

SUNDAY, January 12, 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

Welcome to worship this Sunday! Today is Baptism of our Lord Sunday, when we remember that Jesus' divine sonship was announced in a vivid and dramatic way at the Jordan River. This baptism event also gives us a beautiful picture of the Trinity. Pastor Joel is back and will bring us the word, and we will gather at the Lord's table together. Here is a link to a [mobile-friendly worship guide](#).

Cadet Sunday 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 Sunday we also welcome our friends from Faith CRC and Bridge of Hope as we celebrate Cadet Sunday together. If you would like to support the Cadet ministry, an offering will be received in the offering boxes at the evening service.

Next Sunday Evening

Next Sunday, **January 19**, we will break from our usual Vespers service and will instead hold an Edifying Engagement. We have the opportunity to hear from Beatrice Shackelford and Kaeley Meyer about their experiences at COP29 this past November. Join us at 6:00 PM!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Covenant Sunday Morning

The next edition of Covenant Sunday Morning, our adult Sunday School, beginning **January 19**, will be led by Kathleen VanTol and Sara Ho. This six-week series will use the book, *My Body is Not a Prayer Request* by Amy Kenny to guide discussions. An introductory session will be held **January 19** to set the stage for discussing issues about the church and disability justice. Five weekly sessions, covering two chapters each will follow. Kathleen and Sara will bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the discussions. If you would like to purchase a book through the church, email the church office (covenant@mtcnet.net) by 12:00 PM on Monday, **January 13**. Books will be approximately \$11.50.

The January Series

From **January 20-31**, Covenant CRC will livestream Calvin University's lecture and cultural arts series each weekday from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM. The 2025 January Series lineup features a variety of speakers including Olympians, explorers, filmmakers, diplomats, and comedians who will explore a variety of topics and ideas. For a full list of speakers and topics, visit <https://calvin.edu/january-series/>

Men's Breakfast Social

A men's breakfast social will occur on Saturday, **January 25**, from 8:30–10:30 AM. Pancakes, eggs, coffee, and juice will be served, and this is an opportunity to meet some new and old acquaintances at Covenant. This is an intergenerational event, so dads can bring sons, or you can come solo – all ages are welcome. Please RSVP to Mark Christians (mark.christians@dordt.edu) or Brad Hickey (brad.hickey@dordt.edu) by **January 22**. This is the first event planned for men at Covenant this spring and other events will occur from February to June.

MIK +

MIK Youth and its supporting classes (Minn-Kota, IA-Kota, & Heartland) are excited to announce the launch of a new sister ministry called MIK +. This is a regional ministry for single young adults ages 19-29 years of age. It will consist of Bible study, fun outings, and perhaps some service trips or service days. Our first official gathering will take place on **January 18** at the Worthington (MN) CRC at 6 PM. Our plan is to study each book of the Bible starting with Genesis and working our way to Revelation. If you or someone you know is interested in joining us, or if you would like more information, please email Lee (mikyouthnetwork@gmail.com).

Sing Brahms' Requiem

The Sioux County Oratorio Chorus will begin rehearsals soon and all are welcome to sing. This season, we will be teaming up with the Northwest Iowa Symphony Orchestra to present Brahms' *Requiem* on **April 15**, with guest conductor, Dr. Ryan Smit. Rehearsals are held on Tuesdays in the Dordt University choir room beginning **January 14** at 7:30 PM. Please contact Mike Ochsner (mkchsnr@gmail.com) with any questions. We look forward to making music with you in this new year!

Inspiration Hills 4th-6th Grade Winter Retreat

The 4th-6th Grade Winter Retreat is an opportunity for campers to experience Inspiration Hills' unique winter activities! The event will include a chapel message, worship, and Bible studies along with all the fun winter games! The event will take place **February 14-16**. Register before **January 24** for a discount and all registration is open until **January 31!** To register for this event or learn more, visit inspirationhills.org/4-6-retreat.

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: \$4,860.00 Christian Education Fund: \$835.00 Building Fund: \$50.00

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 January 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, January 19
Greeters	AM: Jeremy H, Amanda VB, Trena VW	
Ushers	AM: Wil A, Dennis VP, Marty VP	
Coffee	Rebecca DS, Sarah H, Marcy H, Sally J, Jake VW	
Subs	Marge DB, Sharon D, Joan MC, Stan VB, Linda V, John Z	
Valet Parking	Micah M	
Sound/Projection	Dennis DJ + Jason W	Andy L + James R
Nursery	AM: Doug & Marge DB, Mark & Cheri H	AM: Channon & Joni V, Tricia K

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

Terry Friend, Becky Donahue, Pastor Joel Kok, Michael Vander Plaats, Peregrine Groenewold, Naomi (Lief) Fynaardt

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Sunday, 12th	9:00 AM	Sunday School & Catechism (Grades 1-12)
	9:00 AM	Covenant Sunday Morning (Adults): The Ballot & the Bible (chapter 10)
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship
	6:00 PM	Cadet Sunday Worship Service (at Covenant)
Monday	7:00 PM	Elders/Deacons Meeting
Wednesday	10:00 AM	Prayer Group
Sunday, 19th	9:00 AM	Sunday School & Catechism (Grades 1-12)
	9:00 AM	Covenant Sunday Morning (Adults)
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship
	6:00 PM	Edifying Engagement: Beatrice Shackelford
	7:15 PM	Sunday Evening Bible Study