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## CONNECT TO GOD



Join us in celebrating the birth of our Savior this Christmas Eve at either 4:00 p.m. for our family-oriented Christmas service, or at 7:00 p.m. for our traditional candlelight service. Great opportunity to invite a friend to hear the good news of Jesus Christ!

**The Discovery Hour Kids** will showcase their Christmas Program this morning. Let's hear our littlest voices praise the King!

**Prayer should be at the center of our lives** because it connects us with the heartbeat of God. Jesus not only called us to be a praying people, he also modeled it for us many times. We invite you to join us as we gather together every third Thursday, starting December 20, from 8-9 a.m. at First Covenant and start to become a praying Church!

**New Adult Discovery Hour Classes start on January 6<sup>th</sup>** with two classes facilitated by Dave Fredrickson and Rebecca Beaulieu. Dave's class is "A Contrarian's Guide to Knowing God" by Larry Osborne. When we gather we'll have a 10-minute video from Larry Osborne, take some time to review it as well as examine and discuss the associated scripture for the lesson. While not required, participants are encouraged to consider purchasing and reading the associated book of the same title. Rebecca class invites all ladies to Joanna Weaver's "Lazarus Awakening...Finding Your Place in the Heart of God". Just as God called Lazarus forth to new life, Jesus wants to free you to live fully in the light of His love, unhindered by fear, regret or self-condemnation. Contact Rebecca Beaulieu at 651-301-1997 or [rebeccabeaulieu6@gmail.com](mailto:rebeccabeaulieu6@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

**Offering envelopes for 2019 are in your mailbox.** If you did not get an offering box and would like one, please contact Sarah in the office.

**The Winter Covenant Home Altars are in** featuring a new look from the cover design to the typography layout, and a new notes section in the back. Please find them on the welcome table or kiosk.

**Tuesday Women's Bible Study will resume Tuesday, January 8, 2019** from 9:30-11:00 a.m. We will be starting Kristina Lunde's Bible on the Bluff Series: Hearing God's Voice Joshua thru 2 Chronicles. Please contact Rebecca Beaulieu if you have any questions.

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## CONNECT TO ONE ANOTHER

**The minutes from the Congregational Business Meeting** from last Sunday are posted to the e-weekly newsletter or found in the kiosk.

**Come and share in that joy by joining us for the December IF Gathering.** This month's host is Wendy Stensrud and it will be located at her home at the Round Barn Farm, 28650 Wildwood Lane, Red Wing on Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to pass and invite a friend. RSVP to Anna McCann at [651-212-0232](tel:651-212-0232) or [mccannae@gmail.com](mailto:mccannae@gmail.com).

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## CONNECT TO THE WORLD

**Missionaries of the week:** *Adrienne and Ken Satterberg*; Mosaics Project; Anti-trafficking/Women in Prostitution; France—1989.

**Mission of the Month:** The Advocacy for Victims of Abuse (AVA) was initiated by the Evangelical Covenant to inform, educate and raise awareness of the epidemic of abuse, empowering the church community to reach out with the healing touch of Jesus. Here at First Covenant, AVA Ministries provides Welcome Bags to women and their children who find refuge at The Haven of Hope-Women's Shelter. The Welcome Bags include necessary toiletries and washcloths, crayons and coloring books, notebooks and pencils, and story books. Volunteer to put these together and donations for the bags are greatly appreciated.

**Habitat for Humanity is offering the Financial Peace University course once again here at First Covenant Church.** Start the New Year off right and bust your debt in 2019! Our 9-week course starts Tuesday, Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:00 and will be every Tuesday with the last class ending Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>. Please reach out to Tracy at CCFBank 651-267-3941 with any questions.

**The last of the First Presbyterian Church Advent Organ Series** is Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 p.m. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. Come, enjoy wonderful music with your friends.

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## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

### Kids Discovery Hour

Sunday | 9:45 a.m. (ages 3-6<sup>th</sup> grade) | Meets in basement

### Awana Club

Dec. 19 | Christmas/Awana Store Night | ages 3 – 5<sup>th</sup> grade | 6:00–7:30 pm.

Supper | 5:00 p.m.

### Awana Store Night

On December 19<sup>th</sup>, we will have our First Awana Store Night of the year. This is a special time for the Sparks and T&T kids to "spend " their points that they have earned for attendance, memory work, bringing friends, wearing their uniform, and remembering to bring their handbook and bible each week. We are in need of new or gently used stuffed animals, toys, trinkets, jewelry, sports stuff and games, in addition to candy. You can look at the clearance aisles at the store when you are shopping or clean out your hidden treasures that you have not used! Bring your donated items to Sarah's office marked "Awana Store". Keep in mind these are for Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade kids. Thanks for your help.

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## STUDENT MINISTRIES

### ROOTS (Wed, 6:00-7:30pm in the Youth Room)

For students in grades 6-8 to connect with one another and with God through friends, games, and biblical teaching. Jr. High Christmas Party is this Wednesday night at 6:00 p.m.

### Confirmation (Sun, 9:45-10:45am in the Choir Room)

For students in grades 7-8 to dig into the building blocks of our faith and explore the Old and New Testament.

### Fusion (Tues, 3:00-5:00pm at the Church)

For students in grades 5-7 to gather after school to build friendships and develop life skills.

### Breakfast Club (Sun, 9:45-10:45am in the Kitchen)

For students in grades 9-12 to connect with one another around food and faith discussions on relevant topics.

### CORE (Sundays, 6:30-8:00pm at Host Homes)

For students in grades 9-12 to dig deep into God's word with a core group of friends and learn how to apply it to our everyday lives. Tonight, come for our Senior High Christmas party here at the church at 6:00 p.m.

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## LIFE GROUPS

Life Groups | Weekly | Hosted at various homes and times

Men's Bible Study | Tuesdays | 9:30 a.m. | Apostle Room

Women's Study-Hearing God's Voice | Tuesdays | 9:30 a.m. | Resumes Jan. 8

Women's Bible Study | Wednesdays | 9:30 a.m. | Resumes Jan. 2

Lydia Circle | 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday | 6:30 p.m. | Fireside Room

IF Gathering | December 18 | 28650 Wildwood Lane

MOPS/MOMSnext | 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays | 9:00-11:00 a.m.

MOMSnext | 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays | 5:30-7:30 p.m.

### Discovery Hour | Sunday mornings | 9:45 a.m.

God Designed Intersections | Roger Johnson | Disciple Room

Confirmation | Todd Mehrkens & Julie Malyon | Choir Room

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## WEEKLY EVENTS

### Sunday, December 16 Kids Christmas Program 11 a.m. | Third Sunday of Advent

8:30AM Blended

9:45AM Adult and Kids Discovery

9:45AM Confirmation | HS Breakfast Club

11:00AM Contemporary Worship | Discovery Hour Kids Christmas Program

6:00PM Sr. High Christmas Party (at church)

### Monday, December 17 All Newsletter Articles Due

5:00PM FLC Reserved

### Tuesday, December 18

9:30AM Men's Bible Study (Apostle Room)

3:00PM Fusion

5:30PM MOMSnext

6:00PM Adult Basketball

6:00PM IF: Gathering | 28650 Wildwood Lane

### Wednesday, December 19

9:00AM MOPS Leaders Meeting

5:00PM Supper

6:00PM Awana

6:00PM Jr. High Christmas Party

### Thursday, December 20

8:00AM Prayer Gathering

6:00PM Worship Team Practice

### Sunday, December 23 Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30AM Blended

11:00AM Contemporary Worship

1:30PM Hispanic Church Plant

### Monday, December 24 Christmas Eve

4:00PM Family Christmas Eve Service

7:00PM Candlelight Service