

## SUNDAY, December 29, 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

The birth of Christ is not simply a one-day celebration in the life of the church! Today, we continue that celebration as we journey through the season of Christmas. This morning, Dr. David Westfall will bring us a message from the gospel lectionary text for today. Thank you, David for opening the word for us today!

### Faith Formation Sunday Evening

We will not gather on Sunday, **December 29** or **January 5**. Our formation gatherings will pick up again on **January 12**.

### New Year's Eve Worship

We will gather in worship to end the year and look forward to the new year ahead on Tuesday, **December 31** at 5:00 PM.

### Offerings for December

29 Building Fund

### Offerings for January

|    |                          |    |  |
|----|--------------------------|----|--|
| 5  | General Fund             | 19 | General Fund                           |
| 12 | Christian Education Fund | 26 | AM: World Renew, PM: Cadets (national) |

### Last week's offering

Compassion/Tuition Assistance Fund \$647.25

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY



### Happy Birthday this Week

*Emily Kramer, Natalee Drissell, Jenni Mellema, Dallas Apol, Jo Alberda, Paola Gracia*

### Happy Anniversary this Week

*Jeff & Shirley Taylor, Josue & Ana Feliciano*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please be in prayer for God's blessing on the United Reformed congregation and the ministry of Pastor Jon Bushnell.

### Early Bulletin Deadline This Week

Sara will be out of the office much of this week spending time with family. Lisa Christians will be filling in, but office hours will be limited. To allow Lisa some flexibility in getting the bulletin done, please send all announcements to the church office by Wednesday, **January 1** this week.

### 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 ordered a book, they've arrived! Check in with Sara after church or on Monday.

### January Series

Coming this January, Calvin University presents the 2020 January Series – the award winning series of 15 weekly, lunchtime lectures. This year the series runs weekdays from **January 8-28**, and will be livestreamed here at Covenant from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Topics include poverty and hunger, immigration, mass incarceration, religious freedom, the ethics of big data and so much more, by top experts in their fields. We invite you to come and invite friends to these events! For more information about the speakers, topics, remote sites, and listening options, visit [www.calvin.edu/january](http://www.calvin.edu/january).

### Service, Participation, and Skills Questionnaire

The deacons have put together a Service, Participation, and Skills Questionnaire. Those of you who didn't fill one out at the lasagna supper will find one in your mailbox. There are extras on the back table in case you were missed or if you want to make changes to your questionnaire. Please fill it out and place it in the box on the table. We will use the information as a resource when opportunities and needs arise. If you have a child interested in any of the items listed, he/she can respond on a parent's questionnaire.

### 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.

### Valley Male Chorus

Men who love to sing and have a passion for the work of Hope Haven, please consider joining the Valley Male Chorus. Rehearsals will begin **January 5**, at 2:00 PM at the First CRC in Sioux Center. For more information, contact Ron Boote (712-441-5225 or rjboote@premieronline.net).

### 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 to 9 PM on Tuesday, **January 7**. Jeanne Kleinhesselink and Hannah Buteyn of Sioux Center Health will discuss EMDR and Medication Management. Individuals and family members living with mental illness are welcome. For information, call Shirley Matheis (722-4462).

### Community Prayer Meeting

You are invited to a monthly community prayer meeting with a global focus on Wednesday, **January 8**, from 7:30-8:30 PM at Trinity CRC in Rock Valley (2020 8th St SE). The global focus will be Central Asia. The local focus will be Love INC. Future gatherings will be on the 1st Wednesday of each month and will be hosted and led by members of various local churches. We now have a Facebook group for people to stay informed of prayer meeting locations. You can find it by searching "Sioux County community global prayer meetings". Join the group!

### Dordt Orchestra Concert

The Dordt University Chamber Orchestra from Sioux Center, Iowa, invites you to a concert at 7:30 PM on Friday, **January 10**, at the B.J. Haan Auditorium. This concert is part of a winter tour with performances scheduled in Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Iowa. Directed by Mrs. Susan De Jong, the Chamber Orchestra will perform a wide variety of repertoire from the Baroque era to the 21st century. Featuring four student soloists and guest directed by Dr. Onsbey Rose, program highlights include the music of J.S. Bach for flute and strings, several beloved hymn tunes, the sublime writing of Saint-Saëns for cello and harp, and the contemporary writing of James Stephenson that utilizes extended string techniques. The concert is free, with a freewill offering received to help defray tour expenses.

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

|  | TODAY   | NEXT SUNDAY, January 5                                |
|--|---|---|
| Greeters   | AM: George F, Cal J, Jeff T                               | AM: Donna B, Ron O, Les S                             |
| Ushers   | AM: Wil A, Mark C, Kurt V                                 | AM: Dave G, Erik H, Rachel L                          |
| Coffee   | Alejandro C, Chris G, Sarah H, Joan MC, Dennis VP, John V | Isabel C, Jill F, Luke H, Barb H, Shirley T, Marty VP |
| Subs   | Jo A, Rob H, Andy L, Rockne MC, Marcia W, John Z          | Ruth C, Mark H, Gidge M, Dave S, Sharon V, Eldon W    |
| Sound/Projection                                     | Andy L ♦ Michael VP                                       | Andy L ♦ ?  |
| Nursery<br>Dec. POM: Wyenbergs<br>Jan. POM: Mellemas | AM: Mark & Lisa C, Alejandro & Isabel C                   | AM: Duane & Jan B, Barb T                             |

### GREETERS, PLEASE EMAIL:

|   |   |  |  |  |   |
|---|---|--|--|--|---|
| Kelly & April Crull<br>crulls@caimail.net | Ariel & Carlye Gomes<br>carlyerenee@gmail.com | Dan & Jeananne Kuiper<br>djkuiip@aol.com | Sos & Kara Maletoungou<br>smaletoungou@crcna.org | Mike & Megan Ribbens<br>mribbens@gmail.com | Ben & Tricia Groenewold<br>Van Dyk<br>tvandyk@crcnapartners.org |
|---|---|--|--|--|---|

### THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

|                               |          |   |
|-------------------------------|----------|---|
| <b>Today</b>                  | 10:00 AM | Morning Worship                         |
| <b>Tuesday</b>                | 5:00 PM  | New Year's Eve Worship Service          |
| <b>Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup></b> | 9:00 AM  | Sunday School & Catechism (grades 1-12) |
|                               | 9:00 AM  | Covenant Sunday Morning (Acts 1)        |
|                               | 10:00 AM | Morning Worship                         |