

LIVE STREAMING

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

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Communications Coordinator - Drew Bouché

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Director of Music Ministries - Les Fraaza

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Choir Director - Deb Perrin

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Contemporary Music Director - Orlando diValentin

orlando@covenantcommunitypc.org

Accompanist & Bell Choir Director - JeHae Kim-Bixby

jehae@covenantcommunitypc.org

Housekeeper - Carol Anklam

Church Office

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

1806 Weston Avenue, Schofield, WI 54476

www.covenantcommunitypc.org



COVENANT COMMUNITY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4TH, 2022 - 10 A.M.

A FRESH START: REPEAT

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude: "Jesu, Our Joy, We Adore Thee" JeHae Kim-Bixby

Quiet Reflection and Preparation for Worship:

The first words of the Bible are "in the beginning." We know that God was there at the beginning of all things; and that even today, God is the source of new beginnings. As we prepare for worship, consider where Christ has already been the source of blessing in your life, and in what parts of your life you hope the Spirit will inspire something new to spring forth.

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle: The Phillips Family

The second Advent candle is the candle of peace. The peace of Scripture is not the absence of war;

It is life rightly ordered with God, each other, and creation.

Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives.

Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."

Amidst the storms of life, Jesus offers shelter, reconciliation, and wholeness.

Confident of his promise, we come to worship the Prince of Peace.

***Hymn:** "People, Look East" (vs. 1,4,5) #105

***Call to Confession:** Psalm 78: 40-41

In the 40 years in the wilderness, our spiritual ancestors stumbled in sin repeatedly. The author of Psalm 78 says, "How often they rebelled against God in the wilderness and grieved him in the desert! They tested God again and again and provoked the Holy One of Israel." We also fall into patterns of sin. Let us therefore pray this prayer together.

***Prayer of Confession:**

Holy One, like our ancestors, we repeat the same sins again and again. We put you to the test but resist accountability for ourselves. We grow older but not always wiser. We struggle to learn from our mistakes.

Break our patterns of repeated sin, just as you break the powers and principalities of our world. Grant the grace we need so that in this new beginning, we can become like Jesus.

(We keep a moment of silence for reflection)

FAMILY MISSION CAMP 2023 — The 2023 Family Mission Camp will be at Spencer Lake Christian Center in Waupaca. We have partnered with local and global organizations to make an impact at home, and around the world. This will take place August 18-20. For more details and to register your family, go to: <https://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/all-family-mission-trip>.

BIBLE STUDIES & SMALL GROUPS

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY — Our study of the Gospel of John continues *THIS* Tuesday, December 6 for the women (meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month). All women are welcome!

WEDNESDAY ADULT L.I.F.E. — Continuing *THIS* Wednesday, December 7, our adult L.I.F.E. class is discussing "Three Things that Terrify Christians". Those are: *praying in public, sharing the gospel, and finding it in the Bible*. If you've ever worried about any of these, you're in good company. Join us Wednesday nights from 6-7pm to conquer your fears and become an instant expert in all three areas!

RETIRED SINGLES SMALL GROUP — The Retired Singles small group will be meeting for dinner at Wish Steakhouse (E. Jelinek Ave. in Schofield) *THIS* Thursday, December 8 at 5pm, instead of their regular gathering on Wednesday.

ADVENT STUDY GUIDE 2022 — This year's Advent Study Guide, craft project, and candles can be found in the Narthex between the two red chairs. You can also print a version of the booklet by going to our website.

ADVENT STUDY ON THE BIBLE APP — We are continuing an Advent-themed daily devotional together utilizing the free Bible app (available on the Apple App Store or Google Play Store). Use the link in tomorrow's Covenant Connection email.

YOUTH, CHILDREN & FAMILY

CCPC KID'S CHRISTMAS SHOW — CCPC Kids presents "Twas the Night Before" on Sunday, December 18 at 2pm! Our kids and family members are working hard to bring us this amazing story of the anticipation of the coming of our Savior. Let's show our kids and families some support by coming and enjoying the show! This show will be live streamed for those parents/grandparents who are out of town.

YOUTH GROUP RETREATS 2023 — Our Salt & Light Youth will have a unique opportunity in the summer of 2023, as they will embark on youth retreats for both middle school and high school. From June 18-23, 9th through 12th graders will be headed to "Quest" in Green Lake, WI, while the 6th through 8th graders will attend "The Great Escape" from July 10-15, also in Green Lake. These *GROUP* experiences are not just another "summer camp." They are periods of fun, spiritual growth and relationship building with youth and leaders from your home church. Stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks!

CCPC BUDGET/ATTENDANCE

THROUGH OCTOBER 2022:

Budgeted Operating Revenues: **\$460,634**
Actual Operating Revenues: **\$480,254**
Budgeted Operating Expenses: **\$456,993**
Actual Operating Expenses: **\$450,648**

NOVEMBER 27 ATTENDANCE:

AM In-Person Total: **239**
AM Livestream Total: **96**
PM In-Person Total: **57**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS EVE/DAY SERVICES— Come celebrate the birth of our Savior on Christmas Eve with a family-focused service at 4pm and a traditional service at 6pm. We will have a Christmas morning service (10am) to include Scripture readings and carols (no Fellowship Hour). There will not be a 6pm service that day.

HIRING AT CCPC— CCPC is hiring a 20 hr/week Office Manager. This is a Monday-Friday position, and involves both office management and administrative support. To find out more, visit our website. If you are interested in applying, send your resume to Jim Gates (jim@covenantcommunitypc.org), or contact him with questions.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2023— Our Stewardship Campaign 2023, "Humble Beginning, Bright Future," continues! Pledge cards are available in the Narthex. You can also make your pledge online by going to <https://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/give>. As of this past Wednesday, November 30, **we've had 138 pledges totaling \$463,901** of our \$450,000 goal! Contact Jim Gates (jim@covenantcommunitypc.org) with questions.

OLD GUYS RULE/LUNCH BUNCH POTLUCK 2022 — The Old Guys Rule and Lunch Bunch are excited to invite everyone to the annual Christmas potluck **THIS** Thursday, December 8 at 11:30am. There will be a \$2 fee and we invite all to bring a dish to pass. A signup sheet is available by the name tags. Fees can be paid at The Hub.

MISSIONS & VOLUNTEERING

CHRISTMAS DINNER — We are excited to once again provide a Christmas Day meal for folks in our community. There will be an in-person meal in our Fellowship Hall on the 25th, from 11am-12pm, as well as deliveries! If you know people who might be interested, have them call the church to RSVP for either in-person or deliveries. (**PLEASE NOTE: This meal is for our greater community, not specifically for our church family.**) If you would like to make cookies for the meal or deliver, contact Sharon Maltbey (715-573-7427 or sharon.maltbey@gmail.com)

HEARTS OF HOPE HEART ADOPTION — Our Hearts of Hope heart adoption continues! Please stop by The Hub today, or following Sundays, to adopt all the hearts for a specific child, or hearts for the entire family. You can also adopt single gifts **ONLINE** at <https://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/hearts-of-hope>. Monetary donations can be placed in the red envelopes found at The Hub or online at the address above. The deadline to have all gifts turned in to the church is December 11. To volunteer your time preparing for the December 17 pickup day, or by contributing cookies for the families, please signup at The Hub.

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING — We continue our church tradition of supporting the Salvation Army by bell ringing at the Pick N Save in the Cedar Creek Mall from 10am-4pm **THIS** Saturday, December 10. If you and your family would like to sign up for a 1-hour time slot, please go to <https://www.registertoring.com> and use the group code **ccpc19**. If you have any questions, please contact Dan Frost at dan@covenantcommunitypc.org.

2023 AUCTION PHONE CALL VOLUNTEERS — We are in the beginning phase of our 2023 Mission Auction, which includes distributing information and contacting local businesses and individuals for the purpose of item donations. If you would like to help call businesses, please sign up at the counter by the name tags or mark your interest on today's Connection Card.

*Assurance of Pardon:

Psalm 103:11-12

There is no limit to the forgiveness of our God. "For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us." Believe the good news – no amount of sin can separate us from the love of God in Christ our Lord. Thanks be to him! Amen.

*Gloria Patri

Children's Message

Period of Fellowship

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Old Testament Reading:	Genesis 9:18-28	Page 7
Special Music:	"Bethlehem Wind"	CCPC Choir
New Testament Reading:	Luke 1:39-56	Page 57
Sermon:	"A Fresh Start: Repeat"	Jim Gates

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Hymn:** "Come, Thou Long - Expected Jesus" (vs. 1,2) #82

The Sacrament of Communion

Offering

Offertory Music: "We Are the Reason" JeHae Kim-Bixby

*Doxology

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*Benediction

***Choral Benediction:** "Prepare the Way, O Zion" (vs. 1) #106

Postlude: JeHae Kim-Bixby

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 located across from the sanctuary
- † Activity bags for children are available in the Narthex.

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: Stephanie Finamore **Gatekeeper:** Brandon Lamping
Acolytes: Eli Baumann & Zach Fuls **Livestream:** Derek Nelson
Elder Greeter: Scott Bouffleur **Slides:** Luke Coenen
The Hub: Terri Goldsworthy **Usher Lead:** Jeff Kibler

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)

Joyce Michna
(Fond du Lac)

Mike Petterson
(Pride TLC)

Stella Lamping
(Home)

Cheryl Lenz
(Colonial Center in Colby)

THIS WEEK AT CCPC

SERVICE... DISCIPLESHIP... ENGAGEMENT!

<u>TODAY</u>		<u>MONDAY</u>		<u>TUESDAY</u>		<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	
9AM	I.D./CONFIRM.	6PM	DARTBALL AT HOME	12PM	WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY	6PM	YOUTH GROUP
9AM	KID'S MUSIC			6PM	CELEBRATE RECOVERY	6PM	KID'S/ADULT L.I.F.E.
10AM	WORSHIP					6PM	BELL CHOIR PRACTICE
11:15AM	WOMEN'S SM. GRP.					7PM	ADULT CHOIR PRACTICE
11:15AM	FROST SM. GRP.						
4PM	BAND REHEARSAL						
6PM	WORSHIP						
<u>THURSDAY</u>		<u>FRIDAY</u>		<u>SATURDAY</u>		<u>SUNDAY</u>	
11:30AM	LUNCH BUNCH/ OLD GUYS RULE CHRISTMAS POTLUCK					9AM	I.D./CONFIRM.
						9AM	KID'S MUSIC
2PM	SHEEPSHEAD					10AM	WORSHIP
4:30PM	FAITH & FITNESS					11:15AM	WOMEN'S SM. GRP.
						11:15AM	FROST SM. GRP.
						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.