

SUNDAY, December 8, 2019

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

We are in the season of Advent, a season of waiting and hoping for the coming Emmanuel. Pastor Joel will be using the Isaiah lectionary passages throughout this season and we will gather at the Lord's Table each Sunday.

Faith Formation Sunday Evening

This evening at 5:00 PM, we will share some of our Christmas memories and practices. Spontaneous contributions are always welcome. You are especially encouraged to contribute to this faith formation gathering any Christian practices that you have learned (about) from others – also from Christians outside North America.

Offerings for December

1	General Fund	15	General Fund	25	World Renew
8	Christian Education Fund	22	Compassion/Tuition Assistance Fund	29	Building Fund

Last week's offering General Fund \$12,334.08

OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Happy Birthday this Week

Jason Wyenberg, Mike Vanden Bosch, Megan Ribbens

Membership Transfer

Dave & Jan Versluis have transferred their membership to LaGrave Avenue CRC in Grand Rapids, MI.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please be in prayer for God's blessing on the Netherlands Reformed congregation.

Congregational Meeting and Lasagna Dinner

Join us for our annual congregational meeting on Monday, **December 9** at 7:00 PM. We'll hear some updates from the council as well as voting on our church's annual budget. A copy of the budget and agenda are in your church mailbox. We encourage you to come early to support the Youth Group's SERVE trip this coming summer. They will serve lasagna beginning at 6:00 PM (free will donation).

Covenant Choir

The Covenant Choir will be singing on **December 8 & 15**. All singers high school and up are invited to join us! We will rehearse after the congregational meeting on Monday, **December 9**, and at 9:00 AM on **December 15**.

It's Egg Roll Time!

Have you ordered egg rolls yet? Siouxland Unity CRC in Sioux City is taking orders for their homemade egg rolls. Order by Wednesday, **December 11** for pick-up in the Covenant kitchen at 10:00 AM on Saturday, **December 21**: \$15 for 1 dozen; \$12.50 a dozen for 2 or more; \$4 for a bottle of sweet chili sauce. Please use the order form in your mailbox and place it in the box in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Carol Oostra with questions (722-4277).

Swimming and Pizza Party

Head over to the All Seasons Center on Saturday, **December 14** for an all church swimming and pizza party from 4:00-6:00 PM. The swimming pool will be ours to enjoy from 4:00-5:00 and we'll gather for pizza from 5:00-6:00. Feel free to come for swimming or pizza or both! (A freewill donation box will be available to cover costs.)

1st Grade through 8th Grade Musicians:

If you take private music lessons and have been working on a Christmas song with your teacher, we would love for you to play for us during the Sunday School Christmas program. Please contact Rebecca De Vries.

Sunday School Christmas Program: The Symbols of Christmas

Rehearsals for the Sunday School Christmas Program will take place on Sundays, **December 8 & 15** at 9:00 AM and **December 15** at 3:30 PM. The kids should come to rehearsal on Sunday afternoon ready for the program – they won't go home between rehearsing and the program. And invite your friends and family to the program at 5:00 PM on **December 15**. Contact Deb Hibma if you have any questions.

Blue Christmas Service

On Sunday, **December 22** at 5:00 PM, we invite you to gather for a "Blue Christmas Service." This service will give us time and space to together acknowledge the sadness that we may feel during the Christmas season. When the days are short and the nights are long, memories of past experiences and the pain of present reality can become overwhelming for some. Through song, prayer, scripture, and meditation, we will bring our sadness and lament before God who comforts his people. Look for more information to come.

Advent Means Hope

With World Renew's 2019-2020 Gift Catalog, you can help a family with a filter for clean water to drink, give a child get the food they need to grow with a nutrition kit, or provide shelter to a disaster survivor. Choose a gift that gives someone who is poor and hungry the opportunity for a better life today and hope for the future. Give at worldrenew.net/gifts or call 800-552-7972 to order. A few copies of the Gift Catalog can be found on the welcome table – feel free to grab one!

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

	TODAY	NEXT SUNDAY, December 15
Greeters	AM: George F, Cal J, Jeff T	
Ushers	AM: Wil A, Mark C, Kurt V	
Coffee	Alejandro C, Chris G, Sarah H, Joan MC, Dennis VP, John V	
Subs	Jo A, Rob H, Andy L, Rockne MC, Marcia W, John Z	
Sound/Projection	Doug DB ♦ Marty VP	Marv W ♦ Dave G
Nursery Dec. POM: Wyenbergs	AM: Erik & Barb H, Dave & Emily K PM: Tom & Ruth C, Dennis & Pam DJ	AM: Ryan & Angela H, Kathy DW PM: Chris & Rin G, Lee R

GREETERS, PLEASE EMAIL:

Kelly & April Crull crulls@caimail.net	Ariel & Carlye Gomes carlyerenee@gmail.com	Dan & Jeananne Kuiper djkuip@aol.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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THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Today	9:00 AM	Choir Practice
	9:00 AM	Sunday School Christmas Program Practice (grades 1-8)
	9:00 AM	Catechism (grades 9-12)
	9:00 AM	Covenant Sunday Morning (adults)
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship
	5:00 PM	Formation Sunday Evening: Our Christmas Memories and Practices
	6:30 PM	Sunday Evening Bible Study
	7:30 PM	ETM Christmas Party (at First CRC)
Monday	6:00 PM	Youth Group Lasagna Dinner
	7:00 PM	Congregational Meeting
	8:00 PM	Choir Practice
	8:00 PM	Elders Meeting
Wednesday	7:00 PM	Youth Group Nerf Gun War
	7:15 PM	Cadets (at Faith CRC)
Saturday	4:00 PM	Pizza & Pool Party (at All Seasons Center)
Sunday, 15th	9:00 AM	Choir Practice
	9:00 AM	Sunday School Christmas Program Practice (grades 1-8)
	9:00 AM	Catechism (grades 9-12)
	9:00 AM	Covenant Sunday Morning (adults)
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship
	3:30 PM	Sunday School Christmas Program Practice (grades 1-8)
	5:00 PM	Sunday School Christmas Program