

THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITY

Be a special part!! One of the ways we express love for God and others (and are shaped by Him) is through serving others.

One opportunity to check out is:

Join theHub Team!

Looking for a place to serve that welcomes and helps others get connected?

- No special knowledge or skills required.
- Serve 10-15 minutes before and after services. (Join the service after about 5-10 minutes and return to theHub during closing song.)
- You'll be placed on a rotation schedule every 5 weeks or so.
- We need help both services, but especially for our 10:45a service.
- Contact the office.

COMMUNITY NEWS

❖ **RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE HERE** on Tues., April 30 | 1:00-7:00p. Invite others! Set up an appointment at 1-800-RED-CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org (with code: riverfallswi).

FINANCIAL UPDATE

ELECTRONIC GIVING:

Go to www.rfcov.org and click on the *Electronic Tithing* link under Resources.

Weekly Operational need 2019: \$12,474.75
Regular Giving 4.7.19: \$15,570.00
Weekly YTD average: \$14,922.23
Mortgage balance as of 4.1.19: \$531,262.40
Attendance on 4.7.19: 134 & 185=319

CONTACT US!

www.rfcov.org | 715.425.2640 | office@rfcov.org | 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

Emily Gabriel | Worship Director: 715-307-3351 or emcega@gmail.com

Jake Jacobs | Technical Arts Director: 715-222-8611 or jakejam@gmail.com

THANK YOU

GREETERS: (8:15) Bob & Gale Hoaglund
(10:45) Josh & Joy Jewell
WORSHIP TEAM: Emily Gabriel, Wendy Larson,
Hannah Plummer, Paul Schatz, Dave Schatz
SOUND: Adam Johnson **VIDEO:** Danielle Ertsgaard
THE HUB: (8:15) Anne Harris
(10:45) Sarah Johnson
NURSERY: (8:15) Nathan, Heather & Blake Baar
(10:45) Bob & Deb Gilbertson, Brianna Strehlau
JR. CHURCH: (10:45) Candace Plummer
USHERS: (8:15) Brian Halling, Curt Yelken
(10:45) Matt Fitzgerald, Dan Pearson
PRAYER PARTNERS: (8:15) Jason & Tina Hull
(10:45) Pastor Brian, Val Wellnitz
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: Kay Schmalstig, Terri Pearson
PRODUCE PICK-UP: Dan Schmalstig

THIS WEEK

TODAY 4/14 Palm Sunday

8:15 & 10:45a Worship Services

9:30a Sunday School Classes

TUESDAY 4/16

12:00p Classroom Use: Weight Watchers

WEDNESDAY 4/17

9:30a Precepts Class

No other Wednesday Programming

THURSDAY 4/18

7:00p Living Last Supper

FRIDAY 4/20

7:00p Living Last Supper

SUNDAY 4/21

EASTER SUNDAY

8:15a & 10:45a Worship Services

9:30a Easter Breakfast

FIRST COVENANT CHURCH

"On the Journey: Sharing Christ, Growing Together"

Palm Sunday, April 14, 2019 | 8:15 & 10:45a

OPENING SONG

WELCOME | ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMISSIONING NEW STAFF

Emily Gabriel, Worship Leader
Jake Jacobs, Technical Arts Director

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*

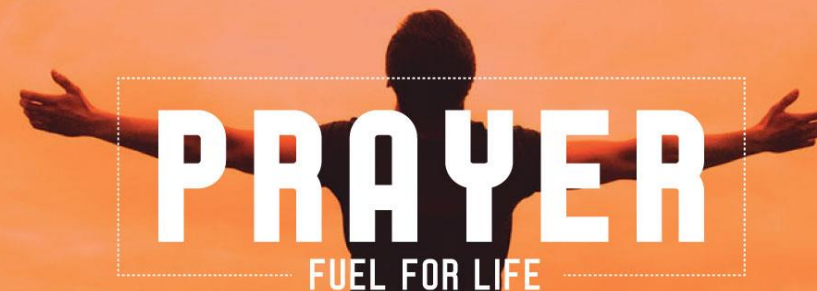
MESSAGE

The Pitfalls to Prayer

Pastor Todd

CLOSING SONG

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



WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP SERVICES!

Guests, we welcome you!

- ❖ **WELCOME PADS** help us to care and connect! Please write your contact info, pass it down the row, and then pass it back. Inside are cards for prayer requests, sign up for the weekly e-news, 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 (Infants to 4 y.o.).
 - ❖ 8:15- Nursery Room (To the right of the main entrance).
 - ❖ 10:45- Nursery Room.
 - *Infant Room—Hear the service too. On right as you enter Worship Center.
 - *10:45- Junior Church—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 AND "*Busy Bags*" for kids @theHub!
 - ❖ **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:** As an expression of appreciation, pick up a gift @theHub and get to know us from the info



SUNDAY, APRIL 14 | PALM SUNDAY

A Holy Week Bookmark is included in your bulletin. Use it to follow this important week with readings and events.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17 | No ministries

THURSDAY, APRIL 18 & FRIDAY, APRIL 19 | 7:00p

Living Last Supper Presentation | Invite others!

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 21

Worship Services 8:15a & 10:45a | Who can you invite?
Breakfast served by CHIC youth at 9:30a

CHURCH LIFE

- ❖ **NEXT SUNDAY** April 21, Pastor Todd brings us the Easter message "The Resurrection Impact" from John 20:1-29.
- ❖ **NO WED. PROGRAMS THIS WEEK.** See you all back on April 24.
- ❖ **APRIL CLARION** newsletters were e-mailed, and paper copies are available @theHub Info Rack
- ❖ **KEEP IN TOUCH!** Leadership Team & Ministry Team (LT/MT) monthly notes are @ the Info Rack in a 3-ring binder.
- ❖ **HYMN SINGS TODAY** April 14th & April 28th | 9:45-10:15a in Worship Center.
- ❖ **BAPTISM | DEDICATION:** Contact Pastor Todd if you have an interest in immersion baptism, or infant/child dedication or baptism.
- ❖ **FREE TABLE** in Multipurpose Rm. with books, studies, and other resources. Free for taking for yourself, to help someone else, or even a gift!
- ❖ **FOCUS ON LIFE APRIL THEME** is **Substance Abuse**. More information at rfcov.org/blog and in the April Clarion.
- ❖ **FAMILY RESOURCE TABLE APRIL THEME:** **Teaching Kids a God-inspired Vision of Sexuality.** An important topic to help our kids grow in seeing God's gifts in this and more than a message of just "don't do this yet." See resources available for check out on the table by the office.
- ❖ **SPRING CLEANING?** Be sure to check if you have any of our missing church library books or videos!
- ❖ **SAVE THE DATE!** All Church Sandwich making for the homeless on Sun., May 5 during the S.S. hour (9:30-10:30a).
- ❖ **VBS:** "ROAR" Vacation Bible School is scheduled for July 28 – Aug.1 (evenings). Life is wild, God is good!

CONGRATULATIONS

- ❖ **IT'S A BOY!** Congratulations to Russ & Amanda Wagner and big brother Ben on the arrival of **Jonah James Wagner**, born on Thurs., Mar. 28. Jonah weighed 8 lbs. 8oz and was 22".

LIVING LAST SUPPER

THIS Thursday, April 18, & Friday, April 19 | 7:00p

- ❖ **JOIN US & INVITE** to this drama and worship service! *See the disciples come alive and hear from them in this key moment captured in Da Vinci's painting.*

YOUTH

- ❖ **NEXT SUN., EASTER BREAKFAST!** Our CHIC youth invite you to Easter breakfast at 9:30a. Donations accepted but not required.

WEEK OF PRAYER | PRAYER VIGIL

- ❖ **FIRSTCOV WEEK OF PRAYER:** Sun., Apr. 28 Sat., May 4. A Covenant prayer resource, "*Crushed Olives, Enduring Light*," will be available in our April 28th bulletin.
- ❖ **24-HOUR PRAYER VIGIL:** Fri., May 3rd starting at noon and ending at noon on Sat., May 4. Be watching our Wed. E-news for more info AND to sign up to host OR to come pray for an hour during the vigil. You can leave prayer requests @theHub or do online through e-news.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS!

9:30-10:30a

- ❖ **2 y.o. to High School | The Gospel Project!** *Studying All the Bible over All Our Ages!*
 - Two Adult Options:**
 - ❖ **Your Divine Design**—Spiritual gifts! You have one, but do you know what it is or what it is for? Will God hold you accountable to use it? "For (you) are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for (you) to do." -Ephesians 2:10. Room 301.
 - ❖ **The Gospel Project**—April 14 we'll start a new unit "Into the Promised Land" (Numbers and Deuteronomy). Room 302.

WOMEN MINISTRIES

- ❖ **TRIENNIAL! Theme: I AM** *This every three years event is a rare opportunity in 2019* as it will be held in Minneapolis, July 18-21. Take advantage of it being so close! Let Wendi Blaubach, Wendy Larson, Lanette Harsdorf or the office know if you are interested in attending. Check out iam.covchurch.org for more info. An invite letter & registration forms are available @theHub.
- ❖ **SAVE THE DATE!** Sat., May 4, 10:00a for our Mother, Daughter, Sister, Friend Spring Tea. Sign up @theHub or E-news if you are coming and if you can bring something.

PRAYER REQUESTS THIS WEEK

April 14, 2019

- ❖ For our College Students of the week: Kylie & Morgan Larson
- ❖ For our Missionaries of the week: Campus Ministry Leaders (see below)
- ❖ For Healing and Help: Angie Martini, David Petersen, Deb Kathan
- ❖ For Kay Schmalstig and family on the passing of her mother. Funeral was yesterday.
- ❖ As we move forward from our Vitality, continue to pray for our next phase called Strategic Ministry Planning and for these team members: Pastor Todd, Pastor Brian, Melissa Falde, Jason Hull, Evan Carstedt, Kathi Nelson, Krista Majerus, and Pat Stevens
- ❖ For our Northwest Conference Leaders (see below)
- ❖ For our church staff: Pastor Todd, Pastor Brian, Neil Vance, Jake Jacobs, 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, John Meier, Murray Stoffa, Colin Arneson, Mckenzie Curtis, Max Elliott, Justin Petersen

OUR NORTHWEST CONFERENCE LEADERS

Northwest Conference Office: 3106 47th 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

COLLEGE STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Kylie & Morgan Larson, daughters of Brent & Lisa Larson. **Kylie** attends University of MN, and **Morgan** attends Minnesota State University Mankato.

Keep them both in prayer.

MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK

Campus Ministries – continue to pray for their ministry to students!

UWRF InterVarsity Christian Fellowship: Caleb Farber

UWRF Campus Crusade: Nicole & Lee Rickert, Francis Flood, Emily Dykstra,

InterVarsity MN Metro Evangelism Specialist: Brian Aust,

InterVarsity Regional Director MN Metro: Jason Hull.

PRAYER
FUEL FOR LIFE

The Pitfalls to Prayer | Luke 18:1-8 | Pastor Todd Ertsgaard

Today, we continue our series entitled, "*Prayer: Fuel for Life*" by looking at hindrances to experiencing the power of prayer. In this passage we see the need to avoid:

1. Placing _____.

2. Falling _____.

3. Relying _____.

"But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."
Matthew 6:33 (NIV)