

**SUNDAY, July 4, 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).

### **Sunday Morning Worship**

This Sunday, **July 4**, we welcome Mike & Megan Ribbens to our service as they share about their work in South Africa. Mike will also preach this morning and we will together celebrate the Lord's Supper. Here is a link to the [mobile-friendly worship guide](#). Next Sunday, **July 11**, we welcome Kelly & April Crull to our service as they share about their work in Spain. Kelly will also preach next Sunday morning.

### **Faith Formation Sunday Evening**

We will gather at 6:00 PM for a service of evening prayer, also known as Vespers. 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 will include a brief meditation.

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Nursery Reopening**

The nursery will be reopening beginning this Sunday morning, **July 4**. See the [July Courier](#) for more information. If you previously served in nursery, start watching for your name on the schedule!

### **Connecting with the Ribbens & Crulls**

This Sunday **July 4**, our mission partners, Mike, Megan, Amira, Nico, and Stella Ribbens will be here with us in worship. After the service, we will host a time for questions and structured fellowship, concluding with a time of prayer. We will also have treats and coffee. The Crulls will be with us on **July 11**, and we'll have the same opportunity to connect and share a less formal time of prayer and fellowship after the morning service. We'd like to encourage any small groups who may have get-togethers (bible studies, backyard gatherings, etc) in the next two weeks to extend an invitation to the Ribbens and Crulls as a way to provide more informal opportunities to connect and strengthen our relationships with our mission partners.

### **Church Safety**

As we continue to welcome all members back to worship at Covenant, we will resume locking some of our doors for your safety and protection. Beginning this past Sunday, all doors will be open for worshippers to enter before the morning service (except the SE door, which will remain locked at all times), but after 10:10 AM, only the main entrance doors will be open for latecomers. Volunteers will be present to welcome and direct worshippers who come after this time. Doors will be unlocked at the end of the service, although you can exit through any door whenever needed. In addition, all church doors will be locked on Sunday afternoons, and only the main entrance doors will be open for our Sunday evening Faith Formation gatherings. If you have any questions, please talk to your elder.

### **Wednesday Morning Prayer Group**

On Wednesday mornings at 10:00 AM, members of Covenant are invited to gather for intercessional prayer. We pray for Covenant as a congregation and for individual members and households. As the Spirit leads, we also pray for our community, our nation, and the world in which Christ is at work to bring the kingdom of heaven to earth. We invite any member who feels led to join us to feel free to participate. The prayer meetings usually last approximately 30 minutes.

### **Pastor's Summer Schedule**

Beginning on **July 12**, Pastor Joel Kok will begin two weeks of study leave, followed by one week of vacation. The first week of study leave will take place at St. John's Monastery in Collegeville, Minnesota. The second week of study leave will take place at Nashotah Seminary in Wisconsin. For vacation, Joel and Tricia will spend time with extended family members in a cabin near Lake Michigan. The Koks welcome your prayers for travelling mercies and a refreshing time.

### **Sunday Morning Discussions**

The 9:00 AM Sunday morning discussion time will be on hold until we return to the Ten Commandments series later this summer.

### **Coffee After Morning Worship**

We'll be serving coffee inside again going forward, but feel free to take your coffee and conversation outside if you wish!

### **Update on Covenant's Fair Share/Legacy Plan Fund:**

Our fair share commitment for the 2020-2021 school year is \$190,786. We are in the last month of the fiscal year for this fund. After the June 27 offering, we need to collect an additional \$12600 by the end of July to meet this commitment. The July 11 offering is designated for this fund. Thank you for your continued faithful support for the education of the children in our local Christian schools. – From the Christian Education Committee.

### **Rocky Railway VBS Registration**

Registration for Rocky Railway VBS at Bethel CRC will close **July 7!** Register online at [www.bethelcsc.org](http://www.bethelcsc.org). Volunteers are also needed! Sign up online also at [www.bethelcsc.org](http://www.bethelcsc.org).

### **NAMI Support Group**

The NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Support Group will meet in the Fireside Room of Central Reformed Church in Sioux Center from 7 to 9 PM on Tuesday, **July 6**. Individuals and family members affected by mental illness are welcome. For information call Shirley Matheis (722-4462).

### **Housing Need**

Two Dordt University incoming freshmen from Thailand need a place to stay from July 26/27 until the dorms open on August 15. Hongqifan, representative of Knowledge Tree, a Christian nonprofit organization, recruits Christian students from China and Thailand to attend Dordt and/or Calvin. If interested in helping this young man and lady, please contact Fan (224-829-6241, [hongqifan913@gmail.com](mailto:hongqifan913@gmail.com)). There is a possibility of a stipend to help with food costs. (Questions? Contact Jo Faber.)

### At-Home Faith Formation Tip

The Practice of Remembering: The faith practice of remembering centers our attention on what God has done in our lives, deepening our assurance that God is with us here and now, and expanding our hope and anticipation for what God will yet do. Take some time this week to make a "faith timeline" to remember what God has done in your life and in the lives of people you love. (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit [crcna.org/FaithFormation/Practices](http://crcna.org/FaithFormation/Practices).)

### Praying for Our Local Congregations

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

### Offerings for July

4	General/Building Fund	11	Christian Education Fund
18	Missions Fund	25	World Renew

### Last week's offering

General Fund	\$2,873.50	Missions Fund	\$297.00
Christian Education Fund	\$1,718.50	Compassion Fund	\$150.00

### 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 newsletter from Mike & Megan Ribbens is [here](#) and prayer requests from ReFrame Ministries are [here](#).

### Sunday Servant Scheduling:

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

	TODAY	NEXT SUNDAY, July 11
Greeters	AM: Joe E, Shirley M, Linda VH	
Ushers	AM: Rebecca DS, Sally J, Marty VP	
Coffee	Wil A, Rachel L, Sarah S	
Subs	Donna B, Jo F, Chris G, Sarah H, Barb H, Lois VZ	
Sound/Projection	Dennis DJ ♦ Marty VP	Doug DB ♦ Dane H
Nursery	AM: Ross & Lisa F, Jo F	AM: Mark & Cheri H, Ryan & Val Z

### 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@crnapartners.org

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY



### Happy Birthday this Week

Merrill McCarthy, Mary Dengler, Gidge Meyer, Isabel Castelan, Sabine Feikema, Luke Hawley, Sharon Vos, Tom Clark

### Happy Anniversary this Week

James & Courtney Rylaarsdam, Chris & Rin Goedhart

### Membership transfers

- We welcome Dave & Sue Brue as members here at Covenant! We're so glad Dave was welcomed as a member shortly before he died and we are so thankful to have Sue as part of our church family.
- Lisa (Goedhart) Halpert has transferred her membership to Christ Church in Moscow, ID.
- Kevin Meendering has transferred his membership to Inwood CRC.
- Emily (Friend) Van Weerdhuizen has transferred her membership to Bethel CRC in Sioux Center.

## THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

<b>Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00 AM	Morning Worship: all welcome (and via Facebook Live)
	11:30 AM	Conversation & Questions with the Ribbens
	6:00 PM	Vespers (Service of Evening Prayer)

<b>Wednesday</b>	10:00 AM	Prayer Group
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<b>Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00 AM	Morning Worship: all welcome (and via Facebook Live)
	11:30 AM	Conversation & Questions with the Crulls
	6:00 PM	Vespers (Service of Evening Prayer)