

SUNDAY, January 2, 2022

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, **January 2**, is the second Sunday of the Christmas season, a time to continue the celebration of Christ's birth. We will also celebrate the Lord's Supper this Sunday. This past September, Covenant was approached by CRC Worship Ministries and asked to prepare a sermon and service package to share with our fellow CRCNA churches as a resource for the January 2, service. This included a recorded video sermon by Pastor Joel and a fully scripted liturgy by Rebecca DeVries. Covenant was honored to be asked. Because Pastor Joel will be on vacation yet this Sunday, the council approved the use of his pre-recorded sermon combined with our live in church liturgy for our own Sunday today. Dr. Justin Bailey will lead us in the celebration of the Lord's Supper. We know it might feel a bit strange to be watching a sermon on a screen today. But consider that we too are participating in this liturgical opportunity that we pray will be a blessing to other church staff and preachers in our denomination as well. Here is a link to the [mobile-friendly worship guide](#).

Faith Formation Sunday Evening

There is no Sunday evening gathering this evening, **January 2**. We encourage you to spend time in fellowship, rest, and worship in other ways.

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**.

Office Schedule

Just a reminder that Pastor Joel will be taking some time away from **December 27-January 10**. During this time, we encourage you to contact your pastoral group elder or deacon with any pastoral needs. We also encourage you to send any prayer requests to your pastoral group elder and to the church office (covenant@mtcnet.net) during this time.

January Series 2022

Coming this January for the 35th year, Calvin University presents the January Series 2022 – the award winning free liberal arts education delivered in 15 weekly, lunchtime lectures. This year the series begins on Monday, **January 10** and continues weekdays through **January 28** from 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM CST. We invite you to watch it livestreamed here in the Covenant CRC sanctuary or watch digitally on demand each day until midnight on your own device. For all the details and the full schedule visit www.calvin.edu/january.

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, **January 4**. Video: Supporting a Loved One During a Mental Health Crisis. Individuals and family members affected by mental illness are welcome. For information call Shirley Matheis (722-4462).

Education Freedom Summit

You are invited to the Education Freedom Summit, a collaborative event being planned by Sioux Center Christian School and Western Christian High School to be held at Western on Wednesday, **January 5** at 12:00 PM. Lunch will be provided. The intent of the Summit is to bring awareness and excitement around the topic of school choice and ESAs and to learn how to better advocate for these opportunities. The Summit will include Lydia Quick and Eric Goranson of the Iowa Association of Christian Schools, Steve Holwerda of EdChoice, Representative Skyler Wheeler, Senator Jeff Taylor, Corey DeAngelis of the American Federation for Children, school leaders, board members, and interested citizens. Now is the time to unite to advance the mission of Christian education. I hope you will join us, and please also invite anyone who you feel would be interested in this opportunity, especially people with a passion for ESAs! Please RSVP by Monday, **January 3** by emailing brad.vis@westernchristianhs.com or by calling/texting 605-359-5704.

NW Iowa Bible League

Due to various physical circumstances the NW Iowa Bible League board has vacant positions. Will you make this a matter of prayer? If the Lord places the matter on your heart and you are willing to consider filing a vacancy, please contact Esther (507.350.9670 or dbesther@tcaexpress.net) for more information.

At-Home Faith Formation Tip

The Practice of Engaging Scripture: Read Psalm 1:1-2 and ponder or discuss the following questions. The new year is an excellent time to form new habits of Scripture engagement. How might you organize your day to make room for spending more time with God's Word? (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 Central Reformed congregation and the ministry of Pastor Jesse Henkle.

Last week's offering	General Fund	\$9,475.00	Compassion Fund	\$137.52
	Christian Education Fund	\$4,145.00	Family Crisis Center	\$214.00

Giving at Covenant

There are a variety of ways to give at Covenant! 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. Just a reminder, it was decided at the December congregational meeting that all cash/checks will now be used as needed unless designated. (You can read more about it [here](#) on page 6.) 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](#). A newsletter from Tesoros de Dios is [here](#).

Sunday Servant Scheduling:

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

	TODAY	NEXT SUNDAY, January 9
Greeters	AM: Wil A, Chris G, John V	
Ushers	AM: Jo A, Ron O, Mark T	
Coffee	Pat C, Dennis DJ, Luke H, Dennis VP	
Subs	Lisa C, Ruth Clo, George F, Rin G, Mark H, Tricia K	
Sound/Projection	Doug DB ♦ Dane H	Dennis DJ ♦ ?
Nursery Jan. POM: Janssens	AM: Jeff & Sara P, Jason & Dani W	AM: Tom & Ruth C, Dennis & Pam DJ

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

Dallas Apol, Jo Alberda, Paola Gracia

Happy Anniversary this Week

Andy & Rachel Landman

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Sunday, 2nd	10:00 AM	Morning Worship
Wednesday	6:30 AM 7:15 PM	Men's Bakery Study Group (at Casey's Bakery) Cadets
Saturday	All Day	Cadet Snow Derby
Sunday, 9th	9:00 AM 10:00 AM 6:00 PM	Sunday School & Catechism Morning Worship Vespers (Service of Evening Prayer)