

SUNDAY, September 1, 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

This Sunday, Pastor Joel will be preaching from the [lectionary](#) gospel reading in Mark and we will gather at the Table for communion. Here is a link to a [mobile-friendly worship guide](#).

Sunday Evening This Week

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 share our joys and concerns.

Sunday Evening Next Week

Faith CRC invites you to join them in their sanctuary at 5:00 PM (note the earlier time!) on Sunday, **September 8** for the last combined summer evening service. Pastor John Lee will bring God's Word and the offering is designated for the Family Crisis Center. A nursery will be provided in the lower level. A root beer float social will follow the service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church Education Year Begins!

The first day of Sunday school for 1st–12th grade is Sunday **September 8**. Kids in grades 1-6 will gather for a time of singing downstairs before heading to their rooms. Students in grades 7-12 can head directly to your classrooms. Adults - Covenant Sunday Morning will not begin next Sunday. Watch for further updates to come!

Women's Book Study

The Women's Book Study group will be reading and discussing the book, "Help is Here" by Max Lucado. They will be meeting at 9:00 AM on **September 12**.

Mark your Calendars!

The annual Pork 'N Bands event will take place at the Fruited Plain on Saturday, **September 14**. Watch for more details about how you can help in the coming weeks.

All Church Picnic

On Sunday **September 15**, after the morning service, we will gather for our annual all church picnic at the Children's Park shelter house. We will be sharing a potluck lunch with each family bringing a hot and cold dish to share along with your own table service. The meal will begin about 12:30. Dordt students are encouraged to join us! Plates and silverware will be provided for Dordt students. Drinks will also be provided for all.

Taming Gaming Class

In the [August Courier](#), there was an invitation to join an adult education class called "Taming Gaming: How to use Gaming to Strengthen Faith and Relationships in our Families" led by Brad Hickey. If you're interested in this opportunity, please contact Brad (brad.hickey@dordt.edu) as soon as possible!

Job Opening

Dale and June Brands informed the Building Committee that they will be retiring from their position as Covenant's custodians in mid-October. We are seeking an individual or a family to take over this paid position which is typically 15-20 hours per week. We will consider a joint application between two families or an individual and a family. A written copy of the job description is available from Sara in the church office. For more details or to express interest, contact Chris Goedhart, (goedhartxian@gmail.com).

Serving our Little Ones

Are you interested in serving our young Covenant family members by being a teacher in our Children's Worship program? If so, contact Cheri Horstman (mchorst@mtcnet.net or 712-441-4562)!

Cadet Counselors Needed

The Cadets program is looking for more counselors again this year. Counselors help with a Bible lesson and various crafts. If you would like volunteer or have questions, please contact Jeff De Boer (fbccadets@gmail.com or 712-441-6249).

NAMI Support Group

The NAMI Support Group will meet in the Fireside Room of Central Reformed Church in Sioux Center from 7 to 9 PM on Tuesday, **September 3**. All are welcome to attend this meeting! Program: "Your Mind-Boggling Brain: An Introduction to Basic Neuroscience." Dr. Ralph Davis will use visual aids, models, and interactive activities to discuss the basic structure and function of the brain and nervous system. Learn about the nervous system's marvelous complexity and intricate beauty. For information, call Shirley Matheis (722-4462).

Bible League Dinner and Conference

Bible League Volunteer Ambassadors will host two special events for men and women on "Grip, Grit, and the Gospel" at Bethel CRC in Sioux Center. Monday evening, **September 9**, at 6:00-7:30 PM, you can join friends of Bible League for a special dinner and fellowship for \$25 by registering by **September 3**. On Tuesday, **September 10**, 9:30am - 3:00 pm, speakers Craig and Molly Sanborn will join us, along with Jennifer Frens and Ensemble for worship and music, and Santosh Chandran from South Asia/Pacific. Monday dinner registration is \$25; the Tuesday Conference with lunch is \$45; conference only, no lunch is \$35. Sign up at www.bibleleague.org/tickets. If you do not have internet access, call 708-367-8921 for assistance. Registration closes **September 3**.

Educational Savings Accounts, the Church, and the Christian School

On Saturday, **September 7**, from 9 AM-12 PM, Dordt University and the Center for the Advancement of Christian Education (CACE) will host a morning seminar to help encourage and equip leaders in our churches and Christian schools. Parents

and families that support Christian education are also encouraged to attend. During this time, speakers will reaffirm our covenant commitment for Christian education, as well as provide best practices and ideas for parents, churches, and Christian schools during this new era of Educational Savings Accounts. Please use this link to register: <https://tinyurl.com/mpd9h8va>. This includes the morning's schedule as well as an option to view via Zoom. A recording of the event to view at your convenience is being planned as well.

Dordt Pops Concert

You are cordially invited to the BJ Haan Auditorium at 7:00 PM on **September 13** for the annual Pops Concert performed by the Dordt University Instrumental Ensembles. This year the Chamber Orchestra and Mass Band will raise the red, white, and blue as they perform a concert of patriotic favorites! Come and join us for an evening of inspiration and fun.

Justice For All Service and Learning Opportunities

Justice For All is planning the 2025 Service and Learning Opportunities and would love to have you join one of the teams! Dates and places: Harvest Hands Ministries, Juarez, MX (January 17-25); JVM Perkins Foundation, Jackson, MS (February 1-7); Voice of Calvary Ministries, Jackson, MS (February 8-14); Grace Covenant Ministries, Annville, KY (March 1-7); Grace Reigns, Colorado City, AZ (April 4-12). Nick LeLoux, Service and Learning Coordinator, will be holding an informational meeting on Monday, **September 16**, 6:30 PM at the JFA Ministry Center. If you can't make it to the meeting but would like more information or to sign up for a project, please contact Nick at JFA (712-476-2804 or nickl@jfa-nwiowa.org), or check out our website: jfa-nwiowa.org.

Dordt International Friendship Family Program

The Dordt Office of Global Education wants to invite local church members to participate in our International Friendship Family Program. Families can sign up to host one or more international students. We are hoping that this program serves both the international students and families well. For international students, the program provides an opportunity for them to get off campus, build new relationships, be invited to an American home, and engage in the local community. Families can take this as an opportunity to learn and embrace different cultures and get to know students and their stories. For more information, contact David Lee (David.Lee@dordt.edu or 722-6273)

Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please pray for God's blessing on the Peace Lutheran congregation and the ministry of Pastor Bill Loeffke.

Last week's offering General Fund: \$5,626.00 Christian Education Fund: \$1,435.00

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 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 8
Greeters	AM: Marcy H, Mark MC, Sherri TN	
Ushers	AM: Paul C, Sharon D, Trena VW	
Coffee	Wil A, Joan MC, Stan VB, Marty VP, Dani W	
Subs	Sarah H, Jeremy H, Sally J, Dennis VP, Kris VP, Jake VW	
Valet Parking	Tricia K	
Sound/Projection	Jeff P ♦ Tom C	Doug DB ♦ Jason W
Nursery	AM: Nick & Jenni B, Tricia K	AM: Jason & Sara H, Mark & Lisa C

Encouraging our Missionaries

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

Gianni & Georgina Gracia Sos & Kara Maletoungou Mike & Megan Ribbens Ben & Tricia Groenewold Van Dyk
giannigracia@yahoo.com smaletoungou@acsi.org mribbens@gmail.com tvandyk@crncpartners.org

OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Happy Birthday this Week

Angela Hannigan, Isaac Maletoungou, Val Zonnefeld, Marcia Westra

Happy Anniversary this Week

Tim & Mimi Kamp

Thank You!

Thank you for the prayers, visits, and support shown to Verne and the Meyer family during Verne's recent illness and death and throughout Verne's long journey with Parkinson's Disease. Our family has been truly blessed and thankful for God's love and faithfulness shown through each of you!
 -Gidge Meyer and the Meyer Family

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Sunday, 1st	10:00 AM 6:00 PM	Morning Worship Vespers
Wednesday	10:00 AM	Prayer Group
Sunday, 8th	9:00 AM 10:00 AM 5:00 PM	Sunday School & Catechism (grades 1-12) Morning Worship Joint CRC Worship Service (at Faith CRC)