

SUNDAY, January 1, 2023

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

Happy New Year! On this first day of the year (and the first Sunday of the Christmas season), we are glad you are here worshipping with us. Pastor Joel is taking some time off, so Rev. Todd Zuidema, the Director of Church Relations at Dordt, will be preaching this morning. Here is a link to the [mobile-friendly worship guide](#).

Evening Worship Schedule

We will not have a Sunday evening service today, **January 1**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Mailboxes

Have you checked your church mailbox lately? Some of them are getting very full, so don't forget to get your mail!

Pastor Out of Office

Pastor Joel will be taking some time off to spend time with family, so if you have pastoral needs from **December 25-January 8**, please contact your pastoral group elder or deacon.

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)

Women's Book Study

The women's book study will continue their study of "In the Grip of Grace" on **January 12** (chapter 3) & **26** (chapter 4), and **February 9** (chapter 5) & **23** (chapter 6). They meet at church at 9:00 AM.

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.

Escape Room!

Another Christian Education fundraiser opportunity is coming up and it's time to show off your deduction skills! The Legacy Committee is hosting an Escape Room event in the Side Room at the Fruited Plain. The date is set for **January 20 & 21**. More details to come but in the meantime gather your team of 4-10 people and get ready to "Escape the Loft!"

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.

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 3**. Speaker: Nathan Huyser: "10 Years with Serious Mental Illness: Stories, Lessons, and Hope." Individuals and family members affected by mental illness are welcome. For information call Shirley Matheis (722-4462).

JFA Service & Learning Trips

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.

At-home Faith Formation Tip

“There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance” (Eccles 3:1-4). As we enter a new year full of unknowns, remind each other to take comfort in the knowledge that all your times are in God’s hand.

Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please pray for God’s blessing on the Amistad Cristiana congregation and the ministry of Pastor Eddie Olguin.

Last week’s offering General Fund \$5,588.00 Christian Education Fund \$3,435.00

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 8
Greeters	AM: Dennis DJ, Kathy DW, Marty VP	
Ushers	AM: Rebecca DS, Deb H, Dennis VP	
Coffee	Wil A, Mary D, Mark MC, Courtney R, Marv W	
Subs	Dan A, Steve C, Doug DB, Luke H, Lois VZ, Dani W	
Sound/Projection	Doug DB + Marty VP	Andy L + Rebecca DV
Nursery	AM: Ethan & Donna B, Laura J	AM: Mark & Lisa C, Jason & Sara H

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@acsi.org

Mike & Megan Ribbens
mribbens@gmail.com

Ben & Tricia Groenewold Van Dyk
tvandyk@crncpartners.org

OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Happy Birthday this Week

Jenni Mellema, Dallas Apol, Jo Alberda, Penny Donahue, Paola Gracia

Happy Anniversary this Week

Andy & Rachel Landman

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Sunday, 1st	10:00 AM	New Year’s Day Worship (Rev. Todd Zuidema preaching)
Wednesday	10:00 AM	Prayer Group
Sunday, 8th	9:00 AM	Sunday School, Catechism, Covenant Sunday Morning
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship (Dr. David Westfall preaching)
	6:00 PM	Vespers (Service of Evening Prayer)