COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES SHEET March 19, 2017

Please turn in announcements by 10:30 on Wednesday mornings to the office of the First Christian Reformed Church: office@firstcrc.com or 722-0717.

Tuesday, March 21: Sioux Center Christian School Moms in Prayer Group will meet in the Council Room of First CRC at 9:00am. Childcare is provided. Contact Mel Klein with questions at 722-0668.

Tuesday, March 21: The Grandmothers Moms in Prayer group will be meeting in Room 3 of First CRC at 10:00am. New women are always welcome!

Tuesday, March 21: The College and Career Moms in Prayer group will be meeting in Room 3 of First CRC at noon. New women are always welcome!

Tuesday, March 21: Love INC is holding its Annual Meeting at 7:00pm in their office at 962 Westview Drive in Rock Valley, just west of Dollar General. Please join us as we meet to discuss how the Lord has used the church to bless the people of Sioux County in 2016. Refreshments will be served!! We would love to see you!

Tuesday, March 21: OPERA lowa is coming to Sioux Center to perform Rossini's comedic masterpiece, *The Barber of Seville* (sung in English). The touring troupe will present the two-hour performance at 7:30pm in the B.J. Haan Auditorium. The family friendly performance, sponsored by Sioux Center Recreation and Arts Council, is free and open to the public.

Wednesday, March 22: The community is invited to attend Ag Summit 2017 "Thou Shalt Not Kill-What's the Christian Response to the New Food Movement" from 8:15am to noon, beginning in the Dordt College Campus Center. The event features keynote speaker Kevin Murphy, owner and founder of Food-Chain communications. The event will consist of a breakfast, a 9am presentation by Murphy in the Campus Center, a panel discussion at 10am in B.J. Haan Auditorium, and a final presentation by Murphy at 11am in conjunction with Dordt College's Chapel Series. Ag Summit 2017 is presented by Dordt College and the Sioux Center Chamber of Commerce Ag Committee. Tickets are \$15 and please register by Thursday, March 16, by contacting the Chamber Office at (712) 722-3457 or admin@siouxcenterchamber.com.

Wednesday, March 22: Girls and women, ages 8-88+, join the GEMS Girls Clubs for an evening of REFIT fitness and fun in the Hull Christian School gym. Check-in is 6:30pm; workout from 7-8pm. Goodie bags will be given along with door prizes! Reserved tickets are \$5 or \$8 at the door. Contact Valerie for tickets at northstar_gems@hotmail.com; 712-449-8150. Micah 6:8 t-shirts will be for sale - \$10. Bring along a water bottle.

Friday, March 24: The community is invited to the piano recital of Dordt College senior Ranita Badudu, of Jakarta, Indonesia, at 7:30pm in the B.J. Haan Auditorium.

Advance Announcements

Monday, March 27: Have you ever considered building your family through domestic or international adoption? If so, please consider attending a "Discover Bethany" meeting at 6:30pm at our office located at 123 Albany Ave. SE in Orange City. You will learn more about Bethany's mission, our services, and receive an overview of the adoption process. If you are interested in attending, please contact Heather Jackson at <a href="mailto:highested:

Thursday, March 30: All grandparents of freshmen students at Unity Christian High School are invited to attend Freshmen Grandparent Day at the school at 8:45am and will finish at lunch with your grandchild. Please call 737-4114 to make a lunch reservation.

Thursday, March 30: Do you want to "Make a Difference" in the lives of others? Bethany Christian Services staff & volunteers strive to help children find their forever families, we support families in need through Safe Families for Children™, we counsel mothers experiencing an unplanned pregnancy, and we serve adoption minded couples through the complete adoption process. Thanks to our supporters we have been blessed to serve kids and families for more than 40 years. We invite you to join us for an evening of praise and recognition of God's work in our ministry at the Terrace View Event Center in Sioux Center with punch at 6pm; a complimentary meal served at 6:30pm; and a brief program including real and heartfelt stories. RSVP for the meal by March 20 to Bethany Christian Services at 712-737-4831 or bcsorangecity@bethany.org.

Thursday, March 30: Facing Darkness is a documentary film created by Samaritan's Purse about the 2014 Ebola pandemic in Liberia and will be shown one night only at Cinema 5 in Sioux Center at 7:00pm. Joni Byker, a local missionary from Sioux Center, worked with Samaritan's Purse during the pandemic. One Body One Hope, also based out of Sioux Center, has sent numerous missionary teams to Liberia recently. Please go to www.facingdarknessmovie.com to learn more about this film.

Friday, March 31: Finishing Well is a Bible study group for Seniors that meets twice a month in the Council Room at Bethel CRC, Sioux Center. For those of you who are 70 years and older, you are invited to join us as we look at Billy Graham's book *Nearing Home*. Judy De Wit, a Bethel member, will take us through the challenges and struggles of getting older and yet, look closely at what God is calling us to do although our muscles ache and our joints are stiff. *Nearing Home* can be ordered online or you can ask Judy for a book when you come to class. Our next meeting is March 24, at 2:00 - 3:30pm.

Friday, March 31: Hunger Free Kids of Sioux County is hosting a free-will dinner (5:30pm) and auction (6:30pm) at the Dordt Rec Center. The proceeds will go towards the funding of sack packs in the Boyden-Hull, MOC-FV, Sioux Center, and West Sioux school districts. These sack packs of food are provided to children every weekend; these children may not get enough to eat when they are away from school. If you would like more information on the auction or to learn more about the sack pack programs in our communities, please contact Jared Terpstra at jwterpstra@fcs.cc or 712-441-4343.

Friday, March 31: Dordt College invites the public to a Duo-Piano Concert featuring guest performers Michael and Kyung Kim. The free concert will be held in the B.J. Haan Auditorium at 7:30pm. The two will perform works by Bach, Mozart, Brahms, Rachmaninoff, and more.

Wednesday, April 5: A free Organ & Panflute Benefit Concert for Word & Deed Ministries' Children's Project in Ecuador will be held at 7:30pm in the B.J. Haan Auditorium, featuring Andre Knevel, a Dutch-Canadian organist, and Liselotte Rokyta, a European pan flutist. A free-will offering will be taken for Word & Deed who partners with the Luke Society in Quininde, Ecuador.

Thursday, April 6: Western Christian High School invites all eighth graders, regardless of their high school plans, to visit Western Christian on Eighth Grade Day at 3:00pm. Western will provide transportation for all the students to attend, and parents are asked to join their eighth grader at Western at 5:30pm for a free meal, displays, and tours. If parents are not able to attend, we would be glad to arrange transportation home for any student. Call Western Christian at 439-1013 if you have questions or need additional information.

April 7-9: Minnikota Youth and Dordt College invite all 6th-8th graders to the 7th Annual Jr High Retreat at Inspiration Hills with the theme of "Fearless," to worship, serve, and meet new friends. Dordt College students will be the small group leaders, as well as lead in song, worship, games, service, and drama. For more information, please contact Lee De Groot at 712-470-4244 or email her at mikyouthnetwork@gmail.com.

Saturday, April 8: The Northwest Iowa Symphony Youth Orchestra, led by conductor Dr. Christopher Stanichar, will present its Spring Concert at 3:00pm in the BJ Haan Auditorium. NISYO will perform works by Tchaikovsky, Geminiani, Leroy Anderson, Eduardo Gamboa, and local composer Deanna Wehrspann. The concert is free and open to the public.

Monday, April 10: The Cornerstone Prison Church Council, Board and Congregation invite everyone to their Annual Benefit Banquet at 6:30pm at Trinity Christian Reformed Church in Rock Valley. Doors open at 6:00pm. Make reservations with Trinity CRC at 712-476-5292 or go to www.cornerstonepcsd.org. Gale Van Engen & Arlyn Boon will perform. Hear how the hope of Jesus Christ is working in hearts and lives of inmates in the South Dakota State Penitentiary.

Saturday, May 20: The board and staff of New Life Treatment Center announce the 37th Annual Horse Ride-a-Thon; horses with riders and horse drawn rigs will begin their trek from Pipestone County Fairgrounds and proceed to their destination at the Center in Woodstock at 10:00am. We held our first Horse Ride-A-Thon in 1980 and it continues to be a great opportunity for friends to meet and have fun together while raising funds for New Life. For further information, contact New Life Treatment Center, Woodstock, MN, at 507-777-4321.

August 3-5: Register today to get the early bird registration rates for this summer's Inspire 2017 event. Join Ann Voskamp, Richard Mouw, and men and women of all ages from 1000+ CRC congregations for an unforgettable three days in Detroit, Michigan. You will be fed with great worship, challenged by keynote speakers, equipped and intrigued at interesting sessions, and connected to others – like you - who are inspired to serve God in their local church. Register at crcna.org/Inspire2017. Rates go up April 1. You won't want to miss this exciting CRC event!

Requested Announcements

Seeking Your Help: GEMS Girls' Clubs Leadership Conference is looking for volunteers to help make this year's GEMS counselor conference a success on July 26-30 at Dordt College. You do not need to be a GEMS counselor to volunteer. Any and all help is welcomed!! Visit goo.gl/6GjWcJ to sign up or contact Rina Klynsma at rnhystk@hotmail.com.

First CRC of Sioux Center is now accepting applications for a part-time worship coordinator who will work with the pastor and the worship committee, coordinating and supporting their worship and music ministries. If you are interested, please submit a resume and cover letter to the church office (office@firstcrc.com). If you would like to see the job description, contact the church office at 712-722-0717.

You and your family (on a first come, first serve basis) are invited to a Sunday Dinner Potluck at the Back Room Bistro of the Fruited Plain at noon on any of the following dates: March 19, April 2, 9, or 23 by Brittney Ryks, a senior Dordt College student, who is doing research on an independent study in family communications. You and your family can choose to bring either your favorite side dish or dessert for a traditional family Sunday Dinner. This is an opportunity to get to know one to two other families in the Sioux Center community over a shared meal, as well as share a recipe of your family's favorite side-dish and/or dessert. If you are interested in being a part of this family meal opportunity, please RVSP to brittney.ryks3@gmail.com stating the date you want to attend, the side dish or dessert you are bringing, as well as attaching the recipe. Please provide the number of people that will be attending for planning purposes. She will respond to your RVSP in 2-3 days if your family has a spot in this meal opportunity.