

SUNDAY, November 29, 2020

WORSHIP NOTES

Worship Services Online

Click [here](https://www.facebook.com/Covenant-CRC-520064914738965/) to find the livestream for our worship services on Facebook (or copy this link and paste it into your browser: <https://www.facebook.com/Covenant-CRC-520064914738965/>). Then click on the "Videos" section. It will say "live" next to it when we are live. Remember, the video will not show up until a few minutes before 10:00 AM. You can also choose to 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).

Worship on Sunday Morning

This Sunday, **November 29**, we gather in our building for worship with Pastoral Groups 1 (Friend/Eggebeen), 3 (DeSmith/Feikema), and 5 (Schaap/Rowe) 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** (and take note of the message below from CHP). We also encourage you to move outdoors to socialize after the service if possible! Here is a link to the [mobile-friendly worship guide](#). We begin a new church year this Sunday with the season of Advent. We are thankful to Rev. Todd Zuidema who will preach this Sunday morning.

Faith Formation Sunday Evening

There will be no evening gathering this Sunday evening, **November 29**.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

A Message from Community Health Partners:

Community Health Partners, our local public health agency, recently sent us a message regarding masks:

Following Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds' proclamation on November 10 regarding masking and indoor gatherings, the CEOs of the four Sioux County hospitals – along with Community Health Partners – are imploring all residents of Sioux County to help slow the spread of COVID-19 by adhering to gathering restrictions and mask requirements. Wearing masks in indoor public settings helps reduce the spread of COVID-19. "We as a hospital and health system community implore each resident and visitor in Sioux County to follow the Governor's proclamation requiring masking for indoor gatherings of 25 or more people," stated the health system leaders, adding "Specifically, we urge every church to strongly consider voluntarily submitting to this protocol as well." ... During this very challenging time, health care leaders and CHP ask the faith community to help preserve our healthcare resources and slow the community spread of COVID-19 by strongly considering wearing masks in church.

You can read the full message [here](#).

Advent Candles

The Worship and Liturgy Committees with the help of Duane Bajema, Steve Crull, Del Vander Zee would like to provide each Covenant household with an Advent candle holder and candles for home use. As we light candles in the sanctuary, we hope that those worshipping with us at home will light their candles too. The Advent candles and holders are at church, so feel free to stop by church anytime and pick one up. If you would like to have it delivered, please email the church office.

Thanksgiving Offering

We hope you'll take some time to think about giving a Thanksgiving offering this year. We invite you to use the Thanksgiving offering envelopes to share the blessings we've received with ministries and those in need nearby and around the world. We invite you to bring your Thanksgiving offering back this Sunday (**November 29**), or feel free to drop off/mail it to church as soon as you can.

December Courier

The December Courier can be read online [here](#) or there are printed copies in the entrance to church!

Sunday School Christmas Program Rehearsals

Work has begun on the children's Christmas program to be held on the evening of **December 13**. Things will be a bit different this year, but we are excited to still have the chance to celebrate Christmas with the children leading us! Preschool through 2nd grade students who want to be in the hand bell choir, please mark down **December 6** at 2:30 PM for your first rehearsal. All plans are tentative, so watch for emails!

Congregational Meeting

The Congregational meeting to vote on the budget is scheduled for Monday, **December 7** at 7:00 PM. As of now, we will meet in person. We are planning on having ZOOM available for those who wish to partake from home. Look for emails with the link and the proposed budget in the near future.

Advent Devotional Sign Up

The season of Advent has begun, and we hope you are already using the daily devotions that members of our congregation have written. You can find the devotions [online here](#), or a printed copy of the week's devotions will be available at church in the NE entrance. If you are still interested in writing a short devotional on one of the daily Advent lectionary texts, we invite you to sign up [here](#). No theology (or writing) degree required! We trust that this project will help us stay awake to our Lord and in communion with one another.

Young Children and Worship Leaders Needed

Are you interested in helping grow the faith of our little ones at Covenant? We are currently looking for a few more leaders for our Young Children and Worship program, which we hope to restart in January. Please contact Cheri Horstman (mchorst@mtcnet.net) if you are interested or have questions about what serving in this way involves.

Sunday School Teacher Needed

We are in need of a teacher for our 7th grade catechism class. If you are interested in the opportunity to have an impact on the lives of these five or six wonderful students, please contact Pat Crull either by phone (722-1041) or email spcrull@mtcnet.net. Thank you for your consideration!

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 **November**, we are encouraging Covenant's members to donate peanut butter and jam/jelly. 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 compassion to others!

Awareness Book Club

The Awareness Book Club will meet again in January, and we will discuss *Jesus and John Wayne*, by Kristin Kobes Du Mez. The dialogue is open to all members and your friends. We had a good discussion of *Unsettling Truths* by Mark Charles at our last session, and we expect another good dialogue in January. Even when we disagree with the author or one another, we learn from each other. The tentative date for the next session is Tuesday, **January 19**. If you have any questions, please get in touch with either Pastor Joel or Eric Rowe.

Volunteer Opportunity

Bible League International has a volunteer opportunity for a Spanish/English translator to assist BLI with the translation of documents or other forms of communication between English and Spanish in order to engage more donors and partners in Bible League's ministry in Latin America. Contact DVanSwol@bibleleague.org if you can help.

Love, INC Volunteers Needed

Love INC is looking for a class facilitator for their Boundaries class that will start in January. The study is based on the book by the same title by Dr. Henry Cloud and Dr. John Townsend. Training and curriculum is provided by Love INC. We are also looking for mentors for our Faith and Finances class. Mentors will walk alongside class participants and help them apply what they learned in class to their personal finances. Requirements are basic understanding of financial management practices and systems, ability to hold people accountable and a passion for helping people develop financially healthy lives. Classes run for 12 weeks between **January 19** and **April 6** on Tuesday evenings. For more information please call the Love INC office (712-476-5990).

Offerings for November

29 World Renew: World Hunger

Offerings for December

6	General/Building Fund	20	Missions Fund
13	Christian Education Fund	27	World Renew

Last week's offering	General Fund	\$3,595.00	Missions Fund	\$200.00
	Christian Education Fund	\$2,551.71	Building Fund	\$618.00

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: A recent newsletter from ATLAS can be found [here](#) and a thank you from the Groenewold-Van Dyks is [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@crncpartners.org
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OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Happy Birthday this Week

Laremy DeVries, Hannah Landman, Esteban Gracia, Jocelyn Zonnefeld, Bernie DeWit

Happy Anniversary this Week

Ed & Mary Dengler

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Sunday 29th	10:00 AM	Morning Worship: Pastoral Groups 1,3,5 present (and via Facebook Live)
Wednesday	7:00 PM	GEMS
Sunday, 6th	10:00 AM 2:30 PM 5:00 PM	Morning Worship: Pastoral Groups 2,4,6 present (and via Facebook Live) Christmas Program Rehearsal (Preschool-2 nd grade) Formation Sunday Evening: Teaching with Pastor Joel