

SUNDAY, May 23, 2021

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).

Sunday Morning Worship

This Pentecost Sunday, **May 23**, we have the opportunity to worship with our whole church family once again! Pentecost symbolizes a new beginning, an unleashing of the Holy Spirit on the world, and the empowering of the church to spread the good news. May the Spirit breathe new life in us here at Covenant as we worship together! This morning Pastor Joel will be preaching on the [lectionary](#) passage from the book of Acts which recount the Pentecost story. We will continue to livestream our services online via Facebook Live as well. Here is a link to the [mobile-friendly worship guide](#).

Faith Formation Sunday Evening

During this month, we will gather at 6:00 PM for a service of evening prayer, also known as Vespers. Similar to our Lenten Thursday night Compline, these services will use prayers and litanies from the *Book of Common Prayer* and give us space and time for thanksgiving and praise, silence and meditation on scripture. Services will last between 45 minutes and an hour and include a brief meditation from Pastor Joel.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

From the Council:

The CDC is now recommending fully vaccinated people can resume activities without wearing a mask or physically distancing. As we continue our commitment to follow CDC guidance, we are removing any recommendations about masking if you are fully vaccinated. Our guidelines will continue to adapt as we learn more about COVID and as the CDC continues to update their recommendations for both vaccinated and unvaccinated people.

Sunday Morning Discussions

At 9:00 AM this Sunday, Pastor Joel will convene a time of dialogue in the Covenant Church basement. On **May 23**, Pastor Joel will offer a brief summary of the Synodical report on human sexuality and also offer a pastoral perspective on it. On subsequent Sundays, Pastor Joel will lead discussion on the Ten Commandments to accompany his sermon series. We invite all interested members to attend.

Coffee After Morning Worship

We hope to serve coffee and juice outside after our morning worship service each week as weather permits. We hope you'll head outside to fellowship with your church family.

Courier

I'll be working on the June Courier this week. Do you have something you'd like to include? Email it to the office (covenant@mtcnet.net) by 9:00 AM on Monday, **May 24**!

June Sunday Servant Scheduling

Beginning in June, we will resume scheduling our Sunday morning ushers, greeters, and coffee servers. Start looking for the schedule in the June Courier and on the bulletin each week.

Want to Play Ball?

Are you interested in playing slow pitch softball this summer on Thursday nights? If so, give Mark Horstman a call or email (712-441-4568 or mchorst@mtcnet.net).

Opportunity to Serve

Covenant is in need of some more volunteers to lock, unlock, and monitor doors during our morning worship services. You would be trained for this task, be paired with another volunteer, and help in making our church a safe and welcoming place to worship. If you are interested and willing to volunteer, please contact Rebecca De Smith.

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 **May**, we are encouraging Covenant's members to donate boxed, bagged, and packaged products (rice, potatoes, Hamburger Helper, taco seasoning, etc.). Bring them to church anytime during the month and please place the items in the basket in the NE entry or in one of the baskets in church. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus in our community!

At-Home Faith Formation Tip

The Practice of Prayer: The Practice of Prayer: Families, check out the free downloadable resource 5 Ways to Pray with Kids—tinyurl.com/5WaysPray. Here's one of those ways to pray: Have each person create a shape that represents what they'd like to pray about. Lego bricks, play dough, or pipe cleaners work well! Then pray about those things together (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit crcna.org/FaithFormation/Practices.)

Hope Have Fishing Benefit

Hope Haven will be holding its Annual Fishing Benefit at Lake Francis Case, Ft. Randall Dam on Friday, **June 4**. Registration is due **June 3** and the fee is \$60 which includes a to-go meal, entry gift, and eligibility for weigh-in prize categories. All proceeds will benefit Hope Haven. For more information and to register, visit hopehaven.org or call Brenda (712.476.3116).

Rocky Railway VBS

Rocky Railway VBS is coming to Bethel CRC **July 19-22!** Registration is open and children ages 5 through 4th grade are invited! You can find the registration link, more info, and the volunteer sign-up on Bethel's website at <http://www.bethelcsc.org> or on Bethel's Facebook page. If you have any questions, contact Shawn Meyers at vbs@bethelcsc.org.

Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please be in prayer for God's blessing on the First CRC congregation and the ministry of Pastor Kurt Monroe.

Offerings for May

23 Compassion/Tuition Assistance Fund 30 World Renew Disaster Response: India Covid-19 Crisis

Last week's offering	General Fund	\$800.00	Missions Fund	\$380.00
	Christian Education Fund	\$985.00	World Renew	\$600.00

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: Updates from Mission India can be found [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

OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Happy Birthday this Week

Kurt Vos, Lewis Clark, Sam Janssen

Happy Anniversary this Week

Mark & Lisa Christians, Erik & Barb Hoekstra, Steve & Pat Crull

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Sunday, 23rd	9:00 AM	Pre-Worship Dialogue
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship: all welcome (and via Facebook Live)
	6:00 PM	Vespers (Service of Evening Prayer)
Monday	7:00 PM	Elders Meeting
Wednesday	6:30 AM	Men's Bakery Study Group (at Casey's Bakery)
Thursday	8:00 PM	Colossian Forum
Sunday, 30th	9:00 AM	Pre-Worship Dialogue
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship: all welcome (and via Facebook Live)
	6:00 PM	Vespers (Service of Evening Prayer)