

CORNERSTONE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Bulletin Announcements for January 1, 2017

Today, our New Year's Day morning worship service will be led by **Rev. Harlan Vanden Einde**, and our evening worship service will be led by **Mr. Paul Freswick**, a Mid-America Reformed Seminary student (married to Vicki Emelander).

The AM Offering today is for **Divine Hope Reformed Bible Seminary** – Divine Hope Reformed Bible Seminary exists as a dedicated prison seminary to provide theological and biblical instruction within the Christian tradition to residents of correctional institutions within the state of Illinois and Indiana in order to promote moral transformation. The goal of this rigorous program of theological and biblical studies is the moral transformation of residents in correctional institutions so that they can live in hope and joy and be a blessing to their families, churches, and communities.

The PM Offering today is for **ITEM (International Theological Education Ministries)** – was founded in 2009. The mission statement is to take God's Truth to teach, train, and transform God's leaders in Eastern Europe and wherever the Holy Spirit may direct. The purpose for ITEM is to provide biblically-based Reformed teaching and training of national church leaders for service presently in the churches of Russia, Ukraine, Eastern Europe, and wherever God opens doors. An instructor can train 100 Indian national leaders in 3 locations for a cost of \$1.38 per student classroom hour.

Next week's AM Offering is for **Christian Education** – to assist families with the cost of Christian School tuition.

Next week's PM Offering is for **Sioux Falls URC** -- In the spring of 2005, some families from the tristate area (SD, MN, IA) approached Hills United Reformed Church about the prospects of planting a URC in Sioux Falls, SD. They had a vision for a church that is distinctly Reformed with a passion for reaching the city of Sioux Falls for Christ. By God's grace, the right doors were opened at the right time, and the Sioux Falls URC Fellowship was formed. The group began gathering for worship in September 2005 and called their first minister in December 2006—Rev. Spencer Aalsburg. The Hills URC (Hills, MN) is the overseeing church that is officially planting Sioux Falls URC Fellowship. Rev. Spencer Aalsburg and his wife Julia have 4 children.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School and Catechism classes will NOT meet today. We will resume classes next week, January 8.

The Adult Bible Class WILL MEET in the Youth Room after the morning worship service – Please join us!

The deadline to sign up for the "Trusting God" Adult Bible Study class is TODAY! In this study we will begin to explore the scope of God's power over the nations, nature, and the details of people's lives. As we study, you'll grasp a deeper understanding of His loving control; and as you come to know Him better, you'll find yourself trusting Him more completely, even when life hurts. Class will begin **NEXT WEEK Sunday, January 8**, after the morning worship service.

The Cornerstory is in the members' mailboxes today. If you are visiting and would like to read our newsy newsletter, please check the racks by the main entrance! Thanks to all who contributed for this issue!

The Cornerstone URC January 2017 Events and Prayer Calendar can be found on the table in the narthex.

Copies of the URCNA Missions Prayer Requests for January, from the URCNA Missions Coordinator, Pastor Rich Bout, are available on the table in the narthex for those who do not receive the email Prayer Postings. **Let's continue to pray fervently for our missionaries and that God's name would be glorified through their work.**

CHRISTIAN RENEWAL and OUTLOOK subscriptions expire with the February 2017 issue. Please sign up on the sheets located under Bulletin Board #3 if you would like to continue receiving your subscription or if you would like to begin a new one. A one-year subscription to **CHRISTIAN RENEWAL** is **\$40.00**, and the **OUTLOOK** is **\$22.00**. Please make your check **payable to Cornerstone URC** and place it in the Secretary Mail slot in the Sound Room. The deadline to sign up is Sunday, January 29.

Help Needed: Please sign up to help stock the Taco Bar for Family Night on Wednesday! **We also need 3 cookie bakers and 3 people to help clean up!** If everyone helps a little, it makes the burden so much lighter!!!

LADIES: You are encouraged to **gather for a short time of prayer at 9:30 AM this week Tuesday** morning before the Bible study.

Women's Bible Study will meet **this week Tuesday, January 3, at 9:45 AM** for coffee and fellowship with the Bible Study beginning at 10:00 AM. Please read the Teaching Chapter on pages 95-110 and answer the Discussion Questions on pages 111-112 in preparation for our discussion. A Nursery is provided. **Coffee (please—NO nuts of any kind): Norma Mulder and Kris Wilson.**

Men's Tuesday Night Bible Study meets in the Council Room at 7:00 PM. **Please join us!!**

Early Risers meet on Wednesday mornings at 6:30 AM at the Rainbow Grill in Hudsonville. **All men and women, young and old, are welcome and encouraged to join us!**

Family Night: Everyone is invited to Family Night THIS WEEK Wednesday, January 4. Dinner begins at 6:00 p.m. We will have a Taco Bar for dinner (taco salad, tacos, walking tacos, etc....) and afterwards we will have a presentation by Rahi Soltani from Artist and Farsi Media Ministry. He will be speaking on his conversion and life from a Muslim childhood in Iran to working in ministry with Middle Eastern Christians! GEMS meet at 6:40 PM; Cadets meet at 6:45 PM; Kid's Bible Story Hour meets at 7:00 PM downstairs; and the Adult class meets at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary. **See you there!**

From Reformed Mission Services:

HAPPY NEW YEAR! We thank God always for you and it is our prayer for God's blessings to you in the New Year! God has been gracious to us in 2016 and we look forward to His grace and blessings in 2017. **We want to thank you all for your faithful prayers, love, and support for our ministry! Soli Deo Gloria!**

HAITI: Please be in prayer for Dr. Neal Hegeman, Rev. Cal Tuininga, and our Administrative Director, Rob Brinks, as they travel to Haiti **this week**. They will be surveying the damage of the recent Hurricane Matthew as well as assessing the progress of the building project established by Dr. Hegeman and the local Missionaries in the Jeremie region of Haiti. The project is to build 25 chapels over the next 5 years. They will also be traveling around Haiti visiting some of the ministries established by URCNA members. RMS hopes to report more about how you and your church can be involved with these and other projects soon.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: There is a team of volunteers travelling to Sabana Grande De Boya, Dominican Republic, from **January 11-20, 2017**. The team is made up of 6 people from the Covenant URC of Pantego, NC, 1 from Trinity URC of Caledonia, MI, and 1 from Second CRC of Kalamazoo, MI. They will be working on maintenance and rebuilding efforts to 5 churches in the region.

MEXICO: **Registration ends this week Saturday** for the upcoming RMS trip to Ejido-Uruapan, Mexico. The trip to Mexico will take place **January 21-28, 2017**. Go to the RMS website, to register today!

COSTA RICA: A team of volunteers will travel to San Jose, Costa Rica, to assist CLIR, Rev. Bill Green, and perform some maintenance on the Grade School building and at the new High School building. This trip will take place **March 4-11, 2017**. More information and registration is on the website, www.rms.org.

COLUMBIA: Plans are being made to construct a church building in Santa Marta, Columbia, which will take place **July 24 - August 3, 2017**. RMS hopes to have more information after an exploratory trip takes place in April.

UPCOMING TRIPS: **VBS:** RMS is looking for churches that desire to assist our Missionaries and Church Planters using the VBS model that we have developed. If your church is interested in helping or know of a church that would like to have a team come to assist them, please email the Administrative Director at rob@rms.org. **TASC:** RMS is seeking churches that are willing to host a TASC event in 2018. Please go to our website <https://rms.org/tasc-host-church-application/> and fill out the form showing your interest in hosting! **OTHER:** RMS is working on new programs and projects for you and your church to be involved with. Stay tuned for more information!

CADETS

We meet this Wednesday, January 4. The meeting begins promptly at 6:45 PM and we meet until 8:30 PM. Please wear your complete uniform, bring a Bible, and if your group is working on merit badges then bring your Guide Book. Grades 3rd - 4th—please prepare Lesson A-11. Grades 5th – 8th—please read and bookmark these passages ahead of time to prepare for your Bible lesson: Matthew 20:25-28; 25:37-40, Luke 10:30-37; 17:10, 1 Peter 4:10, Colossians 3:23-24.

GEMS

We meet this week Family Night, Wednesday, January 4, 2017.

- **3rd Grade:** Please complete the lesson “In the Beginning” on p. 58 before our next meeting.
- **6th Grade:** Please read Chapter 6 and answer the questions in your study guide for our next meeting this week Wednesday, January 4.

HSYG

HSYG MEETING ~ JANUARY 15! **FOOD: Moorman and Schuiteman! Friends are always welcome!** If you have a topic/subject for our “What Does the Bible Say About...?” that you would like to discuss for future lessons, please contact one of the leaders today or let us know at our next meeting.

SIGN UPS! At our next meeting, we will have sign-up sheets for the RYS Convention, Summer TASC events, the Mexico trip (eligible Juniors and Seniors), and the RYS All-nighter. As leaders, we want to have a good idea of how many of you want to participate in these events, so **please discuss these events with your parents and come ready to sign up for the events.** A letter detailing the costs for each of these events will be in your mailboxes.

SAVE THE DATES!

January 15	HSYG Meeting. Food: Moorman and Schuiteman
February 5	HSYG Meeting. Food: Kamps and Pettit
February 17-18	RYS ALL-NIGHTER ~ Cost \$16. We will leave church approximately 10:30 PM and return to church approximately 5:30 AM on Saturday morning.
February 19	HSYG Meeting. Food: Koning and Wassink

30+ SINGLES

The study / discussion group for singles who are age 30+ will meet **NEXT WEEK Sunday, January 8,** at the home of Sherry Buys. You are invited to come after your church service as the meeting and discussion usually last as long as there is interest. No advance preparation is necessary as we discuss social issues. The address is 4129 W. Saxony Drive, Grand Rapids; please join us at any time after 7:30 p.m. For more information, call 616-477-7595.

THIS WEEK AT CORNERSTONE

Today	9:30 AM	Morning Worship Service
	11:00 AM	Adult Bible Study (old Youth Room downstairs)
	4:30 PM	Men at Prayer
	5:20 PM	Song Service
	5:30 PM	Evening Worship Service
Monday	7:00 PM	Elders
Tuesday	9:30 AM	Women gather to pray before Bible Study
	9:45 AM	Women's Bible Study
	7:00 PM	Men's Bible Study
Wednesday	6:30 AM	Early Risers (Rainbow Grill, Hudsonville)
	5:00 PM	Praise Choir Practice
	6:00 PM	Family Night Dinner—Taco Bar
	6:40 PM	GEMS
	6:45 PM	Cadets
	7:00 PM	Kid's Bible Story Hour
	7:00 PM	Adult Bible Class
Thursday	6:30 PM	VBS at Presidential Estates

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

- Offerings:** **January 1 AM:** Divine Hope Reformed Bible Seminary
PM: ITEM (International Theological Education Ministries)
- January 8 AM:** Christian Education **PM:** Sioux Falls URC
- Coffee:** **January 1** – Rob & Deb Brinks
January 8 – Larry & Carol Huttinga
- Greeters:** **January 1 AM:** Bruce & Karen Sterk
PM: Eric & Jessica Stuiwe
- January 8 AM:** Mitch & Kendra Stuiwe
PM: Andrew & Jennifer Tanis
- Host Family:** **January 1:** Everyone
January 8: Dave and June Boardman
- Nursery Today:** **January 1 AM:** Kendra Stuiwe, Julie Johnson, Taylor Hoekman
PM: Pam Lengkeek, Cheryl Doll, Emberlynn De Vries
- Nursery Check Today:** Kendra Stuiwe
- Nursery Next Week:** **January 8 AM:** Laura Batts, Martha Horjus, Peyton Schuiteman
PM: Karen Essenburg, Sandi Verwolf, Kris Groendyk
- Nursery Check Next Week:** Laura Batts
- Security:** **January 1 AM:** Dustin Emelander, Gerald Nuiver
PM: Eric Stuiwe, Mike Hoeksema
- January 8 AM:** Jon Knott, Dan De Vries
PM: Dan Deppe, Nicholas Vos
- Sound:** **January 1** – Tom Van Dyken **January 8** – Bob Hulst

Ushers: **January AM:** Lance Bonzelaar, Rob Brinks, Patrick Carbone, Lee De Witt
 PM: Don Cook, Dave De Zwaan, Dan De Vries, Joe De Witt

SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Bus Drivers Needed!** Zion Christian School is searching for bus drivers both as substitutes and also as a route driver for the Northwest area of Grand Rapids. If you are not currently licensed, Zion will pay for all training and testing. Interested applicants should contact Todd Hoekstra at 878-9472 or thoekstra@zionchristian.net.

- **Zion Christian School** is looking for a **Boy's Middle School Baseball Coach**, and also a **Varsity Assistant for Baseball**. Please contact Joel Bont via email at jbont@zionchristian.net or via phone at (616) 878-9472 if you are interested or know anyone that would be.