COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES SHEET
October 4, 2026

Please turn in announcements by 10:30 on Wednesday mornings to the office of the First Christian Reformed Church: office@firstcrc.com or 712-722-0717.

Tuesday, October 6: The NAMI Support Group will meet at the Sioux Center Public Library with an Educational Program from 7 to 7:45 pm which is open to anyone who is interested in the subject. Howard Schaap, Dordt English Professor, and author of *Brooding Upon the Waters: A Memoir of Farming, Fishing and Failure in America's Lost Landscape*, will share his family experience with mental illness. Individuals affected by mental health conditions, and their family/friends will meet separately from 7:45 to 8:45 for a time of mutual support. For information, call Shirley at 712-574-6758 or Nate at 402-916-0008 or natehuyser93@gmail.com.

Thursday, October 8: JFA's Annual Meeting & Live Auction will be held at Faith Reformed Church, Rock Valley. 5:00pm – Annual Meeting; 5:30pm – Free Meal Served; 6:45pm – Live Auction Begins. This is a special evening for us as we gather and share about the work Justice For All has been doing, enjoy a meal together, and raise support through our live auction.

Saturday, October 10: NAMIWalks, a mental health awareness walk and resource fair will be held at 10am at Children's Park in Sioux Center. About a dozen local social service agency representatives will present information. All are welcome — balloons and facepainting for kids! At 11:15am we will walk from the park to the Dordt Prairie to raise awareness for mental health.

Advance Announcements

Wednesday, October 14: Friends of Unity Christian High School are cordially invited to attend the Hands On Hearts In Campaign project dedication/groundbreaking ceremony at Unity Chr High School at 10:00am.

Friday, October 16: The Dordt University music department will present a concert at 3:10pm in the BJ Haan Auditorium featuring the 4th Avenue Singers, 4th Avenue Band (both jazz ensembles), and the Campus Community Band. Come for a relaxed afternoon of big band standards, fresh jazz perspectives, featured solos, and stirring wind ensemble literature. The 4th Avenue Singers are directed by Dr. Ryan Smit, the 4th Avenue Band by Kevin Linder, and the Campus Community Band by Matthew Poto. The concert and a PDF program will also be available on livestream at https://www.dordt.edu/live-events.

Friday, October 16: The first evening concert of the Dordt University Fall Music Festival will begin at 7:00pm in the BJ Haan Auditorium and feature four of the Dordt choral ensembles: Bella Voce (women's chorus), Canons of Dordt (men's chorus), Chorale, and Concert Choir. Repertoire will bring worship to God by drawing from a wide range of styles from the Renaissance to 21st century works and exploring themes of creation, fall, redemption, and restoration. Bella Voce is conducted by Dr. Carrie Groenewold, Canons of Dordt by Tim Van Voorst, and Chorale and Concert Choir by Dr. Ryan Smit. The concert and a PDF program will also be available on livestream at https://www.dordt.edu/live-events.

Friday, October 16: The second evening concert of the Dordt University Fall Music Festival will begin at 8:30pm in the BJ Haan Auditorium and feature three of the Dordt instrumental ensembles: Chamber Orchestra (string orchestra), Symphonic Band (brass and percussion ensemble), and Wind Symphony. Repertoire will bring worship to God by drawing from traditional and contemporary string, brass, and wind band literature. Chamber Orchestra is conducted by Mrs. Amie Smit, Symphonic Band and Wind Symphony by Dr. Onsby C. Rose. The concert and a PDF program will also be available on livestream at https://www.dordt.edu/live-events.

Saturday, October 17: You are invited to a Hymn Festival presented by Dordt University Music students: "Singing the Solas: A Reformation Hymn Festival" at 11:00am in the BJ Haan Auditorium, with a prelude beginning at 10:30am. The Hymn festival will include a brass quintet, organ, a choral octet, cello, flute, and piano.

Come and worship with timeless hymns of our faith! The concert and a PDF program will also be available on livestream at https://www.dordt.edu/live-events.

Requested Announcements

The Bethel/First CRC GEMS program is currently doing their annual fundraiser of cards, gift and home items, gourmet popcorn and more! This helps to cover the costs of our supplies and activities and will also allow us to provide Christmas gifts for Ukrainian students in Vasya and Maranda Heytsi's youth ministry this year! There are brochures to browse through at Bethel's Welcome Center and First's Info Center, as well as order forms. There is also an online order form link. If you are interested in supporting this ministry, please reach out to any of our 4th-8th grade GEMS girls or counselor Ashley Wynia (712-441-5645) by October 14. Thank you for your support!

Paul's Missionary Journeys in Greece (April 2 – 12, 2027): Travel by motor coach (6 days) and cruise ship (3 days) to sites connected with Paul's second and third missionary journeys, as well as visit other major sites of biblical, archaeological, and cultural interest. Jeff Weima, professor at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading Pauline scholar, hosts this inspirational tour. For more information, contact Dr. Weima at 616-328-3110 or weimje@calvinseminary.edu.

From the Unity Christian High School Board: Guided by our mission and a desire to provide faithful leadership for Unity Christian, the Board of Trustees is introducing a new trustee nomination process. While two trustee nominees will continue to be nominated by supporting churches each year, one At Large nominee will be sought from across the Unity Christian community through an open nomination process. At Large nominees will be considered by a nominations committee that seeks to match candidates' gifts, experience, and expertise with the Board's current needs. This change maintains strong church representation while creating an opportunity to identify individuals whose gifts and skills can strengthen the Board's work. Watch for more information in the coming weeks as Unity begins accepting nominations for this new At Large trustee position.