

SUNDAY, December 23, 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

Today is the fourth Sunday of Advent, a season 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.

Christmas with the Ribbens

You are invited back to church tonight for an evening of Christmas carol singing, fellowship, and conversation with Mike Ribbens on Sunday, **December 23** at 6:00 PM. Mike and Megan Ribbens are missionaries in South Africa with Resonate Global Mission, and Mike, Amira, and Nico are home for the holidays. If you are able, please bring some Christmas goodies to share!

Christmas Day Worship Service

Join us on Christmas morning for a service of worship. We will gather to bring praises to the newborn King at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, **December 25**. This year we will celebrate communion as part of the service, and, as usual, will end the service with singing the "Hallelujah Chorus." All are welcome to participate!

New Year's Eve Service

We will gather on Monday, **December 31** at 6:00 PM to close the year in worship.

Offerings for December

	AM	PM
23	Tuition Assistance Fund, Hope Food Pantry	
25	World Renew: Food Resource Bank	
30	General Fund	
Last week's offering	Missions Fund	\$963.00
	Bible League International	\$32.00

OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Happy Birthday this Week

Ben Lappenga, Betty Vander Plaats, Dennis Vander Plaats, Emily Kramer, Reya Themistol

Happy Anniversary this Week

Ryan & Val Zonnefeld, George & Jo Faber, Dave & Jeri Schelhaas, Jeff & Shirley Taylor

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please be in prayer for God's blessing on the Christ the King Catholic congregation and the ministry of Father Douglas Klein.

Church Education Schedule

Sunday School, Catechism, and Covenant Sunday Morning are not scheduled to meet on **December 23 & 30**. Classes will resume for all on **January 6** at 9:00 AM.

Chili and Cinnamon Roll Cook-Off

Plan to bring the family for dinner at Covenant on Friday, **January 25** at 5:30 PM. Sign up at the back table to bring a pot of chili or pan of cinnamon rolls to share and enter. (Covenant will provide the chili toppings.) We will eat potluck style and then vote on our favorites. The winners will receive a really commemorative prize. If you want to participate like a pro, bring a muffin tin so you can try multiple chilis at once!

Save the Date(s)!

Warm Winter Wednesdays will be on **February 6 and 20** at 5:15 PM. Plan to have dinner and fun with your Covenant family.

Children and the Lord's Supper

Pastor Joel plans to hold some teaching and dialogue sessions regarding children at the Lord's Supper. We will design these gatherings primarily for the parents of younger children, though everyone is invited. We will begin early in 2019, meeting probably sometime on Sundays. If you would like to participate, please let Pastor Joel know (Joelekok@gmail.com or 441-9993).

Cornerstone Prison Church Faith Fellowship Weekend

Join us for the Cornerstone Prison Church Faith Fellowship Weekend on Friday, **January 25** (6:00-8:00 PM) and **January 26 & 27** (7:15 AM to 4:00 PM). The theme for the weekend is "Year of Reconciliation" based on 2 Chronicles 7:14: "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land." Join us for worship, large group talks, and small group discussions. The deadline for signing up is Monday, **January 7**. We would be happy to have you join us for part of the weekend or all of it. If you would like more information or to sign up, please contact us (office@cornerstonepcsd.org or call 507-215-3670). Thank you for considering this wonderful ministry opportunity!

NAMI

The NAMI Iowa Family-to-Family Education Program for family members of persons with mental illness will be offered at Central Reformed Church from 7:00-9:30 PM on Thursday evenings for 11 weeks beginning **January 10, 2019**. The course is FREE and will be 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). Please register today.

Sioux County Oratorio Chorus

Bring a friend! All are invited to sing with the Sioux County Oratorio Chorus as we return to perennial favorite, Handel's Messiah, for our upcoming season! Weekly rehearsals begin Tuesday, **January 15**, 7:30-9:30 PM in Dordt College's choral rehearsal room, and the performance with orchestra, Dordt and NWC choirs, and professional soloists will be in BJ Haan Auditorium on Saturday, **April 27**. For more information, find us on Facebook or email Mike Ochsner (mkchsnr@gmail.com).

JFA Service and Learning Opportunities

Justice For All is planning the 2019 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 18-26** (must have passport); JVM Perkins Foundation, Jackson MS – **February 9-16**; Voice of Calvary Ministries, Jackson, MS - **February 17-23**; Grace Reigns, Colorado City UT – **March 16-23**. For more information please contact Luke Grooters at JFA (712-476-2804 or lukeg@jfa-nwiowa.org). You can also check out the JFA website (www.jfa-nwiowa.org).

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

	TODAY	CHRISTMAS – December 25	NEXT SUNDAY, December 30
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	Jeff P ♦ Dane H	Jeff P ♦ John K	Kayt F ♦ Marty VP
Nursery Dec. POM: Merrill MC	AM INF: Eldon W, Jan V TODDLER: Marcia W, Dave V	AM: Ryan & Val Z, Daryl & Deb H	AM INF: Duane B, Erin E TODDLER: Jan B, Joe E

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 Christmas with the Ribbens
Tuesday	10:00 AM	Christmas Morning Worship with Communion
Saturday	8:45 AM	Cadet Snow Derby (meet at Faith CRC)
Sunday, 30th	10:00 AM	Morning Worship