

SUNDAY, December 31, 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

Today we welcome Rev. Jerry Buwalda to the pulpit for both the morning and evening services. This morning we also have the joy of celebrating God's covenant promises through the baptism of Rue Collins Mellema, daughter of Lee and Jenni, and baby sister to Auden and Alyda.

Offerings for January

	AM	PM
7	General Fund/Building Fund	Resonate Global Mission
14	Christian Education Fund, Compassion Fund	Justice For All
21	Missions Fund	Bethany Christian Services
28	Tuition Assistance Fund	Cadets

Last week's offering

General Fund: Outreach Commitments	\$2959.20
Tuition Assistance Fund	\$803.00

OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Happy Birthday this Week

Jenna Holst, Jenni Mellema, Dallas Apol, Jo Alberda, Paola Gracia

Happy Anniversary this Week

Josue & Ana Feliciano, Andy & Rachel Landman, Mark & Sara Hulstein

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please be in prayer for God's blessing on the Lebanon CRC congregation and the ministry of Pastor Cory Van Sloten.

January Series Starting on Wednesday

Covenant will once again be hosting the Calvin College January Series beginning on Wednesday, **January 3, 2018** and continuing weekdays through **January 23**. Each lecture will be shown through live feed from Calvin College from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM and will cover topics ranging from millennials and faith, restorative justice, confident pluralism, radical generosity, and so much more by top experts in their fields. For information on the speakers and topics, visit the January Series website at www.calvin.edu/january.

Church Education Schedule

Sunday School, Catechism, and Covenant Sunday Morning (adult Sunday School) will resume on Sunday, **January 7** at 9:00 AM.

Covenant Sunday Morning Next Week

The sense that scriptural revelation should be available to everyone pervades Reformation thought. No one did more to place scripture written in the English language into the hands of the English people than William Tyndale, though he probably realized he would eventually lose his life because of his translation. Bob DeSmith will lead a two week study on "Tyndale's Bible and Shakespeare the Christian" beginning on Sunday, **January 7** at 9:00 AM.

Save the Date!

Check your January Courier for information about the Chili and Cinnamon Roll Cook-Off coming up on Friday, **January 26** and start perfecting your recipes!

Request from Levi Landman:

Hello, Covenant Members: the eighth graders at SCCS are raising awareness about the lack of clean water in Sudan. In class, we read a book titled "A Long Walk to Water" about the struggle for some African communities to find clean water. As a class, we have decided to raise money for an organization called Water for South Sudan. Here is a link to their website: <http://www.waterforsouthsudan.org/>. This organization uses all of the donations that it gets to drill wells and supplies many people with the gift of clean water. If we raise enough money through donations, we can build a well, and bless many people. For the next few weeks, there will be a basket on the welcome table for donations. If you leave a check, it should be written to Sioux Center Christian School, with "Water for South Sudan" in the memo line. Thank you for supporting this worthy cause.

Sunshine and Safari in South Africa

Safari means journey. Would you be willing to join a prayer journey in South Africa? We need 10 more North Americans to join a group of 20 Africans who are praying on-site with insight from Johannesburg to Cape Town, South Africa. The total cost is \$1630 plus airfare. You would depart for South Africa on **January 31** and arrive home on **February 12**. The registration deadline is **December 31**. We welcome high schoolers on up. Let Mike and Megan Ribbens know if you are interested (mribbens@crcna.org). For more details, check out this link:

<https://www.resonateglobalmission.org/opportunity/global-prayer-safari-january-31-february-12-2018>

Sioux County Oratorio

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 PM 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 (mkchsnr@gmail.com). Save the date! We'd love to sing with you!

From Community Health Partners:

Cases of influenza are beginning to occur in Sioux County. Because of increased travel during the holidays and out-of-town guests, we ask that you consider curtailing hand-shaking (greeters, sharing of the peace, etc.) out of concern for those individuals in your congregation who may be vulnerable to the complications of colds and flu, including the elderly, the very young, or those with underlying medical conditions. Thank you!

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

	TODAY	NEXT SUNDAY, January 7
Greeters	AM: Mimi K, Joan MC, Dani W PM: Rebecca DS, Jake VW, Laurey Z	AM: Sara H, Merrill MC, Rockne MC PM: Howie H, Daryl H, Kris VP
Ushers	AM: Ruth Clo, Barb H, Dennis VP ♦ PM: Jo F, Adam F	AM: Sharon D, Mark H, Jeff T ♦ PM: Rachel L, Stan VB
Coffee	Duane B, Marge DB, Cal J, Beth VB, Rog VH, Eldon W	Bob DS, Laremy DV, Dave G, Sally J, Linda V, Marcia W
Subs	Jenni B, Luke H, Gidge M, Len R, John V, Sharon V	Doug DB, Pam DJ, Robin F, Rob H, Vicki H, Sarah H
Sound/Projection	Jeff P ♦ Kyle VP	Doug DB ♦ Micah G
Nursery Dec. POM: McCarthys Jan. POM: Haans	AM INF: Mark & Merrill MC, Emily K TODDLER: Ethan & Donna B, Dave K PM: Kathy DW, Barb T	AM INF: Jason & Dani W, Pat C TODDLER: Jeff & Sara P, Steve C PM: Dave & Jeri S, Jo F

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

Today	10:00 AM 6:00 PM	Morning Worship Evening Worship
Wednesday	6:30 AM 11:30 AM	Men's Bakery Study Group The January Series: Mary Hulst
Thursday	11:30 AM	The January Series: David R. Williams
Friday	11:30 AM	The January Series: Randy Lewis
Sunday, 7th	9:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM 6:00 PM 7:30 PM	Covenant Sunday Morning Sunday School & Catechism (grades 1-12) Morning Worship Evening Worship Sunday Evening Bible Study Group