

SUNDAY, August 21, 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, **August 21**, Pastor Joel continues his series on what it means to be "God's New People," in our time of uncertainty, polarization, and searching. He will preach from scripture passages that flow into "Our World Belongs to God," the Contemporary Testimony of the CRC, focusing on the section entitled "God's New People." Here is a link to the [mobile-friendly worship guide](#).

Faith Formation Sunday Evening

This Sunday, **August 21**, 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

September Courier

I'll be working on our monthly newsletter this week. Do you have something you'd like to include? Email it to the office (covenant@mtcnet.net) by Monday, **August 22**!

Looking for Bike Helmets

Do happen to have a few bike helmets around that aren't being used? We are looking for some for the Riazantsev family. Contact the church office or Len Rhoda if you have some to share.

Interested in a Small Group?

The Small Group Ministry at Covenant seeks to enfold members—families, couples, singles, and students—into groups that meet regularly (once or twice a month) for fellowship, study, worship, prayer, and outreach. Mostly, they aim to build community at Covenant. Groups are inter-generational and are definitely family friendly. We hope to incorporate new folks into groups in September. Sound interesting? Ready to join? Or need more information? Sign up in the back of church or contact Bob & Rebecca De Smith at bdesmith@mtcnet.net.

Fellowship Committee Opportunity

Dear Covenant friends, we are thinking about fellowshipping! We are asking for a few volunteers who would like to put some thought and grit into getting some engaging events off the ground over the next few years by serving on our Fellowship Committee! June De Wit is the council contact (712.441.4140) if you have any questions or interest.

Sunday School Needs Met

Thanks to many wonderful Covenant volunteers, our Sunday School needs for this year are fulfilled! Sunday School and Catechism will begin on **September 11**!

The Posture of Grace

I (Jim Schaap) am happy and proud to announce a new book of specific interest to Covenant members. Our former pastor, Pastor Herm Van Niejenhuis, selected 21 sermons from his files, typed them up (he always kept his notes handwritten), and sent them to me (you can call me his publisher). That book is now finished, and it's beautiful—it really is. It's Pastor Herm, and it's titled *The Posture of Grace*, the title of one of the sermons. Mary Dengler helped with the editing, Rob Haan did a marvelous job with the cover, and it will soon be here. Have a look yourself. It's bargain-priced at \$10, whether you buy it from me or the Amazon. If you'd like a copy or two, you can leave your name on a list at the back of the church, and we'll let you know when the shipment arrives.

GEMS & Cadets Volunteers Needed

- The Northstar GEMS program is looking for ladies of all ages with willing hearts to pour into the lives of our 4th-8th grade girls. You do not need to be crafty to be a counselor; you only need to have love for Jesus and girls! Valerie would love to answer any questions you might have (northstar_gems@hotmail.com or 712.449.8150).
- The Cadet program is looking for men who might be willing to volunteer as a counselor. We are also looking for volunteers to help with various crafts and extra activities but who might not be able to make every meeting. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Jeff De Boer (jeff.deboer@interstates.com or 712.441.6249).

Covenant Email List

Do you worship regularly at Covenant and would like to be added to our church email list to get all the news and updates? Email the church office and we'll add you! (covenant@mtcnet.net)

Kelly Kopic at Dordt University

Kelly Kopic, author of *Embodied Hope: A Theological Meditation on Pain and Suffering*, will be speaking at Dordt University on Monday, **August 22**, from 7:30-8:30 PM in SB1606. Kopic addresses the hard questions about pain and suffering without giving easy answers. Looking at Scripture as well as sharing from his own family's experience, Kopic points the reader to the example of Jesus, whose own pain and suffering provided us with hope of being lifted out of our own dark valleys.

Love & Learn Classes

Are you or someone you know interested in taking a class that will contribute to personal growth and development? Love INC is offering 12-week classes every Tuesday night beginning **August 30**. The classes being offered this fall are Faith & Finances, Redemptive Compassion, Boundaries, Parenting, and Grief Share. For more information visit the Love INC Sioux County web page. To register for a class email ministries@loveincsiouxcounty.org or call 712-476-5990.

Dordt Faculty Recital

Carrie Groenewold, Associate Professor of Church Music and Organ, will be presenting a faculty recital on Saturday, **September 3**, at 7:30 PM in the B.J. Haan Auditorium. Featuring a variety of works and genres, the recital will include the exciting Pièce d'Orgue by Johann Sebastian Bach, a jazz setting of "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" by living composer

William Bolcom, and will culminate with the well-known Carillon de Westminster by Louis Vierne. The Casavant organ has recently undergone a major repair, including replacement of the largest pedal pipes in the façade, and this recital will celebrate the work completed to restore this instrument.

NAMI Program

The NAMI Iowa Family-to-Family Education Program for family members of persons with serious mental illness will be offered at Central Reformed Church in Sioux Center this fall if there is enough interest. The 8-week course is free and will be taught by trained family member volunteer leaders, Barb Addink (712-567-4727), Shirley Matheis (722-4462 or nsmath@mtcnet.net), and Lynn Wielenga (712-441-4054). For more information, please call today!

At-Home Faith Formation Tip

The Practice of Service: Read John 13:3-5, 12-14 and ponder or discuss the following questions. If you were one of the disciples, how do you think you would have felt when Jesus, the Son of God, began to wash your feet? Embarrassed? Unworthy? Awed? Other? In what specific ways can we follow Jesus’ example of servanthood, both individually and as members of a faith community? Whose “feet” might you need to “wash”? (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 Bridge of Hope congregation.

Last week’s offering General Fund \$3,467.00 Christian Education Fund \$2,666.00

Giving at Covenant

There are a variety of ways to give at Covenant! To give online, click [here](#). You can also give by leaving your offering in the boxes located at the entrances, 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: A newsletter from the Crulls is [here](#) and the Groenewold-Van Dyks’ latest newsletter is [here](#). ReFrame Ministry’s August prayer requests 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, August 28
Greeters		AM: Mark MC, Barb T, Kris VP
Ushers		AM: Lee R, Marty VP, Marv W
Coffee		Dan A, Joan MC, James R, Dani W
Subs	Dennis DJ, Rob H, Jason H, Dennis VP, Channon V, Kurt V	
Sound/Projection	Jeff P ♦ Rebecca DV	Doug DB ♦ Tom C
Nursery	AM: Laremy & Rebecca DV, Laura J	AM: Channon & Joni V, Ron & Carol O

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

Jemie Dyk, Chris Goedhart, John Zwart, Connor Visscher

Happy Anniversary this Week

John & Linda Visser, Len & Lee Rhoda

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Sunday, 21st	10:00 AM 6:00 PM	Morning Worship Vespers (Service of Evening Prayer)
Monday	6:45 PM 7:30 PM	Elders Meeting Full Council Meeting
Wednesday	10:00 AM	Prayer Group
Sunday, 28th	10:00 AM 6:00 PM	Morning Worship Vespers (Service of Evening Prayer)