

# Covenant Highlights

September & October 2025

Volume 46, Issue 6

## PASTORS CORNER

Psalm 149:1

*Praise the Lord.*

*Sing to the Lord a new song,*

*his praise in the assembly of his faithful people.*

September seems to be a time when many things start back up. It is time for a new school year, and it is the beginning of Sunday School and Wednesday activities at the church. I have to admit that as much as I love summer, by the time September rolls around, I am ready to jump back into a regular routine. It is time to praise the Lord and sing to the Lord a new song!

This year, we are going to do an all-church study called "The Story". We did The Story about ten years ago, but I believe it is time to do it again. What is The Story? It is a chronological walk through the Bible. We will begin in September with creation and end up in Revelation in the spring. This will give us a big picture of the Bible and help us to understand more clearly God's plan of redemption for all the world.

I like The Story because it helps everyone in the church, no matter what age, to get a comprehensive view of the scriptures and God's plan for our lives. So, invite a friend and get ready to grow! The Bible never gets old, and God is constantly teaching us new things that we need to learn. I believe we will all grow as we read God's word together!

Pastor Dan

## Join Us for Fall Activities!

**Each week children will meet in the sanctuary at 9:45 am.**

To help us prepare, please scan this QR code and register your kids for Sunday School, Youth Group and/or Kids Blast. Registrations help us to plan for space, attendance and curriculum.



**We are looking forward to Sunday School for ages 2 & up!**

**Starting Sunday, September 7th -**

**Join us in the sanctuary for new classes, new Bibles, music & announcements.**

### Sunday Mornings:

**8:30 am – Worship Service**

**9:45 am—Sunday School Classes:**

**Ages 2-Grade 5:** Heartshaper Curriculum

**Grade 6:** "What the Bible Is All About"

**Grades 7 & 8:** Confirmation I & II

*\*Confirmation parent meeting Sept. 7th at 10:00 a.m. downstairs by the piano.*

**Grades 9-12:** "The Story"

**Adults:** "The Story" meets in downstairs fellowship hall

**10:45 am – Worship Service**

**Starting Wednesday, September 10th -**

**LIFE TOGETHER WEDNESDAYS**



**5:30 pm—Family Supper**

**6:00 pm—Kids Blast (Ages 4-4th grade) "The Story"**

CREW56 (5th & 6th graders) "The Story"

CREW (7th-12th graders) "Got Questions"

Adult Bible Studies:

"The Story"- Discipleship/Digging Deeper Alpha

Men's "Life Together" Bible Study

## FALL KICK-OFF & MINISTRY FAIR

**FALL SERVICE TIMES**  
Starting September 7th

**8:30 AM WORSHIP**  
**9:45 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
**10:45 AM WORSHIP**

**FREE**

**FALL KICK-OFF & MINISTRY FAIR**  
**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3**  
**5:30 PM - 7:30 PM**

**ADMIT ONE**

Fun for all ages—join us! Bring a friend!  
Free food, games & activities—and an opportunity to learn more about our ministries!

## 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

**SEP 3 - MINISTRY FAIR / CREW KICKOFF - 5:30**

**SEP 10 - CREW 5:30PM**

(EVERY WEDNESDAY)

(MEAL - 5:30PM)

(YOUTH GROUP - 6:00PM - 8:00PM)

**SEP 24 - SEE YOU AT THE POLE 7:45AM - 8:00AM**

**OCT 4 - YOUTH VOLUNTEER DAY 9:00AM - 11:00AM**

**OCT 17-19 - YOUTH FALL RETREAT LBBC**

**OCT 25 - UNDERGROUND CHURCH 6:00PM - 9:00PM**

**NOV 5 - YOUTH SERVING WED NIGHT MEAL 5:30PM**

**NOV 15 - YOUTH VOLUNTEER DAY 9:00AM - 11:00AM**

**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 starting this

Fall, we will be discussing some tough questions that all of us should be ready and equipped to answer. This will look similar to how Sunday School was last year, and because of how well it was received by both students and parents, we are bringing those challenging topic discussions to our Wednesday nights!



The High School Sunday School class kicks off on September 7th! Starting this fall, we will be covering "The Story" which will parallel everyone else going through "The Story", from the Adult Sunday School class

and the Sermon Series on Sundays as well as Kids Blast, CREW 56 and the Adult Wednesday night study group. This year, every high school student will receive the book "The Story Teen Edition" and will be expected to keep up with the weekly reading as we journey through this 31-week curriculum together. This will be 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.



Fall Youth Retreat at Lake Beauty Bible Camp is back again October 17-19!! Kids in grades 6-12 are welcome to join us for an epic weekend! Come play games, dance in chapel, be encouraged by our speaker, and reconnect with your camp friends! It's a weekend you won't want to miss! Registration will be opening soon, so be on the lookout for updates coming soon. Please let me know if you would like to attend, if you are interested in scholarships, or if you would consider being a chaperone.



**Coming Soon:** The Districts Youth Conference is held every January with the purpose of bringing youth groups from Wisconsin together to worship, grow, connect & serve together. Mark your calendars for **January 9-11, 2026!** Registration for Districts Youth Conference is expected in the next few weeks.

## TEACHER/PARENT ENRICHMENT TRAINING

Presentation by Betsy Byker of United Way, Polk County



**Saturday, September 6,  
9:00-11:00am,  
United Covenant Church, Clear Lake**

Some of the topics will be: Understanding Adverse Childhood Experiences (A.C.E.s) and Building Resilient Communities. This is a training to help understand the children around us.



**Who can attend:** Sunday School teachers, CREW volunteers, anyone that works with children & teens in the school, cares for children in the home, or regularly encounters children in the community.

Refreshments will be provided.  
Sign up if you plan to attend.

## OPTIONS ON 8



The baby bottle fundraiser for Options on 8 were collected in June, all dollars, coins and checks were counted and our church raised \$1,593.02! Options on 8 says, "You understand that LIFE is God given and a true gift.

Your generosity demonstrates your compassion and concern for those facing life-changing circumstances. Collectively with other churches in our community, about \$57,000 has been donated through the baby bottle campaign."

If you still have a baby bottle at home—please feel free to return it to the church office so it can be used again next year.

## NEWCOMER LUNCH



If you began attending United Covenant in the past year and

have not yet attended a Newcomer Lunch, plan to join us on Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup> for a lunch gathering after church. You will have the opportunity to meet others and learn more about our church! Sign up at sign up central so we know how many to prepare for!

## DISCOVERY CLASS



If you are interested in learning more about United Covenant Church or are interested in exploring church membership,

there will be a 2-3 week class starting during Sunday School on October 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 a.m. See Pastor Dan for more information.

## KICY SALMON DINNER

**SALMON FUNDRAISING DINNER**  
**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9TH**  
**6:00 PM**



FREE dinner to raise funds and learn about KICY Radio. Sign up in the foyer if interested in attending!

United Covenant Church is hosting a KICY Fundraising Salmon Dinner on Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

KICY will provide the salmon, caught in Nome, AK and cook it! This is a free dinner and is a great way to share with others in our community the incredible impact KICY has in Western Alaska and the Russian Far East.

At the conclusion of the brief Power Point presentation, people are given the opportunity to give to the KICY ministry.

A sign-up sheet is at Sign Up Central, as we need to give an estimate to KICY so they know how much salmon to provide! Please invite others, this is an amazing ministry that we partner with!

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

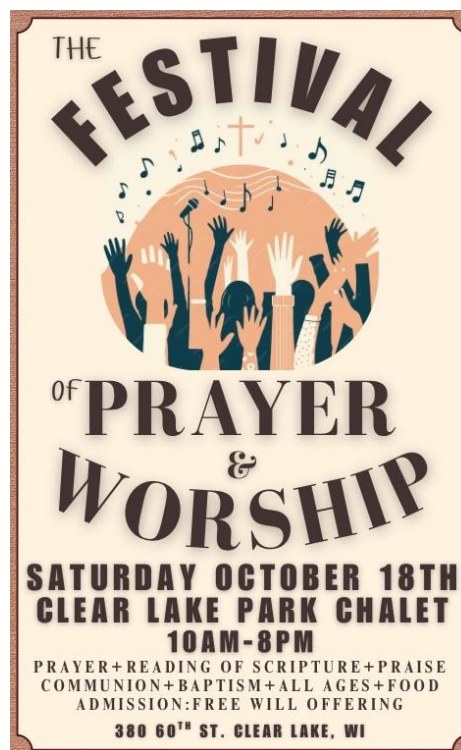


Join us for a  
**Chili Cook Off Competition Fundraiser**  
for Operation Christmas Child!  
**Friday Evening, November 14<sup>th</sup> at**  
**United Covenant Church**

Plan to bring your family's completed boxes & donate toward this awesome mission!

Stay tuned for more details!

## COMMUNITY EVENT



## HOMESCHOOL CLUB

**HOMESCHOOL CLUB**

**What?** FREE! Homeschool Club

**Who?** Open to all homeschool families -kids of all ages

**When?** Every first and third Friday during the school year; 9:15-11:15am, beginning Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup>

**Where?** At United Covenant Church, Clear Lake  
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 in learning experiences.



Our Annual Christmas Dessert Theater will be December 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025! Planning is underway! Sign Ups for being part of the Christmas Choir will be starting at the beginning of October. Practices will begin early November!

## LEADERSHIP MEETINGS

### July 7, 2025: Leadership Team Notes

**Present:** Pastor Dan Pearson, Lucas Carlson, Jacob Peterson, Matt Thayer (left at 7), Cary Eastvold, Doug Lemons, Cindee McBride (via phone), Emily Johnson and Josh Williamson (left at 7:15).

**Call to Order** by Lucas

**Devotion and Prayer.** Led by Cary. Psalm 127. Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain. Our efforts to be part of something great and lasting is futile unless the Lord blesses it. If we partner with the Lord and seek him first, he is able to do more than we ask. Cary prayed.

**Agenda and last month's meeting minutes.** Cary motioned to accept; Matt seconded. Motion passed with no objections.

**Youth Report by Josh.** Josh met with youth leaders a couple of weeks ago to review the year as to what went well and what needs adjusted. The leaders are great. Making plans for next fall. Looking at some curriculum and also talking with Lynn Pickard for something for CE and something that would go for Wed with adults. Had a river tube and lake day is coming up. Sr High for camp soon and MUUUCE is coming up and we have chaperones for that.

**Finance Report.** Leadership reviewed the report. No questions. Jacob motioned to accept; Emily seconded. Motion passed with no objections.

### **Old Business**

- Ridgeview Board Meeting: No report. Brenda will continue to attend those meetings.
- Building Team: Church workday email went out today July 8th. Cary reporting out. This Friday they will start removing trees from the backyard. Saturday there will be a workday for brush clearing after men's breakfast. Men's breakfast to be moved from the park to the church. The surveyor will be doing a full boundary survey later next week.
- Mission Update: there is a board featuring our missionaries. Pastor Dan visited KICY when he was in Alaska. There was a team there from Cali. to help. KICY is building a new staff housing unit. They are a little bit understaffed right now. Patty from KICY may come and so there might be another Salmon dinner at the church--very tentative.
- Job Description Review Progress. No update.
- Security. Nothing specific to S.S. tonight. Doug provided the beginning of an outline for general security. Recommendation for a crash bar to make East door egress only in order to keep our nursery safe. Plan reviewed which also included having a single designated door during the week. During Sunday service, staff each outside door. Recommend security awareness training. Doug and Charlie McBride met with Jason Tanner to consult re: any electricity update for outside. Regarding the indoor cameras, is there a concern for recording activity on the inside which would be kept internal? LT agreed probably not as service is already "broadcast." Recommend phased approach to the cameras--starting with the inside. The Internet needs to be upgraded to support the camera system and monitor purchased. Also recommend testing exterior flood light/camera combo. After that go to phase 2. Physical security--latches on the inside that could be set high that the adult in the room could set if needed. Next

steps: Doug and Charlie to obtain cost estimates which LT will review and then bring forward to congregation. Cost would come out of building maintenance funds.

- Chimney Removal: Kent is addressing this. He has a plan.
- Facility updates: Men's bathrooms need some fixes/updates. There is some dry rot outside that needs addressing. A recommendation for a separate team of trustees or a maintenance committee to address the upkeep of the church was made. The leader of that group would present needs/activities to the LT. Probably 6 people with set terms. Initial terms would be staggered but eventually 3-year terms. Lucas will present.

### **New Business**

- Utility shed: Recommendation to tear it down. Do we need it? Probably not--most items could be moved to the larger shed. May address with Saturday work crew.
- Sound Equipment Decisions. Priority list: video camera, multi-monitor output, new computer, new monitor, and miscellaneous cable \$3,218.00. Emily motion to approve \$3300 and Jacob seconded. Motion passed. No objections.

**Pastor Dan Items:** Gone August 17<sup>th</sup> (Matt to speak) and on the August 24<sup>th</sup> (Josh will speak).

- Semi-annual meeting
  - Doug will share about some of the security items
  - Lucas will put the agenda together and send it out
- Mutual Ministry
  - Emily will take the lead to coordinate a touch base.

The next Leadership Team meeting is August 12 at 6 p.m. Emily to share a devotion.

**Adjournment:** Lucas closed in prayer

### August 12, 2025: Leadership Team Notes

Lucas called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.

**Members Present:** Lucas Carlson, Brenda Cogbill, Jacob Petersen, Cay Eastvold, Emily Johnson, Pastor Dan Pearson, Josh Williamson (Left at 6:35pm for the CE leaders meeting), and guest Karen Schnell (left at 6:20pm).

**Mission Update:** Karen shared a Missions Update about her time with the Tapestries Orphanage in Mexico in January and then an update she received in July. They are primarily working with children in Protective custody due to their past situations. They have room for about 200 kids. Currently they have 40 employees and are primarily donation supported. Karen also shared that she and Pastor had discussed starting a grief support group, and while there are some details to work out, she has said she will help lead that.

**Youth Report:** Josh gave the Youth report and discussed that he is gearing up for fall programs. There was a CREW Hangout at Mohrland's last week and at Carlson's this week. All LBBC camp weeks are over now, and Josh said there have been some really amazing testimonies coming from kids that went to camp, and that overall camp did a great job supporting the youth in their faith this summer. Josh and Gretchen Wallberg chaperoned some of the youth to MUUUCE and he said overall things are solid as far as theology and worship, but there were a few concerns with the "fun stuff" the kids could do, He will be sharing with Ginny at the Northwest Conference office to give some feedback. He also

(con't Leadership Team Notes....)

shared a Ministry Leader flowchart as we continue our conversations about volunteers and accountability.

**Devotional and Prayer:** Emily shared a devotional from Philippians 3:13-14 that talked about focusing on God and his will. She shared a prayer for wisdom and focus for our meeting.

**Agenda and Last Month's meeting minutes:** Cary moved to approve the agenda and July meeting minutes. Jacob seconded and the motion carried.

**Finance Report:** Financial reports were reviewed. Jacob moved to approve the reports as submitted. Cary seconded and the motion carried.

#### Old Business:

- Brenda shared an update from the Ridgeview Board. Lynn S will be stepping down from doing the book work and accounting, they will be looking for a new person to do that. They hired Jenny Bergmann to assist with the landscaping.
- Lucas gave a facility update. The parsonage has been lifted, and will be moved to its new location in the next day or so.
- Dougs's security update is tabled to September.
- Lucas gave a church chimney removal update. Kent is all set to go on that, and it will likely be a phased approach. It was unable to happen earlier due to events at church.
- We will be looking to assemble a Team of Facility Trustees to handle the repairs and maintenance of the church.

**Pastor Dan items:** Discussed ideas for the Wednesday night study for adults. Sunday School adult study is "The Story" curriculum which is a chronological study through the Bible. Discussed starting a senior group.

Lucas closed with prayer.

Jacob Moved to adjourn the meeting, Cary seconded and the motion carried at 7:20pm.

The next meeting is September 9th at 6pm, Lucas will share the devotion.



#### 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.twomomsmimagewear.com/general-6>



or go on our website [www.unitedcovchurch.org](http://www.unitedcovchurch.org) and click the "shop now" button!  
Or see Dayna Prindle for additional options!



#### Lake Beauty Bible Camp Retreats & Events

**Senior Adult Day:** September 16, 2025

**Women's Retreat:** September 26-28, 2025

**Fall Youth Retreat:** October 17-19, 2025

**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

#### Upcoming Dates to Know:

August 29<sup>th</sup>-September 1<sup>st</sup>: Family Camp at LBBC

September 3<sup>rd</sup>: Fall Kick-Off & Ministry Fair, 5:30pm

September 6<sup>th</sup>: ACEs Training at church, 9-11am

September 7<sup>th</sup>: Sunday School Begins, 9:45am

September 10<sup>th</sup>: Wednesday Programs Begin

September 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>: Women's Retreat at LBBC

October 9<sup>th</sup>: KICY Fundraiser- Salmon Dinner, 6pm

October 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>: LBBC Fall Retreat

November 1<sup>st</sup>: LBBC Annual Meeting

November 15<sup>th</sup>: Chili Cook-Off Fundraiser

December 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Dessert Theater

December 10<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Caroling

January 7<sup>th</sup>: All Church RollerSkating Night

*\*\*All dates are subject to change\*\**

#### Church Mailbox

Have you checked your church mailbox recently?

Would you like a church mailbox?

Contact the church office if you'd like a mailbox!



# Weekly Events & Bible Studies ~ September 2025

## SUNDAY

### SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30 am— **Worship Service**  
 9:45 am— **Sunday School for ages 2+**  
 10:00 am— **Worship Service**

## MONDAY

### WOMEN'S MONDAY BIBLE STUDY

**Monday Night Women's Bible Study will meet:**  
**September: 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**Meeting time 6:00-8:00/8:30 p.m.**



We will be studying "A Perfect Love" by Lisa Harper. In this 6 week session, Lisa offers historical and theological insight to bring the Old Testament "Song of Solomon" to life. This study is for women of all ages and seasons of life.

Ladies, please join us for these dates and times when you are available. Keep your eyes on the service bulletins/"What's happening at church this week" for schedule changes.

## TUESDAY

### PRAYER TIME



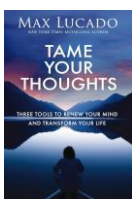
**Prayer Time - Tuesdays 8:00 a.m. at church**

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.

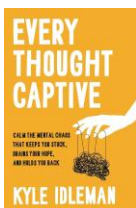
### WOMEN'S TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Women, as fall begins we'll be looking at these two studies next: "Tame Your Thoughts" by Max Lucado & "Every Thought Captive" by Kyle Idleman.



Both of these studies talk about renewing our minds and seeing our lives be transformed.

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



## WEDNESDAY

### FALL PROGRAMMING STARTS SEPTEMBER 10<sup>th</sup>

#### LIFE TOGETHER WEDNESDAYS

5:30 pm—Family Supper

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"

CREW (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders) "Got Questions"

Adult Bible Studies:

"The Story"- Discipleship/Digging Deeper

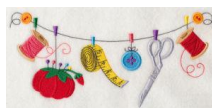
Alpha

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 and Fabric donations are always needed & welcomed!

### MEN'S BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Men's Bible Study group meets at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday Nights at church! Join us!



## 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; 9:15-11:15am, beginning Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup>

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 or at Clear Lake Park (weather dependent)

Bring a dish to share!

