

# Bulletin for Sunday, December 1 2024

## WORSHIP NOTES

--**The Message:** Rev Scott Van Voorst will give our message.

--**Offerings** will be taken for the **General Fund** and the **Ministry Center / Building Fund**. An offering for this fund is taken the first Sunday of each month. While the Ministry Center was paid off in 2023, ongoing expenses occur and with increased staff and the potential of additional office and storage space, it's important to keep looking to the future as we grow and have adequate funds available to expand when needed. While we aren't actively raising money for the purpose of a future permanent home for Bridge of Hope, building money in this fund, along with equity in the Ministry Center, would someday help fund a permanent location.

--**Offerings for the month of December:**

December 01: Ministry Center / Building Fund

December 08: Celebrate Recovery

December 15: Celebrate Recovery

December 22: Celebrate Recovery

December 29: Christian Education

**ADVENT 2024:** Next Sunday, December 8, we will begin our advent celebrations alongside a new series entitled, "**How Wide: The Women in Jesus Genealogy.**" The series name comes from the verses in Ephesians 3:18-19, "*And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.*"

**Series Description:** Genealogies are the faithfully skipped section of the story of Christ's birth. Yet, they have everything to do with the redemptive story of God. The history of Jesus's birth includes diverse people with diverse stories and diverse backgrounds. In a patriarchal society such as the one Jesus was born into, it was the men and the sons who were most highlighted. However, when one digs deeper into the story of Jesus, they will find women who were standing on the outside, on the sidelines and in the back. Yet, within the landscape of Christ's love, they are brought to the center in his lineage and in his story. Matthew includes them. He brings them to the frontlines. And honors the length, the width, and the depth of Christ's love through his humble birth. In this series we will look at...

Week One: December 8 **Tamar** (Genesis 38) / **Candle of Hope**

Week Two: December 15 *Christmas Program*/ **Rahab** (Joshua 2) / **Candle of Peace**

Week Three: December 22 **Ruth** (Ruth 1:11-18, 2:8-13, 3:1-4, 4:1-6) / **Candle of Joy**

Week Four: December 24 *Christmas Eve Service* / **Bathsheba** (2 Samuel 12:1-4) / **Candle of Love & Christ's Candle**

**Advance Notice:**

Sunday School Christmas Program will be on December 15 at 9:30am.

Our Christmas Eve and Communion Service will be December 24 at 5:00pm.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OUR CHILDREN:**

- A **NURSERY** is provided for children from birth through 2 years old. You can find it down the hallway from the gym; look for the banner that indicates its location.
- **PROMISE LAMBS** is for children 3 through TK. They are dismissed part-way through the service and can meet their teachers by the gym door. **No Promise Lambs TODAY, December 1 -- Thanksgiving break**
- **SUNDAY SCHOOL**, for TK/K through high school students, meets September through April following the worship service. **No Sunday School TODAY, December 1 -- Thanksgiving break**

## Schedule for Sunday School the next couple of months:

- **December 1—NO Sunday School, Thanksgiving Break**
- December 8—practice Christmas Program, NO regular Sunday School for students TK-6 and students participating in Christmas Program, regular Sunday School for students in 7/8/HS who are not participating in Christmas Program
- **December 15—Christmas Program rehearsal at 8:15**, light breakfast before the service served to students, ***Christmas Program***, treat bags passed out to all TK-college age—NO Sunday School
- December 22, December 29, January 5—NO Sunday School, Christmas Vacation
- January 12—NO Sunday School, Teacher Inservice after church during the Sunday School hour
- January 19—Second semester Sunday School begins

## CONNECT & UNITE (Youth Group for 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade and 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)

- December 8: CONNECT at the MC 7-8:30pm
- December 11: UNITE - The Book of Joshua 5 - At the MC 7-8:30pm
- December 15: CONNECT/UNITE CHRISTMAS PARTY \*more details to come\*

## Women's Ministry:

- **Save the date** for the **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gift Wrap Gathering** on Thursday, Dec. 12, 7-9pm at the Ministry Center.

## Employment Opportunity – Youth Director

The Youth Director oversees programming, apart from Sunday School, for the junior high (CONNECT) and senior high school (UNITE) youth of Bridge of Hope. They plan and carry out the week-to-week operations of CONNECT and UNITE by planning activities and creating educational programs that help students in their walk with God. They are responsible for ensuring programs offer welcoming and safe environments while building positive relationships with youth and their parents. A job description can be found [here](#).

This position will be open for job-shadowing sometime between February 1, 2025 and March 1, 2025, with taking over full responsibility of the position early summer. To apply, please send a cover letter with a resume and references to [office@bridgecrc.org](mailto:office@bridgecrc.org)

**Koinonia Prayer Requests:** Prayer requests on Sunday mornings at Bridge of Hope have historically been taken verbally during worship. To help make sharing requests more accessible to all, a google form has been created so that people can share requests at a different time and method than verbally on Sunday morning. Prayer requests submitted this way will be included in the email that gets sent to the body each week on either Monday or Tuesday. ***(Please note: Any prayer requests submitted after the Koinonia Prayer email has been sent that week will wait to be emailed out until the following week. Also, requests made here will not be verbalized on Sunday mornings by the Pastoral Shepherd leading Koinonia Prayer.)*** Submitting an online prayer request can be done by following the QR code.



**Did you know that additional announcements** can be found in the Community Activities Sheet, a weekly publication of activities/events pertaining to churches in our community. It originated because of the repetitive nature of the common announcements being printed in Sioux Center church bulletins. A link to it can be found on our website under What's Happening / Bulletin.

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

This week, the community of believers in Sioux Center is praying for the congregation of Faith CRC and Pastor Bob Pollema.

## CONGREGATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS

### Today, December 1

**Nursery:** Payton H, Kenzie VM, Bailey VM  
**Promise Lambs:** No Promise Lambs-Thxgiving Break  
**Coffee Service:** Van Middendorps  
**Greeters/Shepherd Duties:** Robb DH, Tom C  
**Additional Mic Runner:** Ryan P  
**Check-ins:** Ruth R, Rachel P, Miriam B

### Sunday — December 8

**Nursery:** Lauren M, Jena D, Elliot M  
**Promise Lambs:** Audra C, Kinzie & Bailey VM  
**Coffee Service:** Groeneweg  
**Greeters/Shepherd Duties:** Tim F, Mark O  
**Additional Mic Runner:** Dave R  
**Check-ins:** Jill VS, Aimee VM, Di M

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Sunday Worship • 9:30am • Intermediate School Gym • 950 4th Ave NE

Offices / Ministry Center address • 43 2nd Street NE

Offices located 1 block south & ½ block east of the downtown stoplight.

Office Hours • Tuesday and Thursday 9-12 & 1-4

Like us at [www.facebook.com/BOHMinistry](http://www.facebook.com/BOHMinistry)

Website • [www.bridgecrc.org](http://www.bridgecrc.org)

## BRIDGE CONNECTION GROUPS

*The body is divided alphabetically (by last names) into groups with an assigned Pastoral & Service Shepherd to offer care and support. Feel free to contact your Shepherd should a need arise. The groups are as follows:*

	<b>Pastoral Shepherd</b>	<b>Service Shepherd</b>
<b>A-B</b>	Robb De Haan	Klay Byker
<b>C-G</b>	Dave Mulder	Andrea Westerbeek
<b>H-M</b>	Glen Boer	Mark Oostra
<b>N-T</b>	Tim Foreman	Marcus Van Zee
<b>U-Z</b>	Ellen Korver	Tom Coulander

## GIVING BACK / WAYS TO TITHE

❖ **Online:** go to Bridge's website ([www.bridgecrc.org](http://www.bridgecrc.org)) and hit the "give" button on the home page; or go to <https://bridgecrc.churchcenter.com/giving>

❖ **Giving App:** Instructions on how to use the online giving app: <https://pcogiving.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/217380608-Give-Online-with-Church-Center>

❖ **Text-to-give:** First time users: Text 84321. Click on the link sent back to you, select Bridge of Hope, add an email address, and enter your payment information. Or follow these instructions: <https://pcogiving.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/217380608-Give-Online-with-Church-Center>. After the initial set up, just text 84321, enter in the amount you would like to give and hit send. (Only the dollar amount is needed if it is to the General Fund. If it's to the second offering indicate dollar amount and "second" {i.e., \$10 second}; if it's to the Building Fund indicate amount and "building" {i.e., \$10 building}.)

❖ **Drop off at or mail to:** Bridge of Hope; 43 2<sup>nd</sup> Street NE; Sioux Center

## STAFF & LEADERSHIP CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastors • <a href="mailto:sam@bridgecrc.org">sam@bridgecrc.org</a> and <a href="mailto:gail@bridgecrc.org">gail@bridgecrc.org</a>	
Ministry Administrator/Coordinator • <a href="mailto:office@bridgecrc.org">office@bridgecrc.org</a>	
Youth Director • <a href="mailto:kira@bridgecrc.org">kira@bridgecrc.org</a>	Sunday School Director • <a href="mailto:sarah@bridgecrc.org">sarah@bridgecrc.org</a>
Congregational Caregiver • <a href="mailto:judy@bridgecrc.org">judy@bridgecrc.org</a>	Congregational Caregiver • <a href="mailto:aimee@bridgecrc.org">aimee@bridgecrc.org</a>
Worship Coordinator • <a href="mailto:becky@bridgecrc.org">becky@bridgecrc.org</a>	Treasurer • <a href="mailto:treasurer@bridgecrc.org">treasurer@bridgecrc.org</a>
Pastoral Shepherds • <a href="mailto:bohps@bridgecrc.org">bohps@bridgecrc.org</a>	Service Shepherds • <a href="mailto:bohss@bridgecrc.org">bohss@bridgecrc.org</a>
Council • <a href="mailto:council@bridgecrc.org">council@bridgecrc.org</a>	



***NOTE: At the Intermediate School, a First Aid kit can be found in the storage room in the north hallway. An AED (automated external defibrillator) can be found on the wall near the entrance to the building.***