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**SESSION MEMBERS** 

Scott Bouffleur
Joy Briggs
Bob Gebauer
Kari Kufahl
Glenn Lamping (Clerk)
Julie Nelson
Lynda Reis
Sheldon Rouse
Sue Thompson
Deb Tice
Julie Trebus
Shelby Waraksa

# DEACONS Lidy Bees

Judy Beese
Tom Daman (Chair)
Gina Freels
Derek Hawley
Fred Hillman
Joe Johnson
Mike Johnson
Brett Kim-Bixby
Beth Kohnert
Sarah Maciaz
Amy Snow
Sue Taylor
Jeff Theilig
Nicki Wensel

Bev Werner

Jim Gates – *Pastor* 

# Covenant Community Presbyterian Church

1806 Weston Avenue Schofield, WI 54476

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
WAUSAU, WI
PERMIT NO. 36

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED



DECEMBER 2023 & JANUARY 2024

# **NEWS & NOTES AT CCPC**



## O.G. SERIES CONTINUES

(Advent Mini-Series in December): Throughout the season of Advent, we will reflect on asking for "Our Daily Bread." This section of Mark begins with the feeding of the 5,000 (Mark 6:6-52) and ends with the feeding of the 4,000, but the focus is on the feeding of our spirits. Advent is the season where we prepare for the coming of Jesus and remember his first arrival – but in the in-between time, we rely on Christ for the

manna for our hearts and souls. Join us this Advent season!

# **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**

**(December 24 at 4 & 6pm)**: Though Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year, we will only have two evening services (no a.m.). At 4pm we will have a family-focused service, with traditional worship to follow at 6pm. Invite friends and family!

## LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

(Thursday, December 21 at 6pm): While Christmas is ordinarily a time of joy and celebration, many challenges can make facing the holiday season difficult. To support those for whom this season brings complex feelings, we will offer a special service on December 21 - the longest night of the year - at 6pm. If you know someone in need of encouragement this holiday season, please invite them to join you for this special worship service. All are invited and welcome.

# CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON/POTLUCK

(Thursday, December 14 at 12pm): All are invited to the Annual Luncheon/Potluck, a Christmas tradition at CCPC, hosted by the Lunch Bunch and Old Guys Rule. Join us for wonderful food and Christmas Carols (led by Ron Pufall) on Thursday, December 14 at 12pm (punch at 11:30am). There is a signup at The Hub and we ask for a \$2 contribution per person to cover the cost (paid to Bob Warner or Ruth Wrysinski).

# CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE

**(Sundays at 6pm)**: As the new year approaches, we know that there are people in our community who will be looking for a church home. Many of them will be interested in a contemporary style worship like the one that we provide at 6pm. Help us spread the word about a casual, family-friendly, energetic service at CCPC!

# **STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN 2024**

(Make Your Pledge Today!): CCPC's 2024
Stewardship Campaign, "Reflecting Our Generous God", has been a huge success. We thank all who made the commitment to support all of our ministries here at CCPC. As of November 28, we have had 138 pledges with a total of \$476,922! If you have not pledged yet but would like to, you can do so on our website or by picking up a pledge card at church.



# SAVE-THE-DATE: CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

**(Sunday, February 4 at 10am Service)**: Mark your calendars for a congregational meeting on February 4, 2024. \**Date subject to change.* 

# **ELDER & DEACON NOMINEES**

**(Submit Candidates Today!)**: The Nominating Committee is accepting nominations for Elder and Deacon! If you would like to submit someone's name for either role, please contact Tom Wrysinski (chair) or Jim Gates.

# **BUY SCRIP**

**(Shop and Give All at Once)**: The holiday season is a great time to visit the Scrip table in the Narthex to find all of your gift-giving needs, while supporting our church at the same time! Scrip is an easy way to help earn money for our church community by purchasing everyday items such as groceries, gas, clothing, gifts, entertainment, home improvements, pet care, and much more! We will have special order and delivery days in December, so visit the Srip table on Sundays! If you have any questions about this ministry, please contact Brett Kim-Bixby at *brett.irb@gmail.com*.



# TEXT MESSAGE COMMUNICATIONS (Opt-In Today to Receive Church News & Updates):

We are so excited for the return of text message communications at CCPC! This is a wonderful tool for announcements and updates to be sent directly to your mobile device. 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. You can do so by going

to our website, checking the Monday emails, or marking your Connection Card on Sunday mornings.

# **CHURCH CENTER APP**

**(Stay Connected on Any Device)**: 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!

# CCPC COOKBOOKS FOR SALE

(\$30 for a Wonderful Gift or Keepsake): Our church cookbook "Not by Bread Alone" is available to purchase for \$30. There are so many recipes to help your family get together this fall for a good meal... and they make a great Christmas gift, as well! All proceeds are going to our kitchen fund. Books are available for purchase at The Hub and on our website.



# **ADULT STUDIES/FELLOWSHIP**

### ADUIT LD.

**(Every Sunday at 9am)**: Our Adult I.D. class meets in the Cry Room every Sunday from 9am-9:50am. All adults are welcome! *Note that we will not have I.D. on December 24 or 31, but will start up again on January 7.* 

# **MEN'S & WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

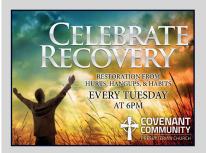
**(Every Tuesday at 12pm)**: The men's and women's Bible study is currently studying the book of Isaiah. Our women meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month and the men meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays. The groups will occasionally meet together throughout the year, so stay tuned. Whether together or separate, we will always meet from 12-1pm. *Note that we will not meet December 19 or 26, but will return with the women meeting on January 2.* 

# ADULT L.I.F.E.

**(Every Wednesday at 6pm)**: 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. *Note that we will not meet on December 27 or January 3, but will resume January 10.* 

# **ONLINE ADVENT STUDY**

**(Using the Bible App)**: Beginning December 1, we will be in an Advent study 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 to get involved.



### CFI FRRATE RECOVERY

(Meets Every Tuesday at 6pm): 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 ANYhurt, 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. Contact Drew Bouché (drew@covenantcommunitypc.org) with any questions.

# **OLD GUYS RULE**

**(2nd Thursday of the Month at 11:45am)**: The Old Guys Rule invite all men to join them at 11:45am every 2nd Thursday of the month at Pizza Ranch in Weston. This group meets to have fellowship and food with other men of God, and to form lasting relationships. Please contact Bob Warner (bobw4860@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

## **LUNCH BUNCH**

**(2nd Thursday of the Month at 10am; Lunch at 12pm)**: All women are invited to a time of crafts, fellowship, devotionals, and food every 2nd Thursday of the month. Projects begin at 10am, with lunch (bring your own) beginning at 12pm. Contact Ruth Wrysinski (ruthiewry@charter.net) or Colleen Geurink (cgeurink@charter.net) with questions.

# KIDS, YOUTH, & FAMILIES

# WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP

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

# YOUTH I.D.

**(Sundays at 9am)**: 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. *Note that we will not have I.D. on December 24 or 31, but will start up again on January 7.* 



# **THE GREAT ESCAPE 2024**

(July 8-13): We are excited to be returning to The Great Escape in Green Lake, WI July 8-13! All rising 6th-12th graders are invited to go, as a group, for an amazing week of fellowship, worship, teambuilding, and fun! Cost for each student is \$400, with a \$100 deposit due February 18. Register on our website. Scholarships are available!

# KIDS I.D.

**(Sundays at 9am)**: Kids can show up for I.D. every Sunday at 9am! The preschoolers through 3rd-graders are studying the Heart of God, while our 4th and 5th graders are on a Route 66 journey through all 66 books of the Bible. *Note that we will not have I.D. on December 24 or 31, but will start up again on January 7.* 

# KIDS L.I.F.E.

**(Wednesdays at 6pm)**: At Kids L.I.F.E., we gather on Wednesdays at 6pm to strengthen our friendship with Jesus and each other. We learn songs to share in worship, commit memory verses to heart, discover a new Bible truth each week, and play games that help us apply what we are learning! 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.* 

## "STELLAR CHRISTMAS" PROGRAM

(Sunday, December 16 at 2pm): Christmas program practices will continue on Wednesday nights during Kids L.I.F.E. in December. We will also have a dress rehearsal on December 13, and a final practice on Saturday, December 16 in the morning. "A Stellar Christmas" will take place Sunday, December 17 at 2pm and will be livestreamed for family that cannot be there in person!



# **WORSHIP & WIGGLES**

**(Begins Sunday, January 7)**: Worship & Wiggles is 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.

# MISSIONS/VOLUNTEERING



# **HEARTS OF HOPE 2023**

(Deadlines and Volunteers): The Hearts of Hope heart adoptions have been a wonderful success! Remember that if you have gifts for the kids and families, the drop off is December 10, and the pickup date for families is December 16. You can also contribute monetarily by dropping a red envelope (in the Narthex or at the Hub) in the offering plates Sunday morning, or by going to our website. We are still looking for volunteers to help

us on pickup day! Contact Sue Thompson to get involved (smthomp313@gmail.com).

# **CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER**

(In-Person and Deliveries): CCPC continues its tradition of providing 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 (in-person begins at 11am). Deadline to reserve meals is December 20. If you would like to help in any way, including deliveries, please contact Sharon Maltbey (sharon.maltbey@gmail.com). Note that we will also be looking for Christmas cookies and treats to be donated for the meals!



# SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING

(December 9; Register for 1-Hour Slots): We are still looking to fill hour-long slots (or more if you'd like) to bell ring for the Salvation Army at the Schofield Pick 'N Save (2806 Schofield Ave.) on December 9 (10am-2pm). To register, visit (https://www.registertoring.com/) and go to "I'm Ringing with a Group." Then enter our church's code: CCPCRingers. You can then pick a time within our church's scheduled hours. Make sure to set up an account first!

# **COLLEGE/TECH STUDENT CHRISTMAS GIFTS**

**(Remembering Those at School)**: Parents of sons or daughters attending college or tech school: The Deacons would like to remember your young adults during Christmas by sending a small gift. Contact the church office with your student's mailing address. Thank you from the Deacons!

# **MISSION AUCTION 2024**

(Saturday, March 2): 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. There will be a Sock Hop in the kids room with crafts, music, and games to coincide with the live auction. We'll be selling shoes beginning at 4pm, with a pre-sale, just for shoes, on Friday March 1st from 5-7pm. Our entire event will be in-person. If, however, you cannot attend and would like to deputize a proxy bidder, we can help with that process. Stay tuned for opportunities to help with preparations beginning in January! Contact Raissa Dupuis (raissa@covenantcommunitypc.org) with any questions.



## **COSTA RICA 2024**

(June 22-29; Informational Meeting December 10): 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. If you would like to learn more about this exciting opportunity, we invite you to attend an informational meeting on Sunday, December 10 after worship.

## **OFFICE VOLUNTEERS**

**(Help With Basic Office Tasks in the Afternoon)**: Would you like to help with basic office tasks such as answering the phone, small projects, and assisting staff? We are looking for volunteers to help in the afternoons during the week. If interested, contact Cyndi Schneider at (cyndi@covenantcommunitypc.org).

# TEST YOUR BIBLICAL KNOWLEDGE

**Q.** Which celestial bodies did Joshua command to stay still? Now the unsuper the unsuper

**Q. Which well did Abraham and Abimelech fight over?** 

STAY TUNED FOR WEEKLY EMAILS AND COMMUNICATIONS,
AS WELL AS ANNOUNCEMENTS ON ANY OF THE PLATFORMS BELOW!

www.covenantcommunitypc.org or







# DECEMBER AT CCPC

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING - 2-6PM
I.D.ALL AGES/CONFIRMATION - 9AM - WORSHIP - 10AM - WOMEN'S SM. GROUP - 11:15AM - BAND PRACTICE - 4PM - WORSHIP - 6PM	DARTBALL AT PEACE PANTHERS - 7PM	• WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - 12PM • CELEBRATE RECOVERY - 6PM	RETIRED SINGLES - 1PM KID'S/ADULT L.I.F.E 6PM M.S. YOUTH GROUP- 6PM HANDBELL CHOIR - 6PM H.S. YOUTH GROUP - 6:30PM ADULT CHOIR - 7PM	7 • SHEEPSHEAD - 2PM	8	SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING - 10AM-2PM
HEARTS OF HOPE GIFTS DUE I.D.ALL AGES/CONFIRMATION - 9AM WORSHIP - 10AM COSTA RICA MEETING - 11:15AM WOMEN'S SM. GROUP - 11:15AM BAND PRACTICE - 4PM WORSHIP - 6PM	DARTBALL AT GOOD SHEPHERD - 7PM	• MEN'S BIBLE STUDY - 12PM • CELEBRATE RECOVERY - 6PM	FOOD PANTRY - 3PM KID'S L.I.F.E 6PM M.S. YOUTH GROUP- 6PM HANDBELL CHOIR - 6PM H.S. YOUTH GROUP - 6:30PM ADULT CHOIR - 7PM	• CHRISTMAS POTLUCK - 12PM • SHEEPSHEAD - 2PM	15	HEARTS OF HOPE GIFT PICKUP - 8:30AM-4:30PM
17 I.D.ALL AGES/CONFIRMATION - 9AM WORSHIP - 10AM WOMEN'S SM. GROUP - 11:15AM CHRISTMAS PROGRAM - 2PM BAND PRACTICE - 4PM WORSHIP - 6PM	BOOK CLUB - 6:30PM DARTBALL AT HOME - 7PM	• CELEBRATE RECOVERY - 6PM	RETIRED SINGLES - 1PM KID'S L.I.F.E 6PM M.S. YOUTH GROUP- 6PM HANDBELL CHOIR - 6PM H.S. YOUTH GROUP - 6:30PM ADULT CHOIR - 7PM	<ul> <li>SHEEPSHEAD - 2PM</li> <li>LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE - 6PM</li> </ul>	22	23
• FAMILY-FOCUSED SERVICE - 4PM • TRADITIONAL SERVICE - 6PM	MERRY CHRISTMAS!  • CHRISTMAS DINNER - 11AM	• CELEBRATE RECOVERY - 6PM	FOOD PANTRY - 3PM	28	29	30

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# JANUARY AT CCPC

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	HAPPY NEW YEAR!	• WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - 12PM • CELEBRATE RECOVERY - 6PM	3	4	5	6
7 I.D.ALL AGES/CONFIRMATION - 9AM WORSHIP - 10AM WOMEN'S SM. GROUP - 11:15AM BAND PRACTICE - 4PM WORSHIP - 6PM	DARTBALL AT ST.     STEPHENS - 7PM	MEN'S BIBLE STUDY - 12PM - CELEBRATE RECOVERY - 6PM	<ul> <li>FOOD PANTRY - 3PM</li> <li>KID'S/ADULT L.I.F.E 6PM</li> <li>M.S. YOUTH GROUP- 6PM</li> <li>H.S. YOUTH GROUP - 6:30PM</li> <li>ADULT CHOIR - 7PM</li> </ul>	• OLD GUYS RULE AT PIZZA RANCH - 11:45AM • LUNCH BUNCH - 10AM • SHEEPSHEAD - 2PM	12	FAMILY GAME NIGHT - 3PM
• I.D.ALL AGES/CONFIRMATION - 9AM • WORSHIP - 10AM • CCPC 101 - 11:15 • WOMEN'S SM. GROUP - 11:15AM • BAND PRACTICE - 4PM • WORSHIP - 6PM	DARTBALL AT HOME - 7PM	• WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - 12PM • CELEBRATE RECOVERY - 6PM	• KID'S/ADULT L.I.F.E 6PM • M.S. YOUTH GROUP- 6PM • H.S. YOUTH GROUP - 6:30PM • ADULT CHOIR - 7PM	■ SHEEPSHEAD - 2PM	19	20
• I.D.ALL AGES/CONFIRMATION - 9AM • WORSHIP - 10AM • WOMEN'S SM. GROUP - 11:15AM • BAND PRACTICE - 4PM • WORSHIP - 6PM	BOOK CLUB - 6:30PM DARTBALL AT IMMANUEL BAPTIST - 7PM	• MEN'S BIBLE STUDY - 12PM • CELEBRATE RECOVERY - 6PM	POOD PANTRY - 3PM KID'S/ADULT L.I.F.E 6PM M.S. YOUTH GROUP- 6PM HANDBELL CHOIR - 6PM H.S. YOUTH GROUP - 6:30PM ADULT CHOIR - 7PM	25 • SHEEPSHEAD - 2PM	26	27
LD.ALL AGES/CONFIRMATION - 9AM - WORSHIP - 10AM - WOMEN'S SM. GROUP - 11:15AM - BAND PRACTICE - 4PM - WORSHIP - 6PM	DARTBALL AT HOME - 7PM	• CELEBRATE RECOVERY - 6PM	<ul> <li>KID'S/ADULT L.I.F.E 6PM</li> <li>M.S. YOUTH GROUP- 6PM</li> <li>HANDBELL CHOIR - 6PM</li> <li>H.S. YOUTH GROUP - 6:30PM</li> <li>ADULT CHOIR - 7PM</li> </ul>			





