

# Bulletin for Sunday, March 31, 2024

## WORSHIP NOTES

--**The message:** : Pastor Gail will be opening God's Word at John 20:11-18 as we look at Jesus appearing to Mary Magdalene.

--**Today's offerings** are for the **General Fund** and **Christian Education**. *This offering is for the purpose of further supporting Christian Education. Money received will go specifically towards the Christian Education share of the budget.*

--**Next Sunday's second offering** is for 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 if needed. While we aren't actively raising money for the purpose of a future permanent home for Bridge of Hope, increasing money in this fund, along with equity in the Ministry Center, would someday help fund a permanent location.*

## 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 exact 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.
- ~~**SUNDAY SCHOOL** for TK/K through high school students meets following the worship service.~~  
**No Sunday school today.**

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!**

Help is needed in various ways for the **Softener Salt Fundraiser THIS COMING SATURDAY, APRIL 6—** from donating food & drink to delivering. Check out the ways you can help: **BOH/Covenant Salt Sale Delivery**

## **Youth Ministry** (CONNECT—6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> & UNITE—9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>; Kira Ouwinga, Youth Director [kira@bridgecrc.org](mailto:kira@bridgecrc.org))

- Sunday, April 7: CONNECT at the MC 7-8:30pm
- Wednesday, April 10: UNITE at the MC 7-8:30pm
- Sunday, April 21: CONNECT lesson with Dave Mulder at the MC 7-8:30pm

### **Annual Minnikota Junior High Retreat at Inspiration Hills**

- Be sure to register your students (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade) for this event soon to get their spots reserved! It is going to be such a great weekend and I really hope to see your students there :) Bridge of Hope is willing to pay \$50 for the students, so make sure to **note that on the check when you send in your registration!** Trust me, they won't want to miss it!



belong!

We have a **Belong** course coming up where visitors, non-members, new members, long-time members, and students who are interested in making, or recently made Profession of Faith will have an opportunity to think about what it means to be a part of Bridge of Hope. We want those visiting and attending Bridge of Hope to feel welcomed. But more than that, we want everyone to *know* they **Belong!**

### Here are the details:

**WHEN:** Over two Sundays, **April 7 & 21** from **12 noon to 2 pm**

**WHERE:** Bridge of Hope Ministry Center – 43 2<sup>nd</sup> Street NE (it will be held in the south room)

**DETAILS:** Lunch will be provided. Attendance capped at 15

**CHILDREN:** Yes! Child-care & lunch will be provided.

**SIGN UP:** <https://forms.gle/p1cTgSDXEKpZCkEW7> or at church on Sunday

**QUESTIONS?** Contact [gail@bridgecrc.org](mailto:gail@bridgecrc.org), [sam@bridgecrc.org](mailto:sam@bridgecrc.org), or [office@bridgecrc.org](mailto:office@bridgecrc.org)

**Shepherd Nominations:** It's time to submit names to fill shepherding positions. This year one (1) Pastoral Shepherd and one (1) Service Shepherd will need to be replaced.

Ending their 3-year term as a Pastoral Shepherd is Mark Buss. The remaining Pastoral Shepherds are Glen Boer, Dave Mulder, Robb De Haan and Tim Foreman. Ending their term as a Service Shepherd is Tina Folkerts. The remaining Service Shepherds are Mark Oostra, Andrea Westerbeek, Klay Byker, and Marcus Van Zee.

A document explaining the nomination process was attached to The Weekly and available this morning on the information table. ***Because our process is different than many other churches, we encourage you to read through it.***

### To nominate:

- 1) Fill out a "Shepherd Nomination Form" (was attached to The Weekly and available this morning on the information table. **Note: *EACH nomination requires its own form***). Turn it in by **Sunday, April 14** by...
  - Emailing it to or dropping it off at the church office
  - Giving it to a current Shepherd
  - Putting it in the designated box on the information table

**OR**

- 2) go online – <https://goo.gl/HWUOuN>. Online nominations will be taken through **Sunday, April 14**
- Questions? Contact the shepherds at [council@bridgecrc.org](mailto:council@bridgecrc.org) or [bohps@bridgecrc.org](mailto:bohps@bridgecrc.org) or [bohss@bridgecrc.org](mailto:bohss@bridgecrc.org).

## Practicing the Way LINK Small Group

Interested in Spiritual Formation? Join Pastors Sam and Gail for a Practicing the Way Link Small Group during the Sunday School hour in **April (14, 21, 28) & May (12, 19, 26)**.

### What to Expect

- This link group features six sessions of teaching, guided conversation, and spiritual exercises designed to lay a foundation for lifelong apprenticeship to Jesus.
- The hope is that you'll form a foundational understanding of intentional spiritual formation as we explore what it means to follow Jesus in our busy, distracted, and increasingly secular culture.
- Each 30-minute session is comprised of teachings, guided discussion, tutorials, and voices from experts. You can find out more here - <https://www.practicingtheway.org/course>

### How to Sign-Up

Email Pastors Sam or Gail – [sam@bridgecrc.org](mailto:sam@bridgecrc.org) or [gail@bridgecrc.org](mailto:gail@bridgecrc.org) or on the signup sheet in the cafeteria.

**SECRET CHURCH:** The Adult Discipleship Team is excited to announce that we will once again be offering *Secret Church* on **Friday night, April 19, from 6-12 pm!**

*Secret Church* is a unique, one-night event that is streamed online to tens of thousands of participants around the world. Encouraged by our persecuted brothers' and sisters' example, we meet for 6 hours of intense Bible study and passionate prayer for the persecuted.

Many churches around the world face severe persecution and must meet in secret, often at night. They spend 8-12 hours intensely studying the Word and in prayer. *Secret Church* was created to join in solidarity with these churches and dive deep into the word and join in prayer for the persecuted churches around the world.

*This year's study will be a 6-hour deep dive to study God's epic tale of redemption in the story of Ruth. It's a story that reminds us that each of our lives, no matter how ordinary they may sometimes seem and no matter how difficult they may sometimes be, is indeed a part of a plan much larger than ourselves and much more thrilling than we could ever imagine.*

Along with the story of Ruth, we will explore the story of the persecuted church in North Korea, considered by many the most hostile-to-Christians country in the world. Together we will pray and support our brothers and sisters in North Korea, Cambodia, Indonesia and other persecuted places.

If you would like to join others from around the world at Bridge of Hope on April 19 for an evening of study & prayer, please contact [adultdiscipleship@bridgecrc.org](mailto:adultdiscipleship@bridgecrc.org) or Marcus VZ at [marcusvanzee@gmail.com](mailto:marcusvanzee@gmail.com). **The deadline to register is Sunday, April 14.**

Bridge of Hope will be joining on the 19<sup>th</sup> via a live link at 6:00pm sharp at the Ministry Center. Supper and snacks will be available. If you would like more information, visit <https://radical.net/secret-church/>.

**HEADS UP!** Please save **plastic gallon milk jugs** to be used to make soap for the Hope Food Pantry on His Hands His Feet Sunday on May 5. More information about all that later but for now, the His Hands His Feet Team would appreciate the congregation's help by having you save your well-rinsed milk jugs. 😊 (Please note, the plastic gallon jugs **must have a screw top lid.**) If you don't want them sitting around your house, feel free to drop them off at the Ministry Center. Questions? Contact [hishands@bridgecrc.org](mailto:hishands@bridgecrc.org).

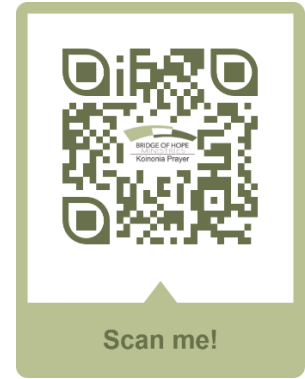


**Summer Camp for Kids!** Inspiration Hills Camp and Retreat Center near Inwood, Iowa, offers wonderful options for camp each summer for those entering 1<sup>st</sup> grade through 12<sup>th</sup>. Registration opened February 1; you can save money by registering by April 15!

As in the past, **Bridge of Hope is offering \$50 towards the registration fee for each camper! Just list BOH as the church affiliate** and Inspiration Hills will invoice Bridge for \$50. For more information or to register go to, <https://www.inspirationhills.org>.

**Additional announcements** can be found in the Community Activities Sheet, a weekly publication of activities/events pertaining to the Christian Reformed churches in Sioux Center and other churches within our community. It originated because of the repetitive nature of the common announcements being printed in Sioux Center church bulletins. It can be found on our website under What's Happening / Community Activities Sheet.

**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.



## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

**This week** the community of believers in Sioux Center is praying for the congregation of United Reformed and Pastor Jon Bushnell.

## CONGREGATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS

### Today – March 31

**Nursery:** No nursery on Easter Sunday

**Promise Lambs:** Abby F, Cora F, Lucas F

**Coffee Service:** Jason & Aimee VM

**Greeters:** Dave M, Andrea W, Ryan & Tiffany P

**Check-ins:** Ruth R, Aimee VM, Rachel P

### Next Sunday — April 7

**Nursery:** Lauren M, Michelle B, Rowyn M

**Promise Lambs:** Derrick P, Taiya P, Elliot P

**Coffee Service:** Dave & Ruth R

**Greeters/Shepherd Duties:** Glen B, Klay B

**Additional Mic Runner:** Cindy G

**Check-ins:** Cindy G, Jill VS, Di M

## 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:

	Pastoral Shepherd	Service Shepherd
<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>	Mark Buss	Tina Folkerts

## STAFF & LEADERSHIP CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastors • [sam@bridgecrc.org](mailto:sam@bridgecrc.org) and [gail@bridgecrc.org](mailto:gail@bridgecrc.org)

Ministry Administrator/Coordinator • [ruth@bridgecrc.org](mailto:ruth@bridgecrc.org) or [office@bridgecrc.org](mailto:office@bridgecrc.org)

Youth Director • [kira@bridgecrc.org](mailto:kira@bridgecrc.org)

Sunday School Director • [sarah@bridgecrc.org](mailto:sarah@bridgecrc.org)

Congregational Caregiver • [judy@bridgecrc.org](mailto:judy@bridgecrc.org)

Congregational Caregiver • [aimee@bridgecrc.org](mailto:aimee@bridgecrc.org)

Worship Coordinator • [missy@bridgecrc.org](mailto:missy@bridgecrc.org)

Council • [council@bridgecrc.org](mailto:council@bridgecrc.org)

Pastoral Shepherds • [bohps@bridgecrc.org](mailto:bohps@bridgecrc.org)

Service Shepherds • [bohss@bridgecrc.org](mailto:bohss@bridgecrc.org)

## 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)

## 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



***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.***