

**SUNDAY, March 7, 2021**

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## **WORSHIP NOTES**

### **Worship Services Online**

Click [here](#) to go to Covenant's Facebook page (or copy this link and paste it into your browser: <https://www.facebook.com/Covenant-CRC-520064914738965/>). Then click on the "Videos" section and watch for the live video to show shortly before 10:00 AM. You can also 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, **March 7**, we gather in our building for worship with Pastoral Groups 1 (Friend/Eggebeen), 2 (Ploegstra/Janssen), 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**. Here is a link to the [mobile-friendly worship guide](#). Pastor Joel is preaching from the [lectionary](#) during this season of Lent, focusing on the Old Testament passages and the covenants God makes with his people. We will gather at the Lord's Table each Sunday during this season.

### **Communion Stations**

In our efforts to share the Lord's Supper communally, pastorally, and safely during this time, we are adding a few additional communion stations. We encourage those sitting in the two center sanctuary sections to come to the table at the front of the sanctuary, the west sanctuary section to go to the communion station along the wall under the stained glass windows, and those sitting in the back sections in the fellowship hall to receive communion from the table in the back. Please leave your row to the left, moving clockwise to return to your seat. We ask that you take the bread and juice back to your seats and we will eat and drink together after all are served. There will be gluten-free bread at each station. And as always, if you would prefer to have the elements brought to you, please contact an elder.

### **Faith Formation Sunday Evening**

This Sunday evening at 5:00 PM, Pastor Joel will introduce The Colossian Forum, beginning with some teaching on the book of Colossians and how it speaks to unity in the body through Christ.

### **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.

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Praying for Our Local Congregations**

This week, please be in prayer for God's blessing on the United Reformed congregation and the ministry of Pastor John Bushnell.

### **Switching up the Worship Rotation**

We're mixing up the pastoral group worship rotation again to allow a few groups to worship together who haven't yet been scheduled together. Watch the schedule in the worship announcement above, the calendar at the end of the announcements, or the schedule printed in the [Courier](#). Can't remember which pastoral group you are in? You can find the pastoral group lists in your church directory or on our [website](#).

### **Easter Bell Choir**

We are once again putting a handbell choir together for Easter Sunday, **April 4**. If you are interested in participating, please contact Rebecca De Vries. We are looking for folks high school and up. Rehearsals are tentatively scheduled for Saturday mornings from 10:00 to 11:15 AM on **March 13, 20, 27**, and **April 3**.

### **Salt Sale Fundraiser**

Please check your mailbox for an order sheet for the Bridge of Hope/Covenant Salt Sale! These order forms will be due back at church or the Trip office at SCCS by **March 14!** You can also give them directly to Emily Kramer. When collecting salt orders remember that payment is due up front at the time of ordering. Also watch for a link to a sign up to volunteer to help deliver salt on **April 10!** You can also find the order form [here](#) and the salt sale instructions [here](#).

### **Lenten Compline Services**

Join us each Thursday night during the season of Lent at 7:00 PM for a Service of Night Prayer, or Compline. These half hour services will use liturgies from the *Book of Common Prayer* that include prayers, psalms, silence, and songs and will act as a way to gather up the events and cares of our days in prayer. Join in person or via Livestream.

## Lenten Kindness Tree

Have you added a leaf to the Lenten Kindness tree yet? Look for acts of kindness in your life during the week: things you have done or said, things you hope to do, or the kind actions of others. Write those acts of kindness on paper leaves and attach them to the tree in the Fellowship Hall. Each week, our tree will gain leaves as we grow through acts of kindness.

## Opportunities for Lenten Prayer and Reflection

We welcome you to stop by and use the prayer station in the old SW fellowship hall during this season of Lent. There are devotional resources available and we invite you to pray with your hands at the Lenten loom.

## GEMS Sunday

GEMS Sunday will be held at Faith CRC at 6:00 PM on Sunday, **March 14**.

## 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 **March**, we are encouraging Covenant's members to donate personal hygiene products: deodorant, shampoo, soap, feminine products, lotion, toothpaste (a high demand item!), etc. 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 sharing with others!

## Offerings for March

7	General/Building Fund	14	Christian Education Fund
21	Missions Fund	28	World Renew

<b>Last week's offering</b>	General Fund	\$6,270.00	Missions Fund	\$1,065.00
	Christian Education Fund	\$3,735.00	Building Fund	\$325.00
	Compassion Fund	\$326.50	World Renew	\$350.00

## 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: We invite you to read the latest from the Ben & Tricia Groenewold-Van Dyk [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

*Emma Mercado Castelan, Sara Ploegstra, Brooklyn Rylaarsdam, Jeff Ploegstra, Lila Sybesma, Benjamin Ploegstra, Del Vander Zee*

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## THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

<b>Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup></b>	9:00 AM 10:00 AM 5:00 PM	Sunday School & Catechism (grades 1-12) Morning Worship: Pastoral Groups 1,2,5 present (and via Facebook Live) Formation Sunday Evening: Exploring The Colossian Forum
<b>Monday</b>	7:00 PM	Deacons Meeting
<b>Wednesday</b>	7:00 PM 7:15 PM	GEMS Cadets (at Faith CRC)
<b>Thursday</b>	7:00 PM	Lenten Compline
<b>Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup></b>	9:00 AM 10:00 AM 5:00 PM 6:00 PM	Sunday School & Catechism (grades 1-12) Morning Worship: Pastoral Groups 3,4,6 present (and via Facebook Live) Formation Sunday Evening: Exploring The Colossian Forum GEMS Sunday (at Faith CRC)