

SUNDAY, January 23, 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 23**, is the third Sunday after the Epiphany. Pastor Joel is preaching from the lectionary texts from I Corinthians during this season and we will celebrate the Lord's Supper. Here is a link to the [mobile-friendly worship guide](#).

Faith Formation Sunday Evening

We will gather at 6:00 PM for a service of evening prayer, also known as Vespers. These services 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 last between 45 minutes and an hour and will include a brief meditation. Please note that next Sunday, **January 30**, we will gather for Cadet Sunday at Faith CRC at **5:00 PM**. There will be no evening service at Covenant.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Note from the Council

The Executive Committee of council is paying attention to the recent increase in flu and virus related illnesses in our region. As we to gather for meetings and worship together in the upcoming months, we reiterate the advice provided by the Community Health Partners below in their communication to local congregations:

Community Health Partners of Sioux County has seen an increase in illnesses in Sioux County, including influenza, COVID-19, norovirus, strep, and other viruses. Please continue to implement these steps to protect infants, the elderly, and the immune-compromised from serious complications that can follow viral illnesses:

- Stay home when you are sick – watch the service online
- Do not bring sick children to the nursery
- Wash your hands frequently
- Get vaccinated – it's not too late to get your flu shot and COVID-19 vaccine

WE Service

Just a reminder that we postponed the lunch and WE service that was initially scheduled for today, but we hope to gather for a WE service sometime in March!

February Courier

Do you have something you'd like to include in the February Courier, our monthly newsletter? Send it to the office by Monday, **January 24!** (covenant@mtcnet.net)

January Series 2022

For the 35th year, Calvin University presents the January Series 2022 – the award winning free liberal arts education delivered in 15 lunchtime lectures on weekdays from **January 10-28**, 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-series/.

Afghan Refugee Resettlement Opportunities

You are invited to an informative meeting on Afghan refugee resettlement opportunities for Covenant on Wednesday, **January 26**, at 7:00 PM, at The Fruited Plain (northwest meeting room). Jason Lief will be with us to answer questions about local outreach. Sara Ho will summarize her and Jason's experience with similar efforts in Canada. We will brainstorm and also begin to structure our possible outreach. Coffee will be provided.

Valet Parking

We are still in need of volunteers for the valet parking service for the main doors of Covenant, which assists those who may feel less comfortable with slippery sidewalks and frigid temperatures before and after the morning service. Volunteer groups should include adults to drive the cars and others to assist with exit and entry, as needed. Volunteers will arrive at least 20 minutes before church begins and remain available after the service until everyone who used the valet has left. If you would like to sign up, please contact Ross Feikema at Ross.feikema@gmail.com.

Sunday Evening Bible Study

The Sunday Evening Bible Study will be starting a new session using a Ray Vander Laan's study, "That the World May Know: Cultures in Conflict." There will be 5 meetings starting **February 6**. We meet on the first and third Sundays after the Vespers service. All are welcome to join us. Take a snack to share if you are able.

Don't Forget!

The Christian Education Fund Auction is coming on Friday, **February 25!** Start thinking of what you might be able to donate!

Love INC Winter Classes

Love INC of Sioux County Winter Classes begin Tuesday, **January 25**, 6:45-8:00 PM at Trinity CRC (lower level) in Rock Valley. Classes offered are Faith and Finances, Parenting, Boundaries, Grief Share, and Redemptive Compassion. For more information call Love INC Sioux County (712-476-5990) or visit www.loveincsiouxcounty.org/ourministries.

Freezer Meal Fundraiser

The Faith CRC Christian Education Committee is making Freezer meals this year! This is a great way to stock your freezer with meals for busy days when cooking is not an option! Or buy a meal for a teacher, a family with a new baby, a college student, healthcare worker, or a shut-in. Here is a link to order: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A44A4A92CA6F94-2022> If you are not computer savvy and would like to order a meal, please call Lindsay Mulder (712-441-2410) or Liz De Groot (712-541-3911) and we would be happy to get you signed up! The meal options this year are Chicken Enchiladas (8 small enchiladas, 3-4 servings), Spaghetti Casserole (3 servings), and Chicken Pot Pie (2-3 servings). There will only be one size of each meal this year. You have until Sunday, **January 30** to order. Pick up will be Saturday, **February 19** or Wednesday, **February 23** at the back door of Casey's Bakery. If you have a hard time getting around and would like your meals delivered to you or if you cannot make the pick-up dates, we can make other arrangements with you.

The Return of "An Oldie but a Goodie"

Upon request from our students who have aged out of the the Minn-i-Kota Youth Jr High Retreat, we are bringing back the High School Retreat. Join us Presidents' Day Weekend, **February 18-20**, at the Bethel CRC Lighthouse building. Our theme is "Belong" (Heidelberg Catechism Q&A #1). For more information, ask your Youth Leaders or contact Lee De Groot (712 470 4244). Deadline for registration is **February 5**. Check it out on the Minnikota Youth website or Facebook page.

Hiring Youth Coordinator:

The Minn-I-Kota Youth Network is an organization with the goal to empower, encourage, and equip youth ministry programs at churches in the Minnkota, Iakota, and Heartland Classes. After 12 years of faithful service Lee De Groot plans to step down from her role as Youth Coordinator at the end of 2022. The MIK Youth Board intends to hire a new coordinator by September 2022 to train alongside Lee. Those seeking to apply must have a love for Christ and be a member of good standing in a church that teaches Reformed doctrine. Applicants must have a heart for youth ministry and should be gifted in administrative skills as well as event planning. For a job description and information on how to apply, please contact dan@bethelsc.org (subject line "MIK Youth Coordinator Position") by **April 10**.

At-Home Faith Formation Tip

The Practice of Engaging Scripture: Read Luke 24:45-49 and ponder or discuss the following questions. Luke says, "He opened [the disciples'] minds so they could understand the Scriptures." What do you think that revelation might have felt like to these friends of Jesus? What does it mean to be a "witness" to the truths of the gospel? How do you (or might you) do that in your everyday life? (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit crcna.org/FaithFormation/Practices.)

Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please pray for God's blessing on the Church of Christ congregation and the ministry of Pastor Dustin Bolks.

Last week's offering General Fund \$7,545.00 Christian Education Fund \$3,875.00

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](#), prayer requests from ReFrame Ministries are [here](#), and a newsletter from JFA 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 30
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	Andy L ♦ Jake M	Nick B ♦ Marty VP
Nursery Jan. POM: Janssens	AM: Jake & Trena VW, Kurt & Sharon V	AM: Ryan & Angela H, Lee R

Encouraging our Missionaries

Got a minute? Send one of our missionaries a note of encouragement by email!

Kelly & April Crull Gianni & Georgina Gracia Sos & Kara Maletoungou Mike & Megan Ribbens Ben & Tricia Groenewold Van Dyk
crulls@caimail.net giannigracia@yahoo.com smaletoungou@crcna.org mribbens@gmail.com tvandyk@crcnapartners.org

OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Happy Birthday this Week

Jonathan Breems, Don Ten Napel, Trena Van Wyk

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Sunday, 23rd	9:00 AM	Sunday School, Catechism, Covenant Sunday Morning
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship
	6:00 PM	Vespers (Service of Evening Prayer)
	7:30 PM	ETM (at First CRC)
Monday	11:30 AM	The January Series: G. Sujin Pak
	7:00 PM	Elders Meeting
Tuesday	11:30 AM	The January Series: Simply Three
Wednesday	10:00 AM	Prayer Group
	11:30 AM	The January Series: Col. Nicole Malachowski
	7:00 PM	GEMS
	7:15 PM	Cadets (at Faith CRC)
Thursday	11:30 AM	The January Series: Brad Montague
	7:30 PM	The Colossian Forum
Friday	11:30 AM	The January Series: Gary Schmidt
Sunday, 30th	9:00 AM	Sunday School, Catechism, Covenant Sunday Morning
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship
	5:00 PM	Cadet Sunday at Faith CRC