

SUNDAY, February 4, 2024

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

Today, on this fifth Sunday after Epiphany, Pastor Joel will continue preaching from the [lectionary](#) passages in Mark. Here is a link to a [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.

Ash Wednesday Service

Join us as we gather for an Ash Wednesday service at 6:30 PM on **February 14** to mark the beginning of the Lenten season.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship at SCCS

Just a reminder that in January through March, our Sunday morning worship services will be held at Sioux Center Christian School while our Sanctuary Refresh project is going on. Please use only the main entrance to enter and exit the building, we'd like the able-bodied to reserve the "Visitor Parking" for elderly and handicapped parking, and after the service, pick up your color-coded chair and return it to the correct color-coded chair rack! (Volunteers will be at the racks to assist you.)

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Would you be able to help set up chairs at SCCS before our morning services? We're looking for 3-4 people to help each week. Sign up [here](#).
- The Senior Needs Committee is looking for volunteers to assist with a valet service before Sunday morning worship at SCCS. We need two volunteers to assist people into the building (if needed), park the car, and then after the service, retrieve the car and accompany people to their vehicle. If you're willing to help, please [sign up here](#) or contact the office.

Church Education Restarting!

Sunday School, Catechism, and Covenant Sunday Morning will start again this Sunday morning, **February 4** at 9:00 AM!

Justice & Mercy Committee Formation

Interested in learning and conversing about how our church could be more engaged in efforts related to justice and mercy? Contact Ruth Clark (tomandruth@gmail.com) if you are interested in discussing these ideas and/or show up on Monday, **February 5**, 7-8 PM, at the Fruited Plain to chat. These are simply beginning conversations that, we hope, will lead to small actions with great love over the upcoming years. High school, college, and young adults are especially encouraged to come!

WWW Pizza & Game Night

Mark your calendars for a Warm Winter Weekend Pizza and Game Night on Saturday, **February 10** at Covenant. Come and enjoy a free-will offering pizza meal from 5:30-6:30 PM and stay for board games, card games, and indoor yard games for all ages from 6:30-9:00 PM. Bring a snack to share and get ready for some fun! If you plan to eat with us that evening, could you please [sign up here](#) so we know how much pizza to order?

Going once... Going twice... Sold!

The Christian Education Auction is coming on **February 23** at 6:30 PM! The doors will open and the silent auction will begin at 6:00. Nursery will be provided for children through age 4 and there will be activities for elementary aged children. It's time to start signing up to contribute to this year's auction: [2024 Christian Ed Auction items](#). We encourage you to check out the [February Courier](#) or the email that went out this week for ideas of things to offer! If you aren't tech-savvy, contact Emily Kramer (evanderhart@yahoo.com or 712-441-7539) and she will add your item to the list. And we will be adding a book sale to the auction! If you have gently used books to donate, please consider saving them for the silent auction – \$2 for hardcovers and \$1 for paperbacks. Please don't bring auction items or books to church until Thursday, **February 22**.

Share Your Voice

The 50th Anniversary Committee is asking each Covenant member/family to write a short reflection (no longer than 330 words) to be included in the 50th Anniversary book. We have received a number of lovely contributions, but we want to hear from as many people as possible! We want to hear your voice whether you've been a member for three months or 30 years.

Your reflection will accompany your member photo in the book. If you would like to follow a prompt, consider these: (1) How has God blessed you at Covenant? or (2) Share a favorite Covenant story/memory. Our submission deadline is **March 1**; please email your submission to your pastoral group elder. Thank you!

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, **February 6**. Voices: A documentary film about psychosis will be shown. Individuals and family members coping with mental illness are welcome. For information, call Shirley Matheis (722-4462).

Praying for Our Local Congregations

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

Last week’s offering

General Fund: \$8,250.00

Christian Education Fund: \$525.00

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: The Groenewold-Van Dyks’ latest newsletter is [here](#). The Maletoungous’ latest newsletter is [here](#) and a newsletter from the Ribbens is [here](#). An update from Pastor Gianni Gracia in Miami is [here](#). ReFrame Ministry’s February 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, February 11
Greeters	AM: Terry F, Megan H, Dennis VP	
Ushers	AM: Daryl H, Sally J, Kris VP	
Subs	Bob DS, Rachel L, Carol O, Linda V, Laurey Z	
Sound/Projection	Doug DB ♦ John S	Jeff P ♦ Terry F
Nursery	AM: Luke & Sarah H, Ryan & Val Z	AM: Marty & Kris VP, Barb T

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@crncnpartners.org

OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Happy Birthday this Week
Wil Alberda, Jane Taylor

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Sunday, 4th	9:00 AM 10:00 AM 6:00 PM 7:15 PM	Sunday School, Catechism, Covenant Sunday Morning Morning Worship (at Sioux Center Christian School) Vespers (Covenant Fellowship Hall) Sunday Evening Bible Study
Monday	7:00 PM	Justice & Mercy Committee (at The Fruited Plain)
Wednesday	6:30 AM 10:00 AM 6:50 PM 7:00 PM	Men’s Bakery Study Group (at Casey’s Bakery) Prayer Group Cadets (at Faith CRC) GEMS
Thursday	9:00 AM	Women’s Book Study
Saturday	5:30 PM	WWW Pizza & Game Night
Sunday, 11th	9:00 AM 10:00 AM 6:00 PM	Sunday School, Catechism, Covenant Sunday Morning Morning Worship (at Sioux Center Christian School) Vespers (Covenant Fellowship Hall)