

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU

- ❖ **PRAYER PARTNERS** after Sunday morning services. Contact the office for more information to be on the rotation.
- ❖ **TheHub** could use more attendants, especially at the 8:15 service. Contact Brian Smith for more information.

## ONLINE ENCOURAGEMENT

Stay connected and get online encouragement as you follow Christ into your week:

- ✓ **E-NEWS & ALL-CHURCH EMAIL** Stay in-touch with your church family with important info and updates. Contact Jackie to sign-up (Jackie@rfcov.org)
- ✓ **WEBSITE** Check out [www.rfcov.org](http://www.rfcov.org) for sermons, info and more.
- ✓ **FACEBOOK** For info & encouragement throughout the week. "Like" us at [Facebook.com/FirstCovenantChurch](https://www.facebook.com/FirstCovenantChurch)
- ✓ **TWITTER** Follow us at @FirstCovRF

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

### VANCO ELECTRONIC GIVING:

Go to [www.rfcov.org](http://www.rfcov.org) and click on the *Electronic Tithing* link under Resources.

Weekly Operational Need:	\$12,188.95
Regular Giving 10.1.17:	\$14,321.61
YTD FEF (2017):	\$13,937.00
Attendance on 10.1.17	119 & 191=310
YTD applied to principal:	\$52,019.35
Mortgage balance as of 9.1.17:	\$596,568.87

## CONTACT US!

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| [facebook.com/firstcovenantchurch](https://www.facebook.com/firstcovenantchurch) |

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Todd Ertsgaard | Lead Pastor:

715.425.6991 or [todd@rfcov.org](mailto:todd@rfcov.org)

Brian Majerus | Pastor of Christian

Formation & Family Ministries:

715.426.3097 or [brian@rfcov.org](mailto:brian@rfcov.org)

Neil Vance | Youth Director: 715.307.2645

or [neil@rfcov.org](mailto:neil@rfcov.org)

Brian Smith | Director of Worship &

Creative Arts: 651.399.1751 or

[brian.smith@rfcov.org](mailto:brian.smith@rfcov.org)

## THANK YOU

**GREETERS:** (8:15) Dan & Jackie Wallace  
(10:45) Mark & Kim Spafford  
**WORSHIP TEAM:** Brian Smith, Wendy Larson, Hannah Plummer, Steve Boatman, Dave Schatz, Tim Ruiz  
**SOUND:** Jake Jacobs **VIDEO:** Kaytlynn Plummer  
**THE HUB:** (8:15) Linda Lundstrom  
(10:45) Nancy Erickson

**NURSERY:** (8:15) Wade, Julie & Kaitlyn Dicus  
(10:45) Adam & Sarah Johnson, Abby Larson

**JR. CHURCH:** (10:45) Karen Olsen

**USHERS:** (8:15) Gregg Quam, Dan Treichel  
(10:45) Johnny Manche, Dan Pearson

**PRAYER PARTNERS:** (8:15) Steve & Linda Johnson  
(10:45) Val Wellnitz, P. Brian Majerus

**COFFEE FELLOWSHIP:** Leslie Benoy, Angie Branum

**PRODUCE PICK UP:** Gary Sumner

## THIS WEEK

### TODAY 10/8

8:15 & 10:45a Worship Services  
9:30a Sunday School for all ages  
12:15p Cake Reception for Neil & Sarah Vance

### TUESDAY 10/10

9:15a MOPS (Mothers of Pre-Schoolers) Bible Study  
2:00p & 5:15p Classroom use: Weight Watchers

### WEDNESDAY 10/11

9:30a Precepts Class  
3:30p Confirmation (gr. 7 & 8)  
5:15p Fellowship Supper  
6:15p Awana (K-6)  
6:30p Confirmation (gr. 7 & 8)  
SOLID Youth Group (gr. 9-12) & Prayer Group

### THURSDAY 10/12

8:00p Worship Team Practice  
8:15p Iron: Men's Group

### FRIDAY 10/13

9:45a Women's Bible Study Fellowship

### SATURDAY 10/14

8:00a Men's Breakfast at Ezekiel  
9:00a Women Ministries District Fall Gathering

### SUNDAY 10/15

8:15 & 10:45a Worship Services  
9:30a Sunday School for all ages

# FIRST COVENANT CHURCH

*"On the Journey: Sharing Christ, Growing Together"*

Sunday, October 8, 2017 | 8:15 & 10:45a

## OPENING SONG | WELCOME

## WORSHIP SONGS

## OFFERING | ANNOUNCEMENTS

10:45 Service: Children ages 5-7 can go to Rm 306 for Junior Church.

Parents: Please walk your child to the room and pick up after the service.

## MESSAGE

*Daring to Imagine*

Pastor Brian

## CLOSING SONG

## BENEDICTION

*Prayer Partners for your prayer needs are up front after the services*

# DARING FAITH

THE KEY TO MIRACLES

# Welcome to our WORSHIP SERVICES

## Welcome Guests!

- ❖ **CHECK @theHub** for a great conversation, a gift, more info, or get questions answered. We are glad you are here!
- ❖ **WELCOME PADS** help us to care & connect! Please fill out and pass to your neighbor in the row. Inside are cards for prayer requests, comments, and more. *If you leave your address*, we will send you a Welcome Letter with next step ideas to get to know us...and no extra mailings! ☺
- ❖ **CHILDREN/FAMILIES:** (The Ushers would love to help you too!).
  - \*Nurseries (Infant to 4 y.o.).
    - ✓ Nursery Room (To the right of the main entrance).
  - \*Infant Room—Service live feed, on right as you enter Worship Center.
  - \*Junior Church—(10:45) 5-7 y.o. in Rm 303.
  - \*Children's Activity Bulletins (ages 4-7) and Jr. Sermon Notes (ages 8-12) are available on the usher's cart.
- ❖ **SERVICE LIVE FEEDS** available in Infant Room and Multipurpose Room.
- ❖ **OFFERING** is an act of worship and a privilege of our church family. We are just glad you are here to worship with us today!
- ❖ **FREE GIFT @theHub:** As an expression of appreciation, pick up a gift and get more info or questions answered there.

## Women!!

### Lake Pepin District

### Women Ministries Fall Gathering

**Saturday, October 14 | Here  
Registration and coffee begins at 9:00a**

Come for a morning of fellowship with our sisters from Covenant churches in our district, learning more from *Whispers of Hope* and *Options for Women*, and ending with brunch.

**Sign up @theHub today!**

Let us know if child care is needed. If you can bring a quiche there's a recipe and sign up @theHub for that too.

## CHURCH LIFE

- ❖ **TODAY! NEIL (Our Youth Director) & SARAH VANCE** were married Sept. 23. Celebrate with them at a cake reception after the 2<sup>nd</sup> service.
- ❖ **NEXT WEEK (Oct. 15)** Pastor Todd, in our "Daring Faith" series, explores taking faith steps with Proverbs 3:5-6.
- ❖ **MINISTRY BOARD for October:** Building & Maintenance Ministry Team. See it just past the hall doors.
- ❖ **OCT. CLARION** newsletters were e-mailed. Paper copies @theHub.
- ❖ **WED. SUPPER:** Bacon cheeseburger tater tot hot dish. Serving 5:15-6:00p. Sign up on Welcome Pad or call by Tues. noon. Cost: \$3/max \$12.
- ❖ **MEN'S BREAKFAST** this Sat., Oct. 14 at 8:00a at Ezekiel Lutheran. Jim Harsdorf sharing on "Being a Christian in the Political Arena". Sign @theHub.
- ❖ **CONGREGATIONAL VITALITY**
  - Check: [rfcov.org/category/vitality-pathway/](http://rfcov.org/category/vitality-pathway/).
  - Get e-mail notification: subscribe on the right side on news, prayer requests, etc.
  - Read the Clarion newsletter Vitality section.
- ❖ **RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE:** Here **Tues., Oct. 31** from 1:00-7:00p.
- ❖ **OCTOBER FOCUS ON LIFE:** Domestic Abuse. Check the Clarion for more information or check the blog at: [www.rfcov.org/category/focus-on-life-ministry/](http://www.rfcov.org/category/focus-on-life-ministry/)

## MARRIAGE

- ❖ **SIX-WEEK Marriage Group:** DVD-based study on *Fight Your Way to a Better Marriage* begins Fri., Oct. 20, here, from 6:30-8:00p. Childcare available. Sign up with James & Candace Plummer or the office. See more info in the e-news or Oct. Clarion.

## FATHER/CHILD BANQUET

Thurs., Oct. 19 | 6:30-8:00p

- ❖ **DEADLINE THIS THURS., OCT. 12:** COME for a great dinner (turkey, potatoes & gravy, stuffing, and more!) with your child(ren). Pastor Brian shares on "5 F's: Tools and Fun for Building Faith & Family", including resources/ideas for you to grow and enjoy life in your family. Sign up @theHub (\$10/plate).

## SUNDAY SCHOOLS

9:30-10:30a | Classes for 2 y.o. to Adult  
Adult Options are:

- ❖ **Ruth and Esther:** Is God really sovereign? Can individual people make a difference in His world? A young girl named Ruth and a middle-aged man named Boaz do during the violent days of Israel's judges. Over 600 years later a Jew named Mordecai and his cousin Esther save their nation by saying yes. Today these stories still inspire believers to affect the world by trusting God. Understand these books, and apply their powerful, relevant wisdom to needs and issues you are currently working through. Based on NavPress's "Life Change" series. Teachers: Chuck Sams & Mark Kimball.
- ❖ **Turning Points: What the Church-Then, Can Teach the Church-Today.** Learn how to follow Christ in our modern times by looking at the *Christians of the past*. Explore key moments of Church & Christian history and God's sovereign work of preserving the Church over time, the impact of world events on the Church, and Scripture. Leave class knowing more about how to engage today as Christians in our culture and our world. And explore the significance of October 2017, the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation! Based on book *Turning Points: Decisive Moments in the History of Christianity* by foremost church historian, Mark Noll. Teaching Team: Pastor Brian, Mark Wespetal, Jeff Carow.

# PRAYER REQUESTS THIS WEEK

October 8, 2017

- ❖ For those impacted by the hurricanes, earthquake in Mexico, and now the Las Vegas shooting
- ❖ For our Oct. Focus on Life: Domestic Abuse (check out the Oct. Clarion for more info)
- ❖ For our Missionaries of the week Campus Ministries (see below):
- ❖ For the College Student of the week: Melanie Gillis
- ❖ For Pastor Todd and family on the passing of his father, Bob Ertsgaard. The funeral was yesterday in Wheaton, MN.
- ❖ For Healing and Help: Jean Elefson, Lana Foster, Angie Martini, Kern & Judy Steffenhagen, Bonnye Huland, Jean Hickox, Joyce Lundberg, Shirley Peterson, Brenda Espeseth
- ❖ For our Congregational Vitality Team Members: Pat Stevens, Jeff Carow, Melissa Falde, Tom Nelson, Chris Mueller, Krista Majerus, Steve Schalla, Robert & Lindsey Curtis, Pastor Todd, and Pastor Brian
- ❖ For our Northwest Conference Leaders (see below)
- ❖ For our Leadership Team: Jeff Carow, Chair; Dan Pearson, Vice Chair; Johnny Manche, Finance Officer; Pat Stevens, Administrative Officer; John Aune; Jean Wespetal; Kay Zwald; Gregg Quam; Pastor Todd
- ❖ For our church staff: Pastor Todd, Pastor Brian, Neil Vance, Brian Smith, Jackie Wallace

*We are glad to pray for you in joy or in times of need. Needs will be listed for up to four weeks, but please let us know if you would like it longer.*

## THOSE IN THE MILITARY

For: Sam & Isaac Witt, Brent Wiersma, Roland Pomfret, Mike Findlay, Aaron Riess, Ryan Neel, Murray Stoffa, John Meier, Colin Arneson, Matthew Lundberg, Mckenzie Curtis, Max Elliott

## OUR NORTHWEST CONFERENCE LEADERS

Northwest Conference Office: 3106 47<sup>th</sup> Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN

The Mission of the Northwest Conference is to engage, empower and equip healthy missional leaders, as we believe that this is a key to growing healthy missional churches.

**Mark R. Stromberg**, Superintendent; **Mike Brown**, Director of Church Planting;

**Jon Kramka**, Director of Congregational Vitality; **Bryan Malley**, Director of Communications;

**Ginny Olson**, Director of Youth Ministry; **Kara Stromberg**, Director of Children & Family Ministry;

**Jeff Burton**, Director of Pastoral Care & Development;

**Greg Ellis**, Coordinator for CHET NWC; **Sandy Norris**, Director of Finance;

**Cheryl Theilen**, Director of Administration; **Jessa Anderson**, Administrative Coordinator

## MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK

*UWRF InterVarsity Christian Fellowship: Michele Arndt, UWRF Campus Crusade: Tyler Kerber,*

*InterVarsity MN Metro Evangelism Specialist: Brian Aust,*

*InterVarsity Regional Director MN Metro: Jason Hull*

Please continue to pray for them in their ministry to students

## COLLEGE STUDENT OF THE WEEK

**Melanie Gillis**, daughter of Mark & JoAnn. Melanie is a sophomore at Winona State University, and is a nursing student. Melanie has midterms coming up next week in some tough classes. Pray for hedge of protection over her—for her mind, body and spiritual well-being.

# DARING FAITH

THE KEY TO MIRACLES

## DARING TO IMAGINE | 1 CORINTHIANS 2:6-12 | PASTOR BRIAN

Does imagination have a place in the Christian's life of faith? Today we explore key factors to a God-glorifying imagination.

Imagine today but only in \_\_\_\_\_.

Following God's ways & wisdom in the area of imagination means...

vv. 6-8: ...not all you think is \_\_\_\_\_.

v. 9: ...looking beyond what \_\_\_\_\_.

vv. 10-12: ...choosing to actively live in step with the \_\_\_\_\_.

## 4 Quick Tips for Living These Out

*What may God desire to imagine through you?*

*Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. – Ephesians 3:20-21*