# Covenant Highlights

November & December 2025

Volume 46, Issue 7

### **PASTORS CORNER**

There is a chill in the air! As sad as it is to say goodbye to the beautiful fall we have enjoyed, I always get excited for winter. That may sound strange to some, but I don't mind the cold and dark of this time of year. There is a silver lining to the coming of winter, it also signals the coming of the holiday season.

I love Thanksgiving! To me it is such a positive holiday. To stop and give thanks to the Lord for all he has done for us is a very healthy endeavor. Thanking God is something we can never do enough of and when we thank the Lord, we are instantly aligning ourselves with his will.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 says,

"....give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Think of a holiday that puts us in a place of obedience to God; that is Thanksgiving!

Right on the heels of Thanksgiving, Advent begins the countdown to Christmas. The darkness of this time magnifies the light. Jesus is the Light of the world and in him is no darkness!

1 John 1:5 says:

"This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light: in him there is no darkness at all."

I pray that the joy of Thanksgiving and Christmas will encourage you in very powerful ways this year! Be sure to invite friends and family members to our special events and celebrations. We want everyone to come to know the real reason for the season.

God bless you!

Pastor Dan



### **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

It's that time of year again! Time to put together Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Simple shoebox gifts, packed with love and prayer, are tools for evangelism and discipleship in over 100 countries.



Ways you can help:

- Pack a shoebox or two with your family
- Come to our Chili fundraiser on November 14<sup>th</sup>!
- Donate money to help shipping costs (\$10 each)

### Completed Boxes due Sunday, November 16th!

Please note, when packing boxes, grab a hand-crafted jump rope to your box! See the display in the foyer.

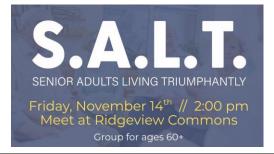
Join us for a

Chili Cook Off Competition Fundraiser
for Operation Christmas Child!

Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at
United Covenant Church

Plan to bring your family's completed boxes & donate toward this awesome mission!
Sign up at Sign-Up Central or see Mykaela
Thompson to see how you can participate in this fun event!

SALT "SENIOR ADULTS LIVING TRIUMPHANTLY"



### WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Our Wednesday Night Programs take a break over Thanksgiving and Christmas. This is a time for families to slow down & enjoy time together for Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas & New Years!

NOVEMBER 26TH-JANUARY 7TH:
NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT
SUPPER OR CLASSES

WE WILL RESUME JANUARY 14TH WITH OUR REGULAR WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE!

### CREW (Christians Ready Equipped & Willing)

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



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

# Fall Schedule

OCT 25 - UNDERGROUND CHURCH 6:00PM - 9:00PM NOV 5 - YOUTH SERVING WED NIGHT MEAL 5:30PM NOV 8 - YOUTH VOLUNTEER DAY 6:30AM - 9:00AM

(RUBY'S PANTRY)

**NOV 26 - NO CREW** 

(THANKSGIVING COMMUNITY SERVICE)

CREW is an acronym for 'Christians Ready, Equipped & Willing. An important part of being equipped is studying and learning about what the Bible says about how we are to live and relate to others, and how we deal with difficult issues. On Wednesday nights, we are discussing tough questions that all of us should be ready and equipped to answer. Emails are sent out each week to students and parents with updates and recaps. If you are not receiving these weekly updates, please let Josh Williamson know so you can be included.

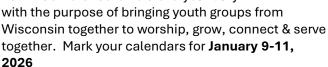


The High School Sunday School class is going through "The Story" and every high school student has received the book "The Story Teen Edition" and is expected to keep up with the weekly reading as we journey

through this 31-week curriculum together. If your student has not received a book, please let Josh Williamson know so your student can receive one. This is a very engaging time for these students to grow in their Bible literacy as they discover the overarching themes of the Bible and how it all fits together.

### **Districts Youth Conference**

registration is open! Registration forms are due to Josh Williamson by November 12th along with a \$50 deposit. There are scholarships available! The Districts Youth Conference is held every January



DISTRICTS



The youth volunteer day has been rescheduled to November 8<sup>th</sup>. Ruby's

Pantry is extremely low on volunteers and is in desperate need of more help. Please come serve with this local ministry, it helps many people in our community. Ruby's Pantry, November 8th 6:30am-9am; Location: SMC Ltd in Amery

There are more fun events coming up this winter, so be looking in your emails for more updates!



### SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM



Parts will be handed out in November. Please let your child's Sunday School teacher know if your child cannot take part. Practices will be on Sunday Mornings.

#### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE



### **Christmas for Children**

The Clear Lake United Methodist Church will be sponsoring the "Christmas for Children" drive again this year to provide gifts for area children who otherwise may not receive gifts at Christmas time. "Christmas for Children" is designed to reach more needs of our local community. We are coming up on our 32<sup>nd</sup> year and are so grateful for all of the support that we have received from everyone.

All gifts will be given to children ages 0-18 in the Clear Lake School District Area.

Gifts are always needed for older teens, guys and girls. Personal care, nail items, cosmetics, hair products and gloves. Art supplies for all ages, canvases, sketch books, paints and drawing pencils. Guys can use small tools, personal care items, gloves, outdoor sports items for hunting and fishing and team sports.

We take gift donations for all ages at True Value, Pillar Bank and local Clear Lake churches beginning November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

If you are in need of gifts for your children or if you know of other families in the Clear Lake School District area who are in need of Christmas gifts for their children, we would like to hear from you. Call Debi Ahrens 715-441-5477 (if no answer, please leave a message). All names are kept strictly confidential.

To mail a donation please send to: Christmas For Children, Box 42, Clear Lake, WI 54005

### **CHRISTMAS CAROLING**



### ALL CHURCH ROLLERSKATING NIGHT



### LETTER TO THE AMERICAN CHURCH

Our church is committed to engaging culture to bring Jesus' freedom to lives across all our areas of influence. To that end, we will



be holding a special event January 27th, built around a screening of Letter To The American Church (book published September 2022, movie produced in February 2024).

Letter To The American Church is produced by Eric Metaxes in collaboration with Charlie Kirk and others. It is meant to call the modern church to action, raise awareness of parallels between where Germany stood in Hitler's ramp up and where we currently stand in America. Drawing extensively from the life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, you will see how it's up to us in this unique moment in time. If the German church had mobilized beyond the 1/6<sup>th</sup> of churches that spoke out, Hitler's power & destruction never could have come to pass.

We will be inviting other churches to join us for this 1-hour film and holding discussion groups immediately following. We will also hear from a variety of fellow parishioners who will be sharing examples of how they have engaged their spheres of influence, from prayer to joining school boards, to simply being in relationship. Not meant to pressure beyond capacity, we can all contribute from whatever is our current circumstance.

Please attend for education, awareness, and inspiration. We are grateful our church leadership is not afraid to call us to engage with culture as Christ's hands & feet, a call to sacrifice.

### Two important notes:

- First, this is not meant for kids. You can show the movie at home as you see fit, but it contains sensitive topics and graphic images from recent marches and gatherings.
- Second, this is not about our current President. At all. The film was made prior to the Trump administration and is focused on current culture. Important to note in light of language and accusations currently out in the media and various pockets of society

"When Christ calls a man, he bids him come and die."

— **Deitrich Bonhoeffer,** The Cost of Discipleship



### <u>Lake Beauty Bible Camp</u> <u>Retreats & Events</u>

LBBC Annual Meeting: November 1, 2025

Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner: December 6, 2025

Young Adult Retreat: December 31, 2025- January 2, 2026

Marriage Retreat: February 13-15, 2026

### LEADERSHIP MEETING

## United Covenant Church Leadership Team Meeting 9/9/2025

Lucas called the meeting to order at 6:04pm.

Present were team members: Lucas Carlson, Brenda
Cogbill, Matt Thayer, Cary Eastvold, Jacob Petersen, Emily
Johnson, and Pastor Dan Pearson.

Lucas led the devotional out of James chapter 4 and led discussion on a few points in the passage - notably: Get along with others, do not quarrel, be humble, to love the world makes you an enemy of God, and that while we make plans, ultimately God has the plan for us. He then led us in prayer to open the meeting.

Meeting minutes/Agenda items: Matt moved to approve the August minutes and agenda items, Cary seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Lucas read the Youth Report from Josh Williamson: Highlights include the excitement for Wednesday nights to start this week, where we will be answering common questions about faith, God, and the Bible. We are also looking forward to a few events this year including the returning Fall Retreat at LBBC and District Youth Conference in Green Bay in January.

Financial Reports: The team reviewed both reports, a note from Susie was shared that \$10,137.75 was paid out in August for the parsonage move project, but it hadn't been transferred out of the Capital Project Funds, so the next report will reflect that. Jacob moved to approve, Matt seconded, and the motion carried.

Ridgeview update: Brenda attended last week's board meeting. As stated last month, Lynn Schone is stepping down from doing the accounting, but a new person volunteered, so they will be following up with them. The board has a few other ideas of people to ask should that not work out, but they are hopeful. This would likely be a paid position moving forward.

Facility update: Parsonage - basement/foundation project seems to be moving on time. Discussion was had about the finalizing of the parsonage project and the need to move back to working on the church's possible expansion. Lucas will confirm that Tim J plans to keep leading the building team, and if so, call a meeting of the building team soon. Parking lot sealing was brought up - it will need to get done before any other project happens. Will table for the spring to get that done next year. Discussed old parsonage lot - and ways to utilize them for parking, etc. We will need gravel for a lot. Could this be used as overflow space on Wednesday night with nice weather and maybe a tent? Pastor discussed having a rotten/hollow tree on the new property that needs to be taken care of.

Building Trustees team: had some sign-ups from the ministry fair, we shared ideas on a team leader. Have that team

partner with Jennie Wallberg for things she may see during cleaning that need to be fixed.

Mission Update: Matt gave an update on the KICY Salmon dinner on October 9th at church. He also discussed the possibility of a mission trip headed to KICY in 2027. We thanked him for having Karen Schnell come to talk to us last month about the Tapestries Ministry in Mexico last month. She will also be starting a GriefShare group on Thursdays - pastor is confirming with Griefshare to use their curriculum and materials.

Pastor Dan items: Building committee meeting should be scheduled soon. He also shared that Brenda is planning to start a Senior group and is working out the details to start that soon.

Jacob brought up a piece of equipment that Burt needed to make the sound work with some of the new ProPresenter equipment. We agreed that it was right to purchase, and he should fill out the requisition form. The next meeting is October 14<sup>th</sup> and Cary will lead the devotional and prayer. Matt moved to adjourn at 7:24pm, Jacob seconded, and the motion carried.



COMMUNITY SERVICE IDEAS FOR YOUTH: If you are aware of any needs that the youth could help out with, we are looking to plan ahead for possible upcoming service project ideas. This is a

great opportunity to show the love of Jesus with our neighbors and our community, and it blesses the youth to serve and for them to see the amazing impact they are able to have on others. Please talk to Josh Williamson with any suggestions you have.

### **CLOTHING ORDERS**

# Interested in buying your own United Covenant or CREW items?

Visit: https://www.twomomsimagewear.com/general-6



or go on our website www.unitedcovchurch.org and click the "shop now" button! Or see Dayna Prindle for additional options!



### Weekly Events & Bible Studies ~ November 2025

### **SUNDAY**

### SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE



8:30 am Worship Service 9:45 am Sunday School (ages 2- adult) 10:45 am Worship Service

### **MONDAY**

### WOMEN'S MONDAY BIBLE STUDY

Monday Night Women's Bible Study will meet each Monday in November. Meeting time 6:00-8:00/8:30 p.m.

"Passover Study": Join us in our upcoming study of the Passover as we explore its meaning and how God's order in Exodus (Ex. 13:3) extends into the New Testament, and then again into our everyday life as we battle the war that was started in the Garden.

We will explore God's will in protecting us, sacrifice and atonement, redemption, and The Day of the Lord and how they relate to the Passover. Ladies, please join us for these dates and times when you are available. Keep your eyes on the service bulletins or emails for schedule changes.

#### **TUESDAY**

### **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.

### **WOMEN'S TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY**

Learn to pray effectively for your nation, family and yourself!

This Bible study meets in the upstairs, east classroom at church each Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. All ladies are invited and welcome to come anytime!



### WEDNESDAY

### WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

# LIFE TOGETHER WEDNESDAYS WILL MEET NOVEMBER 5th, 12th, & 19th:

(then we'll take a break until January 14th!)



**6:00 pm**—Kids Blast (Ages 4-4<sup>th</sup> grade) "The Story" CREW56 (5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> graders) "The Story"

**6:15 pm**—CREW (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders) "Got Questions" Adult Bible Studies:

-"The Story"- Discipleship/Digging Deeper -Alpha

6:15 pm—Men's "Life Together" Bible Study

### **THURSDAY**

### **MISSION STITCHERS**

Mission Stitchers meets the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at church at 9:00 am. Join us to



cut, sew, match up fabrics or just for fellowship! T-Shirts & Fabric donations are always needed & welcomed!

### **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES**



Men's Bible Study group meets at 6:30pm on Thursday Nights at church! The group is studying "Freedom in Christ" a discipleship

course by Neil Anderson & Steve Goss.

### **REBUILDERS: MOVING FORWARD FROM LOSS**

This fellowship support group is created for those



seeking God's grace and healing following a loss. The group meets at church Thursday nights from 5:00-6:30 pm. We will be using the *Griefshare* curriculum. See Donna Peterson or Karen Schnell for more information!

### **FRIDAY**

### **HOMESCHOOL CLUB**



Open to all homeschool families - kids of all ages. Meets at United Covenant the first

and third Friday during the school year; 9:30-11:00am.

This unstructured homeschool group is a time for moms that homeschool to be encouraged, have homeschool related discussions with other moms, pray for each other, share resources and material. For the students, make new friends, play games, share learning experiences.

### **SATURDAY**

### MEN'S BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

\*\***7:00 a.m.** on Saturday mornings at Jason Sigsworth's garage



\*\*2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month at

**7:00 a.m.** Men's Breakfast at church. Bring a dish to share!