

COVENANT HIGHLIGHTS

MAY 2024

VOLUME 45, ISSUE 5



PASTORS CORNER

Ephesians 4:14-16 NLT

14 Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth. 15 Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. 16 He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.

To speak the truth we need to know the truth. That is why we read the Bible. If we stay close to Jesus and obey his word, we will become aware when something is not true. If something is off, we need to expose it.

Ephesians 5:10-11 NLT

10 Carefully determine what pleases the Lord. 11 Take no part in the worthless deeds of evil and darkness; instead, expose them.

May the Lord help us to know the truth and to avoid and expose evil.

Pastor Dan



**Come Celebrate
Ruth Sneen's
100th Birthday!**
Open House Celebration

Saturday, May 4 from 1:00 pm-4:00 pm
United Covenant Church

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

We will be honoring our confirmands on Sunday, May 5th. We have eleven students being confirmed this year! This years confirmands are:

Esther Dietrich	Chase Prindle
Maggie Elmer	Nathan Springett
Lila Munson	Isaac Thayer
Nathan Munson	Torr Vierkandt
Lili Pirelli	Rian Wallberg
	Anna Williamson

The families of the confirmands would like to invite you to enjoy a cupcake after church in the foyer in honor of their Confirmation of Faith on May 5th.

Please remember to lift our students in daily prayer as they continue to pursue a mature faith in Jesus!

GRADUATION

On Sunday, May 19th we'll be recognizing and honoring our 2024 High School Graduates:

Addison Allee	Kylie Binsfeld
Grace Grahovac	Sally Munson
Joel Springett	Joshua Stauner
Addison Thayer	Delaney Vold
Kaylee Waalen	Carter Wallberg
Steven Wood	



Graduates in attendance on Sunday, May 19th may tell the congregation of their post-high school plans!

Any graduation invitations/open house invites will be listed on the Graduation Bulletin Board in the foyer!

(If we missed any 2024 High School Senior—please let the church office know!!)

SOFTBALL LEAGUE



CHURCH SOFTBALL LEAGUE

INTERESTED IN PLAYING?
SIGN UP IN FOYER TODAY!

SEE DREW KRECH WITH ?S

We look to form a Co-Ed Church Softball League with Games starting on Sundays, June 16 through August 11.

Look soon for a sign-up sheet in foyer soon. Contact Drew Krech with any questions (651) 442-2634.

CREW (Christians Ready Equipped & Willing)



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

Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

Starting in May through the end of the school year, we will be entering into a study called Eternity by Francis Chan. **Please note: There is some content where youth in the lesson videos share testimony that involves the topic of drugs, alcohol and sex.** I would not consider it graphic and not the focus of the study, but it is included in the lesson videos. This study is available on RightNow Media if you want to check it out.

Jesus People Mission Trip July 15-19

Summer is coming soon and that means

our summer mission trip will be here before we know it! I have been in contact with Jesus People of Chicago, and they are looking forward to having us come to visit and serve with them. We will be helping serve meals, working on service projects, and joining in on their devotions, worship and prayer walks, and learning more about what Jesus People is doing for the Kingdom of God for the people of Chicago. Thursday will be our day to explore the city of Chicago if that is what our group would like to do. Other Thursday options we are also looking at are visiting Chinatown for some unique sites, shopping and dining experience, or driving out of the city to spend the day at Six Flags Great America!! **Due date to sign up for Jesus People Mission Trip is the last day of CREW, May 29th!** I have waivers at church for anyone planning to attend.

TOTAL COST: I am estimating per person will be approximately \$450 for everything including travel, food and extras. We have raised some funds for the mission trip and will be hosting a brat stand in June to help with additional fundraising and lower the cost per person.

Reminder that registration for Lake Beauty Bible Camp is open! Use the transfer code: 24UCCLBBC for a \$50 coupon when you register.

[Register | LakeBeautyBibleCamp \(lbcc.com\)](https://www.lakebeautybiblecamp.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:

May 11th - Youth Volunteer Day (*Visiting Willow Ridge in Amery to play games with residents*)

May 29th - CREW End Of Year Party

June 4th - Hope Alive in Amery

June 9th-14th - Lake Beauty Junior High Camp

June 17th-20th - Vacation Bible School

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

July 25th-28th - Polk County Fair (*Volunteer opportunities*)

July 28th - Aug 2nd - Lake Beauty Senior High Camp

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

Aug 8th-10th - MUUCE

All Church Derby Car Race

We had a GREAT time at our All Church Derby Race on April 10th!

We had 56 racers of all ages compete!

WINNERS

Our age category winners were: Tessa Burlingame, Michael Elmer, Maggie Elmer and Josh & Emily Johnson.

Our Grand Champion was Maggie Elmer!
Congratulations!

CONGRATULATIONS- COLLEGE GRADUATES



Hailey Clausen will graduate Saturday, May 4, from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities with her Bachelor of Science Degree in Health & Wellbeing Sciences.

After graduation she will continue to work as a medical scribe with the Emergency Physicians Professional Association and as a direct-care professional with ACR Homes in the Twin Cities area, then plans to attend PA school.

Hailey is the daughter of Dave & Heidi Clausen, granddaughter of Carl & LaVonne Clausen!

Hannah Elmer will graduate Summa Cum Laude on Saturday, May 4, from Oak Hills Christian College with her Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies.



After graduating from Oak Hills, Hannah plans to pursue a Law degree with the goal of defending religious rights. Also, Hannah met her fiancé, Cody, at Oak Hills, they will be getting married this June and they will live in Bemidji, MN this next year.

Hannah is the daughter of Bill & Katie Elmer, granddaughter of Mike & Lynn Pickard!

KAYAK/CANOEING FOR COUPLES

Couple building/encouragement/refreshers



There is an opportunity this summer for married couple or engaged couples to join with others for a time of

encouragement together. It is an opportunity for up to two couples on each date. We would like to limit day trips to two couples to maximize the effectiveness of communication during the trip. This is just a day trip with locations either in the Red Cedar River or the Apple River. These rivers are suitable for people of any experience level, even no experience.

The following dates are available, see sign up central to sign up (subject to be rescheduled due to weather)!

June 15th
Aug 17th

July 20th
Sept 21st

LIFELINE FOOD PANTRY

LIFELINE FOOD PANTRY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

The Lifeline Food Pantry in Clear Lake is looking for some volunteers to help. There are opportunities during the day on Wednesday and Thursdays as well as truck unloading 2 Wednesdays per month at 9:00 am. Call Diane if you'd like to volunteer or need more information 715-263-2171.



MAY DAY LUNCHEON



Happy May Day!

MAY DAY COMMUNITY

SENIOR DINNER is being held at First Lutheran Church, Clear Lake on Wednesday, May 1st. A program will begin at 11:30 am, followed by a dinner at 12:00 pm; this is a

complimentary dinner celebrating spring and the wisdom of retired guests.

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY- COMMON GROUND

Common Ground will be meeting on Sunday, May 19th at 5:30 pm- location TBD!

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



THISTLE FARMS



Thistle Farms is a partner with the Covenant's Free Initiative combatting human trafficking.

Support survivors with your purchases!

Terry and Jennie will be selling Thistle Farms products through May 5th!

POLK COUNTY FAIR



Mark your calendars:
2024 Polk County Fair:

Thursday, July 25th-Sunday, July 28th.

United Covenant Church is providing the parking and ticketing crews again this year. Stay tuned for more information on how to help! Sign-ups will begin in May!

CHURCH SALE



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

EVANGELICAL COVENANT ANNUAL MEETING

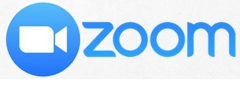
The Covenant Annual Meeting Is the Highest Legislative Body in The Evangelical Covenant Church.



Every congregation is entitled to representation as we worship God and celebrate what God has done. We gather to discern future direction, select leaders, consecrate global personnel, credential and ordain clergy, and encourage one another to greater discipleship.

If you are interested in being a delegate for the annual meeting (June 26-29 in Cincinnati, OH) please see Pastor Dan for more information. There are virtual options for being part of the meeting—or even a hybrid option. We can have 3 delegates for the meeting.

ZOOM 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:



- **8:00 a.m.** on Saturday mornings at Clear Lake Park
- 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

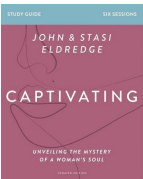
Prayer Time - Tuesdays 8:00 a.m. at church
Everyone is invited and welcome to come. Prayer cards are prayed over during these meetings. Please write your prayers (with or without your name) on the prayer cards provided in the chairs. Place them in the offering box in the sanctuary.

WOMEN'S MONDAY BIBLE STUDY

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

May 6th, 13th & 20th:

"Captivating, Unveiling The Mystery of a Woman's Soul" by John & Stasi Eldredge



Proverbs 4:23 "Above all else, guard your heart for it is the wellspring of life"

All ladies are invited as we learn more and grow deeper in love with our Lord.

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!**



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

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 Table!



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.

You can access United Covenant Church online in many ways:



Website: www.unitedcovchurch.org

facebook



YouTube

Hope alive

Tuesday, June 4th
Amery- Michael Park
Free music, food, fun!

LEADERSHIP MEETING

Leadership Team Meeting April 8, 2024

Present: Pastor Dan Pearson, Terry Silverberg, Brenda Cogbill, Lucas Carlson, Burt Beebe, Tim Jurisch, Emily Johnson, Jacob Peterson and Cindee McBride. Guest Doug Lemons

The meeting was called to order by Lucas at 6 pm. A devotion was provided by Brenda on John 1:14. Take away: Treat people with grace so they will know Jesus.

Doug Lemons presented a Safety and Security Team briefing. The CPR participation was very encouraging. The first aid bag and AED are being checked. There was discussion about doors, greeters, parking lot lights and fire safety which was determined to be up to date. There was a motion made by Burt that Doug would follow up with Matt E. re: greeters, get information about door locks, parking lot lights and look into building the church's relationship with the Clear Lake Chief of Police. Jacob seconded. Motion passed.

The Leadership Team reviewed the nursery basic policy guidelines submitted. Emily motioned to accept with the understanding that there will be some additions. Terry seconded. Motion passed to accept the basic policy. Doug Lemons left the meeting.

Youth Report submitted via email by Josh Williamson and reproduced here: *"This year we have been going through the Road Trip to Truth Series, an apologetics approach to conversations around Biblical truths. We have completed the series this year and it was well received by the youth and it brought some great questions and discussions during our Wednesday nights. With the remaining weeks we have together before the school year is finished, we will be covering some other lessons and topics that will be incredibly valuable to each individual's faith journey leading up to our end of year CREW party on May 29th.*

Sharing in the efforts for all of the different UCC ministries to develop written policies and procedures, I will be meeting with the youth volunteers at the end of April to start sharing ideas and coming up with a draft to present to the leadership team for approval.

Coming up for our April CREW Volunteer Day will be the Feed My Starving Children Mobile Food Packing at the Polk County Fairgrounds on April 29th. Families are encouraged to sign up together. Also coming up in April is our deadline to sign up for ONEFEST (A Christian Music Festival in Cadot, WI). We are eligible to receive a group discount to attend this local music festival. Deadline is April 21st. This year's big names include artists Jeremy Camp, Tenth Avenue North and Toby Mac!

I am looking forward to ending our school year by encouraging and equipping our youth in their faith as many are entering the next chapter of their lives."

Cindee made a motion to accept the youth report. Emily seconded. Motion passed.

Financial reports were reviewed. Burt made a motion to accept. Terry seconded. Motion passed. God continues to provide. We are grateful.

Last month's meeting minutes were reviewed. Burt motioned to accept. Emily seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business. Discussed the experience of having two services at Easter. There were 319 people present. No known issues with having two services recognizing that there was no Sunday School to navigate. Insurance for church. Emily will provide some information to Scott C who has offered to review for the church.

New Business. Lucas brought some information from two architect groups. The decision was made to see if they could each come to provide a consult on what might be possible with the current space.

Lucas closed the meeting in prayer. Emily will provide devotions at the next meeting which is scheduled for May 6 at 6 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Cindee McBride
Secretary



Church Center
Our New Church Directory

We've begun our online directory! Download "Church Center" and get started!

Email Susie unitedcovchurch@cltcomm.net to get your invite!

The advertisement features a teal background. On the left, the text 'Church Center' is written in a large, bold, black font, with 'Our New Church Directory' in a smaller, italicized font below it. To the right of the text is a smartphone displaying the 'church center' app logo, which is a blue house icon with a white outline. Further to the right is a screenshot of the online directory, showing a grid of circular icons representing different church ministries or events. At the bottom of the advertisement, there is a call to action in white text: 'We've begun our online directory! Download "Church Center" and get started!' and an email address: 'Email Susie unitedcovchurch@cltcomm.net to get your invite!'.

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!





LAKE BEAUTY
BIBLE CAMP

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

There is still time to register your kids for camp!

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

United Covenant currently has 46 kids registered to go to Lake Beauty Bible Camp this summer. A financial form is to be turned in to Susie by May 1st for those using the scholarship.

See Susie with questions.

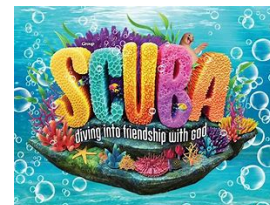
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

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 ever-flowing, 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 4-years-old through children who have just 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

Upcoming Dates to Know:

May 5th: Confirmation Sunday

May 19th: Graduation Sunday

May 19th: Last Day of Sunday School

June 4th: Hope Alive, Amery

June 9th-14th: Jr High Camp at LBBC

June 17th-20th: Vacation Bible School

June 23rd-27th: Trailblazer Camp at LBBC

June 27th-29th: Clear Lake Days Food Stand

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

August 11th: Church at the Park (Chalet)

All dates are subject to change



We will have the Pie & Food trailer at Clear Lake Days the end of June. Some of our regular volunteers may be out of town this year during Clear Lake Days. Gretchen is looking for a couple people to learn how to set-up, etc... Be watching for sign up sheets coming soon! Our food trailer will be in downtown Clear Lake June 27th-29th.