

LIVE-STREAM

CCPC live streams worship services every Sunday morning. Please join us in spirit by going to www.covenantcommunitypc.org/live-stream. You can give, fill out a Connection Card, and also view archives of past services and sermons all from the comfort of your home.

Ministers - All members of the congregation

STAFF

Pastor - Jim Gates

(757) 615-1799 or jim@covenantcommunitypc.org

Parish Visitor - Jess Wakefield

(715) 573-4648 or jess@covenantcommunitypc.org

Director of Children & Family Ministries - Amanda Fuls

(715) 573-6296 or amanda@covenantcommunitypc.org

Communications Coordinator - Drew Bouché

drew@covenantcommunitypc.org

Traditional Music Director - Deb Perrin

deb@covenantcommunitypc.org

Contemporary Music Director - Orlando diValentin

orlando@covenantcommunitypc.org

Accompanist & Bell Choir Director - JeHae Kim-Bixby

jehae@covenantcommunitypc.org

Organist - Les Fraaza

les@covenantcommunitypc.org

Assistant to the Senior Pastor - Raissa Dupuis

raissa@covenantcommunitypc.org

Office Manager - Cyndi Schneider

cyndi@covenantcommunitypc.org

Church Office

(715) 359-6467 or ccpc@covenantcommunitypc.org

WWW.COVENANTCOMMUNITYPC.ORG



THY WILL BE DONE: PRODUCTIVE PARABLES

Mark 4:1-34

October 29, 2023

COVENANT COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Embracing all. Feeding spirits. Reflecting Christ...
Changing lives forever!

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude: "Wonderful Words of Life" Les Fraaza

Quiet Reflection and Preparation for Worship:

Mark's account of Jesus' life closely parallels the Lord's Prayer. This section, Mark 3:7-6:6, sees Jesus' ministry spread beyond Jewish Galilee and beyond himself. As the kingdom expands, we get glimpses of what the world can be when people choose God's will to be done over their own. Each week we pray, "Thy Will Be Done." What does it mean to choose God's will over yours today?

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of the Candles:

Call to Worship: Jeremiah 31:33-34

This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD:

I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD,"

For they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

***Hymn:** "Seek Ye First" (vs. 1,2,3) #175

*Call to Confession:

The LORD, in promising a new covenant with Israel and Judah, reminds them that they broke their first covenant with the LORD, though he was their husband. We require a place in the new covenant of grace because we too have broken the first covenant of law. Let us confess our sins together and ask for God's forgiveness.

*Prayer of Confession:

Lord Jesus, you call us to follow you and learn the secrets of a new kingdom and a new covenant; we too often think we live still according to the old covenant of law. Your message is so simple; we make it complex. We look but don't perceive, and we listen but don't understand.

Forgive us for trying to make discipleship into a set of rules to follow. Today we want to turn from rules and laws to the simple task of following you.

(We keep a moment of silence for reflection)

SEATS & FEETS — We are once again looking for a large quantity of NEW socks and underwear to be given to our Hearts of Hope families. A basket is located in the Narthex to drop off your donations. We are specifically looking for: Boys underwear - 4t, 5t, 6, 8, 10/12, and men's size small, medium, large; Girls underwear - 6, 8, 12, 14/16, and all women's sizes.

WRAPPED IN WARMTH — Our Hearts of Hope families will be coming to the church to receive all of their brand new winter clothing on November 7 and November 9 from 3:30-8pm. If you would like to help in any way, contact Sue Thompson (715-571-2797 or sue@mtslc.net).

HEARTS OF HOPE TJ MAXX BAGS — As Hearts of Hope season kicks off, we are looking for more TJ MAXX totes to be used for distributing gifts. We will have a spot in the Narthex in the coming weeks that you can drop these totes off after purchasing them at the store. They do not necessarily need to have holiday designs!

BIBLE STUDIES & SMALL GROUPS

NEW BIBLE APP STUDY — Join us as we continue a 26-day study called, "Unbound: Freedom in a Digital World", utilizing the Bible App by YouVersion. The Bible App is available for download on the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. You can join the study and conversation by clicking the link provided in Monday's email, or contact Jim Gates (jim@covenantcommunitypc.org) to get involved.

ADULT L.I.F.E. — We will be starting a new adult L.I.F.E. class on November 8 entitled, "The Angels of Christmas." Join Deb Tice and Kari Kufahl on Wednesdays through December 6 for an interesting look at God's supernatural beings and the story of Christ's birth. Note that we will not be meeting November 1 and November 22.

YOUTH, CHILDREN & FAMILY

KIDS & YOUTH I.D. — All our youth I.D. classes run from 9am-9:50am every Sunday. Our Middle School I.D. class for 6th & 7th graders meets in the basement; our High School class for 9th-12th graders meets in the Bouldin Hall Loft. Pre-K through 5th grade I.D. classes also meet in the basement.

YOUTH GROUP — Middle School Youth meet from 6-7:30pm, and High School Youth meet from 6:30-8pm on Wednesday nights. We do separate Bible study times for MS and HS but combine for our crazy games.

KIDS L.I.F.E. — At Wednesday night L.I.F.E. (every Wednesday at 6pm) our first focus is a friendship with Jesus, and secondly, we encourage children to build relationships with other kids and adult leaders.

CCPC BUDGET/ATTENDANCE

THROUGH AUGUST 2023:
Budgeted Operating Revenues: **\$369,240**
Actual Operating Revenues: **\$368,539**
Budgeted Operating Expenses: **\$367,681**
Actual Operating Expenses: **\$352,243**

OCTOBER 22 ATTENDANCE:
AM In-Person Total: **187**
AM Livestream Total: **62**
PM In-Person Total: **18**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

END OF RIGHTNOW MEDIA — Our experiment with RightNow Media will come to an end *THIS* Wednesday, November 1. If you have started your account through our church, you will no longer have access beginning on that date. If you enjoyed your time and access, we invite you to contact the church staff and give them your feedback!

NOW HIRING CHURCH ACCOUNTANT — We are currently seeking candidates for a part-time (15hrs per week), Church Accountant position that involves managing and overseeing CCPC's financial systems, including donations, accounts payable and payroll. Candidates must be excellent with details, administration, and numbers, comfortable with financial controls and systems, expertise/comfort in church management software, and a servant's heart. If you would like to apply, please send your résumé and cover letter to Jim Gates.

KRINGLE ORDERS DUE TODAY — If you are interested in ordering Kringles, please speak with our Hub attendant to get an order form. They are \$13 a piece and all orders (with payment) are due here at the church *TODAY!* Please make checks out to CCPC. Kringles will be available for pickup on November 12th!

BUY SCRIP — The holiday season is upon us and it is a great time to visit the Scrip table in the Narthex to find all of your needs, while supporting our church at the same time! Scrip is an easy way to help earn money for our church community by purchasing gift cards to retail stores, grocery stores, gas stations, entertainment, home improvements, pet care, and much more! It won't cost you a penny more than you already spend... while contributing to the growth of CCPC!

MISSIONS & VOLUNTEERING

BRIDGE ST. MISSION VOLUNTEER CELEBRATION — If you have participated in any of the Bridge St. Mission volunteer opportunities, you are invited to a celebration *THIS* Friday, November 3 at 5:30pm, right here at church in Bouldin Hall. If you would like to attend, please RSVP by Oct. 31 to cheryl@bridgestreetmission.org, or call 715-409-3506. Provide your name, and number attending.

BRIDGE ST. SOBER LIVING MEALS — One of the ways that CCPC supports Bridge St. Mission is by providing meals for the men at their sober living house. We are looking for folks interested in preparing and serving meals on the 1st and 4th Tuesdays and Wednesdays of the month. The men are always so gracious and thankful for home-cooked meals, or even just ordering a bunch of takeout for them (typically between 10-20 men). We still have some dates available in 2023 and will have signups for dates in 2024 available soon. You can check the Community Board in the Fellowship Hall for this information, or contact Kari Kufahl (715-212-2489 or kari.kufahl@gmail.com).

KRINGLES FOR KIDS THANK YOU! — Thank you to everyone who purchased Kringles for all of our Hearts of Hope kids and families. You are providing a wonderful and unique treat for them to enjoy this holiday season.

*Assurance of Pardon:

Jeremiah 31:34

Here is the good news! In the new covenant through Jesus Christ, God has fulfilled this promise: "I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more." All our sins have been forgiven through the sacrifice of Christ. Thanks be to God! **Amen.**

*Congregational Response: "The Lord is My Salvation"

See Screen

Children's Message

(Children may come forward and be seated on the stage.)

Period of Fellowship

*Hymn: "Listen to the Word that God Has Spoken" (2x)

#455

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

New Testament Reading:

Mark 4:1-20

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Special Music:

"Show Us Christ" Caitlin Kyle & Susan Schumann

New Testament Reading:

Mark 4:21-34

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Sermon:

"Thy Will Be Done: Productive Parables" Jim Gates

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Hymn:

"Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun" (vs. 1,2,5)

#265

The Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory Music:

"More About Jesus"

Les Fraaza & Marcy Fehrman

*Doxology

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction:

"I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord" (vs. 1)

#310

WELCOME TO COVENANT COMMUNITY!

We consider it a privilege to have you worship with us and sincerely hope you get a blessing from the service. Some notes to help you be more comfortable during the service:

- † Please participate in congregational responses (bold)
- † Please stand as able, as marked with an asterisk *
- † Please fill out the Connection Card insert.
- † Feel free to use the Cry Room (you will be able to see & hear the service) and/or Nursery across from the sanctuary
- † Activity bags for children are available in the Narthex.
- † Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship for donuts, cookies, juice, coffee, and fellowship!

HOW TO JOIN THIS CHURCH

The officers and members of CCPC welcome all persons who wish to respond to the Lordship of Jesus Christ by confessing or reaffirming their Christian Faith or by transferring their membership. We invite you to accept this invitation if you do not have a church home. Please speak with Jim Gates, note your interest on the Connection Card, or phone the church office (715) 359-6467. You are welcome here!

OUR AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven; and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of the saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WORSHIP SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to all who serve the church on Sunday mornings!

Worship Leader: Deb Tice

The Hub: Deb Wakefield

Acolytes: Jaelyn & Kenna Nelson

Usher Lead: Bobby Dupuis

Greeters: Meredith & Chloe Bramann

Gatekeeper: Jerry Trebus

Elder Greeters: Lynda Reis

& Sue Thompson

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the following folks who were recently in the hospital or reside in an assisted-care facility.

Mary Zuidema
(Renaissance in
Wisconsin Rapids)

Dave Vachowiak
(Forest Park Village)

Howie Pries
(Home)

Tom Scott
(Home)

Joyce Michna
(Fond du Lac)

THIS WEEK AT CCPC

SERVICE... DISCIPLESHIP... ENGAGEMENT!

TODAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY	
9AM	ID FOR ALL AGES/ CONFIRMATION	7PM	DARTBALL AT HOME	6PM	CELEBRATE RECOVERY	6PM	BELL CHOIR PRACTICE
10AM	WORSHIP					6PM	ADULT/KIDS LIFE
4PM	BAND REHEARSAL					6PM	MS YOUTH GROUP
6PM	WORSHIP					6:30PM	HS YOUTH GROUP
						7PM	CHOIR PRACTICE
THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
2PM	SHEEPSHEAD	5:30PM	BRIDGE ST. MISSION VOLUNTEER CELEBRATION			9AM	ID FOR ALL AGES/ CONFIRMATION
						10AM	WORSHIP
						4PM	BAND REHEARSAL
						6PM	WORSHIP

For more details about CCPC programming, refer to the next couple of pages in this bulletin, go to www.covenantcommunitypc.org, or call the church office at 715-359-6467.