



Covenant Highlights

November 2024

Volume 45, Issue 11



PASTORS CORNER

Matthew 7:24-27 (NIV)

24 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. **25** The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. **26** But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. **27** The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash."

We have been waiting for November for a long time as it is the time for our presidential elections. Whoever becomes president will have great influence on the direction that our nation goes. Will we turn further left or will we turn right? As we think of the ramifications of what could happen, it is very possible to become anxious. We may feel that the winds of change around us are blowing into a storm. No matter what happens, we must always cling to the rock. If the foundation of our life is built on Christ, the rock, we will make it through any storm that may come. The Lord God is eternal, and he does not change like shifting shadows. Cling to the rock and your life will remain strong through whatever comes.

Pastor Dan

*Clear Lake Community
Thanksgiving Eve Service*
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH
7:00 P.M.
FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
CLEAR LAKE

ALPHA WEEKEND



As part of our Wednesday Night Alpha program, we will have an "Alpha Weekend" on Saturday, November 2nd. We will begin at 8:30 am and be finished by 4:00 pm.

The Alpha Weekend is an opportunity for guests to have the unhurried time, space, and environment needed to process and reflect on what they have been learning.

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.

Our goal this year is 100 boxes!

Ways you can help:

- Pack a shoebox or two with your family
- Come to our Chili fundraiser on November 15th!
- Donate money to help shipping costs (\$10 each)

Completed Boxes due Sunday, November 17th!

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 15th at 6 pm
at United Covenant Church**

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

**See poster in foyer or bulletin board to learn how
you can compete in the Chili Cook-Off!**

CARDS FOR CRU

Everyone is invited to join Mission Stitchers on Thursday, November 7th at 9:00 am to write cards to attach to CRU bags. These bags will be filled with winter gear, socks, blankets, etc... and given out in the Twin Cities Area (CRU-Inner City- Dan & Jane Howe). Please join us as we spread God's love to the Twin Cities area through this simple project!



CREW (Christians Ready Equipped & Willing)



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

John 10:27-30 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one can snatch them away from me, for my Father has given them to me, and he is more powerful than anyone else. No one can snatch them from the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

In our Sunday School class, we are exploring the question of "Once Saved, Always Saved?", and it has challenged students to move past their feelings and opinions and instead look to see what the Bible says. Our church holds to the principle of "where is it written?". There are verses in the Bible that serve as a warning to not turn or walk away. While there are verses that should challenge or convict us, there are also verses that serve as a promise and assure us that no one can snatch us from the Father's hand. When we have truly repented and given our life to Christ, there is an eternal security that we can hold on to that we do not need to live in fear. Someone once described the Bible as offering comfort for the afflicted, but it afflicts the comforted. Wherever we currently find ourselves, let us approach God's Word with humility and let it speak to us right where we are giving us truth for what is right and hope in the promises God gives us.

Upcoming Event Highlights

Nov 16 - Youth Volunteer Day 9:00-11:00 am

Nov 27 - No CREW (Thanksgiving Eve Service)

Dec 11 - Christmas Caroling

Dec 18 - CREW Christmas Party

The High School Sunday School class has jumped into the theme of "Got Questions" by discussing topics such as "What does the Bible say about piercings?" and "What is the unforgivable sin?" and "Why did God harden Pharaoh's heart?" 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.



On Wednesday nights at CREW, we are 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

PACKING PARTY- "BOXES OF LOVE"



On Friday, November 22nd (6:30-8:30 pm) we'll be heading into Minneapolis to pack Boxes of Love.

Sign up to help us pack to help CRU Inner City reach as many people as they can with the gospel! Each box is filled with a meal and gospel materials for a family of six!

Please join us on this mission. See Pastor Dan with questions, or sign up at Sign Up Central, we'd like a final number by November 3rd.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Our Kids Blast, CREW56 & Adult studies will have a break over Thanksgiving and Christmas.

**NOVEMBER 27TH-JANUARY 1ST:
NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER OR CLASS***

*CREW will continue to meet - check the weekly schedule on the church calendar!



**WE WILL RESUME JANUARY 8TH WITH OUR
REGULAR WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE!**

Christmas Dessert Theater

Thursday, December 5th at 6:30 pm

Friday, December 6th at 6:30 pm

Saturday, December 7th at 2:00 pm

Please join us for a great evening (or two)!
Invite neighbors, co-workers, family & friends!



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Sunday School Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 15th
10:45 am Worship Service



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

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.

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 **7:00 a.m.** Men's
Breakfast at church (bring a dish to share!)
- **6:30 p.m.** on Thursday Nights at church



WOMEN'S MONDAY BIBLE STUDY

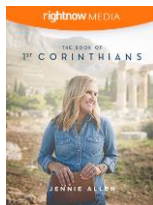
**Monday Night Women's Bible Study will meet:
6:30-8:00 p.m.**

November 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th:

We are doing a study of 1st
Corinthians. 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



ZOOM DAILY PRAYER MEETINGS



Morning Zoom Prayer group
meets on Zoom Monday,
Wednesday, Thursday and

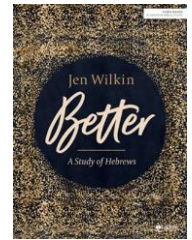
Friday mornings from 7:00 am to 7:10 am.

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!

WOMEN'S TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

"Long ago, at many times and in many
ways, God spoke to our fathers by the
prophets, but in these last days he has
spoken to us by his Son, whom he
appointed the heir of all things, through
whom also he created the world."
Hebrews 1:1-2



We are working through: "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 9:00 a.m. Study books are
available! **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!

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!



Upcoming Dates to Know:

November 2nd "Alpha Weekend"

November 15th Chili Cook Off fundraiser

November 17th Christmas Shoeboxes are Due

November 20th Last Night of Wednesday Night

Programming until January

November 27th Thanksgiving Eve Service at First Lutheran

December 5th, 6th & 7th Christmas Dessert Theater

December 11th Christmas Caroling

December 15th Sunday School Christmas Program (10:45 am)

December 24th Christmas Eve Service, 4 pm

****Dates/times subject to change****

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MEDIA.**

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access to an extensive,
video library called
RightNow Media! Scan the QR Code to
get access—or go to our website and
click the RightNow Media link!



LEADERSHIP MEETING

October 7, 2024: Leadership Team Notes

Present: Pastor Dan Pearson, Brenda Cogbill, Lucas Carlson, Jacob Peterson, Susie Thayer, Burt Beebe, Tim Jurisch, Emily Johnson and Cindee McBride.

Call to Order, Devotions and Prayer. Lucas called the meeting to order. Jacob led devotions from the Jude 1:3. Beware of false prophets. Urge each other to stand strong in faith and steadfast to the Gospel. Jacob prayed.

Agenda and last month's meeting minutes. Tim motioned to accept; Emily seconded. Motion passed with no objections.

Finance Report was reviewed. No questions.

Youth Report. The report was submitted to the Leadership Team via email by Youth Pastor Josh Williamson. Youth report from Josh via email:

Words are not able to express how much of a blessing each week has already been with our Fall schedule. We have had over fifty junior high and high school kids each Wednesday night, and we have had over twenty-five high school students each week of Sunday School. With the growth we have continued to see, I will be reaching out for some additional Wednesday night volunteers to help supervise our kids and keep them safe.

I am very impressed with the Alpha Youth curriculum that we have been using on Wednesday nights, and I've heard some really good discussion coming from it. Our Sunday School class has also been covering challenging questions such as "What is the unforgivable sin?" and "What does the Bible say about piercings?", or "How did people before Jesus have a path to heaven?" This next week we are discussing Halloween. I love seeing our youth going to the Bible to answer these challenging questions, and my request has been to have parents walk through these studies with them.

Coming up is our Underground Church event on October 19th with several other area churches. Also, our Youth Fall Retreat will be from Oct 25-27th at Lake Beauty!

Burt motioned to accept both the finance and the youth report. Tim seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business

- Ridgeview Board Meeting: Nothing to report.
- Two Service Discussion: Ministry meeting held 10/8/2024. We prayed for the transition.
- Station 19 Progress: Nothing new as the next workshop is 10/14/2024.
- Highway 63 Sign Update (from Josh via email): We have received payments from: St. John's Catholic Church; Grace Lutheran Church; Reeve Evangelical Free; Josh has received confirmation that payment is coming from Holy Trinity Orthodox. Josh has also: 1) spoken with Libby Higgins from Living Word Chapel and is waiting for

confirmation from them; 2) left multiple voicemails and emails for the Seventh Day Adventist Church, Moe Lutheran, and United Methodist with no returned response and 3) not been able to make any contact with the St. Barnabas Anglican church. He inquired via email if anyone on the LT has a contact for this church. The goal is to have the sign completed before winter.

New Business

- A new mower has been purchased. A new sign was purchased that included the new service times.
- Financial Decisions. Discussed adding to the annual budgeting discussion, the church setting aside an emergency fund.
- Pastor Dan items. He encourages everyone to keep praying for the transition to two services, the election, and for guidance as to how we as a church can continue to help people with practical needs including helping with life skills such as personal budgeting.

The next Leadership Team meeting is scheduled for November 4 at 6 pm. Cindee will lead devotions and prayer.

Adjournment: Cindee motioned to adjourn. Emily seconded. Motion carried



LAKE BEAUTY
BIBLE CAMP

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

Mark your Calendars! 2024 Camp Dates:

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



You can access

United Covenant Church online:
Website: www.unitedcovchurch.org

