

COVENANT HIGHLIGHTS

APRIL 2024

VOLUME 45. ISSUE 4



PASTORS CORNER

1 Peter 5:8-9 NIV

⁸ Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

If we are going to follow Jesus, it only stands to reason that we will have a target on our backs. The enemy prowls around, trying to intimidate and devour. One of his main tactics is fear. He wants to shut down any move of God. We cannot listen to him. When Goliath shouted at the army of Israel, Saul and his army was paralyzed with fear. But when David heard Goliath, he was not afraid. He had faced and defeated lions and bears and he knew God had the power to help him defeat Goliath. David trusted God and God gave him the victory. God can help us with whatever challenge we face. Resist the devil and he will flee. Trust in the Lord in the day of trial.

Pastor Dan

NWC ANNUAL MEETING

2024 Northwest Conference Annual Meeting



April 25-27 at Redeemer Covenant Church in Brooklyn Park, MN.

We are looking for up to 3 delegates from our church to attend this meeting (either inperson or online). See Pastor Dan if you're interested in being a delegate!

DONATIONS NEEDED

MISSION STITCHERS
NEEDS DONATIONS OF



USED T-SHIRTS. T-SHIRTS ARE USED TO MAKE JUMP-ROPES.

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULING



Our Wednesday Nights are starting to wind down for Kids Blast, CREW 56 & Adult Studies for this

school year! Here's a quick run-down of what to expect in the weeks to come:

*April 3rd: Derby Prep Night
*April 10th: All Church Derby Night

April 10th is the final night of our regular Wednesday night programing!

*The 5:30 pm Family Suppers will be held these weeks: April 3^{rd} & 10^{th} .

All Church Derby Car Race

As a celebration of a great Kids' Blast & CREW56 year, we will be having our annual Derby Race, Wednesday, April 10th at 6:00 pm!

PREP NIGHT:

To prepare for the Derby Race on Wednesday, April 3rd

there will be a Derby Prep Night. Adults- many hands are needed! Donations of washers/coins/weights are needed, also bring your hot glue gun for the prep night. We will need assistance with a scale, weight distribution, decorating, design, cutting, etc... Please join us if you're willing to assist!

Derby car kits are at church, there is a \$5 suggested donation for the cost of the car. All cars must be made from the kit given out at church! Also, cars must be inspected and turned in on Wednesday, April 3rd or Sunday, April 7th to compete!

Please join us to race (all ages are welcome to compete!) and to cheer on the competition!

CREW (Christians Ready Equipped & Willing)



CREW is our Jr & Sr High Students (gr 7-12).

But the Lord said to Samuel, "Don't judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The Lord doesn't see things the way you see them.

People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." 1 Samuel 16:7

How easy is it to judge someone by their appearance? It could just be a first impression or maybe you've been around someone long enough that you think you have that person figured out. The truth is we don't always know someone's heart, but God does. Anyone can go to a church and claim to be a believer and even sign up for all of the events that are available. However, none of these efforts make you a Christian. It's the transformation of the heart through the Holy Spirit when you give your life to God and receive the forgiveness that is only available through the death and resurrection of Jesus. Attending church events is good, but it is so much better when it's paired with a genuine walk with the Lord.



Spring has arrived and we have a couple new opportunities for people to sign up for. We have reserved 16 total

spots to pack meals with **Feed My Starving Children**. This is the April Youth Volunteer
Opportunity. Feed My Starving Children will have
their Mobile Pack at the Polk County Fairgrounds the
end of April. CREW (gr. 7-12) will be serving on Sat.,
April 27th from 9:00-11:00 am. CREW students, sign
up today- there is very limited space!

Also, Toby Mac is coming to **ONEFEST**, which is a music festival held in Cadott, WI the weekend of August 2-4. If you're interested in attending we will be purchasing group tickets, but you'll need to sign up and pay by April 21st to get in on the discount! Adults \$50, Youth (age 11-17) \$25, Children under 10 are FREE.



Reminder that registration for Lake Beauty Bible Camp is open! Completed Scholarship Forms are due March

31st Use the transfer code: 24UCCLBBC for a \$50 coupon when you register. Early Bird Registration Deadline is April 2nd!

Register | LakeBeautyBibleCamp (lbbc.com)

Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it. 1 Peter 3:15

CREW EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Here's what CREW (Jr/Sr High) will be planning:

April 2nd - LBBC Early Bird Discount Deadline

April 3rd - Derby Prep Night

April 10th - Derby Race Night

April 27 - Feed My Starving Children (Mobile packing at Polk County Fairgrounds, 9am-11am, limited spots available)

May 29th - CREW End Of Year Party

June 9-14 - Lake Beauty Junior High Camp

June 17-20 - VBS

July 15-19 - Summer Mission Trip (Jesus People Chicago)

July 28 - Aug 2 - Lake Beauty Senior High Camp

Aug 2-4 - OneFest (Christian Music Festival, Cadott WI)

Aug 8 - 10 - MUUUCE

PARENTS OF SENIORS

Parents, if your child is a senior in High School, be on the lookout for the bulletin board where you can announce his or her graduation! We want to honor your graduating child! When the bulletin board is ready, please place your child's announcement on it!



Also, students are invited to "Graduation Sunday" on May 19th and will be invited to briefly share what their future plans are.

GREETER & NURSERY MEETINGS



If you serve as a door or bulletin greeter, or if you'd like to, plan to come to a Greeter Meeting after church on April 7th. See Matt or Tam Elsmore with questions.

If you serve as a Nursery Volunteer, or would like to, plan to come to a Nursery Meeting after church on April 21st. See Mariah Peterson or Lily Carlson with questions.



THANK YOU!



Thank you for giving generously to our Lake Beauty Bible Camp scholarship fund! We raised \$1986 through our Lasagna Dinner fundraiser! The Body of Christ at United Covenant Church has once

again been faithful to change the lives of our students for all eternity. Please continue to pray for Lake Beauty Bible Camp as they prepare for this season of hiring, planning, recruiting speakers, etc. AND pray for our youth to have prepared hearts to receive God's Truth at camp. We pray that God continues to bless LBBC!

SENIOR LUNCHEON



CLACC to Host a Spring Senior Luncheon

Mark your calendar for Thursday, April 18. The meal will be served in

the community center dining room at noon. A free will donation is optional.

Please call your reservation to the community center 715-263-2233 by Monday, April 15.

Even if you don't feel as though you are a "senior", but enjoy visiting with neighbors and other friends, do consider joining us.

WOMEN'S BREAKFAST-- POSTPONED

The Women's Breakfast that was scheduled for Saturday, April 6th has been postponed. Stay tuned for an announcement with a new date!

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY- COMMON GROUND

Common Ground will be meeting at church on Sunday, April 14th at 5:30 pm!



This is a young adult group for ages 18-35ish. © See Emily Johnson 262-949-5052 with any questions!

CPR/AED/CHOKING TRAINING



There will be a CPR/AED/Choking training at United Covenant on

Saturday, April 13th. Times are TBD, depending how many people we have interested in taking the training. The class will be 1.5 hours long. Please sign up in the foyer if you are interested in taking this course. Also, in the foyer, if you are certified in CPR please let us know by writing your name down or by letting Doug Lemons or Terry Silverberg know.



For more information or to register go to www.lbbc.com

Registration is now OPEN!!!

Early Bird Registration Discount ENDS on April 2! I

You are REQUIRED to use United Covenant Church's Transfer Code when you register. See Josh Williamson, Susie Thayer, or Katie Elmer to get the Transfer Code information.

Mark your Calendars! 2024 Camp Dates:

Spring Work Weekend: May 17th- May 19th (Register online)

Memorial Day Family Camp: May 24th- May 27th

Jr. High Camp: June 9th- June 14th

Trailblazer Camp: June 23rd- June 27th

4th of July Family Camp: June 28th- July 1st

Frontier Kids: July 3rd- July 5th

Senior High Camp: July 28th- August 2nd

Labor Day Family Camp: August 30th- September 2nd

Senior Adult Day: September 10th

Women's Retreat: September 27th- September 29th

Fall Youth Retreat: October 25th- October 27th

Fall Quilt & Craft Retreats: November 7th - November 11th

November 14th-November 18th

Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner: December 7th

Young Adult Retreat: December 28th - December 30th

Marriage Retreat: February 14th - February 16th, 2025

2024 Theme: The Greatest Show "God's Wonderful Purpose Revealed"

Theme Verse: ²² "As surely as my new heavens and earth will remain, so will you always be my people, with a name that will never disappear," says the LORD. ²³ "All humanity will come to worship me from week to week and from month to month." Isaiah 66:22-23 NLT

On Wednesday, March 6th we had an All Family Roller Skating Night at Skate City, Rice Lake, WI. We had a fabulous time together!



RIGHT NOW MEDIA

rightnow
MEDIA. we're excited to share that our church has access to an extensive, new video library called RightNow Media! can the QR Code to get access—or go to our website and click the RightNow Media link!



200M DAILY PRAYER MEETINGS



Morning Zoom Prayer group meets on Zoom Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and

Friday mornings from 7:00 am to 7:10 am.

We would love to have you join us! If you would like to join, please contact Sarah Enslin at 612-723-2714 to get the zoom link!

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Men's opportunities for Bible Study during the week:



- 7:00 a.m. on Saturday mornings at Jason Sigsworth's garage
- 2nd Saturday of the month at 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast at church (bring a dish to share!)
- 6:30 p.m. on Thursday Nights at church

PRAYER TIME

Prayer Time Tuesdays 8:00 a.m. at church

Everyone is invited and welcome to come. Prayer cards are prayed over during these meetings. Please write your prayers (with or without your name) on the prayer cards provided in the chairs. Place them in the offering box in the sanctuary.

MISSION STITCHERS



Mission Stitchers meets the 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month at church at 9:00 am. Join us to cut, sew,

match up fabrics or just for fellowship! Mission Stitchers is looking for new cotton-blend fabric for making pillowcases for local organization's needs. T-Shirts and Fabric donations are always needed and welcomed!

HEARING LOOP

Table!

We have a Hearing Loop in our sanctuary! A hearing loop shuts out the distractions so that users can hear the sounds they want directly through their hearing aids. We also have headphones available for use-pick one up at the Connections



WOMEN'S MONDAY BIBLE STUDY

Monday Night Women's Bible Study will meet: 6:30-8:00 p.m.

April 1st, 8th & 15th: Will be continuing the study from Dr. David Jeremiah, "Live Like You Were Dying", "The Final Invitation", "Why Study Prophecy?"

April 22nd: Refreshments & Sharing

April 29th: New Study: "Captivating, Unveiling The Mystery of a Woman's Soul" by John & Stasi Eldredge

All ladies are invited and welcome to come! We meet in the East Classroom at church

WOMEN'S TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

The Tuesday morning Women's Bible Study began a new study in January:

Ray Vander Laan showed us how discipleship training related directly to the metaphor of the "shepherd".



Discipleship training included the training to be a better disciple and training to make disciples.

This Bible study meets in the upstairs, east classroom at church each Tuesday at 9:15 a.m. All ladies are invited and welcome to come anytime!

HOMESCHOOL CLUB

HOMESCHOOL CLUB

Homeschool Club is open to all homeschool families -kids of all ages! They meet at United

Covenant the first and third Friday each month during the school year from 9:15-11:15 am.

This is an unstructured homeschool group time for moms that homeschool to be encouraged. For the students, they can make new friends, play games, and share in learning experiences.

POLK COUNTY FAIR

Mark your calendars: 2024 Polk County Fair: Thursday, July 27th-Sunday, July 30th.



United Covenant Church is providing the parking and ticketing crews again this year. Stay tuned for more information on how to help!

Do you have pictures of United Covenant Church at the fair from previous years? We would love to receive any parking/ticketing pictures, send to <u>unitedcovchurch@cltcomm.net</u>

CHURCH SALE



This year our Church Garage Sale will be held in August. We will be taking donations <u>AFTER</u> Vacation Bible School is completed (Sunday, June 23rd). Thank you!

LEADERSHIP MEETING

Leadership Team Meeting - March 4, 2024

Present: Pastor Dan Pearson, Terry Silverberg (via phone), Brenda Cogbill, Lucas Carlson, Burt Beebe, Tim Jurisch, Josh Williamson, Susie Thayer, Emily Johnson, Jacob Peterson and Cindee McBride.

The meeting was called to order by Lucas at 6 pm. A devotion was provided by Burt on Romans 8—we have an obligation to live by the Spirit. Lucas opened the meeting in prayer.

Youth Report: The youth lock-in went well. This year we tried an all-day event instead of an overnight. We bowled, took part with "Feed My Starving Children," and enjoyed the open gym in Clear Lake. Josh has noticed that it seems to be a trend among churches to not to overnight lock-ins anymore. Josh shared that the youth have gained a couple more volunteers and more are always welcome.

Finance Report: Burt motioned to approve, Emily seconded, finance report was accepted. There was discussion that the church received notice from the insurance company that the premium is going to go up 37%. Various members of the leadership team are going to check with other churches about their insurance. It was noted that the church policy was reviewed about a year ago.

The agenda and meeting notes from last month were motioned by Tim to be accepted, seconded by Burt and all approved.

Old Business: Ridgeview update provided by Tim that all is going well. There was an issue with a generator and that got figured out. Directory: there is a directory available through the Planning Center called Church Center. The Leadership team agreed that an online directory is the best choice at this time. Lucas will share this with the church in the monthly leadership update. Lucas is going to do a follow-up about the need for a lead maintenance person. Prayer service was discussed. There were forty-two people present. The leadership team reviewed the information provided on the cards. There was further discussion that there are two needs as we grow—one is possibly a physical building, and the other is to have systems in place such as policy and procedures for the ministry teams.

New Business: Policy and Procedures are needed. The following teams will be approached about drafting policies and procedures: Greeters, Safety and Security, Prayer, Nursery, Youth, Spiritual Care, communion and Worship teams. The leadership team would like all drafts to be reviewed by the Safety and Security team. The next step related to the possible building expansion is that Lucas will reach out to National Covenant Properties to obtain a consultation from them. The leadership team agreed (Emily motioned and Brenda seconded) to a portable sign for the Welcome/Greeter table. We may need traffic conductors for Easter Sunday that will have two services (8:15 and 10:00). Emily shared that the school van might be for sale. She also mentioned that it might be a good youth project to clean up the community churches' sign as one comes into Clear Lake (Josh is going to look into this).

Next meeting is scheduled for April 8th at 6 pm with Brenda leading devotions.

Lucas closed the meeting with prayer, we adjourned at 8:04 pm.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Clear Lake Community Vacation Bible School

June 17th-20th 6:00 pm-8:00 pm at United Covenant Church



Dive Below the Surface to Build a Strong Faith Take kids deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the everflowing, never-ending love of God. At Scuba VBS, kids will be immersed in the Word and discover what living water is really all about!



VBS is for children ages 4years-old through children who have completed 5th grade!

Register your children, visit unitedcovchurch.org or scan the QR code!

VBS is sponsored by the following area churches: First Lutheran, United Methodist, United Covenant

You can access United Covenant Church online in many ways:



Website: www.unitedcovchurch.org







Upcoming Dates to Know:

April 3rd: Derby Prep Night April 7th: Derby Cars DUE April 10th: All Church Derby, 6:00 pm April 13th: CPR/AED/Choking Training April 14th: Potluck May 5th: Confirmation Sunday May 19th: Graduation Sunday May 19th: Last Day of Sunday School June 9th-14th: Jr High Camp at LBBC June 17th-20th: Vacation Bible School June 23rd-27th: Trailblazer Camp at LBBC June 28th-July 1st: Family Camp at LBBC July 3rd-5th: Frontier Kids at LBBC July 15th-19th: Chicago Mission Trip July 25th-28th: Polk County Fair July 28th-August 2nd: Senior High Camp at LBBC August 2nd-4th: OneFest

August 8th-10th: MUUUCE

All dates are subject to change