

SUNDAY, December 9, 2018

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

Today is the second Sunday of Advent, a season of waiting and preparation for the birth of Christ. During this season, Pastor Joel will be preaching on the Gospel readings from the lectionary, which are from the book of Luke this year. We will also come together at the Lord's Table this morning. Tonight we invite you back to church at 6:00 PM for the Sunday School Christmas Program. The kids will be presenting a Service of Lessons and Carols.

Offerings for December

| | AM | PM |
|----|---|-------------------------------|
| 9 | Christian Education Fund, Compassion Fund | Bethesda Christian Counseling |
| 16 | Missions Fund | Bible League International |
| 23 | Tuition Assistance Fund, Hope Food Pantry | |
| 25 | World Renew: Food Resource Bank | |
| 30 | General Fund | |

Last week's offering

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|---------------------------|------------|
| General Fund | \$9,272.75 |
| World Renew: Embrace AIDS | \$60.00 |

OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Happy Birthday this Week

Kara Themistol, Mike Vanden Bosch, Megan Ribbens

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please be in prayer for God's blessing on the Central Reformed congregation and the ministry of Pastor Van Rathbun.

Sunday School Christmas Program

The Sunday School Christmas Program is this evening at 6:00 PM. Parents, please plan to have your children back at church at 3:30 PM this afternoon to practice (note the earlier time!). Talk to your child's Sunday School teacher if you have any questions.

Mid-Sioux Gift Baskets

Covenant is once again participating in the Mid-Sioux Holiday Families Program providing Christmas gift baskets to those in need. Please put your contribution in your pastoral group deacon's mailbox as soon as possible.

Choir Practice

The choir will be preparing a few pieces to help to lead the Candlelight service on Sunday, **December 16** at 6:00 PM. Rehearsals will be held Monday, **December 10** (7:30-8:45 PM) and Sunday, **December 16** (4:45 PM). All singers high school age and up are welcome!

GEMS Ice Skating Christmas Party

The GEMS Christmas party will be held on Wednesday, **December 12** from 6:45-8:45 PM. Drop off your girls at the All Seasons Center where they will skate from 6:45-7:45. Then they'll head upstairs at the All Seasons Center to make cards for Royal Meadows and Crown Pointe residents, have snacks, and play games until they are picked up at 8:45. You may come as early as 6:15 to get skates, but you will need to wait for those using the ice before us. We encourage you to bring your own skates if you have them, to wear thick socks (or multiple pairs), and to dress in Christmas attire!

All Church Swimming & Pizza Party

We have a wonderful fellowship opportunity coming up this Saturday, **December 15!** Join us for swimming at the All Seasons Center from 4:00-5:00 PM and then head upstairs to the upper lobby for pizza from 5:00-6:00 PM. Join us for one or both! Freewill donations will be accepted to cover expenses.

Children and the Lord's Supper

Pastor Joel plans to hold some teaching and dialogue sessions regarding children at the Lord's Supper. We will design these gatherings primarily for the parents of younger children, though everyone is invited. We will begin early in 2019, meeting probably sometime on Sundays. If you would like to participate, please let Pastor Joel know (Joelekok@gmail.com or 441-9993).

Community Unity Meal

Everyone is invited to a free "Community Unity" meal in Sioux Center on Thursday, **December 13**, from 6:00-7:00 PM at New Life Reformed Church. The meal host of the month is Pella Corporation.

Dordt Music Concerts

- 'Christmas Jazz Night' at Dordt College will take place on Tuesday, **December 11**, at 7:30 PM in the B.J. Haan Auditorium and will feature the Kantorei (a 16 voice jazz choir) and Jazz Band. Come in out of the cold for a night of light, bright jazz music.
- The Dordt Christmas Choral Concert will take place on Friday, **December 14**, at 7:30 PM in the B.J. Haan Auditorium and will feature Bella Voce (women's chorus), Chorale, and Concert Choir. The choirs will explore a wide range of repertoire for Christmas to commemorate and marvel at the great mystery and wondrous gift of the birth of Christ.

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

| | TODAY | NEXT SUNDAY, December 16 |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Greeters | AM: Isabel C, Paul C, Dave V ✦ PM: Wil A, Mark H, John K | |
| Ushers | AM: George F, Shirley T, Eldon W ✦ PM: Joan MC, Jake VW | |
| Coffee | Marge DB, Ana F, Rin G, Cal J, Linda VH, Sharon V | |
| Subs | Jenni B, Mark C, Rock MC, Les S, John V, Kurt V | |
| Sound/Projection | Andy L ✦ Goslingas | Nick B ✦ Mark H |
| Nursery Dec. POM: Merrill MC | AM INF: John V, Lisa F TODDLER: Linda V, Ross F PM: Jake & Trena VW, Lee R | AM INF: Rebecca DS, Luke H TODDLER: Bob DS, Sarah H PM: Dave & Luanne G, Laura J |

GREETERS, PLEASE EMAIL:

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|--|---|---|--|--|
| Troy & Faith Bierma tbierma@gmail.com | Kelly & April Crull crulls@caimail.net | Dan & Jeananne Kuiper djkuip@aol.com | Sos & Kara Maletoungou smaletoungou@crcna.org | Mike & Megan Ribbens mribbens@gmail.com |
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THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

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| Today | 8:45 AM | Sunday School Christmas Program Practice |
| | 9:00 AM | Covenant Sunday Morning (chapter 12) |
| | 9:00 AM | Catechism (grades 9-10) |
| | 10:00 AM | Morning Worship |
| | 3:30 PM | Sunday School Christmas Program Practice |
| | 6:00 PM | Sunday School Christmas Program |
| Monday | 7:00 PM | Deacons Meeting |
| | 7:30 PM | Choir Rehearsal |
| Tuesday | 7:00 PM | Executive Council Meeting |
| Wednesday | 6:30 AM | Men's Bakery Study Group (Casey's Bakery) |
| | 6:45 PM | GEMS Christmas Party (at All Seasons Center) |
| | 7:00 PM | Youth Group |
| | 7:15 PM | Cadets (at Faith CRC) |
| Saturday | 4:00 PM | Swimming and Pizza Party (at the All Seasons Center) |
| Sunday, 16th | 9:00 AM | Covenant Sunday Morning (chapter 13) |
| | 9:00 AM | Sunday School & Catechism (grades 1-10) |
| | 10:00 AM | Morning Worship |
| | 4:45 PM | Choir Practice |
| | 6:00 PM | Evening Worship: Candlelight Service |