

SUNDAY, December 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

This morning we welcome our former pastor, Pastor Herm Van Niejenhuis, to the pulpit. We also have the privilege of witnessing the profession of faith of Joya Breems, daughter of Nick & Jenni (and great-niece of Pastor Herm) as well as celebrating communion together. This evening, the Sunday School children will lead us in worship by presenting their Christmas Program.

Advent

"The season of Advent, a season of waiting, is designed to cultivate our awareness of God's actions – past, present, and future. In Advent, we hear the prophecies of the Messiah's coming as addressed to us – people who wait for the second coming" (*The Worship Sourcebook*). This year, as we wait as a church body at Covenant, we'll pray in hope for restoration using words from the Psalms (80, 85, 126, & 89), acknowledging that God has restored us, is even now restoring us, and will one day make all things new.

Offerings for December

	AM	PM
17	Missions Fund	Dordt College
24	Tuition Assistance Fund	
25	General Fund: Outreach Commitments	
31	General Fund: Ministry Shares	Tuition Assistance Fund

Last week's offering Cadets \$259.50

OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Happy Birthday this Week

Kara Themistol, Mike Vanden Bosch, Megan Ribbens, Kathy DeWit

Happy Anniversary this Week

Matt & Becky Drissell

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please be in prayer for God's blessing on the Free Grace Reformed congregation.

Sunday School Christmas Program

The Sunday School Christmas Program is this evening, **December 10**, at 6:00 PM. Parents: the kids will be practicing this afternoon from 3:30-5:00 PM. Thanks for your help in preparing them to share the joy of Christmas with the rest of the congregation.

Joys & Concerns

Because we have both a profession of faith and communion this morning and the Christmas Program in the evening service, we won't have an opportunity to share our joys and concerns during worship today. If you have prayer requests to share with the congregation, please email them to the office (covenant@mtcnet.net) by 12:00 PM on Monday and we will send them out by email.

Lasagna Dinner & Congregational Meeting

We will gather for our annual Congregational Meeting on Monday, **December 11**, at 7:00 PM. A copy of the budget was in your mailbox last week and the agenda is in your box today. Plan to come early and eat dinner here before the meeting! The Youth Group will be serving lasagna at 6:00 PM to raise money for their summer service trip.

GEMS Christmas Party

The GEMS will have their Christmas skating party on Wednesday, **December 13** from 6:30-8:30 PM. Please drop off and pick up your daughter(s) from the All Seasons Center.

Church Education Schedule

There will be no Sunday School, Catechism, or Covenant Sunday Morning (adult Sunday School) on **December 17, 24, & 31**. We will resume classes on Sunday, **January 7**.

Service of Lessons and Carols

We look forward to a service of Lessons and Carols on Sunday evening, **December 17**, at 6:00 PM. We hope you will plan to come for this service of candle lighting, scripture, and song. The choir will rehearse a few pieces for the service on Monday, **December 11**, at 8:15 PM (after the congregational meeting) and again next Sunday afternoon. We welcome all interested singers 7th grade and up to join. Contact Rebecca DeVries with questions (worship@covenantcrc.net).

Dordt Music Events

- The bi-annual Chorale Service of Lessons and Carols will take place on Sunday, **December 10**, at 8:00 PM 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.
- Dordt College invites the community to attend the Instrumental Ensembles Concert, Friday, **December 15** at 7:30 PM 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.

Community Unity Meal

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

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

	TODAY	NEXT SUNDAY, December 17
Greeters	AM: Mimi K, Joan MC, Dani W ♦ PM: Rebecca DS, Jake VW, Laurey Z	
Ushers	AM: Ruth Clo, Barb H, Dennis VP ♦ PM: Jo F, Adam F	
Coffee	Duane B, Marge DB, Cal J, Beth VB, Rog VH, Eldon W	
Subs	Jenni B, Luke H, Gidge M, Len R, John V, Sharon V	
Sound/Projection	Andy/Levi L ♦ Dave/Austen G	Marv W ♦ Dane H
Nursery	AM INF: Luanne G, Joe E	AM INF: Luke & Sarah H, Ruth C
Dec. POM: McCarthys	TODDLER: Dave G, Erin E	TODDLER: Mark & Sara H, Tom C
	PM: John & Linda V, Chris & Rin G	PM: Daryl & Deb H, Duane & Jan B

GREETERS, PLEASE EMAIL:

Troy & Faith Bierma
tbierma@gmail.com

Kelly & April Crull
crulls@caimail.net

Dan & Jeananne Kuiper
djkuiip@aol.com

Sos & Kara Maletoungou
smaletoungou@crcna.org

Mike & Megan Ribbens
mribbens@gmail.com

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Today	8:45 AM	Sunday School Christmas Program Practice (grades 1-8)
	9:00 AM	Sunday School & Catechism (grades 9-12)
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship
	3:30 PM	Sunday School Christmas Program Practice
	6:00 PM	Evening Worship: Sunday School Christmas Program
Monday	9:00 AM	Women's Community Bible Study
	6:00 PM	Youth Group Lasagna Dinner
	7:00 PM	Congregational Meeting
	8:15 PM	Choir Practice
	8:15 PM	Executive Council Meeting
Tuesday	7:00 PM	Deacons Meeting
Wednesday	9:30 AM	Coffee Break Christmas Social
	6:30 PM	GEMS Christmas Party (at the All Seasons Center)
	7:15 PM	Cadets
Sunday, 17th	10:00 AM	Morning Worship
	3:45 PM	Choir Practice
	6:00 PM	Evening Worship: Service of Lessons and Carols
	7:30 PM	Sunday Evening Bible Study Group