

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

drew@covenantcommunitypc.org

Assistant to the Senior Pastor - Raissa Dupuis

raissa@covenantcommunitypc.org

Office Manager - Cyndi Schneider

cyndi@covenantcommunitypc.org

Church Accountant - Renee Radtke

renee@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

Church Office

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

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www.covenantcommunitypc.org



SEEING THE MESSIAH CCPC CHRISTMAS EVE

DECEMBER 24, 2023
6PM TRADITIONAL SERVICE



EMBRACING ALL. FEEDING SPIRITS. REFLECTING CHRIST...
CHANGING LIVES FOREVER!

Prelude: "Songs of Christmas" Les Fraaza

Quiet Reflection and Preparation for Worship:

Tonight we remember the birth of Messiah, and look forward to His return. Amidst all the self-imposed busyness of this season, may tonight be a moment of peace. We invite you to prepare your hearts and your lives for the Son of God.

Welcome & Announcements

Lighting of the Candles: "Gabriel's Message" Kent & Deb Perrin

Lighting of the Christ Candle: Micah 5:2-5
The Fraaza Family

But you, O Bethlehem, who are one of the little clans of Judah,

From you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth;

Then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God;

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth, and he shall be the one of peace.

***Carols:** "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" (vs. 1) #119
"O Little Town of Bethlehem" (vs. 1) #121
"O Come, All Ye Faithful" (vs. 1,3) #133

***Prayer of Adoration:**

Tonight, O Father, we join together with shepherds and angels, magi and stars, to proclaim the birth of your Son. Together we join our voices in prayer and worship of a baby named Jesus.

Tonight, O Jesus, we remember your entrance into our world. You are the Word become flesh, the Light in the darkness, the Hope to the hopeless. Your birth brought us to life.

Tonight, O Holy Spirit, we long to be filled by your presence. You are Emmanuel. Open the eyes of our hearts, that the miracle of the incarnation could be near and new to us tonight, tomorrow, and in every day of our earthly sojourn.

MEN'S & WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY:

The men's and women's Bible study is currently studying the book of Isaiah. Our women meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month and the men meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays (both at 12pm). Note that we will not meet December 26, but will return with the women meeting on January 2. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Gates at jim@covenantcommunitypc.org.

Youth, Children, & Family

CCPC YOUTH GROUP:

Youth Group continues every Wednesday night with Middle School meeting from 6-7:30pm and High School meeting from 6:30-8pm. We do separate Bible Study times, but combine for our crazy games. Checkout a new calendar of fun events (Jan-May) at The Hub! Note that we will not meet on December 27 or January 3, but will resume January 10.



THE GREAT ESCAPE 2024:

We are excited to be returning to The Great Escape in Green Lake, WI July 8-13! All rising 6th-9th graders are invited to go, as a group, for an amazing week of fellowship, worship, team-building, and fun! Cost for each student is \$400, with a \$100 deposit due February 18. Register on our website. Scholarships are available!



KID'S L.I.F.E.:

At Kids L.I.F.E., we gather on Wednesdays at 6pm to strengthen our friendship with Jesus and each other. Living in Faith Every Day is a bright spot in our week and there is a group for every age! Note that we will not meet on December 27 or January 3, but will resume January 10.

WORSHIP & WIGGLES:

Worship & Wiggles will be for 2 and 3-year-olds during Sunday worship. It is designed for our littlest worshipers to make new friends and learn about God's love. Toddlers will gather in the Cry Room after the Children's Message dismissal, and will have Bible Story time before they "play with a purpose" and participate in the worship service from the Cry Room/Nursery. Worship & Wiggles will kickoff on Sunday, January 7.

FAMILY GAME NIGHT:

Bring the family for an evening of board and card games for all ages on Saturday, January 13 from 3-5pm. Have a special game that you'd love to teach others to play? Bring them along and share the fun! There is no signup for this wonderful evening of fun ... just come and be part of the "loving competition!"



CCPC AUCTION 2024:

Our 27th Annual Mission Auction will take place Saturday, March 2, 2024! As always, we will have an amazing array of silent auctions, with a dinner and live auction. This year, we will travel back in time to visit our “Divine Diner”, featuring classic comfort foods with an elevated twist. We’ll be selling shoes beginning at 4pm, with a pre-sale, just for shoes, on Friday March 1st from 5-7pm. Check tonight's Connection Card to help with early preparations. Contact Raissa Dupuis (raissa@covenantcommunitypc.org) with any questions.



COSTA RICA 2024:

CCPC will be sending a team to Costa Rica June 22-29, 2024, in partnership with Praying Pelican Missions. This trip is open to rising 9th graders and older, and will be participating in homeless ministry, feeding programs, medical clinics, church projects, and one fun excursion! Cost is \$1,300 for adults and \$1,000 for students, which includes the flight and accommodations in Costa Rica. A \$200 deposit is required to hold your spot for the trip and can be paid on our website, as well as in person to the office.

Bible Studies & Small Groups

BIBLE APP STUDY:

Join Jim Gates in reading the entire Bible this year in Chronological order using the Bible App by YouVersion. See where each prophet fits into the story of Israel; see where each of Paul's letters fit into the story of the early church! This will begin January 1. Download the Bible App from the Apple Store or Google Play for free, and find the link to the study in the January 1 Covenant Connection email.



CELEBRATE RECOVERY:

Celebrate Recovery Ministries is a Bible-centered, recovery ministry that meets every Tuesday at 6pm in Bouldin Hall. It is for those who struggle with ANY hurt, hangup, or habit... from grief and depression, to addiction and emotional struggles. Meetings are open to anyone... from our church or any other walk of life. It is a community group.

ADULT L.I.F.E.:

Adult L.I.F.E. will begin a new format starting January 10 with a Sermon Discussion Group. All adults are invited to join us from 6-7pm in the Cry Room to dig deeper into the latest sermon.

I.D. FOR ALL AGES:

Our I.D. classes for all ages meets every Sunday from 9am-9:50am. All are welcome! Note that we will not have I.D. on December 31, but will start up again on January 7.

*Period of Fellowship:

Welcome one another in the name of Jesus.

Special Music: “Long, Long Time Ago” CCPC Choir

Proclaiming the Word

Christmas Gospel Reading: Luke 2:1-20 Pg. 58

Gospel of Mark Reading: Mark 8:22-30 Pg. 43

Sermon: “Seeing the Messiah”
Jim Gates

Responding to the Word

***Carols:** “Away in a Manger” (vs. 1) #115
“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” (vs. 1,5) #123

***Christmas Affirmation:** Apostles 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.

Offering

Offertory Music: “He Shall Reign Forevermore”
Caroline Kibler

Bearing and Following the Word into the World

Lighting of the Christmas Candles

***Carols:** “Silent Night” (vs. 1,2,3) #122
“Joy to the World” (vs. 1,2,4) #134

*Benediction

Postlude: Les Fraaza

Welcome to CCPC!

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

For those of you visiting with us for the first time, we'd like to give you a gift! Please see the table in the Narthex for a copy of John Ortberg's "What is God's Will for My Life?" Take one as a thank you for being with us this Christmas Eve!

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!

Get Connected with Us!



Subscribe to:
CCPC Productions and CCPC Kids Ministry



Like us at:
covenantcommunitypresbyterianchurch



Follow Us at:
ccpcschfld and covenantcommunitypc_kids

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.

Announcements



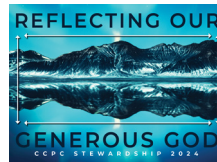
NEW YEAR'S EVE WORSHIP:

Join us NEXT Sunday, December 31 at 10am for a service filled with Scripture and carols. Help us ring in the new year while singing a new song! We will not

have our 9am I.D. hour, Children's Church, fellowship hour, or the 6pm service on that day.

CCPC 101:

Would you like to know more about CCPC, our beliefs, and our ministries? Thinking about making this your church home? Join us in the Bouldin Hall conference room immediately following worship on Sunday, January 14. Please RSVP to Raissa Dupuis (raissa@covenantcommunitypc.org). Food and childcare is provided for this event.



STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2024:

We have had an amazing response to our call to stewardship in 2024 and have certainly Reflected Our Generous God! As of December 18, we have 151 pledges for \$508,022. This includes 19 new pledging families! Thank you to everyone for your generosity in supporting our faith family. If you have not submitted a pledge but would like to do so, visit our website or ask for a pledge card at The Hub.

TEXT MESSAGE COMMUNICATIONS:

We are excited bring back text message communications! We want to make sure that this is a protected and hassle free experience for all of our faith family. To that end, we want to give you the chance to opt-in to this opportunity, if you haven't done so already. You can go to our website, check the Monday emails, or mark your Connection Card on Sunday mornings.

CHURCH CENTER APP:

Did you know we have an app for church? We do! The Church Center App can be downloaded in the Apple Store and on Google Play. The app is a great way to access the online directory, as well as online giving, filling out a connection card, and staying up-to-date with upcoming events. Download it today and stop by the church for any help setting it up!

Missions/Volunteering

CHRISTMAS DINNER:

CCPC continues its tradition of a free meal on Christmas Day for our community. We will have an in-person meal as well as deliveries to folks all over the Wausau area, TOMORROW at 11am. It is not too late to help out! If you would like to serve or deliver meals, please be at the church by 10:30am.