

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE AT 9:30 A.M. –December 24, 2023

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

Preparation for worship: “The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.” John 1:14

IMMANUEL, GOD WITH US

Prelude

*Call to Worship

*Opening Prayer

*God’s Greeting

*Opening Song: #333:1-3 “*Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*” (children come forward)

Lighting of the Advent Candles:

-Children’s Message: Megan Kooima

-Advent Reading & Lighting of Candles: Alex Bruxvoort, Logan Fedders, Charlie Oostenink

-Advent Hymn: #354:1,2,5 “*Angels from the Realms of Glory*”

Choir: “*What Child Is This*”

WE OFFER OUR PRAYERS AND GIFTS

Congregational Prayer

Offering: Christian Ed Fund

Offertory

WORD OF GOD INCARNATE

*Hymn of Preparation: #89:1-4 “*On Christmas Night*” (LUYH)

God’s Word Read: Isaiah 9:4-5

God’s Word Proclaimed: “**Freedom**”

Prayer of Application

Hymn of Response: #74:1,2,4,6,7 “*Savior of the Nations, Come*” (LUYH)

HAIL, THE HEAVENBORN PRINCE OF PEACE

*Parting Blessing

*Parting Song: #345:1-3 “*Hark the Herald Angels Sing*”

*Postlude

*indicates congregation stand

organist: Peg Visser

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE:

GREETERS TODAY: Jesse & Amber Vande Weerd, Elder Tim & Ruth Kats

GREETERS CHRISTMAS: Greg & Teresa Vanden Bosch, Deacon Kyle & Cindy LeLoux

GREETERS NEXT SUNDAY: Lawrence & Marge Vander Esch, Elder Dave & Sherry Vant Hul

NURSERY TODAY: AM Lisa Kats, Cindy Te Slaa, Caden Hulstein, Sophia Kroese, Caleb Greydanus; PM Ryan Bolkema Family

NURSRY CHRISTMAS: Teresa Vanden Bosch, Jessica Franken, Annie Leusink, Madison Bosma, Maeva Haveman

NURSERY NEXT SUNDAY: AM Jessica Pollema, Lisa Poppema, Emma Kroese, Charlie Oostenink, Kade LeLoux; PM Cory De Wit Family

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

VALET PARKING FOR DEC: Dec. 24: Jesse Ney, Dalton Westra; Dec. 25: Dan Bonestroo, Justin Pollema; Dec. 31: Lane Driesen, Chandler Pollema

SECURITY COMMITTEE: 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

CHRISTMAS DAY: Inspiration Hills

NEXT SUNDAY: AC Replacement

COFFEE SERVERS TODAY: Dave & Kay

NEXT SUNDAY: Ryan & Christine

POWER POINT TODAY: Tonya

CHRISTMAS: Arlene

POWER POINT NEXT SUNDAY: Kirk

SOUND SYSTEM TODAY: Rick

NEXT SUNDAY: Kyle TS

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

3:00 PM Afternoon Worship Service

MONDAY

9:30 AM Christmas Day Service

FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

December 24, 2023

WELCOME TO FIRST HULL: Were we traveling with Joseph and Mary, we'd be nearing Bethlehem now – a relief, especially for the one great with child. So, we ponder the solemnity and wonder of this day. Welcome to worship! 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 Pastor Aaron's message is from Isaiah 9:4,5 titled "Freedom." This afternoon we will have a service of Lessons & Carols. Pastor's message is from Galatians 4:4-5 titled "Why Not Now?" Christmas morning his message is from Isaiah 9:6,7 titled "A Child – Light, Joy, Freedom".

NEXT SUNDAY Pastor Tim will be leading our worship services. Pastor and his family will be out of town. If you have a prayer concern, please call Pastor Tim or your care group elder.

DAD'S BELGIUM WAFFLE BREAKFAST: Please come out on January 1st for the annual YPS Dad's Belgium Waffle breakfast. We will be serving from 9:00a-12:00 noon. Come out and enjoy the delicious waffles with your favorite syrup flavors as well the tasty sausages.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN

FIRST CRC FAMILY PRAISE AND PRAYER CONCERNS:

- Rod Te Krony had knee replacement surgery on Tuesday, December 19. Pray that the surgery was successful and for relief from pain.
- We extend our Christian sympathy to Agnes Scholten, Glen & Tami Scholten, Larry & Faye Kroese, and their families and to Jean De Jong in the passing of their husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and brother John Scholten on Sunday, December 17th. Give thanks for the comfort of God's promises of eternal life to those who profess his name.
- We also extend our Christian sympathy to Orv & Arlene Vant Hul in the passing of Arlene's sister, Anna (Mrs. Loren Vander Well) on Monday, Dec. 18, in San Marcus, CA. May God comfort them in their sorrow.

- Emily Stiles had successful surgery to remove kidney stones. The doctors also replaced her stent to help prevent another infection. Praise God for answered prayers! She wishes to thank everyone who prayed for her and her family and took the time to help in various ways. Thank you also to Care Group 7 for the beautiful flowers. Everything was so appreciated during this scary time. We look forward to celebrating the birth of our Savior with restored health.
- Ruth Kats got great news. Her biopsy came back negative for cancer. They want to get her in for surgery as soon as possible to remove the mass, but that doesn't sound too complicated. Praise the Lord and thank you for your prayers!
- Lynn Anderson spent a few days in the Sioux Center Hospital because of a severe cough and shortness of breath.
- Please keep Lois Salazar in your prayers as she finishes her radiation treatments, Tuesday, December 26.
- 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 Surksum; Crown Pointe Estates: Joyce De Vries, Matt De Wild, Darlene Kroese, Lou Krommendyk, Larry & Glenda Oolman, Gary Horstman; 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:

- 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 all of those who are continuing with treatment for cancer.
- 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: If you are interested in making a positive impact on students and the many other

benefits of working in a Christian environment, we have the job for you. HCS is accepting applications for an additional **4th grade teacher**. Applications can be found at hullchristian.com >About HCS>Employment>Teacher. Applicants should contact Mr. Ten Pas at 712-439-2273 or e-mail rtenpas@hullchristian.com with any questions.

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOPE HAVEN'S DUELING DUO'S: Come enjoy a Dueling Piano Show on Thursday, January 11, at The District in Sioux Falls featuring Andy and Ryno! This is the perfect event to enjoy some great music requested by the audience, spend a night with your friends, and support Hope Haven! Doors open at 7:00p and the show begins at 8:00p. Purchase tickets: hopehaven.org/events.

DORDT UNIVERSITY CHAMBER ORCHESTRA invites you to a concert at 7:30p on Friday, January 12, in the Auditorium. This free concert is part of a winter tour with performances scheduled in Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, and Iowa. Under the baton of Associate Professor of Music and Director of Instrumental Activities Dr. Onsbly C. Rose, the Chamber Orchestra will perform a wide variety of repertoire ranging from the Romantic era with Tchaikovsky's *Serenade for Strings*, to music by living composers, such as *Only Light* by Minnesota native Aaron Perrine. Join us for an evening of music for the Glory of God! The concert will also be available on livestream at www.dordt.edu/live-events.

INSPIRATION HILLS is gearing up for their "Single Mom's Retreat" on Feb. 2nd-4th. For years this retreat has been blessing single mothers all over the area with the opportunity to be enfolded in a great community, equipped to walk each day with the Lord and encouraged that God walks with them. To learn more or to register, visit inspirationhills.org/smretreat.

INSPIRATION HILLS is planning their Winter Retreat for 4th-6th graders on February 16-18. It will be a weekend of fun games, new friends and worshipping our Heavenly Father! We are eager to have campers back on campus. For more information, call 712-986-5193 or email ihills@inspirationhills.org.

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!

HOPE HAVEN PRESENTS DYLAN SCOTT: Exciting news! Mark your calendars for this fun event for all ages on Thursday, March 14, at The District in Sioux Falls. Doors open at 7:00p and the show begins at 8:00p. Curb Records recording county artist Dylan Scott is a triple threat – a powerful vocalist with a deep, unmistakable drawl; an old-soul songwriter with a young spirit, and a family man with a tender heart. The ACM nominated, multi-platinum singer has notched three No 1 singles: My girl, Nobody, and New Truck, and Top 5 hit – Hooked. Scott is a 2023 ACM nominee in the category, New Male Artist of the Year. Purchase tickets: hopehaven.org/events.

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.