

## SUNDAY, December 15, 2019

**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 in the season of Advent, a season of waiting and hoping for the coming Emmanuel. Pastor Joel will be using the Isaiah lectionary passages throughout this season and we will gather at the Lord's Table each Sunday.

### Faith Formation Sunday Evening

This evening at 5:00 PM, the Sunday School kids will present their Christmas program!

### Offerings for December

1	General Fund	15	General Fund	25	World Renew
8	Christian Education Fund	22	Compassion/Tuition Assistance Fund	29	Building Fund

**Last week's offering** Christian Education Fund \$7,185.25

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY



### Happy Birthday this Week

*Kathy DeWit, Nico DeVries, Lily Wyenberg, John Kok, Ruth Clark*

### Happy Anniversary this Week

*Matt & Becky Drissell, Kelly & April Crull, Pastor Gianni & Georgina Gracia*

### Membership Transfers

Curtis, Sheryl, and Ian Taylor have transferred their membership to Covenant City Church in Jakarta, Indonesia. Ben and Pat Kornelis have transferred their membership to Easter Lutheran Church in Eagan, Minnesota.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please be in prayer for God's blessing on the New Life Reformed congregation and the ministry of Pastor Bobby Van Otterloo.

### Parents of Children in Young Children in Worship:

Your children get to wear costumes for the Christmas program this evening. Please come with your child to the children in worship room tonight at 4:45 PM to help your child get their costume on. Children will then sit with their parents until Mrs. DeSmith calls them forward to sing. They do not need to attend this afternoon's rehearsal.

### Sunday School Program Practice:

The Sunday School students in grades 1-8 will rehearse for the Christmas program this afternoon at 3:30 PM. Students, please come dressed for the program (in solid-colored clothing). Unlike in years past, the students will not need to be picked up in between the rehearsal and the program. Thank you for all your work to prepare!

### Egg Roll Orders

Don't forget to pick up your egg roll orders on Saturday, **December 21** at 10:00 AM!

### Blue Christmas Service

On Sunday, **December 22** at 5:00 PM, we invite you to gather for a "Blue Christmas Service." This service will give us time and space to together acknowledge the sadness that we may feel during the Christmas season. When the days are short and the nights are long, memories of past experiences and the pain of present reality can become overwhelming for some. Through song, prayer, scripture, and meditation, we will bring our sadness and lament before God who comforts his people.

## Covenant Sunday Morning

You are invited to a new Covenant Sunday Morning study beginning on **January 5**. We will be using N.T. Wright's book, *Acts for Everyone*, which focuses on the first 12 chapters of Acts. Wright's knowledge and insights help us to understand the book of Acts in a deeper and richer way, reminding us of the presence and power of the Holy Spirit and the part we play in advancing the Kingdom of God. If you would like Sara to order a book for you, please contact the church office by Monday morning, **December 23**.

## Safe Church Volunteers

Please consider becoming a Safe Church volunteer during our Sunday morning worship services. Volunteers will be responsible for locking and unlocking doors, monitoring our main entrance, and welcoming latecomers to our worship service. Volunteers will be put on a rotating schedule and will be trained for their responsibilities. If you have questions or are interested in volunteering, please contact Rebecca De Smith or your pastoral elder.

## Cornerstone Prison Church Faith Fellowship Weekend

Join us on Friday, **January 17** (6:00-8:00 PM) & **January 18-19** (7:15 AM – 4:00 PM). The theme for the weekend is "Year of Grace" based on Titus 3:3-8. Join us for worship, large group talks and small group discussions. The deadline for signing up is Monday, **December 30**. Join us for part of the weekend or all of it. If you want more information or to sign up, please contact us (office@cornerstonepcsd.org or 507-215-3670). Thank you for considering this wonderful ministry opportunity!

## Justice For All Opportunities

- Justice For All is planning the 2020 Service and Learning Opportunities and would love to have you join a team! These weeks are wonderful opportunities to serve others and to experience and understand God's Kingdom in new and important ways! You will build relationships with people from a community which is very different than our own, through serving, learning, and studying God's Word together. Dates and places: Harvest Hands Ministries, Juarez, MX (January 17-24); JVMPerkins Foundation, Jackson, MS (February 8-14); Voice of Calvary Ministries, Jackson, MS (February 15-21); Grace Reigns, Colorado City, UT (March 14-20). For more information or to sign up for a project, please contact Nick Leloux at JFA (712-476-2804 or nickl@jfa-nwiowa.org). An informational meeting will be held at the JFA Ministry Center, Tuesday, **January 7, 2020** at 7:00 PM.
- Justice For All invites you to another Discovery Bus Tour! This tour will focus on our ministry partners in Utah, Great Commission Utah and Grace Reigns. Come see and experience how God is shining his love and light through these ministries to the FDLS communities. The dates for this trip are **April 21-28, 2020**. If you are interested or want information, contact Joel De Wit (712-476-2804 or joeldw@jfa-nwiowa.org). Seats are filling up, so respond soon.

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

	TODAY	NEXT SUNDAY, December 22
Greeters	AM: George F, Cal J, Jeff T	
Ushers	AM: Wil A, Mark C, Kurt V	
Coffee	Alejandro C, Chris G, Sarah H, Joan MC, Dennis VP, John V	
Subs	Jo A, Rob H, Andy L, Rockne MC, Marcia W, John Z	
Sound/Projection	Doug DB ♦ Dave G	Eric R ♦ Dane H
Nursery Dec. POM: Wyenbergs	AM: Ryan & Angela H, Kathy DW PM: Chris & Rin G, Lee R	AM: Nick & Jenni B, Laremy & Rebecca DV PM: Andy & Rachel L, Tricia K

## GREETERS, PLEASE EMAIL:

Kelly & April Crull    Ariel & Carlye Gomes    Dan & Jeananne Kuiper    Sos & Kara Maletoungou    Mike & Megan Ribbens    Ben & Tricia Groenewold  
crulls@caimail.net    carlyerenee@gmail.com    djkuip@aol.com    smaletoungou@crcna.org    mribbens@gmail.com    Van Dyk  
tandyk@crnapartners.org

## THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

<b>Today</b>	8:45 AM	Choir Practice
	9:00 AM	Sunday School Christmas Program Practice (grades 1-8)
	9:00 AM	Catechism (grades 9-12)
	9:00 AM	Covenant Sunday Morning (adults)
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship
	3:30 PM	Sunday School Christmas Program Practice (grades 1-8)
	5:00 PM	Sunday School Christmas Program
<b>Monday</b>	7:00 PM	Executive Council Meeting
<b>Wednesday</b>	6:30 AM	Men's Bakery Study Group (at Casey's Bakery)
	7:00 PM	GEMS Christmas Party (at the All Seasons Center)
	7:15 PM	Cadets (at Faith CRC)
<b>Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	10:00 AM	Morning Worship
	5:00 PM	Formation Sunday Evening: Blue Christmas Service