

SUNDAY, October 1, 2023

WORSHIP NOTES

Worship Services Online

Click [here](https://www.facebook.com/Covenant-CRC-520064914738965/) 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, **October 1**, Pastor Joel will be preaching from the [lectionary](#), and will return to the Old Testament passage as we enter again into the story of God's covenant faithfulness to his people. Here is a link to the [mobile-friendly worship guide](#).

Sunday Evening Vespers

Our Sunday evening gatherings at 6:00 PM 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 *Book of Common Prayer*. This evening we will also take time to share our Joys and Concerns and offer those to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Smile & Say Cheese!

The 50th Anniversary Committee is working on a 50th Anniversary book that will hopefully include photos of our current church members. So there will be photographers in the fellowship hall for the next weeks ready to take your family's photo! (And bonus – we will use these for the church directory as well!) So find a photographer and smile!

Church Directory

Can you take a minute to check out your directory listing on the table in the fellowship hall to see if it looks correct? And parents – please add any cell phone numbers or email addresses you'd like included for your kids too! Thanks!

Church Education Schedule

Just a reminder that church education classes for Sunday School, Catechism, and Covenant Sunday Morning, will take a break next Sunday, **October 8**, for Heartland Break. Classes will resume on **October 15**.



Pastoral Group Dinners

Next Sunday, **October 8**, we will begin the fall season of Pastoral Group Dinners! The **Goedhart/Hummel** pastoral group start things off and enjoy fellowship and a meal together at 12:00 PM. Visitors and college students are welcome to join them! On **October 15**, the **Van Wyk/Van Tol** pastoral group will meet.

The Church Retreat is Coming!

The Covenant Retreat will be held on Friday, **October 13** from 7:00-9:00 PM at the Sandy Hollow Clubhouse. We'll be playing 70's trivia, sharing stories and jokes, and maybe even doing a few dances. If the weather cooperates, we'll end the night with a bonfire. We are looking forward to your presence for a fun night of fellowship. Please bring a snack to share, a lawn chair, and roasting sticks for the bonfire. And if you haven't already, 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 – and please don't wait till the last minute! Contact Len and Lee Rhoda (722-1854) or John and Linda Visser (712-441-1608) with your offerings.

Baby Shower!

Let's celebrate the birth of Clara Ho and welcome her to the Covenant family! We invite you to bring gifts to the basket in the fellowship hall and, after the service on **October 15**, Jason, Sara, and Clara will greet the church family at the back of the sanctuary. The Hos will bring the gifts home to open them as a family. You are welcome to bring gift cards or money to the church office as well.

Contact Information Needed

The 50th Anniversary Planning Team would like to send an invitation to all former charter members. Please check the list on the back table, and if you have contact information for any of the people listed there, please get it to Steve and Pat Crull. You can either email it to sprull@mtcnet.net or put it in their mailbox at church.

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.

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 (once or twice a month) for fellowship, study, worship, prayer, and outreach. Mostly, they aim to build community at Covenant. Groups are inter-generational and are definitely family friendly. We hope to incorporate new folks into groups in the next month. Sound interesting? Ready to join? Or need more information? Sign up in the back of church or contact Bob & Rebecca De Smith at bdesmith@mtcnet.net.

Looking for Tech Help!

We are looking for anyone high school aged and older who might be interested in serving our congregation in worship by running the projection and video for our services. We will train you! If you are interested, contact Rebecca DeVries (rebecca.ann.devries@gmail.com).

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, **October 3**. Individuals and family members coping with mental illness are welcome. For information, call Shirley Matheis (722-4462).

An Evening of Praise

Mark your calendars for "An Evening of Praise" on Friday, **October 6**. Bible League International (BLI) Ambassadors are sponsoring a music concert at the B.J. Haan Auditorium at Dordt University in Sioux Center at 7 p.m. The groups that are performing are Four for Him, the Klaasens, and Ensemble Royale. The evening will also feature a six-handed piano arrangement performed by Trio BDT. A free will offering will be taken for BLI and every \$5.00 raised will cover the cost of putting a Bible written in a language that they can understand in the hands of people around the world. Please invite your friends and family to "An Evening of Praise." All are welcome!

Northwestern College Hymn Sing

You are invited to join organist MaryLou Wielenga and worship leader Corky Koerselman for a time of worship Saturday, **October 7**, from 10:45 to 11:30 AM. The hymn sing will take place in Christ Chapel and will feature the college's 45-stop, 56-rank tracker action pipe organ, constructed by world-renowned organ builder Jan van Daalen.

Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please pray for God's blessing on the Netherlands Reformed congregation.

Last week's offering General Fund \$4,694.38 Christian Education Fund \$1,200.00

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' September newsletter is [here](#). The Maletoungous' latest newsletter is [here](#) and a newsletter from the Ribbens 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, October 8 |
|------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| Greeters | AM: Laremy DV, Cheri H, Val Z | |
| Ushers | AM: Wil A, Ruth Clo, Marge DB | |
| Coffee | Pat C, Terry F, Megan H, Merrill MC, John Z | |
| Subs | Jo A, Jenni B, Sharon D, Luke H, Andy L, Dani W | |
| Sound/Projection | Nick B ♦ Jason W | Jeff P ♦ Marty VP |
| Nursery | AM: Channon & Joni V, Barb T | AM: Mark & Cheri H, Luke & Sarah H |

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@crnapartners.org

OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Happy Birthday this Week

Judah Hawley, Ethan Brue, Ava Landman, Ed Brummel, Elijah Schreurs

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----------|---|
| Sunday, 1st | 9:00 AM | Sunday School, Catechism, Covenant Sunday Morning |
| | 10:00 AM | Morning Worship |
| | 6:00 PM | Vespers (Service of Evening Prayer) |
| | 7:15 PM | Sunday Evening Bible Study |
| Wednesday | 10:00 AM | Prayer Group |
| | 7:00 PM | Youth Group |
| Sunday, 8th | 10:00 AM | Morning Worship |
| | 12:00 PM | Goedhart/Hummel Pastoral Group Dinner |
| | 6:00 PM | Vespers (Service of Evening Prayer) |