

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY

❖ FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Volunteer opportunity (Eagan location)
Fri., Feb 2 from 6:00-7:30p. Sign up at
theHub or at
<https://goo.gl/forms/fYmsz7jKoru3ru6w2>.

CAN YOU HELP?

- ❖ **PRODUCE PICK UP** help is needed on Sundays. With 2 volunteers out with surgery recovery or gone for the winter we could use some help! Let Art or Val Wellnitz know if you can help fill in. 715-796-5274.

PRAYER AT FIRSTCOV

❖ HELP BY PRAYING!

- **Join the Email Prayer Line:** Receive prayer requests and support your church family's needs. Join the team by letting Jackie know (jackie@rfcov.org).
- **Prayer Group:** Wed. 6:30-7:30p in the Conference Room.

❖ NEED PRAYER?

- Send prayer requests to **email prayer line**. Contact Jackie in office (if after hours or on weekends, call her at 612.889.7516).
- Send Prayer requests for **Wed. night prayer group** (contact Jackie).

- ❖ **PRAYER PARTNERS** are available after each worship service on Sundays.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Weekly Operational need: \$12,188.95
Regular Giving 1.14.18: \$9,169.73
Mortgage balance as of 1.1.18: \$582,840.92
Attendance on 1.14.18 115 & 181=296

CONTACT US!

www.rfcov.org | 715.425.2640 | office@rfcov.org | [facebook.com/firstcovenantchurch](https://www.facebook.com/firstcovenantchurch)
Todd Ertsgaard | Lead Pastor: 715.425.6991 or todd@rfcov.org
Brian Majerus | Pastor of Christian Formation & Family Ministries: 715.426.3097 or brian@rfcov.org
Neil Vance | Youth Director: 715.307.2645 or neil@rfcov.org
Brian Smith | Director of Worship & Creative Arts: 651.399.1751 or brian.smith@rfcov.org

THANK YOU

GREETERS: (8:15) Dean & Leslie Benoy
(10:45) Jason & Darlene Backes
WORSHIP TEAM: Brian Smith, Kim Majerus,
Hannah Plummer, Dave Schatz, Paul Schatz, Dakota Walters
SOUND: Andrew Ertsgaard **VIDEO:** Micah Majerus
THE HUB: (8:15) Jeannie Wespelal
(10:45) Sarah Smith
NURSERY: (8:15) Emily & Erik Bekkum, Ryker Kubera
(10:45) Adam & Sarah Johnson, Abby Larson
JR. CHURCH: (10:45) Candace Plummer
USHERS: (8:15) Tom Nelson, Joann Gillis
(10:45) Rod Hanson, Matt Fitzgerald
PRAYER PARTNERS: (8:15) Melissa Ertsgaard
(10:45) Dan Pearson
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: Laura Schatz Terri Pearson
PRODUCE PICK-UP: Dan Larson

THIS WEEK

TODAY 1/21
8:15 & 10:45a Worship Services
TUESDAY 1/23
12:00 & 5:30p Classroom Use: Weight Watchers
WEDNESDAY 1/24
9:30a Women's Precepts Study
3:30-5:00p Confirmation
5:15-6:00p Fellowship Supper
6:15-7:45p Awana
6:30-8:00p Confirmation, Sr. High Youth Group
6:30-7:30p Prayer Group
THURSDAY 1/25
6:30p Multipurpose room use: Master Gardener's
8:00p Worship Team Practice
8:15p Iron: Men's Group
FRIDAY 1/26
9:00a Women's Bible Study (Discerning the Voice of God)
9:45a Women's Bible Study Fellowship
SATURDAY 1/27
9:00-12:00p Awana Grand Prix Car Workshop
SUNDAY 1/28
8:15a & 10:45a Worship Services
9:30a Sunday School Classes for all ages
12:15p Soup's On Lunch by CHIC students followed with our
Congregational Meeting (2018 budget focus)

FIRST COVENANT CHURCH

"On the Journey: Sharing Christ, Growing Together"
Sunday, January 21, 2018 | 8:15 & 10:45a

OPENING SONG

WELCOME | ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP SONGS

OFFERING

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

The Next Level

Pastor Todd

CLOSING SONG

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

JOSHUA

OVERCOMING CHALLENGES TO EXPERIENCING GOD'S PROMISES

Welcome to our WORSHIP SERVICES!

Guests, glad you are here!

- ❖ **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!



8:00a – 4:00p | Simulcast here! | Cost \$15

Get lunch...buy tickets by Jan. 25 thru rfcov.org!

After the 25th, tickets available at the door (no lunch guarantee).

Men, get inspired and encouraged!

CHURCH LIFE

- ❖ **NEXT WEEK:** Dale Lusk, who serves with the Covenant's MERGE, shares "The Pick Axe Principle" as we look at Romans 11:30-12:1.
- ❖ **THIS WEEK-ECC MIDWINTER:** Pray for Pastor Todd and Pastor Brian at the Covenant MidWinter Conference in Chicago. Please see Jeff Carow or a member of our Leadership Team if there is a need.
- ❖ **WED. SUPPER:** Chili/Hot dogs. Serving 5:15-6p. Sign up on Welcome Pad. Cost: \$3/max \$12.
- ❖ **OVER DUE! SAFETY/WELLNESS RENEWAL** *It is important to know and practice FirstCov's Safety & Wellness Policy.* Please review it, sign and return to the box in the office ASAP.
- ❖ **NEW "EVENTS" WEBPAGE** There is an "Events" page under our website's "Resources" tab. Info, sign ups, and more. Check out rfcov.org/events
- ❖ **MINISTRY BOARD** for January is our Finance Ministry Team. See it just past the hall doors.
- ❖ **JAN. 28th-CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** (2018 budget focus) & **SOUP'S ON LUNCH** (fundraiser for CHIC students) on Sun., Jan. 28 after second service.
- ❖ **RESCHEDULED! ELECTRONIC ADDICTIONS WORKSHOP** Parents & Adults. Thurs, Feb. 1, 7:00p here. Get ideas of what this looks like from a Certified Parent Coach. See more info on fliers posted around church.

INVEST IN YOUR MARRIAGE

- ❖ **DATE NIGHT** Featuring the XO Marriage Conference Simulcast here! Fri. evening, Feb. 23 & Sat. Feb. 24. (\$10.00 person, \$20.00 couple with desserts and lunch included.) Register through rfcov.org.
- ❖ **BOGO THRU JAN. 29th! WEEKEND TO REMEMBER** from FamilyLife. Fri., Mar. 2 to Sun., Mar 4. Get away for a weekend in the Twin Cities to invest in your marriage. Save with BOGO offer with online registration until Jan. 29th. (Use our group name: rfcov17). More info in Wed. E-news.

WOMEN MINISTRIES

- ❖ **DISCERNING THE VOICE OF GOD** Women's Friday morning Bible study group, doing Priscilla Shirer's study. Starts this **Friday, Jan. 19 at 9:00a, here.** Contact Wendi Blaubach or Wendy Larson or the office for more info.

AWANA

- ❖ **AWANA GRAND PRIX WORKSHOPS:** Jan. 27 from 9:00a – 12:00p. Final workshop and cars due on Feb. 10.

YOUTH CHIC FUNDRAISER

- ❖ **SPAGHETTI DINNER & SILENT AUCTION** Please join us on Sun., Feb. 11 after the second service for this fundraiser supporting our CHIC students. CHIC will take place this coming July in Knoxville, TN. We are getting some fun auction items so watch for more info. on this!

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES

9:30a | 2 y.o. thru Adult

Adult class options for Winter Term:

- ❖ **1 Timothy and Titus:** While most of Paul's New Testament letters were written to churches, a few were personal, written to fellow church leaders and loved companions. Through communal inductive manuscript study we'll explore two of four of Paul's personal letters. In his letter to Timothy, a beloved young church leader, and Titus, a Gentile convert and cherished missionary companion, Paul provides God's instruction on topics including leadership, false doctrine and teachers, money, church relationships, worship, and citizenship. In addition, Paul provides some classic summaries of Christian doctrine! Join us for this class to learn in community how God's instruction through Paul to these companions has wise instruction for us as individuals and a community of believers! Teacher: Brian Aust
- ❖ **Love & Respect Marriage Class** by Dr. Emerson Eggerich - A wife and husband have some significant needs. When they are met, it builds their relationship and marriage. When it's not, things can get crazy. Love & Respect reveals the dynamics of why spouses react negatively to each other and how they can deal with conflict quickly, easily and biblically. Want to learn about important dynamics in marriage...for yours or someone else's? To live in peace? To feel close? To feel valued? Experience marriage the way God intended as we learn together about Love & Respect. Teachers: Art & Val Wellnitz.

PRAYER REQUESTS THIS WEEK

Jan. 21, 2018

- ❖ For College Students of the week: Ben & Travis Spafford
- ❖ For Missionaries of the week: Jared & Hannah Baker
- ❖ For Healing and Help: Jean Elefson, Lana Foster, Angie Martini, Kerm Steffenhagen, Jean Hickox, Juanita Amundson, Janet Dopkins, Bob Hoaglund
- ❖ For our Congregational Vitality Team Members: Pat Stevens, Jeff Carow, Melissa Falde, Tom Nelson, Chris Mueller, Krista Majerus, Steve Schalla, Robert Curtis, Pastor Todd, and Pastor Brian
- ❖ For our Leadership Team (listed below)
- ❖ 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

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

FIRST COV LEADERSHIP TEAM

Jeff Carow, Chair; Dan Pearson, Vice Chair; Johnny Manche, Finance Officer; Pat Stevens, Administrative Officer; John Aune; Jean Wespetal; Kay Zwald; Pastor Todd

COLLEGE STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Ben & Travis Spafford, sons of Mark & Kim Spafford. Ben is a Junior at North Central University and majoring in Business. Travis is a Freshman at UWRF and majoring in Education and playing basketball there.

OUR MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK

Jared & Hannah Baker, Covenant Missionaries serving in Marseille, France. They ask for prayer in these areas.

- Pray for our church as we will be helping members to discover their spiritual gifts and how they can use them in the community.
- Pray for the Covenant European Vitality Team as they work with our European partners to put together a Vitality conference this fall.
 - Pray for friends who wait in difficult circumstances.

Connect by e-mail: jared-hannah.baker@covchurch.org

Read their blog: www.thebakersroll.blogspot.com/



THE NEXT LEVEL | JOSHUA 3 | PASTOR TODD

Today, we continue our series on the life of Joshua by looking at how to take our walk with Christ to the next level in experiencing firsthand His provisions, promises and plans. It involves:

1. Taking _____.

2. Keeping _____.

3. Being _____.

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

- Matthew 6:33 (NIV)

Sanctity of Human Life Sunday

We encourage you to bring God's value of life into the world.

Serve/Act

Baby Bottle Campaign!

Please support the Baby Bottle Fundraiser for Options for Women-River Falls. **Their mission is to help women and families facing an unplanned pregnancy and promote a culture of life.** They offer the following free and confidential services:

Pregnancy Testing, STD Testing, Ultrasounds, Counseling, Information on options (they do not provide or refer for abortions), adoption referrals, assistance with material needs.

Pick up a bottle at The Hub! Fill it with change, and return by Feb. 4, or contribute by visiting their website at <http://www.ofwrf.com/> or mail to their address: 214 North Main Street, River Falls, WI 54022

Be Informed

Read our Focus on Life Blog post at:

www.rfcov.org/sanctity-of-human-life-2018/

Pray This Week!

Seek other side for themes and Scripture for each day.

Pray for a variety of sacredness of life issues this week by using the daily prayers and scriptures on the back of this insert.



Prayers for the Sanctity of Human Life

SUNDAY: Pray for pastors to fulfill their God-given roles and to preach the truth about the value of human life. Pray that they listen to God first and His Word.

Proverbs 31:8, 9 "Open your mouth for the dumb, for the rights of all unfortunate. Open your mouth, judge righteously, and defend the right of the afflicted and needy."

MONDAY: Pray for those who value life to intercede in God-honoring ways. Pray for God-led moments of connection between those who value life and those who do not, whether in abortion, abuse of any kind, slavery, etc.

Matthew 5:16 "...let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."

TUESDAY: Pray for those who are *victims* of de-valuing of life or experience life de-valuing circumstances such as the homeless, those who suffer from mental illness, abuse victims, sexual harassment, etc.

Isaiah 58:6-7 "Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter— when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?"

WEDNESDAY: Pray for forgiveness, redemption and healing. Pray for those *who have turned from* life de-valuing practices (racism, abuse, etc.). Pray that they receive the healing needed in their lives, that their testimonies will help change the political, social and spiritual mindset.

Psalms 107:14, 20 "He sent His word and healed them." "He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and broke their bands apart."

Psalms 147:3 "He heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds."

THURSDAY: Pray for abortion to end. Pray for the truth about abortion to be brought to light through media, the entertainment industry, churches, as well as judicial and political systems.

Mark 4:22 "For nothing is hidden, except to be revealed; nor has anything been secret, but that it should come to light."

FRIDAY: Pray for all the pregnancy resource centers in America to continue to be built up and equipped for every good work and receive support and attention in their communities.

Ephesians 2:10 "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

Lamentations 2:19 "Arise, Cry aloud in the night at the beginning of the night watches, pour out your heart like water before the presence of the Lord, Lift up your hands to Him for the life of your little ones."

SATURDAY: Pray for revival of hearts and minds of young and old. To work redemptively in the world choosing "life" practices over "death" practices. Pray for people to get involved in positive ways in their communities, and at the national level.

Deuteronomy 30:19-20 "This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the LORD your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to Him."