

SUNDAY, August 20, 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

This Sunday, **August 20**, Pastor Joel will be preaching from the [lectionary](#), using the Old Testament passage as we continue to learn about the faithfulness of our Covenant God. Here is a link to the [mobile-friendly worship guide](#).

Sunday Evening Vespers

This Sunday, **August 20**, we will gather at 6:00 PM. Our Sunday evening gatherings typically follow the pattern of Vespers, or Evening Prayer, in which we spend time in prayer, praise, silence, and meditation, using prayers and litanies from the *The Book of Common Prayer*. This evening we will also take time to share our Joys and Concerns and offer those to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Edifying Engagement

After worship this morning, **August 20**, Pastor Joel will briefly share about his August 7-11 sermon seminar; and reflect with the congregation regarding a new practice in which Children in Worship will interact more directly with our sanctuary worship services on the first Sunday of each month, beginning in September. The leaders of Children in Worship have a proposal which they will communicate with parents prior to September 3, and we welcome insights from all congregation members.

Pizza BOGO Cards on Sale!

Fruited Plain BOGO cards will be going on sale the week of **August 21!** The Covenant Christian Education Committee is once again partnering with the Fruited Plain to offer this amazing deal! Each pizza card costs \$30 and is good for 5 punches to buy one pizza and get one free. They make delightful gifts for anyone and are handy to have on hand for a family pizza night. College kids – remind your parents you need pizza to study well! Pizza cards can be purchased at the Fruited Plain through the end of October. \$10 from every sale goes towards meeting our Christian Education Fund commitments.

Cadet Kick-Off Party

The Cadet Kickoff party will be held on Saturday, **August 26** at Sandy Hollow from 4-7 PM. There will be a carpool leaving Faith at 3:45 if needed. We will have yard games, canoeing, fishing, and more. If you have questions, please contact Clark De Vries (712-441-3944).

Covenant Sunday Morning Plans

For Covenant Sunday Morning this fall, we are planning to discuss the book *Under the Wings of God* by Cornelius Plantinga. The book contains 20 short reflections which can be read and discussed without reference to the other writings, so you can feel free to join as you are able to. The church will place a bulk order for books for those interested, and the cost will be roughly \$16. If you are interested in participating, please complete the online survey [here](#) or sign up for a book on the welcome table.

Looking for Ways to Serve our Youth?

- We are thankful to have teachers lined up for the 2023-2024 Sunday School year, but if you're interested in being on a teacher substitute list, please contact Megan Haan (712.463.2655 or meganhaan@gmail.com).
- 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).
- Men of Covenant, the Cadets program is looking for more counselors for this year. Volunteers would be helping with a Bible lesson and various crafts. If you would like volunteer or have questions, please contact Jeff De Boer (fbcadets@gmail.com or 712.441.6249).

Back to School Fundraiser

Join the Merilus family (Garry, Taunya, Kenthia, and Kerina) on Tuesday, **August 22**, for a Back to School Bakesale at the New Homestead in Sioux Center from 9 AM to 1 PM. All proceeds will be donated to Kingdom Kids-Haiti to help with school costs for kids from their community. Because kids and their families have had to flee the area and relocate to new communities, their school costs and tuition will be much higher this year. Come get some yummy treats for a purpose and cool off with some refreshing lemonade!

Bible League Conference

Join us on Tuesday, **September 12** at Bethel CRC in Sioux Center for the Growing Inward-Reaching Outward conference for men and women. Best-selling author Carol Kent's life turned upside down when their only child was sentenced for murder. Carol shares from God's Word and her family's life experience in growing an enduring faith and impacting the world for Christ. Registration and more information can be found at Bibleleague.org/tickets or call 866-825-4636

Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please pray for God's blessing on the Free Grace Reformed congregation and the ministry of Pastor Mark Schwarz.

Last week's offering General Fund \$10,440.00 Christian Education Fund \$975.00

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' May newsletter is [here](#). The Maletoungous' latest newsletter is [here](#) and a newsletter from the Ribbens 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 27
Greeters	AM: Ethan B, Jill F, Jason H	
Ushers	AM: Lisa C, Rin G, Len R	
Coffee	Jan B, Sarah H, Joan MC, Stan VB, Erika VS	
Subs	Paul C, Rebecca DS, Verlyn DW, Lee R, Kris VP, Kurt V	
Sound/Projection	Andy L ♦ Tom C	Nick B ♦ Rebecca DV
Nursery	AM: Nick & Jenni B, Doug & Marge DB	AM: Andy & Rachel L, Duane & Jan B

Encouraging our Missionaries

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

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

Barb Mellema, Shaun Stiemsma, Daniel Ver Steeg, Chris Goedhart, John Zwart, Connor Visscher

Happy Anniversary this Week

John & Linda Visser, Len & Lee Rhoda

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Sunday, 20th	10:00 AM	Morning Worship
	11:30 AM	Edifying Engagement
	6:00 PM	Vespers (Service of Evening Prayer)
Wednesday	6:30 AM	Men's Bakery Study Group (at Casey's Bakery)
	10:00 AM	Prayer Group
Thursday	9:00 AM	Women's Book Study
Saturday	4:00 PM	Cadet Kick-Off (at Sandy Hollow)
Sunday, 27th	10:00 AM	Morning Worship
	6:00 PM	Vespers (Service of Evening Prayer)