017

Please turn in announcements by 10:30 on Wednesday mornings to the office of the First Christian Reformed Church: office@firstcrc.com or 722-0717.

Monday, December 4: Gospel Mission's 6th Annual Christmas Concert will be held at 7:30pm at Living Water Community Church in Orange City, IA featuring the Siouxland Discovery Barbershop Chorus and Quartets. A free-will offering will be received for The Gospel Mission.

Tuesday, December 5: Sioux Center Christian School's Moms in Prayer group will meet at the First Christian Reformed Church at 9:00am in the Council Room. Childcare is provided. Contact Mel Klein with questions at 722-0668.

Tuesday, December 5: All grandmothers and great-grandmothers are invited to pray together for our grandchildren from 10-11am in Room 3 of First CRC.

Tuesday, December 5: All mothers and grandmothers are invited to join the College and Career Moms in Prayer group in praying for their college age and adult children from noon – 1pm in Room 3 of First CRC. New moms are always welcome!

Tuesday, December 5: The NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Support Group will meet in the Fireside Room of Central Reformed Church in Sioux Center from 7 to 9pm. Nathan Huyser will share his story: "Navigating My Life with Major Depressive Disorder and Generalized Anxiety Disorder." For information, call Shirley Matheis at 712-722-4462.

Wednesday, December 6: A Smokin' Hot Fundraiser will be held to defray expenses for John Van Engen's cancer treatment. John will be smoking "grab 'n go" pork loin sandwiches. Stop by the Faith CRC church kitchen (south door) from 11am - 6:30pm or until gone. Advanced orders are encouraged. Call or text Kae at 712-389-2432.

Friday, December 8: Abuse Education: Does the subject of abuse make you feel uncomfortable? Do you find yourself avoiding conversations of how persons around us or persons in authority over us violate those we know? If this is true, think about how it must feel to be a child who knows firsthand what uncomfortable means. Locked in a realm of threats to secrecy, a child who has been abused not only feels uncomfortable, but also violated, exploited, betrayed, and used. When children are victimized to meet adult needs, their lives are changed forever. For the sake of our kids, come and learn about abuse, grooming, predators, and pedophiles. This training is for parents, teachers, church leaders, ministry staff, pastors, college students, Safe Church committees, medical staff, and for anyone who wants to learn more about protecting kids. Join us 1pm or 6:30pm, at the Lighthouse of Bethel CRC. Cost is \$20. These are repeat sessions. Request a brochure from Judy De Wit: educator.84@hotmail.com to learn more and RSVP by Wednesday, December 6.

Friday, December 8 & Saturday, December 9: Join us at 7:00pm in the Te Paske Theater for the Sioux Center Christian School's Junior High production of "A Winter's Gift" by Michelle R. Davis and David Ward. This medieval Christmas tale will tickle your funny bone as well as warm your heart. Join Brother Bernard and Brother Cecil as they travel through the woods near Canterbury. Along the way they encounter Vikings, help to rescue the missing princess, and learn "Tis better to give than to receive".

Friday, December 8: Dordt College will present its Choral Ensembles Christmas Concert at 7:30pm in the B.J. Haan Auditorium. This concert will feature Bella Voce, Kantorei, and Concert Choir. Highlights include the holiday classic "Winter Wonderland," two Alfred Burt carols, and "Carols and Lullabies: Christmas in the Southwest," an extended work for choir, harp, guitar, and marimba that is comprised of 11 Hispanic Christmas songs.

Saturday, December 9: The Northwest Iowa Symphony Youth Orchestra, led by conductor Dr. Christopher Stanichar, will present its Fall Concert at 3:00pm in the B.J. Haan Auditorium at Dordt College. Consisting of talented middle school and high school string players, NISYO will perform works by Mozart, Grieg, and Gibbs, as well as string arrangements of Coldplay and Mannheim Steamroller. The concert is free and open to the public.

Saturday, December 9: Join us for the annual Reach Out event sponsored by Unity Christian/MOC/Floyd Valley! Unity is hosting the event this year. Basketball games between MOC-FV and Unity begin at 12:00 (girls & boys JV games, girls & boys varsity games). A silent auction will run from 1:00 through half time of the boys' varsity game. Pre-orders of Reach Out t-shirts are closed, but extras will be available on a first come, first serve basis. All proceeds from this community event will benefit local families with high medical costs.

Sunday, December 10: The bi-annual Chorale Service of Lessons and Carols will take place at 8:00pm in the B.J. Haan Auditorium. This worship service will commemorate the Christmas story through a series of Scripture readings, carols sung by the Chorale, and hymns for congregation and choir.

Advance Announcements

Monday, December 11: The Western Music Department will present a Christmas Concert at 7:00pm at the B.J. Haan Auditorium. The concert will include the choirs, bands, and orchestra. We will have a bake sale at the concert to help support the music department.

Thursday, December 14: Unity Christian's FFA chapter will sponsor a soup supper with serving from 4:30-6:30pm (before the Christmas concert) in the Unity cafeteria. Free-will donation for FFA.

Thursday, December 14: Everyone is invited to a Free "Community Unity Meal" at New Life Reformed Church from 6-7:00pm. Meal host: Pella Corporation.

Thursday, December 14: Unity Christian High School's annual Christmas concert will be presented at 7:00pm at the Unity Christian Knight Center. All the school's music ensembles will participate. A free-will offering will be received for the Music Department. Come and celebrate the birth of the King!

Friday, December 15: Dordt College invites the community to attend the Instrumental Ensembles Concert at 7:30pm in the B.J. Haan Auditorium. The Campus-Community Band, Chamber Orchestra, Jazz Band, and Concert Band will perform a variety of seasonal works along with traditional repertoire.

Wednesday, February 21: All ages are invited to hear Ben Glenn, The Chalk Guy, at 7:30pm at Western Christian High School. Ben Glenn has been a full-time speaker since 1995, sharing with church groups, students and teachers all over the world. His story of growing up with Learning Disabilities and ADHD, as well as his amazing live art demonstration that he performs as part of his presentation, combine into a powerful as well as entertaining program. He is the author of "Simply Special: Learning to Love Your ADHD" and the founder of the Chalkguy LEGO drive. Tickets will be \$5 per person and will go on sale December 1 at the Hull Chamber Office, American State Bank & Iowa State Bank in Hull. For more information or to RSVP your Youth Group, please contact the Chamber Office at 712-439-1513 or hullchamber@cityofhull.org.

Requested Announcements

Get ready for a new season of music making with the Sioux County Oratorio Chorus! We will be performing one of Joseph Haydn's most popular works--the *Mass in the Time of War*, or "*Paukenmesse*"--as well as two shorter choral works by Rachmaninoff. Rehearsals are Tuesday evenings 7:30-9:15 beginning January 16 and will be held at Northwestern College's DeWitt Music Hall. The performance will be Saturday, April 28. Email any questions to Mike Ochsner at mkchsnr@gmail.com. Save the date! We'd love to sing with you!

ATLAS of Sioux Center is accepting donations through December 6 for their "Christmas store" - any new items for newborn to adult are accepted. This is a great opportunity to bless families in need while giving them dignity in paying a very low, affordable price for gifts they normally could not afford for their family. Please drop off items at ATLAS of Sioux Center, 315 1st Ave NE. Items include but are not limited to: legos, slipper boots, soccer balls, footballs, volleyballs, basketballs, outdoor scooters, portable speakers/chargers for phone/iPod, big soft blankets, women's robes, socks, dolls for girls, nerf guns for boys, hygiene sets (shampoo, body wash), flashlights, gift cards (iTunes, restaurants, movie tickets). Thanks for making this possible!

PARAPROFESSIONAL OPENINGS: Due to some recent shifting in positions on our staff, we are looking to hire 2 paraprofessionals at Sioux Center Christian School. These individuals should be comfortable working with students in one-on-one and group settings in grades 4-8. One position will be for approximately 4 hours per day, and the other position will be for approximately 6-7 hours per day. Interested applicants should complete the Staff Application (available on the school website) and submit all materials to Josh Bowar, head of school, at jbowar@siouxcenterchristian.com. A review of the applications will begin immediately and continue until the positions are filled.

God's Creation 2018 Wall Calendars for Sale! Splendid professional photos, wire spiral binding and Scripture verses make these wall calendars useful and beautiful! The calendars are available for purchase for \$10 each. Ask your family and friends if they would like to purchase one or more as well. They also make great gifts! Proceeds will go towards the Faith Christian Reformed Church Christian Education Fund. If you are interested in purchasing a calendar or calendars, please contact Kristin De Jong (712-441-2520) or Brent Kooiman (712-441-3701).

JUSTICE FOR ALL is seeking volunteers for our 'sharing & caring' ministry. Job description: checking small appliances/electronics, doing minor repairs on items, recycling unusable and broken items, sorting clothing/misc. items. Hours: what works for you - our hours are 8-4:30 M-F. Wages: priceless! Benefits: the blessing of knowing you have served those who God cares about so deeply by helping to provide quality goods to partner ministries both far and near! Bonus: Great fellowship with other volunteers. Call Corwin or Joe - 712-476-2804 or stop by!

JUSTICE FOR ALL is planning the 2018 *Service and Learning* Opportunities and would love to have you join one of the teams! These weeks are wonderful opportunities to serve others but also to experience and understand God's Kingdom in new and important ways! Dates and places are: Harvest Hands Ministries, Juarez, MX - January 19-26 (must have passport and be signed up by Dec 15); JVMP Foundation, Jackson MS - February 10-16; Voice of Calvary Ministries, Jackson, MS - February 17-23; Houston Flood Relief - February 24-March 3; Grace Reigns, Colorado City UT - March 11-17. For more information, please call JFA 712-476-2804 or email joevz@ifa-nwiowa.org. There will be an informational meeting on Tuesday, January 2, 2018, 6:30pm, JFA Ministry Center.