

SUNDAY, December 19, 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.

Sunday Morning Worship

This Sunday, **December 19**, is the fourth Sunday of Advent, a season of waiting and hoping for our coming Messiah. Pastor Joel will be preaching from the Lectionary during this season, and we will be celebrating the Lord's Supper each Sunday. Here is a link to the [mobile-friendly worship guide](#).

Faith Formation Sunday Evening

This Sunday evening, **December 19**, Pianist Dr. Thomas Van Soelen and cellist Meghan McGuire will perform together at 6:00 PM. The concert will feature music from a variety of traditions, including special arrangements of Christmas carols. McGuire and Van Soelen have been partnering in concerts since 2013, mostly in Atlanta, Georgia. McGuire's move to Minneapolis, MN prompted a change in venue and we are excited to host them here! The concert is free and open to the public and will feature a freewill offering supporting The Family Crisis Center. You can read more about this in the [December Courier!](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Education Schedule

Our church education classes are taking a break until after the new year. Sunday School and Catechism resume on **January 9** and Covenant Sunday Morning resumes on **January 16**.

Sunday Evening Bible Study

The Sunday Evening Bible study will not be meeting this week. We will resume on **January 16**.

January Courier

Do you have something you want to include in the January Courier? Send it to the office by Monday, **December 20!** (covenant@mtcnet.net)

Christmas Song Sing

Let's get together for a time of singing Christmas songs! Join us on Monday, **December 20** at 7:00 PM in the fellowship hall and we will sing, snack, and sip. So please bring 6 Christmas goodies to share. Drinks will be provided.

Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who purchased or sold Fruited Plain BOGO pizza cards! We were able to raise \$1,270 to put towards our Christian Education commitments.

The Auction Is Coming!

The Auction at Covenant is coming (to raise funds for the Christian Education Fund) on Friday, **February 25** at 6:30 PM. Now is the time to start brainstorming – is there something you can offer? Could you host an event? Do you have items to donate? Maybe you're looking for a project to work on or recipe to perfect over these cold upcoming weeks! Mark your calendars, and we will get a sign-up sheet out after the new year. -Thanks, Christian Education Committee

Cornerstone Prison Church Faith Fellowship Weekend

Join us for the Cornerstone Prison Church Faith Fellowship Weekend. We'll kick off the weekend with a worship service on Friday, **February 18**, 6:00-8:00 PM. On Saturday and Sunday, **February 19 & 20** we'll gather from 7:15 AM to 4:00 PM. Join us for part of the weekend or all of it. The theme for the weekend is renewal, focusing on scripture texts from Zechariah 4:6-10 and John 15:7, 10-12, 15. Join us for worship, large group talks, and small group discussions. The deadline for signing up is Thursday, **January 27**. For more information or to sign up, please contact us at office@cornerstonepcsd.org or call (507) 215-3670. Thank you for considering this wonderful ministry opportunity!

Love INC Volunteer Opportunity

Love INC is looking for individuals willing to provide mentoring for participants in the Faith and Finances class this fall. Mentors will assist participants with financial goal setting, budgeting, credit (re)building, planning for debt repayment and savings. This opportunity begins on **January 25** and requires mentors to meet once a week for 45 minutes, on Tuesday evenings from 7:30 to 8:15 in Rock Valley for a 12-week period. Love INC will provide mentor training and guidance before and throughout the mentoring process. Please contact Love INC (712-476-5990, ministries@loveincsiouxcounty.com).

At-Home Faith Formation Tip

The Practice of Hospitality: Read Luke 14:12-14 and ponder or discuss the following questions. In this story, Jesus encourages us to offer hospitality to people who cannot repay us. In your unique context, who might that be? How might you offer food, shelter, and protection to them? (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit crcna.org/FaithFormation/Practices.)

Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please be in prayer for God's blessing on the Bridge of Hope congregation.

Offerings for December

5	General Fund	12	Christian Education Fund
19	Missions Fund	26	Tuition Assistance/Compassion Fund

Last week's offering	General Fund	\$3,690.00	Missions Fund	\$100.00
	Christian Education Fund	\$3,975.00	Compassion Fund	\$100.00

Online Giving

To give online, click [here](#). You can also 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](#).
- Mission & Ministry News: Read the latest newsletter from the Groenewold-Van Dyks [here](#) and from the Ribbens [here](#).

Sunday Servant Scheduling:

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

	TODAY	CHRISTMAS DAY, December 25	NEXT SUNDAY, December 26
Greeters		AM: Laremy DV, Cheri H, Val Z	
Ushers		AM: Jan B, Lee M, Jeff T	
Coffee		Isabel C, Sally J, Mark MC, Rog VH	
Subs		Mark C, Rob H, Rachel L, Don TN, Del VZ, Channon V	
Sound/Projection	Andy L ♦ Jason W	Andy L ♦ Marty VP	Nick B ♦ Rebecca DV
Nursery Dec. POM: Janssens	AM: Rob & Megan H, Ron & Carol O	AM: Lee & Jenni M, Kathy DW	AM: Marty & Kris VP, Joe & Erin E

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@crcnapartners.org

OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Happy Birthday this Week

Ruth Clark, Amelia Lappenga, Shirley Matheis, Betty Vander Plaats

Happy Anniversary this Week

Shaun & Sarah Stiemsma, Pastor Gianni & Georgina Gracia, Ryan & Val Zonnefeld

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Sunday, 19th	10:00 AM 6:00 PM	Morning Worship Cello/Piano Concert
Monday	7:00 PM	Christmas Song Sing
Wednesday	10:00 AM 7:00 PM	Prayer Group Youth Group Nerf Gun Battle
Saturday	10:00 AM	Christmas Morning Worship
Sunday, 26th	10:00 AM	Morning Worship