

**SUNDAY, January 10, 2020**

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## **WORSHIP NOTES**

### **Worship Services Online**

Click [here](#) to find the livestream for our worship services on Facebook (or copy this link and paste it into your browser: <https://www.facebook.com/Covenant-CRC-520064914738965/>). Then click on the "Videos" section. It will say "live" next to it when we begin livestreaming and it will show up shortly before 10:00 AM. You can also watch a recorded version of the service after it is over (please note that there may be some dead space at the beginning of the video before worship begins).

### **Worship on Sunday Morning**

This Sunday, **January 10**, we gather in our building for worship with Pastoral Groups 2 (Ploegstra/Janssen), 3 (DeSmith/Feikema), and 5 (Schaap/Rowe) welcome in the sanctuary and the rest worshipping online via Facebook Live. For those worshipping in the building, we **highly encourage you to wear a mask, especially if you plan to sing**. Here is a link to the [mobile-friendly worship guide](#). Pastor Joel is back and will be preaching from the lectionary during this season of Epiphany. This Sunday is Baptism of the Lord Sunday, and, fittingly, we will also baptize Brooklynn Mae Rylaarsdam, daughter of James and Courtney, and little sister to Rose. We are grateful to welcome this new member through baptism. We also plan to celebrate the Lord's Supper, so if you're worshipping at home plan to have your elements ready!

### **Faith Formation Sunday Evening**

This Sunday evening, we will gather at 5:00 PM with Pastor Joel sharing some teaching on healing.

### **Welcoming Guests to Covenant**

While we are limiting in-building worship to three pastoral groups at this time, we wanted to remind you that you are still welcome to invite guests and those looking for a church home to visit Covenant on any Sunday.

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Praying for Our Local Congregations**

This week, please be in prayer for God's blessing on the First Reformed congregation and the ministry of Pastors Travis Else and Jamie Dykstra.

### **The January Series**

The January Series continues this week! We invite you to watch the lecture series either here at church (we highly encourage masks!) or from your own home. The lectures begin on Wednesday, **January 6** and will continue each weekday through **January 26** from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM. You can find more information about the speakers and how to watch at home at <https://calvin.edu/january-series/>.

### **Note from the Council:**

The Executive Council met last week and made some decisions about worship and education as we head into January. We will be continuing the 3 Pastoral Group rotation and will be pushing the start of church education into February. Please read the full note from Melissa Bailey for the more information in the [Courier](#) (on page 2). We'll be mixing up the pastoral group worship rotation again in January so you will have the opportunity to worship with a different set of Covenant members.

### **A Giving Opportunity:**

In response to our community's need, we are collecting items for Mid-Sioux and the Hope Food Pantry. During the month of **January**, we are encouraging Covenant's members to donate hot or cold cereal. You can bring it to church anytime during the month. Please place the items in the basket in the NE entry or in one of the baskets in church. Thank you for your generous giving!

### **Church Nursery**

Just a reminder that beginning this month, we will open the nursery for parents with small children to use during Sunday morning worship. We will not be staffing the nursery with volunteers but it will be open for families as needed.

### **Awareness Book Club**

The Awareness Book Club will meet again in January, and we will discuss *Jesus and John Wayne*, by Kristin Kobes Du Mez. The dialogue is open to all members and your friends. We had a good discussion of *Unsettling Truths* by Mark Charles at our last session, and we expect another good dialogue in January. Even when we disagree with the author or one another, we learn from each other. The tentative date for the next session is Tuesday, **January 19**. If you have any questions, please get in touch with either Pastor Joel or Eric Rowe.

## Welcome to the Neighborhood

What if this year could bring new opportunities to learn and practice new ways of "being church"? This January and February join World Renew for a series of discussions led by leaders and churches using asset based community development. Together we will explore ways churches can be better neighbors and move from doing things for community to working with community. The series runs Thursdays at 6:30 PM starting this Thursday, **January 7** and ending **February 18**. These webinars will be recorded, so please register even if you have a scheduling conflict so that you can be sure to receive a link to the recording. You can find more information about the sessions and sign up [here](#).

## Love, INC Love & Learn Classes

A new Love & Learn class session is starting on Tuesday, **January 19** at 6:45 to 8:15 PM at Trinity CRC in Rock Valley. Classes available this winter are: Boundaries; Faith & Finances; GriefShare; Have a New Kid by Friday; Affirming Potential; Redemptive Compassion. To learn more about these classes or register call Love INC (712-476-5990) or email [loveinc3@premieronline.net](mailto:loveinc3@premieronline.net). You can also find a flyer on the bulletin board.

## Offerings for January

3	General/Building Fund	24	Compassion/Tuition Assistance Fund
10	Christian Education Fund	31	Building Fund
17	Missions Fund		

<b>Last week's offering</b>	General Fund	\$2,185.00	Missions Fund	\$145.00
	Christian Education Fund	\$1,935.00	Building Fund	\$160.00

## Online Giving

To give online, click [here](#) to access the online giving page. You can also continue to give by mailing a check to church, paying via online bill pay at your bank, or by ACH Bank Transfer. All checks will be used as needed unless designated. Contact your deacon with any questions.

## Helpful Links:

- The Bulletin Announcements and a link to Sunday's bulletin and liturgy are posted [here](#).
- The Community Activities (Blue) Sheet is posted [here](#).
- Sermon recordings are posted [here](#).
- Mission & Ministry News: You can find prayer requests from Back to God Ministries International [here](#).

## Encouraging our Missionaries

Got a minute? Send one of our missionaries a note of encouragement by email!

Kelly & April Crull  
[crulls@caimail.net](mailto:crulls@caimail.net)

Gianni & Georgina Gracia  
[giannigracia@yahoo.com](mailto:giannigracia@yahoo.com)

Sos & Kara Maletoungou  
[smaletoungou@crcna.org](mailto:smaletoungou@crcna.org)

Mike & Megan Ribbens  
[mribbens@gmail.com](mailto:mribbens@gmail.com)

Ben & Tricia Groenewold Van Dyk  
[tvandyk@crcnapartners.org](mailto:tvandyk@crcnapartners.org)

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## OUR CHURCH FAMILY



### Happy Birthday this Week

*Bryanna Castelan, Terry Friend, Pastor Joel Kok, Michael Vander Plaats, Peregrine Groenewold, Rog Vanden Hoek*

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## THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

<b>Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00 AM 5:00 PM	Morning Worship: Pastoral Groups 2,3,5 present (and via Facebook Live) Formation Sunday Evening: Teaching on Healing with Pastor Joel
<b>Monday</b>	11:30 AM 7:00 PM	The January Series: Tara Westover Deacons Meeting
<b>Tuesday</b>	11:30 AM	The January Series: Flynn Coleman
<b>Wednesday</b>	11:30 AM 7:00 PM 7:15 PM	The January Series: Danielle Allen GEMS Cadets (at Faith CRC)
<b>Thursday</b>	11:30 AM	The January Series: Jeffrey Rosen
<b>Friday</b>	11:30 AM	The January Series: Andy Crouch
<b>Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00 AM 5:00 PM	Morning Worship: Pastoral Groups 1,4,6 present (and via Facebook Live) Formation Sunday Evening: Deon Wynia on Trauma