

December 22, 2019

Morning Worship ~ 9:45 a.m. / No evening service

Welcome to Lebanon Christian Reformed Church!

The mission of Lebanon CRC is *to live by and grow in faith, hope, and love—together.*

In this Advent season, we prepare to celebrate the good news that Jesus Christ has come to restore us and all of creation. The candles lit each week by members represent **peace, hope, joy, and love** and are lit as signs of the coming light of Christ. Along with the candles, stands the cross, reminding us that Christ came into the world to pay for the debt of our sin.

Today's offerings: Steve & Tara Dekkers family / Justice For All

Christmas morning offering: World Renew

Next Sunday's offerings: Lebanon Budget / New Roots

Serving One Another

Nursery today: Jaron & Kadee Van Beek / Nursery next Sunday: Charlie & Nola Van Driessen

Refreshments after morning worship today and visiting our shut-ins this week: Aaron & Kim Dekkers

Refreshments after morning worship next Sunday and visiting our shut-ins next week: Harry & Pam Dekkers

Congregational Announcements

Church education for children and young people (preschool through high school) is on break. Classes will resume on Sunday, January 5.

Christmas Caroling: The Graceful Givers will be hosting an evening of Christmas caroling tonight, December 22. We will begin caroling at Oak Hill in Hawarden at 4:30 p.m., and then head to Sioux Center and go to a few homes. We will then go to Royal Meadows & Crown Pointe at approximately 6:30 p.m. We plan to go to Lebanon for pizza and snacks afterwards. Please join us at any point during the evening. If you want to find out where we are at certain times so you can join us, feel free to call Kay (712) 441-6004 or Evie (712) 441-5168.

Christmas morning service at Lebanon will be Wednesday, December 25 at 9:45 a.m.

Directory change sheets are in your mailboxes. Please update and return to Sara Yesda's mailbox.

Advance Announcements

Ordination/Installation of new office-bearers will be Sunday morning, December 29.

Congregational Prayers and Praises

- For our shut-ins:
 - Adrian Kruid - Resides at home in Sioux Center with Greeta
 - Christina Vander Esch - Resides at Oak Hill Assisted Living in Hawarden
- For our church, that we would live by and grow in faith, hope, and love—together
- For our elderly members and parents and grandparents whose health is declining due to age
- For others dealing with health concerns, for healing mercy and/or sufficient grace
- For those grieving the death of loved ones and longing to be reunited with them through Jesus
- For our marriages, that they would reflect the love of Jesus for the church
- For our children, that they would grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus
- For our missionaries and their work in Texas and West Africa
- For Jaron & Kadee and Tatum and baby boy Van Beek, due in January
- For Derek Bonnema and Alexa Schut, engaged to be united in covenant marriage April 18
- For Joseph and Francis and baby Cave, due in April

Additional Announcements

The award-winning *January Series* of Calvin University is coming to Sioux Center. From January 8 through January 28, 2020, Covenant Christian Reformed Church will broadcast one of the nation's leading lecture and cultural arts series from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM each weekday. The 15 speakers will offer informed perspectives on a wide range of today's most relevant topics including poverty and hunger, the global water crisis, immigration, mass incarceration, religious freedom, and big data's inequality and threat to democracy. The lectures are free and open to the public. For a full list of speakers and topics, visit <https://calvin.edu/january-series/2020-speakers/>.

Justice For All is planning their 2020 Service and Learning Opportunities and would love to have you join one of the teams! These weeks are wonderful opportunities to serve others but also to experience and understand God's kingdom in new and important ways! Places and dates are: Harvest Hands Ministries, Juarez, Mexico, January 17-24; JVMPerkins Foundation, Jackson Mississippi, February 8-14; Voice of Calvary Ministries, Jackson, Mississippi, February 15-21; Grace Reigns, Colorado City, Utah, March 14-20. Each week is a wonderful opportunity of building relationships with people from a community which is very different than our own, through serving, learning, and studying God's Word together. For more information or to sign up for a project, please contact Nick Leloux at nickl@jfa-nwiowa.org or (712) 476-2804. To attend an informational meeting, come to the JFA Ministry Center, Tuesday, January 7 at 7 p.m.

From Back to God Ministries International

Groundwork: The prophet Isaiah describes the Messiah as an "Everlasting Father." Now that we know the Messiah is Jesus Christ, how are we supposed to understand that title? Can the Son of God also be a father or is that heresy? Let's study scripture to find out what this title would have meant to its original Israelite audience and why it really is an appropriate title for Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Family Fire is an online community exploring Spirit-led family, marriage, parenting, in-laws, blended families, and intimacy. Find encouraging articles and devotions at familyfire.reframedia.com. Subscribe for regular email updates and connect with our Family Fire community on Facebook.

From Faith Formation Ministries

Family Faith Formation Tip: During Advent, we light the candle of Love. Jesus' life, ministry, death, and resurrection were all characterized by love. In return, we are to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. And love your neighbor as yourself." Consider how your family or household might do those things more fully in the coming year. crcna.org/FaithFormation

From World Renew

Volunteer Overseas with a Group ~ Are you a compassionate, respectful, adaptable person who would like to volunteer overseas with others who have common interests? With World Renew's Global Volunteer Program, you will get an authentic cultural experience and learn about the deep history and traditions that define the life of an international community. To find out more, email Andrew at globalvolunteer@worldrenew.net

Changing the Story of Poverty in Bangladesh ~ Join World Renew and the girls of Bangladesh in bringing fresh opportunity, income, health, and justice to 25,000 people. Thanks to One Day's Wages, every dollar donated in the United States can get matched until we raise \$200,000 together. And, when you give through One Day's Wages, your gift doubles. This match ends December 24, so bring hope for the women of Bangladesh today at onedayswages-worldrenew.funraise.org.