

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

Director of Children & Family Ministries - Amanda Fuls

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

Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries - Dan Frost

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Director of Music Ministries - Les Fraaza

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Communications & Evangelism Coordinator - Drew Bouché

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Office Manager/Bookkeeper - John Jacobs

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Choir Director - Deb Perrin

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Accompanist & Bell Choir Director - JeHae Kim-Bixby

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Housekeeper - Carol Anklam

Church Office

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

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www.covenantcommunitypc.org



COVENANT COMMUNITY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embracing all. Feeding spirits. Reflecting Christ...

Changing lives forever!

JESUS' VISION



THE GROWING
KINGDOM
OF GOD



Seeing & Following Courageously

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH, 2021 - 10 A.M.

JESUS' VISION:
A KINGDOM
OF GRACE

Prelude: "There is a Redeemer" JeHae Kim-Bixby

Quiet Reflection and Preparation for Worship:

Scripture challenges us to walk by faith, not by sight; to see the world through the eyes of Christ. What present, and future, does Jesus see when looking at our world? At your life? Where does God's vision compliment or conflict with the dreams you have for yourself, or the expectations others have for you? Prayerfully reflect this morning on how you might come to see God's vision with greater clarity.

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of the Candles:

Call to Worship: Psalm 100:1-2, 5

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.

Worship the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing.

For the LORD is good;

His steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

***Hymn:** "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" (vs. 1,5) #610
 "God of Grace and God of Glory" (vs. 1) #307

***Call to Confession:**

Nehemiah reminds us that throughout our history we have sinned in cycles. We sin, we repent, we repeat. Today, we come not only to repent, but to seek to break the cycle of sin and live wholly with Christ. To that end, let us join together in prayer.

***Prayer of Confession:**

Like wayward children, O LORD, we have seized the reigns of our lives from you, only relinquishing them when it is clear we cannot maintain control on our own. We earnestly repent in our moments of crisis or insight, but then quickly return to our self-oriented lives when those moments pass. Forgive us for failing to step out of the cycle of sin.

Lord Jesus, you came as the embodiment of God's grace, to break this cycle and free us to live fully as You intended. Shock us with the magnitude of that grace today, so that we will not return to old patterns, but begin to live as new creations. Holy Spirit, equip us to live, love, and forgive as little Christs today.

(We keep a moment of silence for reflection)

HEARTS OF HOPE BLANKETS NEEDED—The Hearts of Hope ministry is in need of tie, knit, or any handmade blankets from church members, or organizations outside the church, to give to each family. The goal is to collect 100 blankets by December 1. Please contact Sarah Luedtke (sluedtke@sluedtkecom) with any inquiries.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY—The men's study continues in the Book of Hebrews *THIS* Tuesday, September 28 at noon. All are welcome to join us for food, fellowship, and discipleship.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY—CCPC will be the newest host of Celebrate Recovery Ministries. This Bible-centered, twelve-step ministry will begin meeting at the church on Tuesday, October 5 at 6:45pm for those looking for healing and restoration from addiction, depression, anger, abuse, grief, and any other form of heavy burden. Our group leaders have been preparing for months to lead a safe, discrete, loving group that can walk beside you throughout this process of growth. Meetings are open to anyone... from our church or any other walk of life. It is a community group. Please contact Drew Bouché (drew@covenantcommunitypc.org) with any questions.

SALT & LIGHT YOUTH GROUP—Our Salt & Light Youth Group is a little different this year. Students who are in 6th through 8th grades are gathering on Wednesdays at 6pm, **BUT NOT THIS WEEK**. Our 9th through 12th graders will meet on Sunday nights at 6pm, **BUT WILL NOT MEET TONIGHT**. Both groups are diving into the Book of James in a series entitled, "Faith That Works." Spread the word and invite friends as we kickoff a new year of being salt of the earth and light unto the world! Contact Dan Frost (dan@covenantcommunitypc.org) with any questions.

FAMILY FUN DAY 2021—Our Family Fun Day at Schairer's Autumn Acres returns **NEXT** Sunday, October 3 from 12-3pm (Packer game is at 3:30). Gather up the kids, grandparents and neighborhood friends for an afternoon of corn maze fun, along with hay rides, games, hot chocolate, and yummy fall food! There is no cost, but we do ask that you have a ticket for each person when you show up. Tickets are \$5 each and can be purchased at the Hub! If you have any questions, please speak with Amanda Fuls (amanda@covenantcommunitypc.org).

PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS FOR OCTOBER

- Family Fun Day - **October 3**
- MS Girls Lock-in - **October 15**
- Celebrate Recovery - **October 5**
- HS Harvest Fest - **October 16**
- MS Boys Camping - **October 15**
- Fall Service Day - **October 23**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOMINATIONS FOR DEACONS AND ELDERS— If you would like to nominate someone as a potential deacon or elder, please send any suggestions to Jim Gates at jim@covenantcommunitypc.org.

MORTGAGE MATCHING GIFT— We have been blessed with a **\$45,000** matching gift challenge, all of which will go towards our mortgage on the sanctuary and CE wing from 2008. All donations of any size qualify for this match! If we can complete this entire match before December 31, we will completely pay off our mortgage this year! To donate, simply put "mortgage match" on your check or give online to the matching gift fund.

READING THROUGH THE BIBLE TOGETHER—We are near the end of the New Testament! We are currently in a study of the Book of Revelation (chapter 14 as of today) on the YouVersion Bible app! You can join by downloading the app and using this link (or using this link on your desktop): <https://bible.com/p/45590551/70fc868539e60ab8c1fd383d98899d1d> Don't want to use technology? Follow along with a chapter-a-day in your hard-copy Bible! Contact Jim Gates (jim@covenantcommunitypc.org) with any questions.

INSTITUTE OF DISCIPLESHIP (I.D.) FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY—Our Institute of Discipleship (I.D.) classes continue at 9am for the whole family every Sunday! Adult classes include "Finding God's Vision for You" and "The Bible Project", while the Kid's I.D. lineup includes "Big Bible/Big Church" for our 3rd graders and up. High school and middle schoolers will have their own classes, including Confirmation. We will have discipleship for pre-K through adults! Visit our website for more information on all!

CHOIR PRACTICES— **Adult Choir** - Practices continue every Wednesday from 7-8pm. Please contact Deb Perrin (715-432-1155) or Les Fraaza (715-574-2059) if you want to join, or if you have any questions. **Bell Choir** - Practices continue every Wednesday from 6-7pm. If you are interested in joining the group, you can contact JeHae Kim-Bixby (715-310-0820). **Kid's Choir** - Practices continue every Wednesday from 6-6:45pm. Please contact Deb Perrin (715-432-1155) if you have any questions.

KID'S & ADULT L.I.F.E. EVERY WEDNESDAY—Our Kid's and adult L.I.F.E. classes occur **EVERY WEDNESDAY** at 6pm (Kid's L.I.F.E. will run until 7:30pm), rather than our previous, seasonal schedule. Plan for weekly discipleship for the whole family on Wednesday nights, continuing **THIS WEEK**, September 29 with dinner (French toadsticks, sausage, fruit, and dessert) at 5:30pm. You can pay for your individual meals (\$7/adults \$5/kids; 8-meal packages available) when you arrive, or on our website at: www.covenantcommunitypc.org/payments. Adults will be continuing a course entitled, "God's Remnant: Being a Spiritual Minority." Join us any time and check out our website to view previous classes!

DARTBALL—The dartball season is in full swing and we are looking for folks who would like to join the team! Games are every Monday evening at 6pm, including tomorrow, September 27 (away game at St. Matthews). Please contact Jim Fuls at fulsfam2@mtc.net if you would like to participate.

*Assurance of Pardon:

Nehemiah 9:17

Nehemiah writes, "You are a God ready to forgive, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and you did not forsake them." Today, too, God reveals this same grace in Jesus our Lord; through him, our sins are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Gloria Patri

Children's Message:

[Children may come forward and be seated in the first two rows of pews.]

Period of Fellowship

*Hymn: "Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken" (vs. 1,3) #81

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Old Testament Reading: Nehemiah 9:16-20, 26-31 Page 438

Special Music: "Grace Us, O Lord" CCPC Choir

New Testament Reading: Matthew 18:21-35 Page 20

Sermon: Jesus' Vision: A Kingdom of Grace Jim Gates

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Hymn: "Amazon Grace/My Chains Are Gone" See screens

Pastoral Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory Music: "Grace Medley" JeHae Kim-Bixby & Marcy Fehrman

*Doxology

Welcome of New Members: Josh and Rebecca Burgener: Josh and Rebecca were both born and raised in Merrill, WI and have been married for 11 years. They are currently fostering an amazing 4-month-old named Hayzlee. They enjoy spending time with their family, including their four-footed family (2 dogs and 2 cats). They also love playing board games with friends!

Linda Vogen: Linda has been an unofficial member of our faith family, as she was CCPC's Bookkeeper for 10 great years! Leaving that position was her "second retirement" after ending a 30-year career at Wausau Insurance/Liberty Mutual. Linda has a daughter, Lisa, son-in-law Marc and grandchildren Oliver, Amelia, and James who live in Illinois. She enjoys reading, genealogy and birding with her special friend, John.

*Welcome Song: "Blest Be the Tie that Binds" (vs. 1) #306

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction: "Blest are They" (vs. 3) #172

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

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 or Drew Bouché, 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/PERFORMERS

Thank you to all who make this morning's worship meaningful!

Worship Leader: Deb Tice
Elder Greeters: Kari Kufahl & Lynda Reis
The HUB: Dianne Abel
Acolytes: Eli Baumann & Jaelyn Nelson
Live Stream: Abram Bouché
Slides: Megan Bouché
Fellowship: Tom & Carol Anklam

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

Tom Scott (Home)
Dee Jenkins (Home)
Don Hawkins (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. 10AM WORSHIP 11:15AM FELLOWSHIP	6PM DARTBALL	NOON MEN'S BIBLE STUDY	5:30PM DINNER 6PM KID'S/ADULT L.I.F.E. 6PM KID'S CHOIR PRACT. 6PM BELL CHOIR PRACT. 7PM CHOIR PRACTICE
<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>	<u>SUNDAY</u>
2PM SHEEPSHEAD			9AM I.D. 10AM WORSHIP 11:15AM FELLOWSHIP 6PM HS YOUTH GROUP

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.