

SUNDAY, September 4, 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, **September 4**, Pastor Joel continues a 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, **September 4**, we are invited to join with the other Sioux Center CRC churches to gather at 6:00 PM for a worship service at Bethel CRC. Pastor Kurt Monroe will deliver the message. (There is no gathering at Covenant.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Posture of Grace Books

If you ordered a copy of *The Posture of Grace*, a book that features some collected sermons of Pastor Herm Van Niejenhuis, our former pastor, the books are here. The Breems will be helping distribute their uncle's book after morning worship on Sunday. There may be a few extra—ask the Breems about that. If you missed this round, you can always order copies from Amazon—the price is the same—\$10.00. If you write a check, please make it payable to Jim Schaap.

Edifying Engagement

After our worship on **September 4**, we will hold another Edifying Engagement gathering. This form of congregational conversation will take place about 15 or 20 minutes after the morning service, and it will serve as a time to reflect together on how we devote ourselves to "the apostles teaching and fellowship, the breaking of bread and prayers." All are invited.

Pizza, Parents, and Profession of Faith

Pastor Joel and Tricia would love to gather with our younger members and their families over pizza on a Friday night. We can enjoy the food, get to know one another better, and explore matters of faith. Some of our young people are considering profession of faith; some have already professed, and others haven't been considering it yet. You are all invited! We can plan to meet on Friday **September 9**. The gathering would begin at 5:30 PM and end around 7 PM. Please let me know if you have interest or questions in regard to these gatherings. You can contact me at joelekok@gmail.com or 712-441-9993.

Cadet Kick-Off

The Faith/Covenant/Bridge of Hope CRC's Cadet Club is having our kickoff party on Saturday, **September 10**. Open to all last year's cadets, all incoming 4th and 5th graders, and any new boys in the congregations, we will be going to Air Madness and Pizza Ranch for supper. The cost for all boys is \$5. For more information, please contact Jeff De Boer (fbccadets@gmail.com or 712-441-6249).

Sunday School Beginning Next Week!

Sunday School teachers are preparing to begin another school year of Sunday School at Covenant. We care about faith formation of all our children at Covenant. It's a joy to see younger and older church members interacting every Sunday and throughout the week! We need one another – in our communities, in our neighborhoods, in our classrooms at church, and in our sanctuary! We want to heartily invite all of our children, grades 1st-12th to join us at 9 AM, **September 11**.

Adult Education and Fellowship

On Sunday mornings at 9 AM, Covenant Sunday Morning (adult education at Covenant) will take the form of sharing faith stories in ways that help us experience fellowship with one another. We will invite members of Covenant to share their stories, followed by a time of edifying reflection together. These gatherings will begin on **September 11**.

All Church Picnic

We will kick off the Sunday School year with an all church picnic at Children's Park after our morning service on Sunday, **September 11**. Again this year we will be sharing a potluck lunch with each family bringing a hot and cold dish to share along with their own table service. (Singles can just bring one dish.) Drinks will be provided. Serving will begin shortly after 12:00 PM and we encourage any Dordt students and guests to join us! (Table service will be provided for Dordt students and guests – no need to bring anything!)

Parsonage/Outdoor Clean-up Day

We're planning to do some outdoor clean up on Saturday, **September 17** at 9:00 AM! Come to the front of the parsonage to help get the front yard looking good. Bring along shovels, pruners, wheelbarrows, muscles, etc.

Pork 'N Bands is Back!

Put **September 17** on your calendar and bring the whole family to the Fruited Plain for a smoked pork bun and live music! Food will be served from 5:30-7:00 PM and will also be available in to-go boxes. Once again the Christian Education Committee is sponsoring the meal and we will need some help from the congregation. Sign-up sheets for donating items and/or working the night of the event are on the table in the back of church or sign up online (click [here to donate items](#) and click [here to volunteer](#)), and reach out to Christian Education Committee with any questions!

For Your Baking Needs...

Our Ukrainian friend, Olga Riatantseva is a fabulous baker and would appreciate opportunities for providing cakes and pastries for any celebrations you may be planning. She uses fresh and natural ingredients only. You can contact the Riazantsevs at Illia's email: ryazanceviiya@gmail.com.

Christian Education Fund Update

An update from Christian education deacon representative, Ruth Clark: We have 59 students from members of Covenant CRC attending Western, Unity, OCCS, and SCCS that we are assisting through the existing Fair Share or Legacy funds. Our amount promised for the '22-'23 school year is \$190,305. This averages to \$15,858.75 per month. Thanks to your giving since fulfilling our previous school year pledge in late June, we are already \$28,908.47 towards this year's goal. Watch the upcoming announcements for some social gatherings and fundraisers to support Christian education.

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 for fellowship, study, worship, prayer, and outreach. They aim to build community at Covenant, are inter-generational, and family friendly. We hope to incorporate new folks into groups in September. Sound interesting? Ready to join? Need more information? Sign up in the back of church or contact Bob & Rebecca De Smith at bdesmith@mtcnet.net.

Youth Intern

Covenant is seeking a college student to work with our youth sponsors as a Youth Intern! This Youth Intern position is charged with assisting the adult youth sponsors of the youth group with planning and implementing effective group meetings and other youth group events. Work will average approximately 2-4 hours per week with a somewhat flexible schedule. The paid position preferably begins by mid-September and is expected to last until the school year is finished. If interested in more information, contact the church office (covenant@mtcnet.net).

Volunteer Opportunity

We're looking for someone to join Andy Landman and Nick Breems (and, hopefully, an intern from Dordt) on a leadership team to serve the youth of Covenant. Women are especially encouraged to consider being a part of our young peoples' program since our leadership is all male so far. Please contact Len Rhoda or Ross Feikema if you are interested.

Dordt First Mondays Speaker Series

On Monday, **September 5**, at 11 AM in the BJ Haan at Dordt University, Dr. Elizabeth Lewis Hall, professor of Psychology at Biola University will give a talk entitled "Speaking the Truth in Love: The Art and Science of Difficult Conversations." The event is free and open to the public. This talk is part of our [First Mondays Speaker Series](#), hosted by the Andreas Center. You can read her *in All things* article [here](#) and listen to her "Wondering" podcast conversation at *in All things*.

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, **September 6**. Speaker Beth Judd: My Journey with Mental Illness. Individuals and family members affected by mental illness are welcome. For information call Shirley Matheis (722-4462).

Bible League Dinner & Conference

All are invited to the **September 19** Bible League dinner and the daylong conference on Tuesday, **September 20**. Both events will be held at Centerpoint Church in Sioux Center. The keynote speakers are Mike & Lynn Wilder and friends of Bible League. For more details or to register online, go to bibleleague.org/tickets. Registration closes on **September 12**.

Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please pray for God's blessing on the Centerpoint congregation and the ministry of Pastors Jamie Dykstra and Chris Godfredsen.

Last week's offering General Fund \$2,429.00 Christian Education Fund \$1,440.00

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 September 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, September 11
Greeters	AM: Ruth Clo, Marge DB, Eldon W	
Ushers	AM: Wil A, Lisa C, Mark H	
Coffee	Ed B, Rin G, Andy L, Sarah S	
Subs	George F, Sherri TN, Del VZ, Linda V, Marcia W, John Z	
Sound/Projection	Doug DB + Jason W	Doug DB + Marty VP
Nursery	AM: Shaun & Sarah S, Jason & Sara H	AM: Marty & Kris VP, Dave & Jeri S

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 mrribbens@gmail.com tvandyk@crncpartners.org

OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Happy Birthday this Week

Rylan Brue, Angela Hannigan, Isaac Maletoungou, Val Zonnefeld, Marcia Westra, Shirley Taylor, Doug DeBoer

Happy Anniversary this Week

Tim & Mimi Kamp

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Sunday, 4th	10:00 AM 11:30 AM 6:00 PM	Morning Worship Edifying Engagement Joint CRC Worship Service at Bethel, Pastor Kurt Monroe preaching
Wednesday	10:00 AM	Prayer Group
Friday	5:30 PM	Pizza, Parents, and Profession of Faith
Sunday, 11th	9:00 AM 10:00 AM 12:00 PM 6:00 PM	Sunday School, Catechism, Covenant Sunday Morning (adult education) Morning Worship All Church Picnic (at Children's Park) Vespers (Service of Evening Prayer)