

**SUNDAY, April 28, 2024**

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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 we celebrate together 50 years of worshipping as Covenant CRC. We praise God for the many years of faithful worship as a church family and are grateful for the opportunity to celebrate the life of our church in today's service of worship. As we worship today and look ahead to the future of Covenant, we are reminded of the call in Psalm 145 that "One generation will commend your works to another; they will tell of your mighty acts." We hope that Psalm 145 will be our prayer as we worship today. Here is a link to a [mobile-friendly worship guide](#).

### **Sunday Evening Gathering**

This Sunday evening, we will not have our usual Vespers service, but instead will have a gathering time at 6:00 PM with those former pastors of Covenant who are able to be here for our Celebration Weekend. They will share memories and reflections, we will sing together, and we'll fellowship together as a church family.

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Recognizing our Covenant Artists**

The cover of our bulletin this week features an acrylic silkscreen print entitled "One Generation Will Call to the Next," created by Vaughn Donahue for our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Here is what he shared with us about his artwork: "When considering an original work for the 50th anniversary of Covenant, I wanted to emphasize the intentional intergenerational community of the church. The idea of tree rings came to mind, as well as sunrises and sunsets. I combined those concepts into a rural scene with a country church on the horizon, capturing our traditions alongside our hope for the future." You may also notice the new banner hanging in the front of the sanctuary made by Jo Alberda, who, as a charter member has been making banners for us for 50 years. Thanks to both Jo and Vaughn for sharing their artistic gifts with the Covenant family.

### **50th Anniversary Book**

Don't forget to order your copy of the 50th Anniversary Book! (\$20/copy) Checks should be made out to Covenant General Fund, memo: 50th Anniversary Book. Orders are due by this Sunday, **April 28**.

### **May Courier**

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

### **Spring Offering of Thanks**

The Spring Offering of Thanks envelopes will be in your church mailboxes this Sunday, **April 28**. Extra copies will be available at the table as well if you need them. The Deacons have decided to try something new this year and split up local ministries and national/international ministries between the Thanksgiving offering and the Spring Offering of Thanks respectively. If you have any questions, please feel free to email or speak to one of the deacons. The Deacons thank you for your generous giving to both Covenant and these other organizations both locally and around the world.

### **Opportunity to Serve**

The Justice & Mercy Committee has been exploring concrete ways for members of our congregation to minister to and offer a helping hand to people and institutions in our community. Whispers of Love, Hope, and Joy, operating on the campus of the former Kosgrove Estates, is a faith-based ministry to women and children embroiled in domestic violence. Beginning in June, they will offer longer term transitional housing to help these women and children find health and wholeness as well as develop skills. One aspect of the ministry is to provide the opportunity to grow some of their own food. Vegetables could also be provided to the Hope Food Pantry, located on the campus. The committee has committed to helping prepare about 200 feet of raised beds for planting. Some weeding and soil preparation is required before second graders from Sioux Center Christian deliver the plants from seeds they have started specifically for these gardens. The soil is loose and the beds are about three feet high. We're looking for up to 20 people to gather at the property on Wednesday, **May 1** at 6:30 PM for an hour to an hour and a half to accomplish this task. Please contact Verlyn De Wit (441-5672, [verlyndw@mtcnet.net](mailto:verlyndw@mtcnet.net)) or Sally Jongsma (441-7020, [jongsma@mtcnet.net](mailto:jongsma@mtcnet.net)) if you are willing to help.

### **Request for Bricks!**

Were you a part of the great brick washing and moving 25 years ago at our last sanctuary remodel? Did you get to take one home? If you did, look closely at the brick and you will see that it says "Return in 2024." It also quotes Ephesians 4:12: "to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up." On **May 5**, Pastor Joel will be preaching on this passage and we would love to have your bricks returned and displayed on that Sunday. Can you help us out?

### **Church Spring Cleaning**

Our church clean-up day is on **May 11** at 9:00 AM. Your deacon will be in contact with you about what area of the church your pastoral group will take care of. Coffee, juice, bars, and fellowship provided!

### **No Cash and Carry!**

There is still one plant in our church that needs a new home – the Norfolk Island Pine by the main entrance. If you want it, feel free to take it home!  
*-The Building Committee*

### **Covenant Email List**

Do you worship regularly at Covenant and want to be added to our church email list to get all the news and updates? Email the church office and we'll add you! ([covenant@mtcnet.net](mailto:covenant@mtcnet.net))

### **ATLAS/CFE Auction**

Join us for the annual ATLAS/CFE Auction coming up on **May 3** at New Life Church! Dinner (pork loin sandwiches, freewill donation) will be served from 5:30-6:30 PM and the auction begins at 6:30. Kids' movies will be shown during the auction. All funds raised help us continue to help the hurting in Sioux Center and our surrounding communities.

## Dordt Music Concerts

Both concerts are held in the BJ Haan Auditorium and will be available on livestream at <https://www.dordt.edu/live-events>.

- The Choral Ensembles Spring Concert at 7:30 PM on Friday, **May 3**, will feature four of the Dordt Choral Ensembles: Bella Voce, Canons of Dordt, Chorale, and Concert Choir. Repertoire will draw from a wide range of styles and centuries. Bella Voce is conducted by Dr. Carrie Groenewold, Canons of Dordt by Tim Van Voorst, and Chorale and Concert Choir by Dr. Ryan Smit.
- Join the Dordt University Music Department at 7:00 PM on Saturday, **May 4** for a concert by the Chamber Orchestra and Campus-Community Band. The Campus-Community Band will open with works from a diverse cross section of old and new wind band works. The Chamber Orchestra will then perform American composer Aaron Copland's *Appalachian Spring*. Following this concert, the Wind Symphony will present their Iowa Bandmasters Association Preview Concert at 8:30 PM. This year, the Dordt University Wind Symphony was selected to perform at the 2024 conference. This evening's concert will be the music they will perform on May 11 in Des Moines, including a featured solo by Professor Pam De Haan on James Stephenson's newly written *Concerto for Saxophone and Wind Ensemble*.

## Bible League Spring Salad Luncheon

Plan to attend Bible League's Spring Salad Luncheon with your friends on Monday, **May 6** at the Ireton Christian Reformed Church (301 Maple Street). Please bring one salad for every four ladies in your group. The luncheon begins at 11:30 AM and the featured speaker is Lindsay Millard of Joie Floral Design in Orange City. She is a Master Gardener and will share ideas for growing your garden/plants. A freewill donation will be received for Bible League International; every \$5 raised puts a Bible in the hands of someone thirsty for God's Word!

## Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please pray for God's blessing on the Bridge of Hope congregation and the ministry of Pastors Sam & Gail Ashmore.

## Last week's offering

General Fund: \$3,840.00

Christian Education Fund: \$930.00

## 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 April 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, May 5
Greeters	AM: Isabel C, Dave S, Marv W	AM: Wil A, Mark H, Marcia W
Ushers	AM: Rebecca DS, Joan MC, Kurt V	AM: Deb H, Jake VW, Stan VB
Coffee	Jenni B, Rin G, Jason H, Andy L, Ron O	Sharon D, Sanneke K, Mark MC, Rockne MC, Len R
Subs	Pat C, Rob H, Mark H, Lee R, Beth VB, Sharon V	Paul C, Dennis DJ, Marcy H, Sherri TN, Marty VP, Dani W
Sound/Projection	Dennis DJ + Terry F	Andy L + John S
Nursery	AM: James & Courtney R, Jason & Sara H	AM: Andy & Rachel L, Daryl & Deb 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

*Sarah Stiemsma, Jacob Van Tol, Julian Addink*

## THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

<b>Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup></b>	8:45 AM	Intergenerational Orchestra Rehearsal
	10:00 AM	50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Worship
	6:00 PM	Evening Gathering with former Covenant Pastors
<b>Wednesday</b>	10:00 AM	Prayer Group
	6:30 PM	Justice & Mercy Committee Garden Project (at Whispers of Love, Hope, & Joy)
	7:00 PM	Christian Education Committee Meeting
	7:00 PM	Sanctuary Refresh Team Meeting
<b>Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup></b>	9:00 AM	Sunday School, Catechism, Covenant Sunday Morning
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship
	6:00 PM	Vespers
	7:15 PM	Sunday Evening Bible Study