



COVENANT COMMUNITY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embracing all. Feeding spirits. Reflecting Christ...
Changing lives forever!



FROM CAREFREE TO
COMMITMENT

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH, 2020 - 10 A.M.

FORWARD

FROM CAREFREE TO COMMITMENT:
FRIENDS WITH BENEFITS

LIVE STREAMING

CCPC live streams our 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

Director of Children & Family Ministries - Amanda Fuls

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

Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries - Dan Frost

(815) 262-5273 dan@covenantcommunitypc.org

Director of Music Ministries - Les Fraaza

(715) 574-2059 or les@covenantcommunitypc.org

Parish Visitor - Jess Wakefield

jess@covenantcommunitypc.org

Communications & Evangelism Coordinator - Drew Bouché

drew@covenantcommunitypc.org

Office Manager/Bookkeeper - John Jacobs

john@covenantcommunitypc.org

Choir Director - Deb Perrin

deb@covenantcommunitypc.org

Bell Choir Director - Ruth Wrynski

ruth@covenantcommunitypc.org

Housekeeper - Carol Anklam

Church Office

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

1806 Weston Avenue, Schofield, WI 54476
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Gathering Around the Word

Prelude:

Quiet Reflection and Preparation for Worship:

What if God's call is not to go "back to normal" but to go forward with Christ? In what direction is your life moving? Are you going backwards to your old life, or forward into the Spirit's new adventure? Consider this morning what your next step towards God might be, and commit to strain forward to what lies ahead.

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship:

Psalm 25:8-10

Good and upright is the LORD;
Therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

He leads the humble in what is right,
And teaches the humble his way.

All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,
For those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

*Hymn: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" (vs. 1,3)

Kent &
Deb Perrin

*Call to Confession:

Psalm 25:11

David prays, "For your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great." With David, we come to the Lord in prayer, seeking pardon and mercy for our selfish choices and thoughts this week. Let us join together in our prayer of confession.

*Prayer of Confession:

O LORD our God, you are perfect goodness; perfect faithfulness; perfect holiness. We stand in awe of you. When we see ourselves in your light, all our imperfections become clear. Our guilt is great.

And yet you see us not according to our sins, but according to your steadfast love. Because of your great love, you overcame our guilt on the cross. As the recipients of your grace, we commit to renewed faithfulness this week. May our lives be defined by your grace and our gratitude.

(We keep a moment of silence for reflection)

*Assurance of Pardon:

Psalm 103:12-13

"As far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him." Believe the good news: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen.

Children's Message

Period of Fellowship

Proclaiming the Word

Old Testament Reading: Psalm 25:8-22 NRSV Bible

Special Music: "I'll Fly Away" Kent & Deb Perrin

New Testament Reading: Matthew 19:1-12 NRSV Bible

Sermon: Forward from Carefree to Commitment: Jim Gates
Friends with Benefits

Responding to the Word

*Hymn: "Called as Partners in Christ's Service" (vs. 1,2) Kent &
Deb Perrin

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Offering & Placement of Our 2020 Commitment Cards

Offertory Hymn: "We Give Thee But Thine Own" (vs. 1,2,3,4) Kent &
Deb Perrin

Connection Card and giving are available on the live stream web page.

Bearing and Following the Word into the World

Announcements

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction: "A Veteran's Tribute" Charlie Lewis &
Herb Westlund

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COVENANT ADVENT CELEBRATION—CCPC will be celebrating the kickoff of Advent with a celebration of our faith family's many talents! On Sunday, November 29 from 4-5:30pm, we will be live streaming folks of all ages singing, dancing, playing an instrument, or sharing any other entertaining skills! There will be a limited number of spots for a live presentation that evening, but all are welcome to pre-record their performance either from home... or by coming in to the church ahead of the event. We invite everyone to participate and/or tune in to celebrate the beginning of this amazing season of Advent. Registration information will be made available for those who wish to perform. If you have any questions about this event, want to submit a video from home, or plan to come in and record, please contact Dan Frost (dan@covenantcommunitypc.org).

GRATITUDE CHALLENGE—In the spirit of the Thanksgiving season, CCPC is encouraging all of our members to identify the many things we are grateful for in our lives. We invite all members to share their gratitude by filling out a leaf found in the Narthex and dropping it in the offering plate. Anything you are thankful for can be written on the leaf and we will place it on the Gratitude Tree located on the southern side of the Sanctuary. Want to submit something your grateful for from the comfort of your home? Send it to Amanda Fuls (amanda@covenantcommunitypc.org) and she will put it on a leaf to include on the tree! We will continue the Gratitude Challenge through Sunday, November 22.

2021 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN UPDATE—Thank you to everyone who submitted a Commitment Card with your 2021 pledge! If you have not done so yet, you can mail those to the church or complete them online here: <https://covenantcommunitypc.org/people/forms/179281>. Our current totals as of this morning are **60 pledges for \$211,275**.

ENDOWMENT PANEL DISCUSSION—Following worship on November 22 (in-person and via live stream), we will have a panel discussion about our new Endowment Fund. We would like to solicit questions in advance for our panel! So, if you have any questions about our new Endowment, please submit them to Jim Gates no later than Monday, November 16. You can email him or call the church. No question is too simple or complex!

ONLINE DIRECTORY—We now have an online directory which includes both pictures and contact information! This directory is part of the same Church Center application we use for online giving and reservations for worship, so it will look familiar to many. If you've not used Church Center before, when you visit the link below you will be asked for a cellphone number or an email. If we have that number or email on file for you, then you will get a passcode that allows you to log in. Obviously, the more of us who "opt-in," the more useful this tool will be. Go to <https://covenantcommunitypc.churchcenter.com/directory/people> to get started. Call or email the church office with questions.

IN-PERSON WORSHIP RESERVATIONS—Reservations for next Sunday, November 8 will open *TOMORROW* (Monday) November 9 at 9am. Please go to www.covenantcommunitypc.org/reservations for the 10am service. You can also call the church office at 715-359-6467.

BIBLE STUDIES & SMALL GROUPS

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM—We continue our new Bible study on the first six "minor" prophets: Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, and Nahum *THIS* Tuesday, November 10, at noon. Remember that you can purchase the study book for \$9 by visiting the church building, or by contacting Jim Gates (jim@covenantcommunitypc.org). All men are welcome!

PRAYER MEETINGS RESUME—With the conclusion of our Fall L.I.F.E. classes, we will resume our Prayer Meetings via Zoom every Wednesday night at 6pm, beginning *THIS* Wednesday, November 11. All are welcome! To join the Zoom meeting, go to:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82054635060?pwd=MTkzOGJqMFRWamxrMy9CSHBwcUMrUT09>
Meeting ID: 820 5463 5060 Passcode: 711155

YOUTH, CHILDREN & FAMILY

KID'S GAME NIGHT—Elementary kids... *THIS IS FOR YOU!* Join us on Zoom for a fun night of games... and maybe some prizes (to be mailed if you win). This will take place *THIS* Wednesday, November 11 at 6pm. If you would like to participate, please contact Amanda Fuls (amanda@covenantcommunitypc.org) for Zoom login instructions.

YOUTH GROUP VIA ZOOM—All students grades 6th-12th grade are invited to join us online, using Zoom, *THIS* coming Wednesday at 6pm. If you would like to see video messages and materials from previous weeks, please go to <https://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/youth-group>. If you have any questions, contact Dan Frost (dan@covenantcommunitypc.org).

YOUTH I.D. VIA ZOOM—Youth Institute of Discipleship has *THREE* classes (6th & 7th; Confirmation; 9th & 12th) via Zoom at 9am every Sunday morning. For more information, please visit <http://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/sunday-school-2> for more information, or contact Dan Frost (dan@covenantcommunitypc.org).

KIDS I.D. VIA ZOOM—Kids I.D. is all about growing closer to God through Bible knowledge. We have special plans for the kiddos so that they are not just sitting in front of a screen! All kids start in a large group via Zoom and then breakout into two groups (PreK-1st & 2nd-5th grades). Each group will need their own device. Join us every Sunday at 9am. Learn more at <https://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/sunday-school-1>.

OTHER

SCRIP PROGRAM—For all of your upcoming gift needs, there is a Scrip table set up in the Narthex! This is a self-serve table that includes blank order forms, extra envelopes for those prepaying with check or cash, and a collection box for said forms and payments. Pens will be available with the understanding that you must keep the pen you use. If you have any questions, please contact Pam Higgins (715-573-8067).