

FOR GUESTS

We are so glad that you chose to worship with us today and look forward to seeing you again soon. We know that visiting a new church can feel awkward until you get to know people. So, we will do the best we can to help you feel at home. Do stop by our Welcome Table for more information about us; grab a cup of coffee, visit so we can get to know you.

Children of all ages are welcome in our worship services. There are “quiet bags” available to occupy small children. Please ask ushers for assistance. For those who prefer, our nursery is open throughout the morning for children age 6 months to age 3.

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!

Man Camp REBOOT (*noun* 'rē-, būt : to start anew : to make a fresh start) We'd like to invite all the men in our congregation to the reboot of our Man Camp ministry. Our kick-off (see what I did there? re-*boot* / *kick-off*) event will be on Saturday, January 19 from 3:00-6:00 p.m. at Craig and Barb Rutschow's farm (in Craig's "man space") which seems an appropriate place for man things to happen. Those happenings will include (as promised): MEAT, THROWING THINGS, and SUPERHEROES! If you'd like to help in the planning of this event or would like to bring something talk to Pastor Marc. If not, don't ... just show up!

New Adult Discovery Hour Classes start on January 6th 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 if you have any questions.

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.

Prayer is needed for Carole Daggett, Tim Droogsma and Al Nelson. All three have been hospitalized this week.

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.

CONNECT TO ONE ANOTHER

The minutes from the Congregational Business Meeting from December 9th are posted to the e-weekly newsletter or found in the kiosk.

The church offices will be closed most of next week. Crystal Olson will be in Thursday only; Darold will be in Wednesday and Friday for part of the day.

Now is the time to order Altar Flowers to 2019. If you are interested in providing altar flowers for any occasion, please fill out an order form located in the kiosk and return to the church office.

CONNECT TO THE WORLD

This morning we welcome Kris Kvals, Executive Director of Hope Coalition, which serves the abused and disadvantaged of Goodhue, Wabasha and western Pierce County. Haven of Hope is the 24-bed emergency shelter for women and their children. To support AVA, our Mission on the Month, donations can be given to First Covenant Church, memo AVA. Your support provides items for the Welcome Bags given to the women and their children who find refuge at The Haven of Hope Women's Shelter.

Missionaries of the week: *James and Nyaluak Gai Tang*; Sudanese Ministries; Christian Formation; Community Development; Sudan—2006.

Our Red Cross Blood Drive last Thursday was successful! Thirty donors came with 28 good units of blood were given. Thank you all who gave blood!

Thank you to all who donated clothing, gift cards, or wrapping items, and those who helped wrap gifts for the Goodhue County Christmas Project this year. We were able to make the giving season of 9 families with a total of 33 children a little brighter this year! In Thankfulness, GCCP Team

GriefShare is a nondenominational seminar/grief support group that is facilitated by leaders who have lost loved ones of their own. Our next session will begin on Monday, January 14, 2019 at *First Covenant Church* in Red Wing. We will meet from 7:00-8:30 p.m. For more information call Suzy at 507-398-3729, Susan at 651-388-4109 or griefshare.org

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, January 8th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. and will be every Tuesday with the last class ending Tuesday, March 5th. Please reach out to Tracy at CCF Bank 651-267-3941 with any questions.

The Bonhoeffer Society of Red Wing invites you to a seminar in memory of Michael T. Hayes and the introduction of his book, *Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Follower of the Living Jesus*. The seminar will be held on Saturday, January 12, 2019 at First Covenant Church, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. with a soup lunch at noon. The speakers will be Dr. Lori Brandt Hale, Ph.D., Associated Professor of Religion, Augsburg University and Dr. John Matthews, pastor of Grace Lutheran Church of Apple Valley, MN and Past-President of the International Bonhoeffer Society, English Language Section. Lori Brandt Hale and John Matthews will present in the morning followed by lunch at a time for discussion and questions the following hour. There is no cost for the seminar, but a free will offering will be taken for the lunch.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Kids Discovery Hour

Sunday | 9:45 a.m. (ages 3-6th grade) | Meets in basement
Resumes on January 6th with the Winter Kick-off Celebration

Awana Club

Resumes Jan. 9 | Pastor's Popcorn Night | ages 3 – 5th grade | 6:00–7:30 pm.
Supper | 5:00 p.m.

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. Resumes January 9th.

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. Resumes January 6th.

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. Resumes February 5th.

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. Resumes January 6th.

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. Resumes January 6th.

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 | 2nd Tuesday | 6:30 p.m. | Fireside Room

IF Gathering | Monthly | Hosted at women's homes

MOPS/MOMSnex | 2nd and 4th Wednesdays | 9:00-11:00 a.m.

MOMSnex | 1st and 3rd Tuesdays | 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Discovery Hour | Sunday mornings | 9:45 a.m. resumes January 6

A Contrarian's Guide to Knowing God | Dave Fredrickson | Disciple Room

Women's Study-Lazarus Awakening | Rebecca Beaulieu | Apostle Room

Confirmation | Todd Mehrkens & Julie Malyon | Choir Room

We appreciate all who have contributed poinsettias for this special Christmas Season.

The Donors

Their Dedication

<i>Bob and Susan Goetz</i>	<i>In memory of Brandon & Cameron Goetz</i>
<i>Kathy Johnson & family</i>	<i>In memory of Mike & Alyssa Johnson Cal and Betty Johnson; Leverne Johnson</i>
<i>Lynn and Jerry Sibert</i>	<i>Dedicated to our parents</i>
<i>Helen and Gary Fryer</i>	<i>Dedicated to our loved ones</i>
<i>Lee & Bev Sander</i>	<i>In memory of our parents sister, Jackie Bakke</i>
<i>Tim & Penny Droogsma</i>	<i>Dedicated to Willow Droogsma</i>
<i>Mary & Denny Roskam</i>	<i>In memory of Dianne Johnson</i>
<i>Hallstrom Family</i>	<i>In memory of Frank & Violet Hallstrom</i>
<i>Jim Nelson & Nancy Shoemake</i>	
<i>Brad & Janis Kimball</i>	<i>Dedicated to loved ones</i>
<i>Jon, Janis, Jay and Jim and families</i>	<i>In memory of Donna Van Loon</i>

Please take your poinsettias home after the Candlelight Service.

Thank you



WEEKLY EVENTS

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

Tuesday, December 25

Merry Christmas

Thursday, December 27

6:00PM Worship Team Practice

Sunday, December 30

8:30AM Blended
11:00AM Contemporary Worship

Monday, December 31 and Tuesday, January 1

Happy New Year

CONNECT WITH US

Please call the church office with any questions | 651-388-2385

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