

**SUNDAY, March 14, 2021**

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## **WORSHIP NOTES**

### **Worship Services Online**

Click [here](https://www.facebook.com/Covenant-CRC-520064914738965/) 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 14**, we gather in our building for worship with Pastoral Groups 3 (DeSmith/Feikema), 4 (Brue/Vos), and 6 (Rhoda/Sybesma) 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. And don't forget to change your clocks this weekend – it's time to "spring forward" an hour!

### **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. You are invited to sing while you are seated.

### **Faith Formation Sunday Evening**

This Sunday evening at 5:00 PM, we will continue to explore The Colossian Forum for healthy dialogue and will include an exploration of church history.

### **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 Amistad Cristiana congregation and the ministry of Pastor Eddy Olguin.

### **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](#).

### **Salt Sale Fundraiser**

It's time to get your Salt Sale order forms in! This joint fundraiser with Bridge of Hope is raising money to support our Christian Education Fund! Orders are due back at church by Sunday, **March 14** or the Trip office at SCCS by Monday, **March 15**. 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](#).

### **GEMS Sunday**

GEMS Sunday is tonight at Faith CRC at 6:00 PM! GEMS girls, please wear your teal cross shirt and be at Faith by 5:50 PM. We will be sitting together by grades.

### **Resurrection Gardens**

The Formation Fellowship – the group who plans our evening gatherings – would like to invite you to join us Palm Sunday, **March 28**, at 5:00 PM to plant a Resurrection Garden. Each household will be able to plant one garden to take home, and it is our hope that as you anticipate your grass seeds sprouting and growing during Holy Week, you will also anticipate our new life in Christ which we'll celebrate on Easter. Look for more information to come.

### **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.

### **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!

Love INC Annual Meeting

Love INC, Sioux County will hold its Annual Meeting on Monday, **March 15**, at 6:30 PM at Trinity CRC (Agape Room) in Rock Valley. Partner churches, volunteers and donors are invited to hear about what God has done in 2020 through Love INC and how God is leading us in 2012. Refreshments will be served.

From Inclusion to Belonging: Welcoming People with Disabilities

Please join us for a virtual disability connection event entitled “From Inclusion to Belonging: Welcoming People with Disabilities.” This interactive event will be held on Thursday, **March 18**, from 7:00-8:30 PM via Zoom. This virtual event will explore ways your church might welcome, advocate for, and reach out to people with disabilities – both in your church and neighborhood. Church leaders, individuals with disabilities and their family members, advocates wanting to launch or deepen a ministry with people with disabilities, and anyone wanting to learn more about people with disabilities in your church and community are welcome to attend. At the event, we will learn about ministries underway in other congregations and the results they’ve seen; discover ways to leverage positive change in your church and community; and make connections with others willing to offer support, encouragement, and expertise to your church and those you serve. Guiding us at this event will be guest speakers Rev. Terry DeYoung (Coordinator for Disability Concerns, RCA) and Rev. Mark Stephenson (Director of Disability Concerns, CRCNA). Event co-sponsors Hope Haven and Rejoice! Community Church (Le Mars) are very excited to offer this event free of charge. For complete details and to register for the event, please visit [hopehaven.org/inclusion](http://hopehaven.org/inclusion) – we hope to see you there!

Sioux Center Christian School Society Meeting

The board of trustees will be holding the annual meeting of the Sioux Center Christian School Society on Tuesday, **March 23** at 7:00 PM at First CRC in Sioux Center. If you would like a digital or printed copy of the agenda and supporting documents, please contact the school office (712-722-0777; [sccsoffice@siouxcenterchristian.com](mailto:sccsoffice@siouxcenterchristian.com)). We invite all society members to attend and look forward to sharing with you what God is doing at Sioux Center Christian School!

At-Home Faith Formation Tip

The Practice of Listening: Listening to God often involves listening for God’s still, small voice (see 1 Kings 19). How might you quiet other voices so you can be attentive to God’s voice this week? (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit [crcna.org/FaithFormation/Practices](http://crcna.org/FaithFormation/Practices).)

Offerings for March

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

Last week’s offering	General Fund	\$4,043.00	Missions Fund	\$275.00
	Christian Education Fund	\$3,416.00	Building Fund	\$50.00
	Compassion Fund	\$700.00	World Renew	\$100.00

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 <a href="mailto:crulls@caimail.net">crulls@caimail.net</a>	Gianni & Georgina Gracia <a href="mailto:giannigracia@yahoo.com">giannigracia@yahoo.com</a>	Sos & Kara Maletoungou <a href="mailto:smaletoungou@crcna.org">smaletoungou@crcna.org</a>	Mike & Megan Ribbens <a href="mailto:mribbens@gmail.com">mribbens@gmail.com</a>	Ben & Tricia Groenewold Van Dyk <a href="mailto:tvandyk@crncpartners.org">tvandyk@crncpartners.org</a>
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OUR CHURCH FAMILY



**Happy Birthday this Week**  
*Sean Hannigan, Benjamin Groenewold, Cheri Horstman, Carol Apol, Mark Tazelaar*

**Happy Anniversary this Week**  
*Mike & Laura Janssen, Roger & Linda Vanden Hoek*

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Sunday, 14 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 AM	Sunday School & Catechism (grades 1-12)
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship: Pastoral Groups 3,4,6 present (and via Facebook Live)
	5:00 PM	Formation Sunday Evening: Exploring The Colossian Forum
	6:00 PM	GEMS Sunday (at Faith CRC)
	7:30 PM	ETM (at First CRC)
Monday	7:00 PM	Full Council Meeting
Wednesday	6:30 AM	Men’s Bakery Study Group (at Casey’s Bakery)
	7:00 PM	Youth Group
	7:15 PM	Cadets (at Faith CRC)
Thursday	7:00 PM	Lenten Compline
Saturday	10:00 AM	Bell Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, 21 <sup>st</sup>	9:00 AM	Sunday School & Catechism (grades 1-12)
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship: Pastoral Groups 1,2,5 present (and via Facebook Live)
	5:00 PM	Formation Sunday Evening: Exploring The Colossian Forum