COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES SHEET January 7, 2018

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.

Monday, January 8-12: You are invited to the Calvin College January Series which continues weekdays through January 23 at Covenant CRC in Sioux Center. Each lecture will be shown through live feed from Calvin College from 11:30am-12:30pm and will cover topics ranging from millennials and faith, restorative justice, confident pluralism, radical generosity, and so much more by top experts in their fields. Covenant CRC is one of more than 50 remote webcast sites across the continent, joining a daily audience of about 3,000 people a day. For information on the speakers and topics, visit the January Series website at www.calvin.edu/january. The lectures are free and open to the public.

Tuesday, January 9: Sioux Center Christian School's Moms in Prayer group will meet at the First Christian Reformed Church at 9:00am in the Council Room. Childcare is provided. Contact Mel Klein with questions at 712-541-8694.

Tuesday, January 9: The Grandmother's Moms in Prayer group will meet from 10-11am in Room 3 of First CRC. All grandmothers and great-grandmothers are invited to come.

Tuesday, January 9: The College and Career Moms in Prayer group will meet from noon – 1pm in Room 3 of First CRC. Moms and grandmothers are invited to join us in praying for our college age and adult children.

Tuesday, January 9: The NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Support Group will meet in the Chapel of Central Reformed Church in Sioux Center from 7 to 9pm. Please note the changes in place and date. For information, call Shirley Matheis 722-4462.

Thursday, January 11: Everyone is invited to a Free "Community Unity Meal" at New Life Reformed Church from 6-7pm. Meal host: New Life Reformed Church.

Friday, January 12: The sophomore class of Unity Christian High School will hold their annual soup/sandwich/dessert supper in the school cafeteria, serving from 4:45-7:00pm. Free-will donation at the door.

Advance Announcements

Tuesday, January 16 - Thursday, January 18: If you have unanswered questions about your Estate Plan, you are not alone. Jim Prichard, a Christian attorney from Barnabas Foundation, will be meeting with Christian families in our area and will be happy to provide clear and easy-to-understand Estate Planning information regardless of the size of your Estate, your age or stage in life. There is no financial obligation for this confidential meeting. If you would like to meet with Jim, please contact Barnabas Foundation at 888-448-3040.

Tuesday, January 16: Get ready for a new season of music making with the Sioux County Oratorio Chorus! We will be performing one of Joseph Haydn's most popular works--the *Mass in the Time of War*, or "*Paukenmesse*"--as well as two shorter choral works by Rachmaninoff. Rehearsals are Tuesday evenings 7:30-9:15 beginning January 16 and will be held at Northwestern College's DeWitt Music Hall. The performance will be Saturday, April 28. Email questions to Mike Ochsner at mkchsnr@gmail.com. Save the date! We'd love to sing with you!

Sunday, January 21: Engaged? Newly married? The Center for Financial Education (CFE) is hosting a Financial Peace University (FPU) class for engaged & newlywed couples. The classes will be held at 1:30-3:30pm on nine Sundays* at the Bridge of Hope Ministry Center (43 2nd Street NE, Sioux Center). Materials cost is \$109 per couple, payable to Center for Financial Education. Here is the class link to register: http://www.fpu.com/1054182. *If necessary, based on class membership, the schedule will be altered to accommodate spring breaks.

Monday, January 22: Support the Dordt College Concert Band in raising funds for their European Tour by attending their Tip Night at the Sioux Center Pizza Ranch. 10% of all sales from 5-8 pm that evening, including dine-in, to-go, and carry-out orders, as well as all donated tips will go toward their fundraising goal. Take the night off from preparing dinner and enjoy some great food while contributing to a worthy cause.

Friday, January 26 (6-8 pm) & Saturday/Sunday, January 27/28 (7:15am-4pm): Join Cornerstone Prison Church in Sioux Falls for a Faith Fellowship Weekend on the theme "Do you want to get well?" based on John 5:1-9, featuring worship, and large/small group discussions. Contact office@cornerstonepcsd.org or 605-496-9152 to sign up by Monday, January 8.

Saturday, January 27: The Northwest Iowa Symphony Orchestra will present its popular WINTER POPS CONCERT: *Romancing the Violin* at 7:30pm in the B.J. Haan Auditorium on the campus of Dordt College in Sioux Center. Violinist Jessica Mathaes will be joining the orchestra as guest artist for the evening. NISO's Celebrity Conductor Contest will be held in conjunction with this Concert. Advance tickets are available at Evie's Hallmark in Sioux Center and Jubon Juweelen in Orange City. Tickets are also available at the door the night of the concert. For more information, contact the NISO office at 712-722-6230 or niso@dordt.edu.

Saturday, February 3: Day of Encouragement at Dordt College has something that interests you. Perhaps it's how to set boundaries in your family, prevent child abuse in your church, or how to monitor your child's technology. You can get tips on how to make difficult visits to the sick or grieving; learn how to involve youth in worship or how to better teach the gospels. Are you interested in racial diversity? You'll want to hear keynote speaker Rev. Reggie Smith share his story of guiding change in transitional urban communities. Whether you are a worship planner, council member, church administrator, or person in the pew, this conference is designed to inspire, encourage and equip God's people to be salt and light in our homes, churches and communities. Go to www.dordt.edu/doe for the complete listing of times and sessions as well as registration options. Include specific instructions for group registration (register 10 or more and get a discount rate of \$45 each) at your church.

Friday, February 23: Dordt College is hosting a simulcast Work as Worship Conference at the Dordt West Commons, 7:30am-2:30pm with speakers like New York Times Best-Selling Author Patrick Lencioni. This conference champions a biblical and holistic viewpoint of work and faith. Whether you are the CEO or a new employee, we all have an enormous opportunity to give people a picture of God by the way we do our work. Plan to attend with a group from your workplace. Go to www.workasworshipretreat.org to register. Cost is \$25/person and includes a continental breakfast, snacks and lunch. Contact Dianne De Wit at 712.722.6029 or Dianne.dewit@dordt.edu for more information. This conference is sponsored by RightNow Media.

Requested Announcements

The Northwest Iowa Symphony Orchestra (NISO) is once again holding their annual Celebrity conductor Fundraiser! Each year they offer 6 scholarships to aspiring musicians to help keep the tradition of professional orchestral music alive in our beloved community. Nathan Frens, Plant Manager of Smithfield, Sioux Center and husband of Jennifer (Van Den Hul) Frens, is a candidate this year and is asking for your help and support! For every dollar donated, he has pledged to match it up to the first \$5,000 raised. Further, anyone who donates \$5 or more will be placed into a drawing for a free pouch of 150 slices of bacon, with 25 total pouches being given away. For the top 5 donators, a year's supply of bacon will be given – one pouch a month for a year. If you would like to donate, please go to www.youcaring.com and search for NISO. If you would prefer to pay by cash or check, please mail them to: Nathan J. Frens, 1580 Sunrise Trl, Sioux Center, IA 51250 by January 25, 2018.