

THIRD CHURCH NEWS

CONNECTING AND INFORMING THE THIRD CHURCH COMMUNITY

November 29, 2022

Volume III No. 47



It's the Most **Busiest** Time of the Year...

There are so many special things to remember, attend, and participate in during this time of year that it can become overwhelming. We ourselves, right here at Third, are finding that our lists are growing and growing. So for this edition of the newsletter, we are sectioning things as follows:

1. Regular upcoming services and events.
2. Special Christmas services and events.
3. Announcements, Church Family News, and Prayer Requests.

One of the things we are asking for is volunteer time - some of it at your home, baking, and some of it here serving your brothers and sisters. Please consider stepping into some of these opportunities this season.

Regular Upcoming Services and Events

Sunday Morning Worship

Our Advent Series, Echoes, continues in our 10:00

AM English service, and El Encuentro continues with their Advent season as well in our 11:30 AM Spanish service.

Sunday Morning Education Series

December 4, 2022

OUR INTERCONNECTIVITY WITH GOD'S CREATION

Dr. Debra Rienstra, Calvin University English Department

Deb is the author of "Refugia Faith: Seeking Hidden Shelters, Ordinary Wonders, and the Healing of the Earth" (Fortress Press, 2022). The High School youth Sunday School class will join the Mosaic class in hearing from Deb about spirituality and the environment, and our interconnectivity with God's creation. Deb is a professor of English at Calvin University, and the author of several books relating to spirituality, the human experience, and Christian faith.

Sunday Morning Bible Study

The Corinthian Correspondence: The Cross Changes Everything.

A study with Rev. Dr. George Hunsberger.

This study takes place in room 22 on the lower level.

Special Christmas Services and Events

Tonight: A Different Kind of Advent at 6:30 PM

This event is not meant to replace your traditional Advent observations, rather it is a contemplative addition to your Christmas season. It will be an art experience of bizarre sounds and jarring visuals that will challenge our notions of Christmas. Join us because art can help us grow in faith.

Holland High Vocal Dimensions Performance Tuesday, December 6 at 11:15 AM

The Holland High School Vocal Dimensions will join us on Tuesday, December 6 at 11:15 AM, in the Gathering Place, for a holiday performance. Come listen to Christmas music and support the Third Church students who are part of this vocal group. There will be a cookie reception following the performance.

Choir Carol Service Sunday, December 11 at 6 PM

This special service is designed for the congregation to join in on every carol. Paired with scripture readings, the service is designed to bring us further into the expectant waiting of the Advent Season. We will enjoy a cookies and punch reception after this service.

A Very Mixed-Up Christmas Pageant, December 18 at 4 PM

Come and enjoy our children's interpretation of the events of Christmas in this fun yet meaningful pageant that tells again of Christ's coming into this world. This pageant will be followed with a pizza dinner for all. Don't miss it!

Christmas Eve Services at 5:00 and 11:00 PM

Our 5:00 PM service will feature children in a live nativity as the scriptures about the birth of our Savior are read aloud. We will enjoy a cookies and punch reception after this service. At 11:00 PM we will enjoy a traditional candle light Christmas Eve service.

Christmas Day Service at 10:00 AM

This year Christmas falls on a Sunday, and we will gather at our normal time, 10:00 AM, for worship. Due to this fact, there will be no reception after the 11:00 PM service on Christmas Eve. Please note: there will not be El Encuentro Spanish worship on Christmas Day.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We hope you will be willing to show your hospitality to both our congregation and community members by volunteering to help meet our holiday season event needs.

Bakers Needed!

We need cookies and/or bars for the receptions after the Choir Carol Service and Christmas Eve 5:00 Service. Please call the church office to let us know if you're willing to help in this way. Please mark on your container if your dessert has nuts or is gluten-free.

Set Up/Servers/Clean Up Volunteers Needed!

We are also in need of volunteers to set-up, serve, and clean up for these events. Please call the church office to let us know if you're willing to help in this way.

Announcements, Church Family News, and Prayer Re- quests.

Service Schedule Change

Beginning Sunday, November 27, we moved to two worship services on Sundays - one at 10 a.m. in English, and one at 11:30 a.m. in Spanish at our El Encuentro gathering. Sunday education hour will continue to be at 11:15 a.m. Please give a warm welcome to our members who have been attending the 8 a.m. service when you see them at church.

Mitten Tree

Women's Ministries has put up their annual "mitten tree" in the entryway. Some of your gifts will go to Third Reformed Church people, the rest will be distributed by Community Action House free to those in need.

Micro-Pantry Needs

The Micro-Pantry continues to be in great need of the following items:

- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Shampoo
- Hand wipes
- Canned meats
- Baked beans

Please: No more peanut butter or jelly until the spring. Apparently freezing weather does bad things to these items.

Third Church Family News

Happy Anniversary

to Ron and Sunny Boeve, who will celebrate their 65th anniversary next week Wednesday, December 7.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for the following:

- Condolences to Pastor Angel and family in Mexico and Holland, on the death of his grandmother on Saturday.

- Jaime Amaro will be having surgery to remove cancer. Pray for god's presence and help during his recovery.
- Tom Ten Hoeve who had surgery for a broken hip on Monday, Nov. 28.
- Don Triezenberg who is recuperating from surgery.
- Steve and Dawn Vander Ark and their son Adam.
- Grayson Sievert (Randy Rusthoven's grandnephew) who is home.
- Carla and Larry Sue who are dealing with health issues.
- Jerry and Betty Van Wyngarden's grandson's surgery.
- Hospice Care: Lois Jalving.
- All those dealing with difficult situations.
- Organizations both locally and worldwide who help people.
- Linda Strouf, the choir members, bell choir and all who assist with the church music.
- The Young Levites who are practicing for the Christmas program.
- Pray for volunteers to help out during the Christmas season.

Remember in our prayers:

Reno Lamania, Joanne and Jack Kuiper, Don Maatman, Larry Loss, Lucille Schroeder, Dennis and Nancy Gebben, Mary and Harry Boersen, Bob and Elle Kuiper, Tom Norman, Eileen Resch, Dee Bechtel, and Elly Muiderman

Prayer Spotlight:

American House - Ed and Jane Westerbeke; Appledorn - Bob Kuiper, Donna Prins, Ellen Rieck; Maple Woods Cottages - Muriel Bolhuis, Beth DuMez, Dennis DeWitt.

Missionaries:

John and Lynne Hubers (Ethiopia), Angel Lopez (Mexico).