

SUNDAY, December 2, 2018

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

We are so excited to have Pastor Joel leading us in worship for the first time today as our pastor! Today marks the beginning of Advent, a time of waiting and preparation for the birth of Christ. During this season, Pastor Joel will be preaching on the Gospel readings from the lectionary, which are from the book of Luke this year. Although we will not meet for worship this evening, the council encourages people to gather for small groups, Bible study, family time, enjoying nature, or other forms of rest and renewal.

Offerings for December

	AM	PM
2	General/Building Fund, World Renew: Embrace AIDS	
9	Christian Education Fund, Compassion Fund	Bethesda Christian Counseling
16	Missions Fund	Bible League International
23	Tuition Assistance Fund, Hope Food Pantry	
25	World Renew: Food Resource Bank	
30	General Fund	

Last week's offering

Tuition Assistance Fund	\$451.97
Compassion Fund	\$415.00
Thanksgiving Offering	\$21,479.00



Happy Birthday this Week

Logan Hulstein, Bernie DeWit, Canaan Hawley, Nico Ribbens, Elia Eppinga, Jason Wyenberg

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Membership transfer

Nate, Shawna, Kaase, Thijs, and Talja Van Niejenhuis have transferred their membership to Covenant from Hope CRC in Hull. We welcome them and are excited to have them back in the Covenant family!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please be in prayer for God's blessing on the Carmel Reformed congregation and the ministry of Pastor Mike Pitsenberger.

Join the Choir!

The choir will be preparing a few pieces to help to lead the Candlelight service on Sunday, **December 9** at 6:00 PM. Rehearsals will be held Monday, **December 3 & 10** (7:30-8:45 PM) and Sunday, **December 16** (4:45 PM). All singers high school age and up are welcome!

Sunday School Children 1st grade through 8th:

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Sunday School Program rehearsals: Sunday, **December 9** at 8:45 AM and 4:00 PM. The program is next Sunday, **December 9** at 6:00 PM. Look for more information to be emailed home this week. Talk to your child's Sunday School teacher if you have any questions.

1st Grade through 8th Grade Musicians:

If you would like to play your instruments during the Christmas program, please contact Rebecca De Vries.

Mid-Sioux Gift Baskets

Covenant is once again participating in the Mid-Sioux Holiday Families Program providing Christmas gift baskets to those in need. Please put your contribution in your pastoral group deacon's mailbox as soon as possible.

Save the Date!

Join us for a swimming and pizza fellowship event on Saturday, **December 15!** See the December Courier for more details.

Children at the Table

Any parents of young children interested in joining a three week Covenant Sunday Morning study called "A Place at the Table," contact Dave Schelhaas (722-3970). This session will be led by Pastor Joel using CRC Faith Alive materials created by Thea Leunk. These materials answer questions/give reasons why our children should be encouraged to participate. All members are welcome to this study, but we especially encourage parents of young children.

Reminder from the Deacons

The deacons would like to remind you to please designate either on the envelope or on your check the causes that you would like your offering to go toward. If you do not designate any particular cause(s), or if you make a note to "use as needed", we will often divide it between the General Fund and the Christian Education Fund.

Thanksgiving Offering

Thank you for your generous giving at Thanksgiving! The total for the Thanksgiving offering was \$21,479.00. Many organizations will benefit from your giving spirit and generosity.

NAMI

The NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Support Group will meet in the Fireside Room of Central Reformed Church in Sioux Center from 7:00 to 9:00 PM on Tuesday, **December 4.** Individuals and family members coping with mental illness are welcome. For information call Shirley Matheis (722-4462).

Dordt Instrumental Ensembles Concert

The Dordt College Campus-Community Band, Chamber Orchestra, and Concert Band will present a concert on Friday, **December 7,** at 7:30 PM in the B.J. Haan Auditorium in Sioux Center. This concert of praise and celebration will feature a variety of musical selections, including *Of Sailors and Whales: Five Scenes from Melville*, a piece for wind band based on *Moby Dick* that will feature Dordt English Professor Mary Dengler as narrator.

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

	TODAY	NEXT SUNDAY, December 9
Greeters	AM: Isabel C, Paul C, Dave V → PM: Wil A, Mark H, John K	
Ushers	AM: George F, Shirley T, Eldon W → PM: Joan MC, Jake VW	
Coffee	Marge DB, Ana F, Rin G, Cal J, Linda VH, Sharon V	
Subs	Jenni B, Mark C, Rock MC, Les S, John V, Kurt V	
Sound/Projection	Eric R → John K	Andy L → Goslingas
Nursery Dec. POM: Merrill MC	AM INF: Alejandro C, Rin G TODDLER: Isabel C, Chris G	AM INF: John V, Lisa F TODDLER: Linda V, Ross F PM: Jake & Trena VW, Lee R

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	8:45 AM	Sunday School Christmas Program Practice
	9:00 AM	Covenant Sunday Morning (chapter 11)
	9:00 AM	Catechism (grades 9-10)
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship
	5:00 PM	Sunday Evening Bible Study
Monday	7:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday	9:30 AM	Coffee Break Social
Sunday, 9th	8:45 AM	Sunday School Christmas Program Practice
	9:00 AM	Covenant Sunday Morning (chapter 11)
	9:00 AM	Catechism (grades 9-10)
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship
	4:00 PM	Sunday School Christmas Program Practice
	6:00 PM	Sunday School Christmas Program