

# Community Happenings



The Low-income Home Energy Assistance Program (LiHEAP) offered through **Mid-Sioux Opportunity, Inc.** may be able to help you pay your winter heating bill. This program is funded through the Iowa Department of Human Rights and has been established to help qualified low-income Iowa homeowners and renters pay for a portion of their primary heating costs.

Your local Mid-Sioux office will be taking applications through April 30, 2019. Each applicant will need to furnish a copy of their most recent heating and electric bill, original Social Security or I-94 card for each household member, and proof of the household's income for the past month (30 days), the past twelve (12) months, or the most recent calendar year (tax return). Eligibility for participation is established according to the federal income guidelines listed at the right. Applicants eligible for an award will be paid on a first come, first served basis, and all payments are subject to availability of funds.

MAXIMUM GROSS INCOME

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	ANNUAL INCOME
1	\$21,245
2	\$28,805
3	\$36,365
4	\$43,925
5	\$51,485

For families with more than five members, add \$7,560 for each additional member.

The **NAMI** (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Support Group will meet in the Fireside Room of Central Reformed Church in Sioux Center from 7 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, December 4. Individuals and family members coping with mental illness are welcome. For information call Shirley Matheis 722-4462.

The **Dordt College** Campus-Community Band, Chamber Orchestra, and Concert Band will present a concert on Friday, December 7, at 7:30 p.m. in the B.J. Haan Auditorium in Sioux Center. This concert of praise and celebration will feature a variety of musical selections, including Philip Sparke's *Mary's Boy Child*, arranged to be a Calypso (an Afro-Caribbean style of music), *Riu, Riu, Chiu* arranged by Marshall Fine (a Spanish Christmas carol depicting the story of the birth of Jesus and the joy of his coming to redeem the world from the guilt of sin), and *Of Sailors and Whales: Five Scenes from Melville*, a piece for wind band based on *Moby Dick* that will feature Dordt English Professor Mary Dengler as narrator.

**Northwestern College** chamber ensembles will present a concert Friday, Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m. in Christ Chapel. The event is free and open the public. The concert will include performances by a brass quintet, woodwind ensembles and three string ensembles. The event will feature a variety of music.

The senior high youth group of **Maurice Reformed Church** invites everyone to their traveling nativity held on Saturday, December 8 and Sunday December 9 in Maurice from 5:30-8:30pm. A horse drawn wagon will lead you down a lit path to events leading to the birth of Christ. Enjoy warm refreshments in the church's Family Life Center before or after your ride. Freewill donations will go toward the senior high youth group at MRC.

Join us for the annual **Reach Out** event sponsored by Unity Christian/MOC/Floyd Valley on Saturday, December 8! MOC/Floyd Valley is hosting the event this year. Basketball games between MOC-FV and Unity begin at 1:00 (girls & boys JV games, girls & boys varsity games). A silent auction will run from 1:00 through half time of the boys varsity game. Pre-orders of reach out t-shirts is closed but extras will be available on a first come first serve basis. All proceeds from this community event will benefit local families with high medical costs.

**Christmas Jazz Night' at Dordt College** will take place on Tuesday, December 11, at 7:30 pm in the B.J. Haan Auditorium and will feature the Kantorei (a 16 voice jazz choir) and Jazz Band. The Kantorei will be celebrating the birth of Christ in unique and intricate ways with a cappella renditions of *Mary Did You Know* by Pentatonix, familiar carols like *Silent Night* and the Coventry Carol approached from a jazz perspective, and songs performed in collaboration with the Jazz Band. The Dordt Jazz Band will be swinging to some holiday classics like, *Here Comes Santa Claus*, *Santa Claus is Coming to Town*, and *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas*. Come in out of the cold for a night of light, bright jazz music.

Bring your family, neighbors and friends to enjoy a free meal together at the **Community Unity Meal** at New Life Reformed Church on Thursday, December 13, serving from 6-7:00pm. Meal hosts: Pella Corp.

**Unity Christian High School's** annual Christmas concert will be presented on Thursday, December 13 at 7:00 p.m. at the Unity Christian Knight Center. All the school's music ensembles will participate. A free will offering will be received for the Music Department. Come and celebrate the birth of the King!  
Unity's FFA chapter will sponsor a chicken/chilisoup/cinnamon roll supper on Thursday, Dec. 13, serving from 4:30-6:30 p.m. (before the Christmas concert) in the Unity cafeteria. Free-will donation for FFA.

The **Dordt College Christmas Choral Concert** will take place on Friday, December 14, at 7:30 pm in the B.J. Haan Auditorium and will feature Bella Voce (women's chorus), Chorale, and Concert Choir - over 160 singers. The choirs will explore a wide range of repertoire for Christmas to commemorate and marvel at the great mystery and wondrous gift of the birth of Christ. Highlights include works by Eric Whitacre, Jake Runestad, John Rutter, Ola Gjeilo, Knut Nystedt, Vijay Singh, and Michael Engelhardt. Stunning a cappella compositions will be side by side with several forms of accompaniment that will bring a deep texture to the program, including piano, cello, guitar, flute, harp, percussion, and handbells.

**Love INC** is continuing to develop our Love & Learn classes and are excited to pursue a Parenting Curriculum for January 2019! We are seeking individuals or couples that would be interested in facilitating the class. It is a faith-based DVD/workbook curriculum that has been selected through prayer, discernment and communication with Sioux County churches and agencies. Love INC will be taking volunteer applications for this opportunity through mid-December. If you have a heart for helping others navigate the challenging journey of parenting, life experience and feel God's leading please call the Love INC office at 476.5990.

**JUSTICE FOR ALL** is planning the 2019 *Service and Learning* Opportunities and would love to have you join one of the teams! These weeks are wonderful opportunities to serve others but also to experience and understand God's Kingdom in new and important ways! Dates and places are: Harvest Hands Ministries, Juarez, MX – January 18-26 (must have passport); JVM Perkins Foundation, Jackson MS – February 9-16; Voice of Calvary Ministries, Jackson, MS - February 17-23; Grace Reigns, Colorado City UT – March 16-23. For more information please call Luke Grooters at JFA 712-476-2804 or email [lukeg@jfa-nwiowa.org](mailto:lukeg@jfa-nwiowa.org). You can also check out the JFA website: [www.jfa-nwiowa.org](http://www.jfa-nwiowa.org).

**Crossroads Teens Encounter Christ (TEC)** is accepting applications for the upcoming weekend at the Reformed Church of Steen in Steen, Minnesota. TEC is an interdenominational three-day Christian retreat/lock in designed to help high schoolers learn more about their faith and their community. The next TEC is Friday February 15 through Sunday February 17, 2019. If you would like to learn more about TEC or register, please visit [www.CrossroadsTEC.com/apply](http://www.CrossroadsTEC.com/apply) or email [CrossroadsTEC@gmail.com](mailto:CrossroadsTEC@gmail.com). The cost is \$50 and includes a t-shirt, meals & other special gifts. Scholarships are available upon request. Crossroads TEC is also looking for adults with a passion for ministering to teens to help make the weekend a success.