

Today

New Member Sunday First Service - 9:00 a.m. Sunday School Classes - all ages - 10:15 a.m. Second Service - 11:15 a.m. Explorers' Class Luncheon, Great Hall, 12:30 p.m. Tone Chimes, CWC, 3:30 p.m. High School Ministry, 4:30 p.m.

Monday Commission/Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday Women's Bible Study, East Wing, 1:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry, Hospitality Room, 6:30 p.m. Doulos Housekirk, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday

WOW Supper, 5:30 p.m. Worship, Sanctuary, 6:15 p.m. Classes for Children, Students and Adults, 6:30 p.m. Choir, Great Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday

American Heritage Girls Party, Hospitality Room, 6:30 p.m. Trail Life Boys Party, Great Hall, 6:00 p.m.

Saturday Early Risers Housekirk, Hospitality Room, 8:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 10

Communion Sunday Glen Oaks, 2:00 p.m. Tone Chimes, CWC, 3:30 p.m. High School Ministry, 4:30 p.m. Coram Deo Housekirk, 6:00 p.m. **Our Weekly Concerns.** New additions will be listed in bold print, and names will be removed upon request. Names left on for more than 3 weeks will be removed at the discretion of the office. Please keep these friends in your prayers: **Pastor Jody Lucero and Providence Reformed Church,** Carolyn Barnes, Beth Boeckemeier, Darlene Denison, David Gaumer, Pat Gorman, Ellen Kinnaird, Marie McGhee, Paul MacLafferty, Paul Meinen, Debbie Namanny, Carliann Northfield, Tom and Dianne Paplham, Don Powers. Condolences to: Emily and Clinton Crowder and family on the death of Emily's uncle, Dan Reigel; **Casey Phipps and family on the death of Doug Phipps.**

WESTMINSTER CONFESSION OF FAITH

Question of the Week (answer on the back)

Q: What are the decrees of God?

December Communion Offering will be given to Joshua Christian Academy. The Mission of Joshua Christian Academy is "To build a Christ-centered academic foundation within the hearts and minds of urban children, equipping them and their families to serve God and others to their fullest potential through outstanding biblical education." Please join us in supporting this ministry!

Biblical Parenting Seminar. Parenting is hard and parents need help ... solid, biblical help. On Friday, January 26 from 6:30-9:00 p.m. Grace Church (4200 E. 25th, Des Moines) is hosting a seminar led by Dr. Scott Turansky and Joanne Miller from the National Center for Biblical Parenting where parents will receive practical tools to address both attitudes and anger in children. The seminar will offer a biblical, heart-based approach to addressing problems parents face. The cost is only \$10 per person. To register online or for more information, visit <u>www.gracehome.com</u> and click on "parenting seminar" in the upper right-hand corner.

Your December/January/February copy of the Daily Bread is available at the Welcome Center today!

First Sunday in Advent. Today is the first Sunday in Advent the season of expectation and longing for the coming of the Lord. For four weeks we prepare to hear again the announcement of the angel: "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord" (Luke 2:10-11).

Our theme this Advent season is the great theme of the Bible: the reunion of earth and heaven. In these four weeks we will journey from the moment when heaven and earth were separated to the moment when they will at last be united again. This journey begins in sorrow and longing; it ends in joy and reunion.

Library. Thank you to everyone who donated books to Westkirk's library this year! We received many books from many donors, and it's because of your generosity that our little book corner now holds over 1,300 volumes, not counting reference materials! I pray God will continue blessing this resource in 2018. Serving as your librarian with pleasure, Linda Wilde.

WOW Menu Pizza, Tossed Salad, Fruit Cup and Cookie

Perspectives Classes. Perspectives is for believers from all walks of life. It is a 15-week course, from January 14 - April 29. Discover how God has been working (and continues to work) throughout the world. Learn more about God's kingdom and His glory. Find out what your part is in this exciting movement.

The Walnut Creek Downtown Church, 323 E. Locust, is hosting the course and classes will be on Sundays from 5:00-8:00 p.m., with dinner included halfway through the evening. Childcare will also be provided. Visit <u>Perspectives.org</u> for more information.

Registration is \$249 with an Early Bird Discount of \$25 available until December 15. We do not want finances to be the deciding factor as to whether you may attend or not. Scholarships are available to help with the cost for our Westkirk family. Contact Brandon Mick (BrandonMick@westkirk.org) or Sue Holcomb (sue.holcomb@holcombcorp.com) for more information.



Women's Christmas Cookie Exchange. Ladies, please join us on Thursday, December 14, at 7:00 p.m. for our Christmas Cookie Exchange. You are invited to a fun night of a cookie exchange and favorite things party at Allyson Groner's home (15176 Bryn Mawr Dr., Clive). Each guest should bring two dozen cookies or treats to share

and an empty container to collect two dozen going home with you. Also, bring a wrapped, favorite item around \$10 that is "one of your favorite things" for our gift exchange. It can be anything from your favorite kitchen utensil, household cleaner, beauty item, socks and more. To RSVP please sign up on the Connect Card. If you have questions, please contact Allyson at 515-770-2792.

Hanging of the Greens. The annual "Hanging of the Greens" at Westkirk is a big project. I would like to thank the many people who came out last Sunday to help decorate the campus of Westkirk in celebration of



the Advent Season! Helpers moved totes to and from the basement, cleaned and organized the storage area, hung wreaths and garland outside, and decorated the trees and all areas inside. We had an enjoyable time working with old friends and making new ones. Afterwards holiday treats were enjoyed by everyone. Thank you! Audrene Hansen.

Westkirk Holiday Schedule

December 20 December 24 December 27 December 31 January 3 No WOW Unified Service - 10:30 a.m. Candlelight Service - 5:30 p.m. No WOW Regular Sunday Schedule No WOW

A: The decrees of God are, his eternal purpose, according to the counsel of his will, whereby, for his own glory, he hath foreordained whatsoever comes to pass.