

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE AT 9:30 A.M. –December 10, 2023

Rev. Aaron Greydanus...Minister Second Sunday in Advent

Preparation for worship: “During this time of Advent, God, show me how to be a messenger of the Messiah’s coming, as John the Baptist was.”

WE SEEK THE LORD

Prelude

*Call to Worship

*Opening Prayer

*God’s Greeting

*Opening Song: SW#8:1-3 “*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*” (children come forward)

Lighting of the Advent Candles:

-Children’s Message: Curt & Emily Van Grouw

-Advent Reading & Lighting of Candle: Kaden Struik, Eli Greydanus, Ben Kats

-Advent Hymn: #338:1-4 “*While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night*” (Blue Psalter)

Choir Anthem: “*O Child of God*” Layton De Vries was a dedicated musician and had begun composing during the last 2 years of his life. He died at the age of 24 as the result of injuries received in an automobile accident. We still hear him speaking through his music. This song was one of his last compositions. We are comforted to know that Layton was a “child of God”

WE OFFER OUR PRAYERS AND GIFTS

Congregational Prayer

Offering: Christian Ed Fund

Offertory

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

*Hymn of Preparation: #344:1-4 “*Silent Night! Holy Night!*”

God’s Word Read: Isaiah 9:1-2

God’s Word Proclaimed: “**Dawning**”

Prayer of Application

Hymn of Response: #351:1-3 “*Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming*”

WE PARTAKE OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Celebration of Communion (on PPT)

Offering: Benevolence

Hymn: #682:1-3 “*Before the Throne of God Above*” (LUYH)

WE GO OUT TO WALK WITH GOD

*Parting Blessing

*Parting Song: #338:5,6 “*While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night*”

*Postlude (*Please allow teachers/students to exit first*)

*indicates congregation stand; organist: Connie Te Krony

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE:

GREETERS TODAY: Elder Galen & Connie Kroese, Elder Eric & Jana Rens

GREETERS NEXT SUNDAY: Dennis & Jacki Vande Griend, Deacon Devin & Kate Bonestroo

NURSERY TODAY: AM Kari Ney, Jaime Oostenink, Bryson Pollema, Andy Bruxvoort, Savannah Feenstra; PM Matt Bosma Family

NURSERY NEXT SUNDAY: AM Tonya De Groot, Sherry De Wit, Tysen Bosma, Logan Fedders, Makenna Fedders; PM Mark Fedders Family (Christmas Program)

USHERS FOR DEC.: Glen Scholten, Cory De Wit, Nathan Boer, Jake Ney

VALET PARKING FOR DEC.: Dec. 10: Ethan Ney, Jacob Emerick; Dec. 17: Scott Kroese, Ashten Winterfeld; Dec. 24: Jesse Ney, Dalton Westra; Dec. 31: Lane Driesen, Chandler Pollema

SECURITY COMMITTEE: Dec. 10: Zach Mouw; Dec. 17: Ross Te Slaa; Dec. 24: Zach Van’t Hul; Dec. 25: Dave Van’t Hul; Dec. 31: Waylon Pollema

OFFERINGS: Today – Envelope receipts are for the church budget or for the cause(s) designated on your envelope. The loose offering is for the Christian Ed Fund

NEXT SUNDAY: African Widow/Orphan Support

COFFEE SERVERS TODAY: Larry & Faye

NEXT SUNDAY: Merlyn & Linda

SERVE JUICE AT THE YOUTH BLDG. Becca

NEXT SUNDAY: Cindy LeLoux

POWER POINT TODAY: Kirk

NEXT SUNDAY: Kirk/Emericks

SOUND SYSTEM TODAY: Rick

NEXT SUNDAY: Kyle LeLoux

CORRESPONDENCE: Everyone is encouraged to write Christmas/New Year’s greetings to our missionaries. (Email addresses are in the directory, first page, under “Missionaries Supported”).

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

TODAY

9:30 AM Worship Service

10:45 AM Coffee fellowship in the basement

10:45 AM Sunday School/Catechism Classes (Beg. – 5th meet in sanctuary for program practice)

10:45 AM Christian Ed Committee (Council Room)

10:45 AM Women’s Bible Study (nursery)

10:45 AM Choir Rehearsal (basement)

6:00 PM Evening Worship Service

MONDAY

6:30 PM Council Meeting

7:30 PM Congregational Meeting

8:00 PM Elder & Deacon Meetings following the congregational meeting

WEDNESDAY

10:00 AM Coffee Break at Hope CRC

6:30 PM YPS – Christmas Party (meet in church basement)

6:45 PM Cadets – regular meeting at clubhouse in full uniform.

6:45 PM GEMS meet at Hope CRC. We are having our Christmas party.

7:00 PM Music & Worship Committee Meeting (council room)

FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

December 10, 2023

WELCOME TO FIRST HULL: The prophet Isaiah and John the Baptist call through the ages: "Prepare the way of the Lord!" This second Sunday of Advent we gather to do just that. Welcome! A nursery and quiet room are available in the basement. TVs are available so that the service can be viewed. We invite everyone to join us for fellowship & coffee after the morning service in the church basement.

THIS MORNING we celebrate the Lord's Supper together. You are welcome to join us at the Lord's table if you are truly sorry for your sins, sincerely believe in the Lord Jesus as your Savior, and desire to live in obedience to him. Gluten free bread will be available in the center section of each tray.

THIS MORNING Pastor Aaron's message is from Isaiah 9:1-2 titled "Dawning". His evening message is from I Thessalonians 4:9-12 titled "Love for One Another".

THE EVANGELISM COMMITTEE will **NOT** be meeting today.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICE will be held this morning. Please have students in the Beginners-5th grade classes meet in the sanctuary after the service. **Parents: Program practice will go a little longer this week so plan on picking up your kids at 11:45a.**

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: If you would like your child to play an instrument for the prelude for the Christmas Program, please contact Brittany Veldman *by Monday*. You may call or text her at 712-441-3584.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING to approve the budget will be held Monday at 7:30p. The agenda and proposed budget for 2024 are in the church mailboxes.

GEMS will meet at Hope CRC at 6:45-8:30p for their Christmas party. Girls are encouraged to come dressed in festive holiday clothing – ugly sweaters, Christmas/holiday themed prints, Santa hats, etc.

CADETS will meet Wednesday in the youth building at 6:45p for a regular meeting. Do the next lesson in the Discovering God's Word series! There will also be a short meeting after

we are finished for anyone interested in participating in the Snow Derby.

SPECIAL OFFERING: Next Sunday we will take a special offering for **African Widow and Orphan Support**. In preparation for the offering, please pray for and consider God's children in the following scenario. Imagine your Christian family is asleep in your home. It is 4:00a and you are awakened by gun fire. You smell smoke. Your house is ablaze. Your husband and eldest son take their machetes to fight. You take the children and run. The violent Muslim Fulani terrorists murder your husband and son. You are homeless. You beg food for your children. You fear terrorists are hunting you as a fourth or fifth wife maybe, and to force your children into Islam? **Your offering is exclusively utilized to rescue and rehabilitate these violated children of God.**

THE SHARE GROUP for widows and widowers will **NOT** meet in December. Have a blessed Christmas and New Year.

LADIES who can help at JFA on Tuesday, Dec. 12, should meet in the upper parking lot at 12:45p to car pool.

THANK YOU for your recent gift of \$2,893.28 to Talking Bibles International. Think of the number of people who may now get to hear God's Word! What joy you have brought to them. We have distributed more Talking Bibles this year than ever before and the demand for them keeps growing. From the beginning, we have sent out 500,000 Talking Bibles. Each year the number grows. Praise God. *"We do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God."* Acts 2:11b

COMMUNITY BULLETIN

FIRST CRC FAMILY PRAISE AND PRAYER CONCERNS:

- Continue to keep John Scholten in your prayers. He spent a few days in the Sioux Center Hospital for a number of issues related to an infection. Remember Agnes and family as well with their concern.
- We extend our Christian sympathy to Heidi Tubergen, her parents, and other loved ones in the passing of Heidi's grandmother, Marcia Tubergen, on Monday. The funeral was held on Friday at the First CRC in Sioux Falls. May God comfort them in their sorrow.
- Dave Vant Hul had knee replacement surgery this past Tuesday. Pray for healing and a speedy recovery.
- Dave Vande Griend will have rotator cuff surgery on Friday, Dec. 8, in Sioux Center. Pray for successful surgery and relief from pain.
- Keep Lois Salazar in your prayers as she waits to hear back from the doctor about when her

radiation treatments will begin.

- Pray for our shut ins: Aspen Heights: Wilma Grevengoed, Nelvina Kroese, Liz Schmith, Joyce Vande Griend, and Goldie Veldman; Sheldon Care Center: Julianne Kats; Christian Retirement Home: Johanna Van Surksun; Crown Pointe Estates: Joyce De Vries, Matt De Wild, Darlene Kroese, Lou Krommendyk, Larry & Glenda Oolman, Gary Horstman, John Scholten; Friendly Horizons: Theresa De Wit; Whispering Heights: Pete Soodsma; Courage Homes in Sioux City: Ardelle Westra; Homebound: Jean De Jong.

HOPE CRC FAMILY PRAISE AND PRAYER CONCERNS:

- Kayla Groeneweg, Megan Raman's sister, continues to receive care after her accident. We pray for her recovery. We pray for the family. We pray that God will open doors for her ongoing care moving forward.
- We pray for the Emergency Responders in our community; for God's presence and encouragement.
- We rejoice with those who are recovering from surgery.
- We pray for those whose prayer concerns are theirs privately.
- We pray for those who have ongoing health concerns for which they are seeking healing and relief.
- Pray for those who mourn, who have lost those whom they love and miss.
- Pray for all who are struggling with an addiction, emotional hurt, depression, and mental illness.
- Pray for our families, our marriages, that God would strengthen them, guide them, and be honored in them.
- Pray for those who cannot join us in worship, that they would be comforted and feel close to the congregation.

SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

HCS Preschool Christmas Program, "Christmas Riddles" will be held on Dec. 12 at 6:30p in the HCS gym.

HCS is seeking a part-time lower elementary paraprofessional for one-on-one student support. The ideal candidate would have a passion for working with young children, and a love of Christian Education. Hours: Wednesday from 11:00a-2:30p and Friday 8:00a-3:30p. If you are interested in this position, or would like more information, please contact Mr. Ten Pas rtentpas@hullchristian.com or call the office at 439-2273.

Western: We are in need of volunteers (male and female) to help with the Alumni Newsletter. We plan on working Wednesday, December 13, beginning at 6:30p here at Western. Please contact Mr. Brad Vis – brad.vis@westernchristianhs.com or 605-359-5704 if you are available to help.

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOU ARE INVITED to a Community Meal at 1st Ref. Church Dec. 13, serving from 5:30-6:45p. The meal is free and everyone is invited – families, students, and all ages. This month's meal includes tater-tot casserole, corn, fruit, and ice cream. The purpose of this event is to encourage fellowship and create new relationships in our community.

THE DORDT UNIVERSITY CHORALE will present "A Service of Lessons and Carols" on Sunday, Dec. 10, at 8:00p in the auditorium. Come and worship with Chorale as they celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ through song. Scriptural lessons presented by dramatic readers from the Dordt Theatre Department will alternate with performed anthems and congregational carol singing. The Chorale will be joined by an array of accompanying instruments: piano, organ, brass quintet, and string quartet. The concert will be available on livestream.

THE DORDT UNIVERSITY MUSIC DEPARTMENT will present a 4th Avenue Jazz concert on Friday, Dec. 15, at 7:30p in the auditorium. Featured in the concert will be the 4th Avenue Singers and 4th Avenue Band. Come for a relaxed evening of jazzy Christmas songs and carols, big band standards, and a variety of collaborations between singers and instruments. The concert will be available on livestream at www.dordt.edu/live-events.

INSPIRATION HILLS has been dedicated for nearly 50 years to the changing of lives by sharing the Wisdom of God to the next generation of young people through our summer camp programs! God has been growing this ministry by blessing us with record numbers of campers year after year! You can be part of what God is doing by contributing to the \$215,000 we need by the end of the year to meet our year end commitments as well as the \$75,000 we need to launch our spring projects and prepare for next year's summer camp. ***No matter the size, every offering counts!*** Mail a check to 1242-280th St., Inwood, IA 51240 or give through Venmo @inspirationhills.

SING THE MOZART REQUIEM IN 2024: The Sioux County Oratorio Chorus will kick off its 2024 season in January, and you are invited to sing with us! This season, we will be returning to perennial favorite, Mozart's Requiem, performing with orchestra and professional soloists on Saturday, April 27, 2024 at Northwestern College's Christ Chapel. Rehearsals are held Tuesdays 7:30-9:30p in DeWitt Music Hall on Northwestern's campus, beginning **January 9**. Singers of all ages and experience are welcome! Please contact Mike Ochsner mkchsnr@gmail.com with any questions. We look forward to making music with you in the new year!

PAUL'S MISSIONARY JOURNEYS IN GREECE (May 31-June 11, 2024): Travel by motor coach (7 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 hosts this inspirational tour. For more information, contact Dr. Weima at 616-328-3110 or weimje@calvinseminary.edu.

JFA is planning a MISSISSIPPI BUS TOUR, highlighting our ministry partners: John & Vera Mae Perkins Foundation and Voice of Calvary Ministries of Jackson, MS, and Mississippi Christian Family Services of Rolling Fork, MS. The dates are April 3-10, 2024. Join us, learn, and see how God is using beautiful ministries to share HIS love and hope to those who live in communities of need in MS. A day in Branson on the way home will round out our great trip! Call Pat Vander Pol at JFA (patvp@jfa-nwiowa.org or 712-476-2804) for more information.