

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU!

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:

Sunday Video & Sound Team!

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 jakejam@gmail.com

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 12.22.19: \$9,968.96
Weekly YTD average: \$11,756.98
Mortgage balance as of 12.1.19: \$471,485.02
Quarterly Pay Down to Principal: \$36,000.00
Attendance on 12.22.19: 102 & 176=278

CONTACT US!

rfcov.org | 715.425.2640 | office@rfcov.org
facebook.com/firstcovenantchurch
Instagram: @FirstCovRF

Tim Anderson | Interim Lead Pastor: pastortim1208@gmail.com
Brian Majerus | Pastor of Christian Formation & Family Ministries: brian@rfcov.org
Neil Vance | Youth Director: neil@rfcov.org
Emily Gabriel | Worship Director: emcega@gmail.com
Jake Jacobs | Technical Arts Director: jakejam@gmail.com

THANK YOU

GREETERS: Melissa Falde, Marcy Jorgenson
WORSHIP TEAM: Emily Gabriel, Melinda Hampton, Jerrett Feyereisen, Dave Schatz
SOUND: Adam Johnson **VIDEO:** Camilla Johnson
THE HUB: Jeannie Wespetal, Sarah Johnson
NURSERY: Russ & Amanda Wagner, Renee Backes
JR. CHURCH: No Jr. Church today
USHERS: Jerry Hallstrom, Gregg Quam, Rod Hanson, Matt Fitzgerald, Joe Munson
PRAYER PARTNERS: Jason & Tina Hull, Dan Pearson
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: Kathy Manche
PRODUCE PICK-UP: Dan Larson
BUS DRIVER: Jay Lucht

THIS WEEK

TODAY 12/29
10:00 One Worship Service
 No Sunday School

WEDNESDAY 1/1
 Happy New Year

THURSDAY 1/2
6:30p Leadership Team Meeting

SATURDAY 1/4
 Note: No Men's Breakfast
 Mitch Rand/Amanda Weber Wedding

SUNDAY 1/5
8:15 & 10:45a Worship Services with Communion
9:30a Sunday School Classes



First Covenant Church

of River Falls Wisconsin

On the Journey: Sharing Christ, Growing Together

Sunday, December 29, 2019 | 10:00a

OPENING SONG

WELCOME | ANNOUNCEMENTS

INFANT BAPTISM

Meeka Daguig Zwolenski

WORSHIP SONGS

OFFERING & PRAYER

Note: There is no Jr. Church today

MESSAGE

How Christmas Works

Pastor Tim

CLOSING SONG

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

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).
 - 10:45- Nursery Room.
 - Infant Room—On right as you enter Worship Center. Service on screen.
 - 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.

God's Story:

A Chronological Bible Challenge



Starts THIS Wednesday, January 1!

Let's Read Together the Whole Bible and Get the Whole Story!

Every two years we offer this plan to read it in story (chronological) order in a year. See the interweaving of various books/verses. This year's online plan has GREAT videos on the books and interesting ones on biblical themes. Paper Bibles available too.

Sign up in the e-news, at the table, OR:

- **For tips on each book of the Bible:** tinyurl.com/BibleTips
- **To join the FirstCov Bible Project Reading Plan group:** tinyurl.com/FirstCovGroup

CHURCH LIFE

- ❖ **NEXT SUNDAY** (Jan. 5) Pastor Tim's message will be from Ephesians 5:1-12 "The Resolution Solution."
- ❖ **JANUARY CLARION** newsletters were e-mailed on Friday and paper copies are available at the Info Rack.
- ❖ **SUPPERS FOR SIX!** More info in Wed. E-News and in the Jan. Clarion. Sign up @theHub. We are extending the sign ups into January.
- ❖ **THANK YOU** to over 145 volunteers who helped make Living Nativity 2019 a success! 261 vehicles, (850 people) from our community visited and celebrated Jesus's birth.
- ❖ **FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY:** We're hosting this starting Mon., Jan. 13, 2020 for nine weeks. Please see the Dec. or Jan. Clarion newsletter or the weekly e-news for more details.
- ❖ **SAFETY/WELLNESS RENEWALS FOR 2020 will be due by the end of January.** An email will be sent soon with the policy and any forms you need. *It is important to know and practice FirstCov's Safety & Wellness.* Please review it, sign and return to the box in the office.

WOMEN MINISTRIES

- ❖ **INVITE!** Linda Anderson invites you to her home for coffee/tea on Sat., Jan. 25. Please bring your favorite cup/mug and your favorite hat! Sign up at theHub or through E-News for one of the three times (2:00, 4:00, or 6:00). Because of lack of parking, it would be best to carpool from church too.
- ❖ **PRECEPT CLASS:** The Women's Precept Bible Study class will be studying "Knowing God's Covenant," starting January 15th at 9:30-11:45am. Contact Pam Yelken or the church office for more information.

MEN!

- ❖ **NO REGRETS** Men's Conference simulcast tickets are on sale through our website. No Regrets is a special time for guys to seek Christ and get inspired! Sat., Feb. 1, 2020. For info, see Vern Larson or the office.
- ❖ **NOTE:** No breakfast will be held in January.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Returns Sunday, January 5th!!

- ❖ **Gospel Project! 9:30-10:30a for Ages 2 y.o. to Adult.** (We're excited about High School and Adults starting the year in a special 6-week class together!)

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Remember These Special Notes!

- ❖ **Wed., Jan. 1** No Wed. Ministries
- ❖ **Sun., Jan. 5** Sunday School Classes start (2 y.o. to Adult).
- ❖ **Wed. Jan 8 Start!** All Wednesday Ministries. No regular Confirmation classes but Parent Conference time.

CONFIRMATION PARENTS

- ❖ **PARENT CONFERENCES** with Pastor Tim, Pastor Brian, or Neil are Mon., Jan. 6 from 6:00-8:00p, or Wed., Jan. 8th from 3:30-8:00. An e-mail has been sent for you to pick a 15-minute slot. Note: No classes for students on Wed., Jan. 8.

INFANT BAPTISM

- ❖ **TODAY IT IS OUR** privilege to share in the service of baptism with **Tony & Merriam Zwolenski** as they present their daughter, **Meeka Daguig Zwolenski** to the Lord (born Dec. 16, 2019). **Infant baptism** is not a regenerative act – an act of salvation for the child. It is an act on the part of the parents who seek the special moving of God's Holy Spirit to someday draw that child to commit her life to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Salvation is a personal act of commitment between the individual and God; no one can do this for her. In infant baptism, not only is the child presented to God but the parents, sponsors and congregation also give themselves to God as His instruments of influence to help draw the child into a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. In baptism, the symbolic use of water points to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ through which He provided our cleansing from sin and the gift of salvation to all who receive Him.

PRAYER REQUESTS THIS WEEK

December 29, 2019

- ❖ That we may be renewed by Christ for 2020, with God's grace
- ❖ For our Pastoral Search Committee (working with our Northwest Conference Office) for a Lead Pastor Search. Members are: Brian Aust, Caye Bakken, Melissa Falde, Jason Hull, Steve Johnson, Lindsey Koskie, Brent Larson, Pat Nelson, John Aune (LT Chair).
- ❖ For Pastor Tim & Linda Anderson, in their time with us as our Interim Lead Pastor
- ❖ Missionary of the week: Judy Gomoll
- ❖ For Healing and Help: David Petersen, Joni Kolb, Terri Pearson, Bob Gilbertson, Nancy Erickson, Ernie Huland, Becki Reed
- ❖ 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 Brian, Melissa Falde, Jason Hull, Evan Carstedt, Kathi Nelson, and Pat Stevens
- ❖ For our Leadership Team (see below)
- ❖ For our staff: Pr. Tim, 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: Brent Wiersma (currently deployed), Roland Pomfret, Aaron Riess, Ryan Neel, John Meier, Murray Stoffa (currently deployed), Colin Arneson, Mckenzie Curtis, Max Elliott (currently deployed), Justin Petersen

OUR FIRSTCOV LEADERSHIP TEAM

John Aune, Chair, Jerry Hallstrom, Vice Chair; Pat Stevens, Adm. Officer; Jeff Carow, Financial Officer; Jean Wespetal, Kay Zwald, Mark Gabriel, Marv Call, Pastor Tim Anderson, Pastor Brian Majerus

These LT members will serve as liaisons to these Ministry Teams: Adult: Kay Zwald, Children's: Pat Stevens, Youth: Mark Gabriel, Men's: Marv Call, Women's: Jean Wespetal, Worship & Arts: Pastor Tim & Kay Zwald; Maintenance: Jerry Hallstrom, Missions: Mark Gabriel; Outreach: John Aune & Marv Call, CMJ: Jeff Carow, Hospitality: Marv Call.

MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

Judy Gomoll, serving with the Navigators. **Her new ministry:** Serving half-time in Colorado with the US-Navigators and half-time in Nairobi, Kenya, with the Africa-Navigators. In Africa, Judy disciples young women, identifies and develops potential women leaders, helps address matters of biblical sexuality, encourages and mentors Ugandan Navigator leaders, and adapts/designs cross-cultural ministry resources. In the US, she also designs and delivers ministry training for US staff, serves on the Sexual Health and Wholeness National Team, comes alongside African Navigators based in the US, and focuses on the spiritual needs of the younger generation.

Where: Colorado, US, and Nairobi, Kenya

US Contact Info: 11961 Ridgeview Lane, Parker, CO 80138

Support: prayer and financial; gifts may be sent to The Navigators, PO Box 6079, Albert Lea, MN 56007-6679. **Email:** judygomoll@usfamily.net



Are there lasting effects that Christmas has brought about in you? If so, what are they?

Christmas "works" in our lives when we honor Christ and not just the culture of Christmas.

How might this impact your life in 2020?

Can you think of ways in which you can become the hands of Jesus to people around you?

What might this look like?