

COVENANT HIGHLIGHTS

AUGUST 2024

VOLUME 45, ISSUE 8

PASTORS CORNER

Daniel chapter 1 tells us about Daniel and his three friends, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.

In chapter 1:17 we read:

"God gave these four young men an unusual aptitude for understanding every aspect of literature and wisdom. And God gave Daniel the special ability to interpret the meanings of visions and dreams." (NLT)

These four young men were committed to living a life pleasing to God. The Lord had set them in a place of influence in the court of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon. God provided the intelligence and ability they needed for the roles they were in and they were used in a powerful way!

I believe that God gives us what we need to accomplish all the things he has for us to do in this life. Ephesians 2:10 (NLT) says: *"¹⁰ For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago."*

God has designed you for the role that you are in. Serve him with all your might and live your life to his glory.

Pastor Dan

STATION 19 VOTE

Members, plan to stay after church on Sunday, August 4th for a vote regarding the Leadership Team's recommendation to hire Station 19 for the purpose of helping us get a clearer vision of what our wants/needs are in regard to a building project.

Station 19 is an architectural firm based in Minneapolis: www.station19.com.

STATION
ARCHITECTS

19

Contact a member of the leadership team with questions regarding this recommendation/vote.

CREW (Christians Ready Equipped & Willing)



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

1 John 3:17 Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions.

My hope and prayer for not only our youth, but for our church as well is that we love one another well through our actions. Anyone can say the right things or listen to good teaching or even read the Bible, but we all need to take what God has given us and share that with others. Are there people around you that could use a friend? Are there people with needs that you could step in to help? What spiritual gifts has God given you that you haven't been sharing with others? I love when my life can be comfortable, and I tend to work towards making my life more comfortable. However, sometimes Jesus calls us to step out of the boat. Maybe there are areas in your life that you need to step out of your comfort zone and begin putting words into action when it comes to loving others.

SUMMER SCHEDULE

- July 28 - Aug 2 - Senior High @ Lake Beauty Bible Camp
- Aug 2-4 - OneFest
- Aug 8-10 - MUUCE
- Aug 14 - Lake Day @ Mohrlands
- Aug 28 - Hangout @ Carlsons

CREW
CHRISTIANS READY, EQUIPPED & WILLING
1 Peter 3:15

The High School Sunday School class starting this fall will be themed "Got Questions?" The youth are encouraged to submit questions to Josh Williamson related to the Bible, Christianity and any other theological questions they might be wrestling with and we will dive into those issues and discuss this year. Please discuss with your youth and encourage them to bring forward any questions they would like to study in Sunday School.

CREW KICK-OFF PARTY- SEPTEMBER 11th!!

On our Wednesday nights at CREW starting in September we will be journeying through the Alpha Youth Series! It is important that youth have a solid understanding of the basics of Christianity and salvation. This is a great series for new and young believers as well as a great refresher for anyone who is more mature in their faith.

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.

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

CHURCH AT THE CHALET/POTLUCK



Sunday, August 11th, we will meet at Clear Lake Chalet (380 60th St, Clear Lake, WI) for our 10:00 a.m. Worship Service.

Following the Worship Service we will enjoy a Potluck Lunch and then a family (kid) friendly softball game together! Plan to bring a dish to pass, a lawn chair, softball gear and some friends!



BAPTISM

If you are interested in being baptized on Sunday, August 11th, please see Pastor Dan.



CHURCH SOFTBALL LEAGUE

CHURCH SOFTBALL LEAGUE GAME
SUNDAY, AUGUST 11TH
6:00 PM
VS EAST LINCOLN
CLEAR LAKE ELEMENTARY

Sunday, August 11th we will play at Clear Lake Elementary field and play against East Lincoln. Come to play or cheer! This is a multigenerational co-ed league. We welcome kids going into 7th grade through adult!

GOOD NEWS CLUB



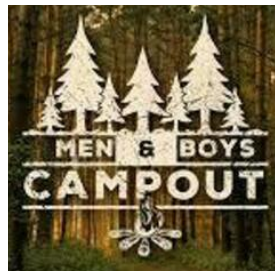
Parents, your child is invited to attend a Summer Good News Club!

August 5th-9th
1:00 pm-2:30 pm
at United Covenant Church
Children ages 5-11

(younger children are welcome to attend as long as their parent stays with them)

You can expect: inspiring Bible lessons, upbeat songs, great games, exciting mission stories, memory verses, fun prizes and yummy snacks! Contact Heather Krech for more info: 651-528-1713

MEN & BOYS OVERNIGHT CAMPOUT



We are planning a Men & Boys Overnight Campout at Clear Lake Park on August 23-24. There will be canoeing, campfires, fishing, food and lots of fun enjoying God's great outdoors! There is a \$5 cost per person, and we'll be

looking for donations for food. Please sign up at Sign Up Central to reserve your spot! (Note: all youth and children must be accompanied by an adult.)

CHURCH SALE



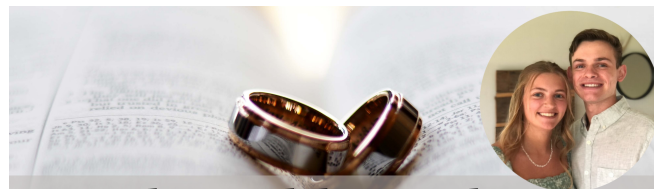
Our annual Garage Sale will be held August 15th & 16th in the church basement.

Donations can be brought to church now!

Please place any sale items in the Sunday School rooms downstairs by the Piano Room. No electronics, car seats, or furniture. No large items unless you talk with Lynn Pickard first.

Sign up to help set up and work at the Garage Sale (workers needed throughout the week of August 12th-16th).

CARD SHOWER



Card Wedding Shower

for Simeon Krech & Emily Roessler
A basket will be in the foyer
August 18th & 25th.
Simeon & Emily will be married in October.

You can access United Covenant Church online in many ways:



Website: www.unitedcovchurch.org

facebook



YouTube

FALL SCHEDULING

Join Us For Fall Activities!

Starting Sunday, September 8th

Sunday Mornings:

8:45 am—Sunday School Classes
(Age 3 through Adult)

10:00 am—Worship Service

Starting Wednesday, September 11th

LIFE TOGETHER WEDNESDAYS

5:30 pm—Family Supper

6:00 pm—Kids Blast (Ages 4-4th grade)

CREW56 (5th & 6th grade)

CREW (7th-12th grades)

Adult Bible Study



LAKE BEAUTY
BIBLE CAMP

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

Mark your Calendars! 2024 Camp Dates:

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

LAKE BEAUTY BIBLE CAMP HAS BROUGHT BACK THE AWESOME...

JUNIOR HIGH / SENIOR HIGH FALL YOUTH RETREAT

October 25-27, 2024

*** Registration Opens August 20th ***

www.lbbc.com

GUEST SPEAKER: ZACH KLEIN

(Our former Youth Pastor!)

Cost \$160 per student



We are excited for a new year of Sunday School!! Sunday School will begin September 8th!

To help us prepare, please register your kids for
Sunday morning and Wednesday night
programming (Sunday School, Kids Blast, CREW56,
CREW, etc...)

To Register, scan the QR code or go
to:

<https://forms.office.com/r/iU0cvhyFcd>



Registrations help us to plan for
space, attendance, curriculum, etc...

KAYAK/CANOEING FOR COUPLES

Couple building/encouragement/refresher



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.

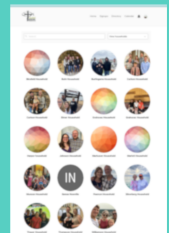
The following dates are available, see sign up
central to sign up (subject to be rescheduled due to weather)!

Aug 17th

Sept 21st

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!

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.

August 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th:

We have recently begun a study of 1st Corinthians. "Christianity calls us to sacrifice instead of living for oneself. We have to choose one or the other—we can't do both. The Christians in Corinth tried to live the Christian life in a worldly way. Paul wrote the letter of 1 Corinthians to a divided and self-centered people to remind them to follow Jesus and only Jesus.



In this 12-part series, author and speaker Jennie Allen walks into the messy lives of the Corinthians and takes us through Paul's words to the conflicted church. We'll see how the truth of the gospel and the Spirit of God can empower us to choose to follow Jesus every day of our lives."

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 is working through the Ray Vander Laan "Discipleship" study:



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.



In September, the Women will begin the study: "Better-A Study of Hebrews" by Jen Wilkin. This 10 session study is a verse-by-verse study of Hebrews, exploring through Paul's letters how Scripture points to Christ as the new-better covenant for us to have access to God!

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 Stitches 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 Stitches 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!

RIGHT NOW MEDIA

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



I AM THE *way*
THE *truth*
AND THE *life.*

John 14:6

LEADERSHIP MEETING

SEMI ANNUAL MEETING

JULY 14, 2024

Call to Order. Lucas called the meeting to order at 11:22 a.m. on July 14, 2024. 69 people were present.

Opening Scripture and Prayer. Emily Johnson shared from Psalm 119:65-67 and Romans 15:13. Emily prayed.

Secretary Report. A few minutes were provided to review the Annual Meeting Minutes from January 2024. Aaron Spurrell motioned to accept as written. Bonnie Eastvold seconded. Motion passed with no objections.

Financial Report. A few minutes were provided to review. An increase in insurance was noted causing that line to be over-budget. There was an inquiry about some lines not having budget amounts. This was clarified that they were sublines under a larger budget line. Dirk Prindle made a motion to accept the financial report. Aaron Spurrell seconded. Motion passed with no objections.

Youth Report. Youth Pastor Josh Williamson shared that the youth had had a tubing day with East Lincoln with 50 youth and adults. Coming up are several activities such as Sr. High Camp, Lake Day at the Mohrlands, OneFest, MUJUCE to name a few. Planning for fall has already started. He asked for prayer for the team going to Chicago on a mission trip.

Leadership Team Highlights. Highlights were presented by Lucas Carlson. Highlights included: 1) launch of the Electronic Directory which has helped with the coordinating of various ministries; 2) provision of a well-attended CPR class; 3) commencing formation of an Emergency Response Team to include people with medical, safety, security, social work and other fields that will work together to assess and act if concerns arise 4) exploring the launch of a second service regarding which there was discussion stating that it was thought that removing the library was to help prevent that need to the concern that we have already lost some of our connectivity due to the number of people so hopefully two services will help with that. There was continued discussion that it is hard for one person to have 12 close friends and that one thing the leadership is looking at in addition to moving to two service is launching of small groups. A question was asked: how does Sunday School fit into that framework. Lucas responded that we don't have those answers. We have done some research. A member shared that they have been a part of churches that have had a second service Saturday night or other nights and it turned out that that grew the church because the alternate time allowed for people to come that maybe couldn't during a traditional timeframe. Lucas asked that the church keep the concept of two services in prayers as we "kick the tires" on the idea. He also shared who the members are of the leadership team and invited the congregation to feel free to approach any one of us with concerns, encouragement, questions or ideas.

New Business. Lucas shared that Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights are at capacity. He shared a personal story of how a decision from a generation before him positively

impacted and blessed him as he grew up in a church where he could invite his friends. He shared that during the last few months the Leadership Team (LT) had met with two different firms. The LT is recommending to the congregation that the church hire Station 19 as a next step toward possible building expansion. He explained that Station 19 serves 100% nonprofits of which 80 to 90% are churches. As an example, River Falls covenant church used Station 19 for their expansion. Station 19 offers a two-part process. There is no commitment to part 2 if we say yes to part 1. Part 1 includes: 1) Workshop 1: "Visioning/Listening w/Staff and Key Leadership at church (one, 4 to 6 hour day) 2) Workshop #2: Vision to Serve People and Facility (includes site analysis, zoning, preliminary feasibility/ floor plan concepts, preliminary financial capability and more; 3) Workshop #3: Single preferred Direction (includes presentation of Design refinements of the Master Site and Floor Plan options, confirm prelim budget allowances and more; and 4) Schematic Design Drawings - For Contractor Preliminary Pricing. There are additional costs for travel and some optional visuals for 3D renderings. Lucas shared that the church has been saving \$5000.00/month for about a year and a half, so this is not something for which funds need to be raised. There was an inquiry about any wisdom gleaned from the prayer service held. Lucas and Emily shared that the leadership team reviewed any submitted cards and there was no clear message but felt that there was an agreement that space was needed. Some questions arose 1) is there a cap on the misc. fees 2) is there a time frame for deliverables 3) are we looking at just the worship space or space for youth or both. Lucas said we will get more information regarding the misc. fees. The timeframe may depend more on us as a church. In terms of which space, that is part of what Station 19 would help us figure out. Another question was inquired if references had been checked. The leadership team will follow-up by checking with additional churches who had used them. It was shared that one church member had experience with them and that though the overall building project didn't go well that was not on Station 19. Station 19 was super professional. He was encouraged that the process he has observed at this church is that God is still in charge of any expansion. Psalm 133 was share--how good and pleasant is it when God's people are in unity. Another question was raised inquiring as to what ratio of yes to nay will determine that the motion to go with Station 19 has passed. Jared Cockroft inquired if we were looking to vote today. Jared Cockroft made a motion to delay the vote until the references can be checked and answers obtained. Lynn Pickard seconded. Motion to delay the vote passed by a majority. There were at least two objections to the delay. It was discussed that the delay would be for at least two weeks. A vote may be scheduled for August 4th pending the timing of obtaining answers to the questions.

Pastor's Comments. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. Pastor closed the meeting in prayer.

Adjournment: Mike Pickard made a motion to adjourn. Jim Mohrland seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindee McBride, Secretary