

SUNDAY, April 18, 2021

WORSHIP NOTES

Worship Services Online

Click [here](#) to go to Covenant's Facebook page (or copy this link and paste it into your browser: <https://www.facebook.com/Covenant-CRC-520064914738965/>). Then click on the "Videos" section and watch for the live video to show 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).

Sunday Morning Worship

This Sunday, **April 18**, we continue to celebrate Christ's resurrection as we gather in our building for worship with Pastoral Groups 3 (DeSmith/Feikema), 4 (Brue/Vos), and 6 (Rhoda/Sybesma) 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 preaching from the [lectionary](#) during this season of Eastertide.

Faith Formation Sunday Evening

For the next few weeks we will gather at 6:00 PM for a service of evening prayer, also known as Vespers. Similar to our Lenten Thursday night Compline, these services will use prayers and litanies from the *Book of Common Prayer* and give us space and time for thanksgiving and praise, silence and meditation on scripture. Services will last between 45 minutes and an hour and include a brief meditation from Pastor Joel.

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 always welcome to invite guests and those looking for a church home to visit Covenant on any Sunday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Coffee After Morning Worship

We hope to serve coffee and juice outside after our morning worship service this Sunday again! We hope you'll head outside to fellowship with your church family. We hope to continue to offer coffee and juice outside as weather permits.

May Courier

I'll be working on the May Courier this week, so if you have something to include, send it to the office by Monday, **April 19!** (covenant@mtcnet.net).

Pork N Bands

The Covenant CRC Christian Education Committee along with the Fruited Plain invite you to Pork N Bands on Saturday, **April 24!** We will be serving Kramer's famous pulled pork sandwiches with chips and a sweet treat. Serving starts at 5:00 PM in the parking lot of the Fruited Plain. We will be offering To-Go boxes as well. All donations from the meal go toward the Christian Education Fund. Make sure to stay for the live music including Good Morning Bedlam and The Ruralists.

Pork N Bands Donations/Workers

The Christian Education Committee needs your help! We are looking for donations of food and materials as well as workers to help serve at the Pork N Bands event at the Fruited Plain on Saturday, **April 24**. Click [here](#) to sign up to donate items. Click [here](#) to sign up to work. There will be sign-up sheets on the back table at church as well.

Covenant Free Swap

Start saving your random reusable items! The SAM committee is organizing a free swap meet on Saturday, **May 1** at Covenant. Books, chairs, sports equipment, and more - pretty much anything goes. More info to come.

Church Spring Cleaning

May 8 is church clean-up day! We'll start at 9:00 AM and your deacons will contact you with the jobs for which your pastoral group will be in charge. It's always a fun morning complete with a break time filled with goodies and coffee/juice. Bring the kids, and we'll find them a great job as well.

Spring Offering of Thanks

You will find giving envelopes for a Spring Offering of Thanks along with a list of causes in your church mailbox. We invite you to look this over and prayerful considering making a gift to some of these important ministries. We hope you'll return the envelopes by **May 9** by either putting it in the offering plate or mailing/dropping it off at church.

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 **April**, we are encouraging Covenant's members to donate tuna and macaroni & cheese. You can bring them 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 generosity!

At-Home Faith Formation Tip

The Practice of Celebrating: Practicing celebration early in the day can help adjust our mindset and focus us on God's goodness. Consider beginning each morning by praying a Scripture passage of celebration, such as Psalm 103:1-5. (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit crcna.org/FaithFormation/Practices.)

Dordt Ag Day

Dordt University's annual Ag Day will be held on campus on Friday, **April 23** from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Join us for games, animals, machinery on display, and more! There will be fun for all ages! Lunch is served from 11:00 AM – 1:30 PM, with part of the proceeds going towards Growing Hope Globally. If you have questions, email Helen.Zeutenhorst@dordt.edu.

Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please be in prayer for God's blessing on the Christ Community congregation and the ministry of Pastors Randy Widbin and Carlos Perez.

Offerings for April

4	General/Building Fund	11	Christian Education Fund
18	Missions Fund	25	Compassion/Tuition Assistance Fund

Last week's offering	General Fund	\$9,400.50	Missions Fund	\$145.00
	Christian Education Fund	\$8687.89	Building Fund	\$125.00
	Compassion Fund	\$1170.00	World Renew	\$50.00

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: We invite you to read an update from Mission India [here](#).

Encouraging our Missionaries

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

Kelly & April Crull crulls@caimail.net	Gianni & Georgina Gracia giannigracia@yahoo.com	Sos & Kara Maletoungou smaletoungou@crcna.org	Mike & Megan Ribbens mribbens@gmail.com	Ben & Tricia Groenewold Van Dyk tvandyk@crcnapartners.org
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OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Happy Birthday this Week

Ruben Crull, Nathan Maletoungou, Stella Ribbens

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Sunday, 18th	9:00 AM 10:00 AM 6:00 PM	Sunday School & Catechism (grades 1-12) Morning Worship: Pastoral Groups 3,4,6 present (and via Facebook Live) Vespers (Service of Evening Prayer)
Monday	7:00 PM	Executive Council Meeting
Wednesday	7:00 PM 7:15 PM	Youth Group Cadets (at Faith CRC)
Saturday	5:00 PM	Pork N Bands (at The Fruited Plain Cafe)
Sunday, 25th	9:00 AM 10:00 AM 6:00 PM	Sunday School & Catechism (grades 1-12) Morning Worship: Pastoral Groups 1,2,5 present (and via Facebook Live) Vespers (Service of Evening Prayer)
