

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:

AV/SOUND

We are looking for volunteers to be part of our Sunday AV & Sound Team! Looking for a place to serve that supports the church and each other? The AV or sound team might be a perfect fit! Technical knowledge is NOT required, and great training will be provided!

You'll be placed on a rotation schedule and help with our Sunday slide presentations or with sound! All who are interested (middle school through adult) and wanting to learn more can contact Jake Jacobs at jake@rfcov.org

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 8.11.19: \$8,022.00
Weekly YTD average: \$12,676.17
Mortgage balance as of 8.1.19: \$515,874.62
Attendance on 8-11.19: 107 & 119 = 226

CONTACT US!

www.rfcov.org | 715.425.2640 | office@rfcov.org | facebook.com/firstcovenantchurch

Instagram & Twitter: @FirstCovRF

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Brian Majerus | Pastor of Christian Formation & Family Ministries: 715.307.3470 or brian@rfcov.org

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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) Jake Jacobs, Linda Lundstrom
(10:00) David & Brenda Pomfret

WORSHIP TEAM: Emily Gabriel, Kim Majerus, Wendy Larson, Mark Wespetal, Paul Schatz, Dave Schatz

SOUND: Nathan Riess **VIDEO:** Micah Majerus

THE HUB: (8:15) Judy Sams (10:00) Sarah Johnson

NURSERY: (8:15) Danielle Ertsgaard, Tina & Gracie Hull
(10:00) Luke, Nicole & Kylee Strehlau

JR. CHURCH: (10:00) Stephen Matz

USHERS: (8:15) Brian Halling, Gregg Quam
(10:00) Adam Johnson, Matt Fitzgerald

PRAYER PARTNERS: (8:15) Bob Hoaglund
(10:00) Val Wellnitz, Pastor Brian

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: Mark & Shar Anderson, Joni Kolb
PRODUCE PICK-UP: Brian Halling

THIS WEEK

TODAY 8/18

8:15 & 10:00a Worship Services

11:15a Baptism Service

1:00 or 7:00p Greeting Ministry Orientation

MONDAY 8/19

8:30a Youth to Valleyfair & FMSC

6:30p Softball Fam. Div. FirstCov vs. Luther Mem. @H.#1

TUESDAY 8/20

12:00p Classroom Use: Weight Watchers

WEDNESDAY 8/21

6:30p Sr. High Life Group End of summer party

FRIDAY 8/23

7:00p Sr. High Lock in

SATURDAY 8/24

7:00a Sr. High Lock In ends

1:00-3:00p Chris & Becca Ertsgaard Wedding Reception

SUNDAY 8/25

8:15 & 10:00a Worship Services

FIRST COVENANT CHURCH

"On the Journey: Sharing Christ, Growing Together"

Sunday, August 18, 2019 | 8:15a & 10:00a

OPENING SONG

WELCOME | ANNOUNCEMENTS | GREET

WORSHIP SONGS

OFFERING

(10:00) 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

Dealing with Distress

Pastor Todd

CLOSING SONG

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

Immersion Baptism service following 10a service.

TRIVIAL
PURSUIT

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP SERVICES!

Guests, we welcome you!

- ❖ **WELCOME PADS** help us to care and connect! Please feel free to share your contact info and pass it down the row. 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).
 - 10:00- Nursery Room.
 - Infant Room—Hear the service too. On right as you enter Worship Center.
 - 10:00- 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.

Ever Been New Somewhere?

Coming to a church or any new place can be hard. Help our front doors be a spot of warmth, welcome, and help to our guests!

Is that your heart? Join the Greeter Team!
TODAY Sunday, August 18 @ 1:00p or 7:00p

You've witnessed the cheerful greeters when entering and leaving services; holding doors, helping people out of cars, and just being the embodiment of Christ's welcoming Spirit. **If this is an area of service that interests you, we would love to tell you more!**

Contact us at rfcov.hospitality@gmail.com or feel free to learn more at this training/informational meeting today!!

CHURCH LIFE

- ❖ **TODAY! AN IMMERSION BAPTISM SERVICE** is planned after 2nd service. Please stay and celebrate with Alexandra Roth, Abby Larson, and Dan Larson.
- ❖ **SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICES:** 8:15a & 10:00a (Sunday School returns soon!)
- ❖ **NEXT WEEK:** (August 25) Pastor Todd continues our Trivial Pursuit series from Ecclesiastes 7 and focuses on how to walk wisely in life.
- ❖ **BE IN PRAYER** for Pastor Todd and Melissa in their transition to Bemidji Covenant and for our church as we work with our Northwest Conference processes for an interim pastor and pastoral search. Their last Sunday with us is September 15.
- ❖ **KEEP IN TOUCH!** Leadership and Ministry Team monthly notes are in a 3-ring binder at the Info Rack. If you miss a Sunday you can catch sermons and the latest bulletin! Go to our website and scroll down on the main page to find sermons and bulletins to keep informed!
- ❖ **SAVE THE DATE!** Men's Breakfast, Sat., Sept. 7 at 8:00a. Jake Jacobs will share his story. Women are invited to this first breakfast!

AWANA REGISTRATION

- ❖ **REGISTER ONLINE NOW** at rfcov.twotimtwo.com. Note: Please come pay fees on Wed., Sept. 4th from 6:30- 8:00p.

VBS THANKS & PRAISES

- ❖ **THANK YOU!** Your service (in front or behind the scenes), donations, and prayer blessed so many kids and families. *Please pray for the seeds of the gospel that went out to kids and families.*
 - VBS Offering: \$869.31 collected for Covenant Kids Congo! (Our highest!!)
 - Total kids: 163 (preschool to gr. 5)
 - No church home: 19
 - Not from FirstCov: 54
 - Generous giving supported a FREE T-shirt (each child) and a VBS song CD (each family) to continue the impact!
 - Volunteers: 97
 - **Borrowed items may be picked up in room 205 ASAP.**

SR. HIGH LIFE GROUP

- ❖ **SR. HIGH: A GREAT SUMMER CONNECTION!** (including incoming freshman). This Wed. 6:30p is our end of year party.

BLAST VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Monday, August 26 | 6:30p

- ❖ **ALL CHILDREN'S VOLUNTEERS!** Please save the date for this training night.

REACH THE WORLD...HERE!

We had many AllNations House international students join our church family & worship with us this past year!

What is it? It's a campus ministry that serves UWRF international students and sharing the good news of Jesus Christ for God's glory in the nations.

How is God working? The ministry has been growing, and they have an additional house to use for the ministry.

How you can help: Help in preparing the house:

- Cleaning, sharing a truck, a few strong individuals to move furniture into the house
- Donations of beds and mattresses

Plans are to begin cleaning **Wed., Aug. 21**, but contact allnationshouseuwrfgmail.com for info.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH CAMPAIGN

Our fall series is a special kick off to fall!

- ❖ **CURRENT SMALL GROUP LEADERS:** We will be studying John Ortberg's "Eternity is Now in Session." Please reserve a kit ASAP by emailing the office with number of guides needed.

- ❖ **WANT TO BE A SMALL GROUP LEADER?** It is not as hard as you may think and God works powerfully through you! Please contact Pastor Brian or let the office know.

WEDDING SHOWER/RECEPTION

- ❖ **YOU ARE INVITED** to celebrate with us: Wedding shower/reception for **Chris & Becca Ertsgaard** (married July 13). **Sat., Aug. 24 | Here | 1:00-3:00p** | Please **RSVP** to church office or online at withjoy.com/chris-and-becca-ertsgaard. Registered at Target, Bed, Bath & Beyond, REI and Best Buy.

PRAYER REQUESTS THIS WEEK

August 18, 2019

- ❖ For Pastor Todd & Melissa as they prepare for their move to Bemidji Covenant, and for our LT as they work with our Northwest Conference Office for processes for an Interim Pastor and Pastor Search
- ❖ Missionaries of the Week: Campus Ministries and leaders
- ❖ For Healing and Help: Linda L. Johnson, David Petersen, Dave Kolb, Dot Strandberg, Bonnye Huland, Lila Hilden, Lincoln Martin, Dean Benoy, Vern Larson
- ❖ As we continue forward in our Congregational Vitality process, 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, and Pat Stevens
- ❖ For our Lake Pepin District Covenant Churches (see below)
- ❖ For our church staff: Pr. Todd, Pr. Brian, Neil Vance, Emily Gabriel, 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, Aaron Riess, Ryan Neel, John Meier, Murray Stoffa, Colin Arneson, Mckenzie Curtis, Max Elliott, Justin Petersen.

OUR LAKE PEPIN DISTRICT COVENANT CHURCHES

- Bethel – Ellsworth - Rev. Todd Spiker
- Calvary – Stockholm - Rev. Roger Mollet & Rev. Mark Coronna
- Cedarbrook – Menomonie – Rev. Remy Diederich, Rev. Kyle Gunderson & Rev. Mitch Haaby
- Crossings- Houlton, - Pastor Michele Arndt
- First Cov – Red Wing, MN, Rev. Marc Eix
- First Cov – River Falls – Rev. Todd Ertsgaard & Rev. Brian Majerus
- Lund Mission – Stockholm (Lund) – Rev. Darren Catron
- Midcurrent – Hudson – Rev. Sten Carlson
- Prairie Lake – Chetek – Rev. Scott Christensen
- Prairie View – New Richmond – Rev. Tim Coyer
- Prince of Peace - Mondovi - Rev. Ileana Garcia-Soto
- Renew – Eau Claire- Rev. Jamie Staples
- United – Clear Lake – Rev. Dan Pearson
- Zion – Ellsworth – Rev. Dave Hugare

MISSIONARIES OF THE WEEK

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

UWRF InterVarsity Christian Fellowship: Brian Aust

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

InterVarsity Regional Athlete Director – Upper Midwest: Jason Hull.

DEALING WITH DISTRESS | PASTOR TODD ECCLESIASTES 6



Today, we continue our series from Ecclesiastes by looking at how to find meaning and hope in the midst of disappointments and uncertainties. We need to realize that difficult times:

1. Are not dependent _____.
2. Are under _____.
3. Can be _____.

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." - John 16:33 (NIV)