

**SUNDAY, August 27, 2023**

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## 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 27**, 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. While our practice is to celebrate the Lord's Supper each week during our morning service, on the last Sunday of the month, we celebrate in the evening service instead. Here is a link to the [mobile-friendly worship guide](#).

### Sunday Evening Vespers

This Sunday, **August 27**, 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 celebrate the Lord's Supper together.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### September Courier

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

### Pizza BOGO Cards on Sale!

Fruited Plain BOGO cards are currently on sale! 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.

### Covenant Sunday Morning Plans

Covenant Sunday Morning (Adult Sunday School) plans to discuss the book *Under the Wings of God* by Cornelius Plantinga this fall. 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. Please sign up by Thursday, **August 31**.

### Intergenerational Orchestra

Covenant will host the next joint CRC evening worship service on **September 10** with Pastor Kurt Monroe from First CRC preaching. We would like to put together an intergenerational orchestra to help lead this service. All strings players from 6th grade-adult are invited to participate. A rehearsal will be at 4:30 PM on Sunday afternoon, **September 10**. Please email Rebecca De Vries ([rebecca.ann.devries@gmail.com](mailto:rebecca.ann.devries@gmail.com)) if you plan to participate. You can contact Jill Friend if you have any questions: [jfriend@siouxcenterchristian.com](mailto:jfriend@siouxcenterchristian.com).

### Labor Day Worship and Learning Event at the Fruited Plain Cafe

On Monday, **September 4**, you are invited to a night of singing, praying, and learning on the theme of Work and Worship. Covenant is co-hosting the evening with Good Shepherd Church, and Matthew Kaemingk, First Mondays Speaker at Dordt, will be joining us. We'll sing new songs from the Porter's Gate songwriting collective from their album *Worship for Workers* and spend time in prayer for our city and county and the work and workers here. The Fruited Plain will technically be closed but a limited drink menu will be offered. The event begins at 7:00.

### Save the Date!

Save the date, **October 13**, for the Covenant retreat where, in the tradition of retreats held over the past 50 years, we will concentrate on laughing together. Please start now to think about what makes you and your family laugh (e.g., fun experience, skit, activity, game, story, or joke) and consider sharing it with the rest of us. Contact Len and Lee Rhoda (722-1854) or John and Linda Visser (712-441-1608) with your offerings.

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:fbcadets@gmail.com) or 712.441.6249).

### Dordt Faculty Recital

You are invited to a faculty organ and trumpet recital by Dr. Carrie Groenewold, Associate Professor of Church Music and Organ, and Richard Neckermann, trumpet, on Saturday, **September 2**, at 7:30 PM in the B.J. Haan Auditorium. The recital will be followed by a public reception in the lobby. The evening will feature a variety of works for trumpet and organ, as well as some solo organ repertoire, including the opening movement of the Trumpet Concerto in E-flat by Johann Baptist Neruda, the lush Prière ("Prayer") by César Franck, and musical depictions of several paintings of Edvard Munch by living composer Anthony Plog.

### Labor Day Pancake Breakfast

Join the First CRC Youth Group for their annual Labor Day pancake breakfast on Monday, **September 4**, to be held at First CRC in Sioux Center, with serving from 7:30 to 9:30 AM. Free will donations are for the youth group's mission trip.

## 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](http://Bibleleague.org/tickets) or call 866-825-4636

## Friendship Bible

The Sioux Center Friendship Bible group begins its season at the end of this month. A young man in his early twenties—talkative, fun and funny, excited about his job (and Friendship)—needs a new mentor. If you are an adult male who feels led to spend an hour on Thursday evenings alongside a room full of fellow believers with a wide variety of gifts and abilities, please contact the First CRC secretary ([office@firstcrc.com](mailto:office@firstcrc.com)), and she will connect you with the Friendship team leaders.

## Everyday Ambassadors Practicum

Ever feel reluctant and frustrated when encouraged to share your Good News? At a one-afternoon-workshop, let's dig into the Word, learn to express our personal God-stories, and interact with those who are struggling without Him. You will likely receive an "I can do that" feeling, causing you to more organically bear Good News to others you know. For information, dates, or to sign up for Everyday Ambassadors Practicum, visit <http://sfnewroots.com/our-ministries/>.

## Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please pray for God's blessing on the Jesuscristo el Buen Pastor congregation and the ministry of Pastor Rodrigo Gonzalez.

**Last week's offering**                      General Fund                      \$18,459.00                      Christian Education Fund                      \$2,573.00

## 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, September 3
<b>Greeters</b>	<b>AM:</b> Ethan B, Jill F, Jason H	<b>AM:</b> Donna B, Shirley M, Ron O
<b>Ushers</b>	<b>AM:</b> Lisa C, Rin G, Len R	<b>AM:</b> Rockne MC, Sherri TN, Marcia W
<b>Coffee</b>	Jan B, Sarah H, Joan MC, Stan VB, Erika VS	Natalie B, Dennis DJ, Deb H, James R, Daniel VS
<b>Subs</b>	Paul C, Rebecca DS, Verlyn DW, Lee R, Kris VP, Kurt V	Rob H, Mark H, Dave S, Dennis VP, Marty VP, Sharon V
<b>Sound/Projection</b>	Nick B ♦ Jason Wyenberg	Jeff P ♦ Rebecca DV
<b>Nursery</b>	<b>AM:</b> Andy & Rachel L, Duane & Jan B	<b>AM:</b> Jeremy & Kristi H, Tricia K

## Encouraging our Missionaries

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

Gianni & Georgina Gracia  
[giannigracia@yahoo.com](mailto:giannigracia@yahoo.com)

Sos & Kara Maletoungou  
[smaletoungou@acsi.org](mailto:smaletoungou@acsi.org)

Mike & Megan Ribbens  
[mribbens@gmail.com](mailto:mribbens@gmail.com)

Ben & Tricia Groenewold Van Dyk  
[tvandyk@crncpartners.org](mailto:tvandyk@crncpartners.org)

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY



### Happy Birthday this Week

*Elise Stiemsma, Dave Schelhaas, Melissa Bailey, Joya Schreurs*

## THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

<b>Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup></b>	10:00 AM 6:00 PM	Morning Worship Vespers (Service of Evening Prayer)
<b>Monday</b>	7:00 PM	Full Council Meeting
<b>Wednesday</b>	10:00 AM 7:00 PM	Prayer Group 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Meeting (at the Goedharts)
<b>Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	10:00 AM 6:00 PM	Morning Worship Vespers (Service of Evening Prayer)