

SUNDAY, December 25, 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.

Christmas Morning Worship

Merry Christmas! Today we celebrate that Christ, the light of the world, entered this world and made his home among us. Praise be to our Immanuel! Here is a link to the [mobile-friendly worship guide](#).

Evening Worship Schedule

We will not have Sunday evening services on **December 25** or **January 1**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Out of Office

Pastor Joel will be taking some time off after today's Christmas service, so if you have pastoral needs from **December 25-January 8**, please contact your pastoral group elder or deacon.

January Courier

The January Courier is in your mailbox and can be found [here](#).

January Series

We plan to be a remote site for the January Series again this year from **January 9-27** and are looking for someone interested in helping with it. Have you enjoyed having these lectures here at Covenant and want to help keep it going? Contact the church office! (covenant@mtcnet.net)

Breaking Bread

On Thursday, **January 19**, members of Covenant and members of Good Shepherd will gather to share a meal in a way that expresses the "breaking of bread" practice we encounter in Acts 2:42. We can begin the gathering at 5:30 PM, with the soup, salad, and bread meal beginning at 6 PM. The purpose of this gathering will be to encourage connections within and beyond our congregations. We hope it will lead to all kinds of expressions of the practices in Acts 2:42. If you have thoughts or questions, please get in touch with Pastor Joel.

Covenant Turns 50!

Covenant is preparing to celebrate our 50th anniversary in 2023 and 2024, and everyone is invited to be part of the celebration of God's grace and faithfulness to Covenant. We encourage members to offer suggestions of how they would be willing to be a part of the activities. We cannot guarantee that all offers and suggestions will be used, but we want to be open to hearing the voice of the Holy Spirit via the members of Covenant as we move forward. Please share your thoughts and ideas with Duane Bajema.

Announcements from JFA

- Justice for All is having a meeting with information about Service & Learning Trips at the Justice for All Ministry Center (1335 Valley Drive, Rock Valley) on Tuesday, **January 10, 2023**, at 6:30 PM. There will be light refreshments available. Please contact Nick at Justice for All with questions (712.476.2804). We hope you'll consider going on a trip this year to work alongside others in a different community.
- Justice For All is planning a Kentucky Bus Tour, focusing on our 4 major ministry partners: Grace Covenant Ministries (Annville, KY); Helping Hands (Hyden, KY), Appalachia Reach Out (Inez, KY); and Appalachian Mission of Hope (Berea, KY). The dates are **April 12-18, 2023**. Join us, learn, and see how God is using beautiful ministries to share his love and hope to those who live in very poor communities throughout Kentucky. We'll be exploring the rich history, culture, and stories of the mountain 'hollers', coal, and horses! And God's amazing creation will also be on display! If you are interested or want information, please contact Pat Vander Pol at JFA (patvp@jfa-nwiowa.org, 712.476.2804).

Advent At-home Faith Formation Tip

Today we light the Christ candle to remind ourselves that the light of Christ has come into the world. Light a Christ candle in your own home today as you celebrate. Consider lighting a candle at each mealtime in the coming week (or year!) to remind you that Jesus is always with you.

Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please pray for God's blessing on the United Reformed congregation and the ministry of Pastor Jon Bushnell.

Last week's offering

General Fund

\$2,752.00

Christian Education Fund

\$1,453.00

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, all cash/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: A newsletter from the Crulls is [here](#) and the Groenewold-Van Dyks' latest newsletter is [here](#). The Maletoungous' latest newsletter is [here](#) and a newsletter from the Ribbens is [here](#). ReFrame Ministry's December 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, January 1
Greeters	AM: Tom C, Rob H, Lila S	AM: Dennis DJ, Kathy DW, Marty VP
Ushers	AM: Joan MC, Kris VP, Kurt V	AM: Rebecca DS, Deb H, Dennis VP
Coffee	Alejandro C, Terry F, Lee R, Jason W	Wil A, Mary D, Mark MC, Courtney R, Marv W
Subs	Lisa C, Ruth Clo, Marge DB, Rin G, Mark H, Joni V	Dan A, Steve C, Doug DB, Luke H, Lois VZ, Dani W
Sound/Projection	Doug DB ♦ Tom C	Doug DB ♦ Marty VP
Nursery	AM: John & Linda V, Ross & Lisa F	AM: Ethan & Donna B, Laura J

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

Betty Vander Plaats, Ken Matheis, Dennis Vander Plaats, Thea Wyenberg, Emily Kramer

Happy Anniversary this Week

George & Jo Faber, Dave & Jeri Schelhaas, Pastor Joel & Tricia Kok, Jeff & Shirley Taylor, Josh & Carlene Van Schouwen

Celebrating 60 Years of Marriage!

The cookies following our morning service today are in honor of George and Jo Faber's 60th anniversary which they will celebrate on December 27!

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Sunday, 25th 10:00 AM Christmas Morning Worship

Wednesday 10:00 AM Prayer Group

Sunday, 1st 10:00 AM New Year's Day Worship