

SUNDAY, March 3, 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 is the third Sunday of Lent. This season is a time of journeying toward the cross as we daily die to ourselves and rise with Christ in the hope that comes with the empty tomb. Pastor Joel has a classical appointment to preach at Inwood CRC today, so Dr. Justin Bailey will preach here at Covenant while he's away. Here is a link to a [mobile-friendly worship guide](#).

Sunday Evening Gathering

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.

GEMS Sunday Worship

On Sunday, **March 10**, at 5:00 PM, we will gather at Faith CRC with members of Faith and Bridge of Hope to celebrate GEMS Sunday. There will not be a service at Covenant that evening.

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.)



Pastoral Group Dinners

Next Sunday, **March 10**, we will kick off our spring Pastoral Group Dinners with the **Goedhart/Hummel** pastoral group gathering for fellowship and a meal together at 12:00 PM in the Covenant fellowship hall. Visitors and college students are welcome to join them!

Salt Sale 2024

The Water Softener Salt sale is back! This is a great fundraiser that brings in money for our Christian Education Fund from outside our church family. We will again partner with Bridge of Hope to deliver salt on Saturday, **April 6**. Please put this date on your calendar! We will need many volunteers to help! The order forms are available [here](#) and will be at the TRIP office at SCCS. Each family is encouraged to try to sell 25 bags, but that is just a suggestion! Please sell as you are able – to family and friends and neighbors. The softener salt comes in 40lb bags of crystals and costs \$8.50 a bag. The best part is that we deliver the bags of salt wherever you would like on your property! Order forms will be due **March 10** at either the TRIP office, church office, or Emily Kramer's mailbox. The Christian Education Committee knows this is hard on the heels of the auction, but we thank you for all you do to support Christian Education!

Auction Thanksgiving

The Christian Education Auction was a smashing success! We raised \$18,684 and had a great night of fun and fellowship while raising money for our Christian Education Fund. Thank you for your generosity!

Refresh Project Loans

Covenant may need some additional private loans in March or April to fund the remainder of the Refresh Project. Costs. If you have not already contacted the Treasurer (John Visser) or one of the deacons about a willingness to lend, please do so within the next few weeks.

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Would you be able to help set up chairs at SCCS before our morning services? 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.

Dordt Choir Concert

The Dordt University Concert Choir invites you to a concert on Friday, **March 15** at 7:30 PM in the B.J. Haan Auditorium. Directed by Dr. Ryan Smit, the choir will perform a wide variety of music including hymn arrangements, spirituals, songs

from other cultures, standards of the choral repertoire, and newer modern works. A freewill offering will be received to help defray tour expenses. The concert will also be available on livestream at www.dordt.edu/livestream.

Cornerstone Prison Church Banquet

The Cornerstone Prison Church Council, board, and congregation would like to invite you to our Annual Benefit Banquet on Monday, **April 1**, at Trinity CRC (Rock Valley). Doors will open at 6:00 PM and the banquet begins at 6:30. RSVP by Sunday, **March 24** by calling Trinity CRC (712-476-5292) or go to our website www.cornerstonepcsd.org. A free will offering will be taken to financially support Cornerstone's ministry. We look forward to seeing you! If you are unable to attend, you can donate online at www.cornerstonepcsd.org.

Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please pray for God's blessing on the Maria Magdalena Reformed congregation and the ministry of Pastors Jason Lief and Martha Draayer.

Last week's offering

General Fund: \$5,740.00

Christian Education Fund: \$20,717.46

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, March 10
Greeters	AM: Alejandro C, Lisa C, Verlyn DW	
Ushers	AM: Jo A, Jan B, Jeff T	
Subs	Doug DB, Cheri H, Tricia K, Les S, Lois VZ, Channon V	
Sound/Projection	Doug DB ♦ James R	Jeff P ♦ Terry F
Nursery	AM: Tom & Ruth C, Bob & Rebecca DS	AM: Lee & Jenni M, Marcy 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@crncpartners.org

OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Happy Birthday this Week

Brian Mellema, Lee Rhoda, Ben Bailey, Mark McCarthy, Emma Mercado Castelan, Lincoln Rylaarsdam, Sara Ploegstra, Brooklyn Rylaarsdam

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Sunday, 3rd	9:00 AM	Sunday School, Catechism, Covenant Sunday Morning
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship (at Sioux Center Christian School)
	6:00 PM	Vespers (Covenant Fellowship Hall)
	7:15 PM	Sunday Evening Bible Study
Wednesday	6:30 AM	Men's Bakery Study Group (at Casey's Bakery)
	10:00 AM	Prayer Group
	6:50 PM	Cadets (at Faith CRC)
	7:00 PM	GEMS
	7:00 PM	Profession of Faith Gathering
Sunday, 10th	9:00 AM	Sunday School, Catechism, Covenant Sunday Morning
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship (at Sioux Center Christian School)
	12:00 PM	Goedhart/Hummel Pastoral Group Dinner (Covenant Fellowship Hall)
	5:00 PM	GEMS Sunday Worship Service (at Faith CRC)