

**FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH  
DECEMBER 2, 2018**

**PRAYER REMINDERS**

- Noah & Gavin De Kam, sons of Steve & April De Kam
- Sophia, great-granddaughter of Faye Medalen
- Corwin Slaughter, son-in-law of Al & Harriet Van Zanten
- Emery, daughter of Darin & Megan Kooima
- Mike Van Otterloo
- Our Whispering Heights residents residing in retirement & nursing homes elsewhere:  
Harvey De Jager, Lenora De Wit, Lucille Dorhout, Violet Haak, Louise Kooima and Hilbert Vande Kamp
- Ben & Amy Meyer in Guadalajara, Mexico
- Cornerstone Prison Ministry
- (Disability Concerns) *Belonging* - "Because we are built up in Christ, we can be confident that not only do we belong but we also fit. Thank God for the chief cornerstone, Jesus Christ, and that every person who is in him--whatever our ability, ethnicity, immigration status, age, or gender--can join 'to become a holy temple in the Lord.'" (Ephesians 2:19-21).

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**TODAY:**      **9:30 AM:** Morning Worship Service/Communion/First Sunday of Advent  
                 **10:45 AM:** Choir meets in Room 5/Christmas Program practice  
                 **5:55 PM:** Evening Worship Service

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**MONDAY:**    **3:45 PM:** Gems Christmas party

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**TUESDAY:**   **9:45 AM:** Coffee Break

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**WED:**        **6:30 PM:** Council Supper at Cedar Rock Grill

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**THURS:**     **7:00 PM:** RVCS Christmas Program - Trinity CRC

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**THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

Sunday - Ada Kirkley, *the Vern Van Beeks*  
Monday - Tim Van Tilburg, Sr.  
Tuesday - Colton Van Otterloo  
Wednesday - Harold Driesen, Davis LeLoux  
Thursday - Clarence De Roon, Harriet Van Zanten  
Friday - *the Bob Kooima's*

**FUTURE DATES**

December 12 - Caroling & fellowship at Whispering Heights; Young Peoples Christmas party  
December 23 - First CRC P-6 Christmas Program after morning service  
December 25 - Christmas Day Service - 9:30 AM  
January 1 - Combined New Year's Service at First CRC  
January 6 - Sunday School/Catechism begins new session  
January 7 - Council Meeting  
January 7-11 - Meals on Wheels  
January 13 - Youth Sunday  
January 20 - Sanctity of Human Life Sunday  
January 27 - Cadet Sunday

# COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS!

The **Dordt College Campus-Community Band, Chamber Orchestra, and Concert Band** will present a concert on Friday, December 7, at 7:30 PM, in the B.J. Haan Auditorium. This concert of praise and celebration will feature a variety of musical selections, including Philip Sparke's *Mary's Boy Child*, arranged to be a Calypso (an Afro-Caribbean style of music), *Riu, Riu, Chiu* arranged by Marshall Fine (a Spanish Christmas carol depicting the story of the birth of Jesus and the joy of his coming to redeem the world from the guilt of sin), and *Of Sailors and Whales: Five Scenes from Melville*, a piece for wind band based on *Moby Dick* that will feature Dordt English Professor, Mary Dengler, as narrator.

The **Northwest Iowa Symphony Youth Orchestra**, led by Conductor Dr. Angela Holt, will present its Fall Concert on Saturday, December 8, at 3:00 PM, in the B.J. Haan Auditorium on the campus of Dordt College. Consisting of talented middle school and high school string players, NISYO will perform works by Dvorak, Bohm, Plante and Stamitz, as well as string arrangements from the PBS Series, "The Civil War", and a traditional Christmas carol. The concert is free and open to the public.

**The Love INC Heart of Christmas Event** is scheduled for Saturday, December 8, from 9:30-11:00 AM in the FLC at Faith Reformed Church in Rock Valley. This will be a family event which involves various fun activities such as cookie decorating, presentation of the Christmas story, hot chocolate and snacks, and the opportunity for families to receive a keepsake Christian Christmas book. The families who participate in the Christmas gift program will also receive their gifts on this day. We need volunteers to help at the various stations with the children and with set up/clean up. This is a new project for Love INC, and our goal is to focus on the gift of Jesus Christ and family rather than simply on tangible gifts. Thank you in advance for your support!

**The Love INC Christmas trees** will be located in Rock Valley at M & H True Value and in Hull at Pizza Ranch again this year. The timeline will be a bit sooner as we are planning a family event on December 8 and want to distribute the gifts that day. Look for the trees with hearts on them already by November 19. Please limit your spending to \$25 and only purchase the item listed on the tag as each child will receive one gift. **Gifts should be wrapped and returned to the trees with the original heart tag attached no later than December 4.**

The senior high youth group of Maurice Reformed Church invites us to their **Traveling Nativity held on Saturday, December 8**. A horse drawn wagon will lead you down a lit path to events leading to the birth of Christ. Enjoy warm refreshments in the church's Family Life Center before or after you ride. Freewill donations will go toward the senior high youth group at MRC.

**"Christmas Jazz Night"** at Dordt College will take place on December 11, 7:30 PM, B.J. Haan Auditorium, and feature the Kantorei (a 16 voice jazz choir) and Jazz Band. The Kantorei will be celebrating the birth of Christ in unique and intricate ways with a cappella renditions of *Mary Did You Know* by Pentatonix, familiar carols like *Silent Night* and the Coventry Carol approached from a jazz perspective, and songs performed in collaboration with the Jazz Band. The Dordt Jazz Band will be swinging to some holiday classics like, *Here Comes Santa Claus*, *Santa Claus is Coming to Town*, and *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas*. Come in out of the cold for a night of light, bright jazz music.

## LET'S MEMORIZE SCRIPTURE!

*"Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."*

~ Proverbs 16:18

*"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves."*

~ Philippians 2:3