

Covenant Highlights

March 2024

Volume 45, Issue 3

PASTORS CORNER

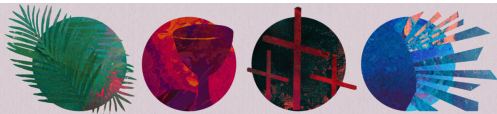
This year, Easter is at the very end of March; the 31st to be precise. The celebration of Christ's resurrection at Easter is a very holy and significant day for our church. In fact, this year we are going to have two services, 8:15 a.m. and 10:00 a.m., on that day to accommodate extra people who may show up. Our choir will perform and it will be a day of great joy! As we begin to gear up for Easter, let's not forget to take some times to spend in God's presence.

Isaiah 40:31 says,

*But those who wait on the Lord
Shall renew their strength;
They shall mount up with wings like
eagles,
They shall run and not be weary,
They shall walk and not faint.*

During the business of this season, take time for the Lord.

Pastor Dan



Holy Week & Easter

March 24th- Palm Sunday

8:45 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship Service

March 28th- Maundy Thursday

5:30 p.m. Soup Supper
6:00 p.m. Communion Service

March 29th- Good Friday

7:00 p.m. Community Service
(at United Covenant Church)

March 31st- Easter Sunday

8:15 a.m. Worship Service
10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Both Easter Services will be identical services

PROPERTY EXPANSION PRAYER SERVICE

During the annual meeting in January, the idea of a possible building project was discussed, as was the need for fasting and prayer to discover if this is what God would have us do at this time.



Please plan to join us on
Friday, March 1st at 6:30 pm
for prayer and worship in

anticipation of what the Lord would have us do in the future regarding any expansion project.

Whether you are able to attend this service or not, please be praying for guidance in what direction we should go at this time. We are seeking God's wisdom. Also be in prayer for the leadership team as they discern God's leading.

The week of February 25th-March 3rd we will have cards out for our congregants to fill out. These cards are meant to be filled out as you're praying through the week: "What direction are you sensing God is leading us?"

If you're not sensing God's word on this—that's okay. Continue in prayer for the direction the church is to go!

THANK YOU!

thank you

Dear Church Family, Thank you everyone for your prayers and support during my surgery and this time of healing. Thank you for the cards, texts, calls, offers for help and flowers. My kids express their appreciation too. God Bless you all. Marlys

WEDDING SHOWER

Please join us for a family-style wedding shower to honor Hannah Elmer & Cody Blomberg:



Saturday, March 9th
10:30 a.m.

United Covenant Church

The happy couple is registered at Amazon, Walmart, and The Pampered Chef. Find the links for their registries at:

<https://weven.co/ww/ElmerBlomberg>

CREW (Christians Ready Equipped & Willing)



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

Do you ever have days or seasons in your life where a Bible verse will repeatedly enter into your thoughts? For me recently, that has

been Matthew 16:26: *"And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul?"* The way that we spend our time and money reveals what is most important to us. It can be easy for me to become distracted or consumed by how I want to spend my time to benefit myself or spend money in a way that serves my wants. Even if I had all the possessions I could ever want or the free time to go and do whatever I felt like doing, what am I really gaining? Does it bring joy and satisfaction? Would any of that add any value to my life? Without Jesus, nothing in this life matters. Success in school, sports, careers or any other area of life is of no benefit if you are not first walking with Jesus. I am excited to see all of the great things that are happening in our church body and with the youth, but let's never lose focus on what is most important. Every day we should be in prayer and in God's Word seeking to grow in our faith and to share the hope we have in Christ with others.

Next week we are having a prayer service to seek God's wisdom in how we should approach the possibility of any type of property expansion. I am encouraging youth to attend as well, especially as the church considers the idea of building with their needs for space in mind. I believe there is value in our youth being a part of this experience and seeing how the church body is going to the Lord in prayer with how to provide for them.

Also, please consider signing up to bring lasagnas to the Camp Promo Sunday Lasagna Fundraiser. We also would appreciate any youth and parents signing up to help serve and clean up as this fundraiser is going towards the camp scholarships. Sign-up sheets are in the church foyer. Reminder that completed camp scholarship forms are due March 31st! Early Bird Registration Deadline is April 2nd!

This High School Sunday School class is working their way through the Parables of Jesus this year, and Wednesday Nights at CREW we are journeying through the series Road Trip To Truth which is aimed at equipping Christians to understand why we can believe and trust the Bible and being able to answer "what is truth"?

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 on for March, April & May!

March 1st - Property Expansion Prayer Service (*Youth & families are encouraged to attend as the church is seeking God's wisdom regarding any expansion projects for the church*)

March 6th - Family Skate Night



March 10th - Camp Promo

Sunday (*Lasagna Fundraiser, youth & parents please consider signing up to bring lasagna and help in the kitchen...sign up forms are in the church foyer*)

March 13th - CREW Serving Wednesday Night Meal

March 23rd - Youth Volunteer Day (*Northwoods Homeless Shelter Mailing*)

April 2nd - LBBC Early Bird Discount Deadline



April 3rd - Derby Prep Night

April 10th - Derby Race Night

April 25th-27th - Feed My Starving

Children (*Mobile packing at Polk County Fair Grounds, date and time TBD*)



May 29th - CREW End Of Year Party

ALL FAMILY SKATE NIGHT

**ALL CHURCH
FAMILY ROLLER
SKATING**

**WED., MARCH 6TH
6:00 P.M.-8:00 P.M.
SKATE CITY, RICE LAKE, WI**

**COST \$8.00 EACH
(INCLUDES SKATES OR ROLLERBLADES)**



CAMP PROMO



**LAKE BEAUTY
BIBLE CAMP
PROMO SUNDAY**

MARCH 10TH

**LASAGNA DINNER
FOLLOWING THE SERVICE.**
(LBBC Scholarship Fund Fundraiser)



WEDNESDAY SCHEDULING

OUR SCHEDULE!

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:

- *February 28th: Regular Schedule
- March 6th: Roller skating at Skate City
- *March 13th & 20th: Regular Schedule
- March 27th: No Classes- Holy Week
- *April 3rd: Derby Prep Night
- *April 10th: All Church Derby Night

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

*The 5:30 pm Family Suppers will be held these weeks: February 28th, March 13th & 20th, April 3rd & 10th.

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 sign up if you're willing to assist!

Derby car kits are available beginning February 28th & March 3rd, 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 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!

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY- COMMON GROUND

Common Ground will be meeting at Lucas & Erin Carlson's home (120 8th Ave, Clear Lake) on Sunday, March 17th at 5:30 pm!

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



Girls/Ladies of ALL ages invited!

Women's Breakfast

Saturday, April 6th
8:30 am - 10:00 am

Bring a dish to share!

Ladies, mark your calendar for a Women's United Breakfast—for all ages! This will be a potluck style breakfast with Cindee McBride giving a short message! We hope you can join us for this morning of fellowship together!



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

Registration is now OPEN!!!

Early Bird Registration Discount ENDS on April 2!

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:**

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

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

Fall Youth Retreat: October 25th- October 27th

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

CAMP SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE NOW—SEE JOSH!

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.



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 in-person or online). See Pastor Dan if you're interested in being a delegate!

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!



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:

- **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



WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO DIRECT TRAFFIC IN OUR PARKING LOT ON EASTER SUNDAY (BETWEEN SERVICES) ? LET SUSIE KNOW!

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!

WOMEN'S MONDAY BIBLE STUDY

Monday Night Women's Bible Study will meet:

**March 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th
6:30-8:00 p.m.**

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

We are studying and discussing what Dr. David Jeremiah says about being ready for the Rapture. This month the chapter titles by Dr. David Jeremiah are "Kept From the Hour."; "Dead Silence"; "Rapture and Return"; "Shock and Awe".

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.

LEADERSHIP MEETING

Leadership Team Meeting February 5, 2024

Present: Pastor Dan Pearson, Terry Silverberg, 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. Devotional was provided by Cindee—Psalm 119:105. Lucas prayed. Youth Report: Josh reported that things with the youth are going wonderfully. They are putting ideas together into the fall. Attendance has been great so far this year. We are expecting 50 to 60 kids at the Lock-in and a large group for the "Feed my Starving Children" serve event. This summer the youth are looking at what activities are possible. There is interest in missions. There has been discussion about a Chicago group called "Jesus People U.S.A."

Leadership team officers for this next year are: Lucas as chair, Terry as vice-chair, Cindee as Secretary and Tim as Finance Lead.

Financial reports were reviewed. Tim made a motion to accept, Burt seconded it. Motion to accept passed.

Consent to the agenda and last month's meeting notes was motioned by Burt, seconded by Tim, and passed.

Old Business: Tim reported that things are going well at Ridgeview. All units are occupied. There was discussion about options to explore church building expansion including possibly utilizing National Covenant Properties as a resource. The leadership team agreed that a committee (which will include at least one member from the Leadership Team) will need to be formed and that the first step prior to that is to have an all-church night of prayer and worship with fasting prior to the corporate prayer time. March 1 at 6:30 was agreed to as the time for the prayer and worship time to seek God's will regarding expansion. In addition, the ask is that the church be in continual prayer regarding stewardship of all God is providing. Cindee shared that rather than doing something with the "IF" women's conference, the team would like to start with a Women's breakfast—more to follow—currently the target date is April 6th.

New Business: CPR certification was brought forth as a need for safety events. This will be brought to the congregation for volunteers. There is a clarification to the budget presented at the annual meeting—the building fund should be broken out as Building Fund = \$53,151.72 and Funds Designated for Parking = \$20,505.94. Due to Solid Rock no longer being offered, the leadership team voted to re-purpose the "Solid Rock" \$700 funds toward Lake Beauty Staff Scholarships. Cindee motioned to approve, Burt seconded, motion passed. The sound quality in the Foyer was discussed—the sound issue is being addressed. There will be two services for Easter. The Leadership Team discussed supporting M.E.N.A missionaries with a gift of \$1200.00 and the Browns with \$250.00. Terry motioned to approve; Burt seconded. Motion passed.

Devotions for the next meeting will be led by Burt. March 11 is the next leadership team meeting.

Emily motioned to close the meeting; Jacob seconded. Motion passed. Lucas closed the meeting in prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindee McBride, Secretary

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.

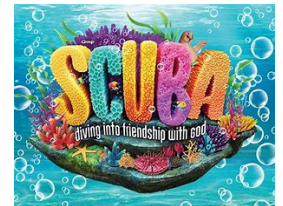
We also have headphones available for use- pick one up at the Connections Table!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

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

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! Registration will begin in April!

You can access United Covenant Church
online in many ways:



Website: www.unitedcovchurch.org

facebook



YouTube

Upcoming Dates to Know:

March 1st: Property Expansion Prayer Service, 6:30 pm

March 6th: All Church Skate Night in Rice Lake

March 10th: Camp Promo Sunday/Lasagna Lunch

March 28th: Maundy Thursday Supper & Service

March 29th: Good Friday Service, 7:00 pm

March 31st: Easter Sunday, 8:15 am & 10:00 am

April 3rd: Derby Prep Night

April 6th: Women United Breakfast, 8:30 am

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

June 17th-20th: Vacation Bible School

July 15th-19th: Chicago Mission Trip

All dates are subject to change