



Covenant Reformed Church

Announcement Bulletin

December 13, 2009 VOL. 18, No. 49

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

MONDAY

7:30 pm: Elders meeting

TUESDAY

1:30 pm: Seek & Serve - Lesson 7 - Potluck Coffeetime
Offering-See announcement

WEDNESDAY

4:00 pm: CRYPS - Assemble puff pastries at church

7:00 pm: Pastor's Study Group
Gems/Cadets

THURSDAY

9:00 am: Bulletin Announcement Deadline

NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2009

Our services will be led today by our pastor, Rev. Patrick Edouard.

9:30 am: Morning Worship Service.

11:00 am: Christmas program

5:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal

6:30 pm: Evening Worship Service

Fellowship Coffee time will be held following this evening's service.

Parish 2 & 3 are responsible for cookies.

Fellowship committee meeting will be held following coffee time

Offerings

(am) CEAF

(pm) Creation Station, Christian preschool

Infant Nursery

(am) Denise Ver Meer, Melissa Van Donselaar

(pm) Barb Vos, Libby Te Grotenhuis

Toddler Nursery

(am) Tara Fransman, Laurel De Vries, Jared De Vries

(pm) Holly Schiebout, Briana Van Gorp

Floater: (am) Kristin Reimer (pm) Rachel De Jong

Enfolding

Greg & Darcy Horstman

Greeters

Harry & Linda Verhoef

Impromptu Hospitality Hosts

Lawrence & Irene Blom

Librarians

(am) Judy De Vries, Deb Braafhart, Sharon Fopma

(pm) Linda, Jon & Elizabeth Verhoef

**The Covenant Communiqué deadline is December 20.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Monday, December 21: PCHS & PCGS Meeting at 7:00 pm

Thursday, December 24: Bulletin Deadline at 9:00 am

Friday, December 25: Christmas Worship Service at 9:30 am

Offering: Wycliff - Le Mahieus

Infant Nursery: Darlene Van Hal, Marilyn Ver Meer

Toddler: Val Bandstra, Laura Vos, Emily Gullion

Floater: Diane Van Gorp

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Covenant Reformed GEMS and Cadets are requesting donations for our food drive for Hope Ministries. This drive is to replenish their supplies after the long holiday and during the winter season. All items will be delivered in January. There will be a collection box in the back of church and at Pella Fareway. Hope Ministries provided a list of the things that they will be in need of: liquid laundry detergent, dishwashing liquid, caffeinated coffee, canned vegetables (particularly cut green beans), canned fruit (particularly pineapple), non-stick cooking spray, Pull-ups for girls and boys, size 5 and 6 diapers, and hand sanitizer. Thank you for your help during this Christmas season.

Impromptu Hospitality Hosts

Many of you know that our congregation has been hosting Sunday lunches for visitors to our church that don't have a place to go. Are you willing to be flexible? Do you enjoy meeting new people? Do you like to cook? Can you serve our Lord in this way? Then we need you. More volunteers are needed. Feel free to team up with another member in this endeavor; share the responsibilities of food prep and logistics. We encourage all of you to consider volunteering for this very rewarding opportunity. If you are interested or want more information, please contact one of us. Stan & Cheryl Fynaardt 628-2143 or fynst@lisco.com, Gerry & Connie Rowe 628-4318 or jcrowe@iowatelecom.net, and Steve & Laura Rus 949-6381 or slrus@iowatelecom.net.

In this Christmas season, let's **remember and encourage our church members** who are serving in distant lands. Christmas packages will be assembled for Katelyn Verhoef and Doug and Benita Le Mahieu and their children. If you would like to help, a list of requested supplies is located on the bookcase in the back of church. Please sign up for an item you would be willing to contribute. Contributions along with cards and letters can be brought to church and placed in the designated boxes through Sunday, December 13.

In addition, a package of clothing will be assembled for the needy children of Zimbabwe. Rev. Mhlanga from Puritan Reformed seminary gave a presentation to our church in August about how the people of Zimbabwe have been suffering due to political unrest and massive inflation. If you have some gently used clothing that your children have outgrown, please bring these items to church by December 13. Keep in mind that the temperature in Zimbabwe rarely gets below 45 degrees so please do not donate heavy winter coats. If you have questions about any of these Christmas packages, please contact Julie Hooyer at 621-1606.

Covenant Reformed Young People Society (CRYPS) has moved puff pastry assembly night back to Wednesday Dec. 16th due to weather. Please pick up your puff pastries that evening from 5:00-8:30 pm. Thank you.

The **church library** now has the following books available in large print: *Luke's Story* by Tim LaHaye and Jerry B. Jenkins; *The Priest* (Sons of Encouragement-1) by Francine Rivers; *Mere Christianity* by C.S. Lewis.

In the Christian Living section: *The Lord's Day* by Joseph A. Pipa; *Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands* by Paul David Tripp, *The Grand Weaver* by Ravi Zacharias; *Do Hard Things* by Alex & Brett Harris (foreword by Chuck Norris) is a great book written for teens, but everyone can benefit from its advice and encouragement.

These new picture books for children are in the Easy section: *Howie Goes Shopping* (I Can Read-My First Shared Reading) by Sara Henderson; *Finding the Golden Ruler* by Karen Hill; *A Child's Book of Psalms*; *The Lightlings* and *The Prince's Poison Cup* by R.C. Sproul.

Before the URCNA Synod London meets in 2010, you may wish to peruse the Acts of Synod Schererville 2007, which is now available in the history section of the library.

New books will be available on the top of the shelves on the right side of the library. After they have been checked out a time or two, they will be in the appropriate section.

The Christmas offering for the Seek and Serve Society meeting on December 15 will be for Children's Bible Clubs of Mission India. Gifts are matched through a matching challenge fund. Children's Bible Clubs touch the lives of India's boys and girls, giving children and their families new hope for a brighter future. The vision of Mission India is "India Transformed by Christ".

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

The music department of the Pella Christian High School invites you to join them for an evening of music focused on the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on Thursday, December 17 at 7:00 pm in the PCHS Vermeer Auditorium. The concert will present the message of Christmas in word and song centered on the theme, "The Wonder of His Love". Please join us for an evening filled with the musical joy recognized as part of the Christmas season. The audience will be invited to join the choir in singing the 'Hallelujah Chorus' during the concert.

Look for **Bibles for Missions** ad in the Town Crier. Last days for bringing donations in for December will be Friday, December 18 from 10-2 pm and Saturday December 19 from 10-2 pm. See Jerry or Darlene Van Hal for applications for volunteering to help in the store.

Faith CRC Project SERVE will be wrapping gifts this holiday season as a fundraiser for our upcoming mission trips. Please consider dropping your presents off for a freewill donation. We are going to be located with the PATTH basket store on the Molengracht. The hours are as followed: December 17: 5-8, Friday, December 18: 1-5, Saturday, December 19: 10-4. If you have any questions, please call Amy De-Waard at 641-620-1085. Thank you for your support!

Advance Notice – Reserve Tuesday, December 22, for a delightful evening as Laurinda Nikkel returns to Pella Christian High to present a variety of Christmas music and other selected pieces. Laurinda, a graduate of PCHS and Drake University and currently co-chair of the vocal music department at San Diego State University, will team up with local talent in a "Coming Home for Christmas" concert. No tickets needed. More details to follow.