



**COVENANT
COMMUNITY**
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Covenant Community
Presbyterian Church
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NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
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ELECTRONIC SERVICE
REQUESTED

SESSION MEMBERS

Chris Jelen (Clerk)
Mary Fraaza
Gary Freels
Bob Gebauer
Jeff Gramling
Lori Kibler
Kari Kufahl
Joanne Lapinske
Sharon Maltbey
Julie Nelson
Kent Perrin
Bob Warner

DEACONS

Gregg James (Chair)
Shawn Abel
Elizabeth Banholzer
Rick Barnes
Rocky Bouldin
Joy Briggs
Carol Broeker
John Happli
Pam Higgins
Glenn Lamping
Katie Lillie
Nancy Pries
Laura Siebert
Barb Smejkal
Ken Zblewski

Jim Gates – *Pastor*

THE GOOD NEWS LETTER

**COVENANT
COMMUNITY**

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

READ THROUGH THE ENTIRE WORD



Let's admit it; reading the Bible can be intimidating. It's long, it's old, it's hard to understand, and it's super important (which just makes everything else a bit more stressful). Even when we do make time to read the Bible on our own, we often come away feeling like we didn't do it right, or didn't get something out of our time.

And yet ... we know that reading the Bible on our own is one of the most critical and impactful personal spiritual practices. So how do we bridge the gap between being intimidated by scripture, and it's inspiration in our lives? This will be our focus in the month of February. In worship, we will explore the reading of Scripture with five Sundays called *"Read through the Entire Word."* I will invite you to consider a read-through the Bible plan called B90X, where we read the entire Bible in just 90 days. That sounds impossible, but it's actually very doable - just 12 pages a day. To help, we will offer an adult Institute of Discipleship class on Sundays at 9am also called *"Read Through the Entire Word,"* that will offer short summaries of every book of the Bible and an opportunity to discuss those books weekly.

Then, just after that series ends, we will enter into the season of Lent with our Ash Wednesday service on March 6. Throughout Lent, we will begin a series called *"Add to the Community"* as we reflect on our privilege of passing on the passion and peace of Christ. Using the Friendship Evangelism Challenge, we will work to make an eternal difference in the lives of our non-Christian friends. We will begin that series on March 10 with an Invitation Sunday, where we make a specific invite for people to join us in worship.

So many other exciting things are coming up for us in the next two months! Our Milwaukee Mission Team departs February 8-10 to serve on our behalf. Supper Club signups have begun, and I strongly encourage you to participate in one of our 3 for 3 clubs this Spring; they are a fantastic way to meet your church family. Our 2019 Mission Auction will take place on Saturday, March 3rd - a special night that's not to be missed! For all this and more, keep reading!

Grace and Peace,
Jim Gates

23RD ANNUAL MISSION AUCTION AND DINNER (March 2): Mark your calendars! The 23rd Annual Mission Auction and Dinner will take place Saturday, March 2! Doors will open at 3:00, kicking off the silent auction, and dinner will be served from 4:30pm-6pm. The live auction will begin at 6:15pm.



This year's dinner theme is "Pies the Limit," which will include a pizza and dessert pie bar to satisfy the whole family! From child-friendly, traditional varieties, to an amazing array of gourmet pizzas. There will be something for everyone! Tickets will be available for purchase beginning Sunday, February 10 after worship. You can pick yours up in the church office, or buy them online (\$12/adult and \$6/child).

Volunteers are always needed! If you would like to help with auction setup, teardown, checkout, or in any other way, please speak with Kari Kufahl. Bakers, sous chefs, and kitchen help are needed February 27 to March 2. Food donations are also needed! If helping with the dinner or donating interests you, please speak with Amanda Fuls or Kay Fuls for specific ingredients and recipes.

ASH WEDNESDAY (March 6): Lent begins late this year, so be sure to mark your calendars and plan to attend our Ash Wednesday service on Wednesday, March 6 at 6pm. This is always a special time, as we begin to prepare our hearts for the 40 days of Lent and the Passion of our Lord Jesus. Our service will include the Lord's Table and the Imposition of Ashes; reminders both of our earthly mortality and our eternal life in Christ.

EGGSTRAVAGANZA - SAVE THE DATE (April 20): Eggstravaganza 2019 will take place on Saturday, April 20. We are looking for volunteers to stuff eggs, prepare activities, and organize activities for the event. Look for more information in the bulletin and see Amanda Fuls if you can help!

April/May newsletter stories due March 12th to
Drew Bouché – drew@covenantcommunitypc.org



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www.facebook.com/CovenantCommunityPresbyterianChurch



We enlarged our team and are grateful to all who participated in our Seats and Feets summer collection, dropped off TJ Maax bags, cut a heart or tied a yarn tag. If your hands fashioned an Angel of Hope ornament, wrapped a gift or frosted a cookie, we give thanks for you. To those that said yes to taking on one of the many facets of our collective ministries, we extend our deep gratitude.

Another aspect of growth for our ministries was to invite our Hearts of Hope families to our church home during our Wrapped in Warmth Winter Clothing Open Houses, to worship with us and to recognize that each gift they received was a gift from our Lord; the food -His bread. It is the forward vision of our ministries to use our various outreaches to be a foot in the door of a hungry soul and that we find ways to stay connected throughout the year.

Thank you for the role that you played in planting the seed of hope for 113 families and 315 children. May that hope now blossom to bring new believers to Christ. We are forever connected to these lives. As the calendar turns to 2019, keep our families in your prayers. Pray that the spark that was lit does not sputter and grow cold, but continues to burn with a wonder that draws our Hearts of Hope families closer to the Peace, Grace and Joy that we experience as Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

CAMP LUTHER MISSION TRIP 2019: There's still time to sign up for our Family Mission Trip to Camp Luther, August 22-25! This is a great opportunity for families of all ages to participate in service and mission outreach! Cost is \$150/adult and \$100/child, with a \$100 deposit to reserve your spot. Deadline for registration and deposit is March 1! See Amanda Fuls for more details.

SPECIAL HAPPENINGS

3 FOR 3 SUPPER CLUBS: Each Sunday through February 24, you can sign up to participate in one of our 3 for 3 Supper clubs. This is an opportunity to get to know families in the congregation outside of our regular programming. 3 for 3 means that you will be part of three families who meet once a month for three months for dinner and fellowship. You can specify which days/times work best for you; all families are welcome (singles, marrieds, married with children, etc.), and there's no obligation to host. This is an awesome opportunity to grow as a church family; don't miss out! You can sign up in the Narthex, on your Connection Card, or online at

MEMBERS & VISITORS

NEW MEMBERS

Janine Abt	Drew Bouché	Jane Fochs	Gail Jackson
Scott Pearson	Rachel Statezny	Nicki Wensel	Jack Vlietstra

VISITORS

Matthew Ackerman	Dave & Delores Hanson	Robert Petts
Peter Barnes	Jill, Erin & Kate Henze	Sherri Plisch
Don & Marge Baumann	Grace Hodgdon	Wayne & Annette Ramsden
Tom Becker	Jeff & Maureen Hodgdon	David Reis
Dianne & Steve Bentz	Sydney Huber	Tracy & Kelly Rieger
Pauline Borgen	Erik, Kelsey, Emmery & Rowyn Isakson	Nick & Gail Smith
Jim & Deb Bouché	Sabra Johnston	Tony & Linda Suminski
Noel & Vanessa Bouché	Bill & Barb Jones	Eric, Kelly, Adeline, & Evelyn Thompson
David Bouffleur	Elgin Krings	Linda Vogen
Norm & Mary Breitrack	Shirley Langteau	Brian Warning
Shane, Roxi, Jaydon, Konner, & Logan Denzine	Michael Lukens	Dave & Judy Weber
Cathy Evans	Karie Madden	Nicki Wensel
Marcy Faris	Kay McMahan	Haley Westlund
Ronald & Lucy Gates	Patricia Mirman	Maddy Winnie
Vicki & Lina Hahn	Debbie Nonnenmacher	
Sue Hamilton	Josh & Jessica Pearson	

SYMPATHY

To the family of Marlene Hodgdon in the death of her brother, Wayne Foreman.
 To the family of John Lenz.
 To the family of Shirley Hodgdon in the death of her daughter, Sandra Robl.

MEMORIALS

John Lenz: Rick & Paula Barnes	Their Parents: Paul & Kay Walkowicz
Wayne Foreman: Tom & Ruth Wrynski	Sandra Robl: Sid Bouldin Ruth Laak Linda Vogen

PRAYER CONCERNS

The following members have recently been hospitalized or are dealing with medical issues. Please keep them in your prayers:
 Sandy Buttke (Pride)
 Marilyn Christianson (Cedar Creek Manor)

Greg Falkowski (Home)
 Don Hawkins (Home)
 Dee Jenkins (Home)
 Cheryl Lenz (Colby WI)
 Roy Olson (Mount View)
 Tom Scott (University Hospital Madison)
 Bess Vick (Benedictine Manor)

SPECIAL GIFTS

Richard Austin	Food Pantry
Tom & Judy Beese	Food Pantry
Community Foundation	Food Pantry
Curt & Kathy Kolberg	Undesignated
Bob & Jan Rakow	Food Pantry
Sheepshead	Building Debt Reduction
Truist	Member Gift Through Workplace
Aaron & Shelby Waraksa	Food Pantry

MARRIAGES

Drew & Megan Bouché

CCPC NOTES

LINDA VOGEN TO RETIRE: After 11 years of amazing service and friendship to our faith community, Linda Vogen has officially announced her retirement as CCPC’s Bookkeeper, effective July 4, 2019. It is bittersweet, as we know Linda will be able to spend more time traveling and visiting with her family; yet, we will miss her dependability, wisdom, knowledge, servant spirit, and smile in the office! Let us all take these final months to pray for Linda and her next adventure, and show her how much she is loved and appreciated in our community! Thank you, Linda!

LOFTY GOALS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE: We continue to make exciting progress on reducing our debt. In 2018, the first year of our campaign, we reduced our mortgage principal from \$428,702 to \$310,858. That’s \$117,844 paid!

Likewise, our construction is moving quickly! Mechanicals are mostly complete, drywall is in, the new entryway is finished, and painting should begin in the next week or two. All our painting will be done by volunteers, so let Jim Gates know if you would like to be involved. Next steps after the painting include installation of floors, trim, and wall decor, as well as building our new Welcome Center and Coffee Bar in Bouldin Hall. Please continue to keep our construction process in your prayers as we get into the final stretch!

thereafter on our normal schedule except for March 6 (Ash Wednesday) and March 27 (Spring Break). Remember that the normal schedule is as follows: 6-8th Graders - 6-7:30pm; 9-12th Graders - 6:30-8pm. Expect awesome youth group games and great Bible discussions!

UPDATE ON THE YOUTH DIRECTOR SEARCH: Our Search Committee continues to interview candidates for our Director of Youth and Young Adults position. Please keep us in your prayers as this process continues, and feel free to reach out to any of us with questions. That team is Jim Gates, Bob Hocker, Ronda James, Chris Jelen, Adam Moucha and Jean Rogers.

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

KID’S WORSHIP (Beginning February 10): Kid’s Worship is growing and we must adapt to the spiritual needs of our young ones! Starting Sunday, February 10, as they are dismissed from the Children’s Message, we will divide them into two groups: Preschool - 4k and younger; Elementary - Kindergarten thru 3rd grade. The kids will “Dig Into the Life of Jesus” with age-appropriate activities. The Elementary group will also learn components of the main worship service in preparation for them joining their family. As we take this step of faith, we are looking for leaders and teachers to serve once a month during Kid’s Worship. Please see Amanda Fuls for details!

LIFE KIDS (February 20): L.I.F.E. Kids will be bouncing off the walls as they enjoy an evening at Greenheck from 6-7pm on Wednesday, February 20. More information to come! Contact Amanda Fuls with any questions.

CHILDREN’S CHOIR (Continuing in February): Junior Choir continues in February with a calypso-style song being performed on the 24th. If you love to sing and are Kindergarten through 7th grade, please join us at 9am Sunday morning! There may also be an opportunity to learn how to play a percussion instrument! Please contact Deb Perrin, 715-432-1155, with any questions.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

HEARTS OF HOPE THANK YOU: Because of your generous hearts and your response to the Holy Spirit at work, our Care Closet Ministry has had another year of amazing growth in many aspects of our missions.

happens when you read the Bible this way - not one chapter at a time, but straight through, like a book is meant to be read. Connections between texts pop out, obvious themes emerge, and God's plan throughout time becomes evident. Immersing yourself in the entire story of God's love for his people is a life-changing experience! For more information or to download a reading guide, visit our website at www.covenantcommunitypc.org/read-through-the-entire-word. You might also consider participating in our adult I.D. class that begins on February 10. Reading the entire Bible should be a goal of every Christian - let's make this the year for us!

CCPC 101 & CCPC 102 (March 17 & April 7): Want to learn more about our church and the process of becoming a member? Please join us on Sunday, March 17 after worship in the Library for our CCPC 101 class! Lunch and childcare are provided during the session. Come and meet new people, have a bite to eat, and learn more about who we are.

Beginning Sunday, April 7, we will begin offering CCPC 102, a comprehensive look at opportunities for fellowship, mission work and engagement in our faith family! This course is perfect for new members who want to get involved and connected. Speak with Jim Gates or Drew Bouche if you would like to join us for either of these classes.

MEN'S & WOMEN'S TUESDAY BIBLE STUDIES (Women-1st and 3rd; Men-2nd and 4th): Our Men's and Women's Bible Studies have just begun a study on the Book of Judges. This is a great time to jump in if you've not participated in the past! Women meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month, and men meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays. Bring \$5 for lunch. Friends and new people are always welcome!

YOUTH MINISTRY



WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP (February 20): Youth Group is back with a BANG on Wednesday, February 20. We will ring in the new year (belatedly) with Laser Tag at Wausau on the Water! All students (Middle and High) will meet at WOW from 6:30-8:30pm. Bring \$10 each. We will have pizza after laser tag! We will continue to meet every Wednesday

LOFTY GOALS MATCHING GIFT: We are excited to announce that our church has received a \$25,000 matching gift offer for our Capital Campaign! Every new dollar pledged or contributed between now and Easter Sunday, April 21, will be matched, dollar for dollar, up to a \$25,000 total. If you are making a new pledge or increasing an existing pledge to our Lofty Goals Campaign, your contribution will double because of this gift.

You may direct your donation to one of three options: Construction, Debt Reduction, or Undesignated (allowing the Session to allocate your gift between construction or debt as needed). However you choose to give, your donation will be matched with dollars for debt reduction. For example, if you make a donation or pledge to Lofty Goals - Undesignated for \$100, an additional \$100 will go towards Lofty Goals - Debt Reduction. Likewise, if you pledge \$100 to Lofty Goals - Construction or Debt, another \$100 will be given to Lofty Goals - Debt Reduction. To utilize this matching gift and double your contribution, simply take the following steps:

1. Anytime between now and Easter Sunday, April 21, submit a new pledge or donation to our capital campaign. Note: only NEW pledges or donations qualify for this match.
2. On your donation or pledge, please include the words "Lofty Match."

You can give or pledge online at www.covenantcommunitypc.org/give, in the offering plate, or by calling the church office at 359-6467.



STEWARDSHIP UPDATES (As of January 27):

Thanks to your generosity, we have met and exceeded our pledging goal for 2019. Our goal was \$388,000; to date, we have pledges for \$391,340. Thank you to all who have already made a pledge to our 2019 campaign! If you have not done so yet, it's not too late! You can complete a pledge card on our website at www.covenantcommunitypc.org/give.

MEMBER ADDRESS UPDATES: If you have a new address, due to the changes in Marathon County, please contact our office and let us know! Also, if you are a member and would like an updated address list of other members, again, contact the church office. You can email us at ccpc@covenantcommunitypc.org or call 359-6467.

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS (January 20 Meeting): Session met on January 20 to discuss a number of important topics, including the Capital Campaign and upcoming programs. Please go to <http://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/our-session/> to view the full highlights.

REGULAR PROGRAMMING

SCRIP PROGRAM: Valentine's Day is coming! Don't forget to place your Scrip, or pick up some Quick Picks to help show that special someone you're thinking of them! If your family is planning on a Spring Break trip, remember that Scrip has shopping, fuel, and lodging options for you!

As we move into the new year we're also restocking our Quick Pick table. Last year's expansion of cards available same day was a big success for the program, so we're planning to keep similar quantities available this year.

We also wanted to say *THANK YOU* to all who support this program. Last year's proceeds were a record breaker & those funds are already being put to good use! Please help us keep the momentum going, and the orders coming!

Reloadable gift cards allows you to "reload" your existing cards instead of having to purchase additional plastic. Haven't used all the funds from your last order? No problem. You can add the funds directly from your own checking account whenever you want or within a day or two via check/cash payment. This option offers another convenient way for you to get what you need, while still benefiting the church.

If you need something in a pinch, an E-card paper gift certificate ("Scrip Now") is offered by many of the merchants, and can be purchased and printed within 24 hours without requiring the church to pay shipping costs. We'll even e-mail you the certificates!

Need a way to participate whenever & where-ever "you" want without having to remember your checkbook each Sunday? Online users have the convenience to place their own orders for Scrip Now certificates, or card reloads anytime.

If you are interested in any of these new options, please see Pam Higgins (715)573-8067 or Kate Lillie (715)581-9666 to be added to our training lists. We look forward to seeing you at the Scrip Table!

SECRET A.G.E.N.T.S. MINISTRY: As we near the end of our inaugural Secret A.G.E.N.T.S. season, please save the date for the "Debriefing Party" to be held on Sunday, March 17 after worship in the Activities Room. This event will allow us to celebrate this year of growth, and to reveal A.G.E.N.T.S. identities! Jr. Agents, have you uncovered the identity of your Secret A.G.E.N.T.S. yet? Time is running out! Get those letters in and gather your clues! You may even win a prize at the party for a correct guess. Finish strong!

CRAFT OUTREACH GROUP (February 14): The Craft Outreach Group (Knitters & Crocheters) will meet Thursday, February 14. The project is yet to be determined, but we may begin making angel ornaments for Hearts of Hope.

BOOK CLUB (March 25): The March selection is "*Beartown*," by Fredrik Backman. Cohosts are Bev Werner and Judy Dorn, with Bev leading the discussion on Monday March 25 at Judy's house at 7006 S. 17th Street, Wausau, 54403. This gathering will begin at 6:30pm.

ADULT EDUCATION

INSTITUTE OF DISCIPLESHIP

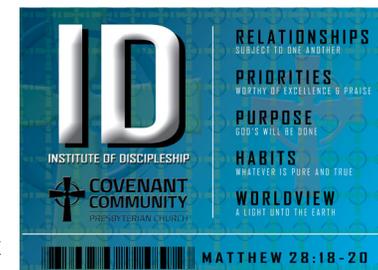
February 10 - B90X

Join us for the "Read Through the Entire Word" class beginning Sunday, February 10 at 9am in the Cry Room! This class will use the excellent B90 curriculum; a video series of top-notch seminary professors who summarize each book of the Bible over 12 weeks. This is perfect for those doing the B90X challenge, as the classes will correlate with your weekly reading. However, even if you're not doing the B90X challenge, you can still take this course and receive excellent content about the Scriptures! Each class will have a 20-30 minute video lecture and then group discussion.

The Good and Beautiful God

We will also continue our class on "The Good and Beautiful God," based on the excellent book by James Bryant Smith. This class meets in the small conference room next to the Library.

B90X: Our Read Through the Entire Word challenge is called B90x - a read through the Bible in 90 days program. There is something extraordinary that



Covenant Community Presbyterian Church

March-2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 6:00 pm Auction's "Buy It Now" Shoe Sale	2 3:00 pm Missions Auction
3 9:00 am I.D. (Sunday School) 10:00 am Worship	4 6:00 pm Committee Mtg (W&F) 6:30 pm Committee Mtgs (CE, Deacons) 7:00 pm Dart Ball (Home)	5 12:00 pm Women's Study & Lunch	6 5:30 pm Choir 6:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service	7 7:00 pm Sheepshead	8	9
10 9:00 am I.D. (Sunday School) 10:00 am Worship	11 6:30 pm Committee Mtgs (Admin, Mission)	12 12:00 pm Men's Study & Lunch	13 3:00 pm Food Pantry 6:00 pm Handbell Choir 6:00 pm Youth Group (Middle School) 6:30 pm Youth Group (High School) 7:00 pm Choir	14 10:00 am Craft Group 12:00 pm Lunch Bunch 12:00 pm Old Guys Rule 7:00 pm Sheepshead	15	16
17 9:00 am I.D. (Sunday School) 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Secret A.G.E.N.T.S Luncheon 11:15 am CCPC101	18 6:30 pm Session Mtg 7:00 pm Dart Ball (Home)	19 12:00 pm Women's Study & Lunch	20 6:00 pm Handbell Choir 6:00 pm Youth Group (Middle School) 6:30 pm Youth Group (High School) 7:00 pm Choir	21 7:00 pm Sheepshead	22	23
24 9:00 am I.D. (Sunday School) 10:00 am Worship	25 6:30 pm Book Club 7:00 pm Dart Ball (Home)	26 12:00 pm Men's Study & Lunch	27 3:00 pm Food Pantry 6:00 pm Handbell Choir 6:00 pm Youth Group (Middle School) 6:30 pm Youth Group (High School) 7:00 pm Choir	28 7:00 pm Sheepshead	29	30
31 9:00 am I.D. (Sunday School) 9:00 am Children's Choir 10:00 am Worship						

Covenant Community Presbyterian Church

February-2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 10:00 am Sub Sandwich Prep
3 7:00 am Sub Sandwich Prep 9:00 am I.D. (Sunday School) 9:00 am Children's Choir 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Congregational Meeting	4 6:00 pm Committee Mtg (W&F) 6:30 pm Committee Mtgs (CE, Deacons)	5 12:00 pm Women's Study & Lunch	6 5:30 pm LIFE Meal 6:00 pm LIFE 7:00 pm Choir	7 7:00 pm Sheepshead	8 Milwaukee Mission Trip	9 Milwaukee Mission Trip
10 Milwaukee Mission Trip 9:00 am I.D. (Sunday School) 9:00 am Children's Choir 10:00 am Worship	11 6:30 pm Committee Mtgs (Admin, Mission) 7:00 pm Dart Ball (Home)	12 12:00 pm Men's Study & Lunch	13 3:00 pm Food Pantry 5:30 pm LIFE Meal 6:00 pm LIFE 7:00 pm Choir	14 10:00 am Craft Group 12:00 pm Lunch Bunch 12:00 pm Old Guys Rule 7:00 pm Sheepshead	15	16
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