

Youth Ministry this Summer

With the semester coming to a close, I've been very thankful for our Wednesday evening youth groups and the Scripture we have been studying. The youth have been doing a phenomenal job studying God's Word during our small group time, then relaying what they learned to the larger group. They've learned new words and their theological implications such as "justification," "sanctification," and "glorification". These words are used to describe the process of being made right with God, becoming more Christlike by the grace of God, and eventually abiding with Him in the new Heaven and new earth. We also learned that as believers in Christ we want to demonstrate the "fruit of the Spirit" not to become right with God, but because we are right with God! It's been a great year!

"If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory."

Colossians 3:1-4

Summer is quickly approaching and we are so excited about the weekly activities we have planned. Every Sunday evening, we plan on gathering around a bonfire to enjoy fellowship with one another and study Scripture – specifically the books of Galatians and Ephesians this summer. To quote my wife Rachel, "There is just something about being around a fire that makes you want to talk about deep things." We are also starting up our Monday night games of ultimate frisbee which have been such a hit in past summers. This is a great time to have fun, and also a great opportunity to reach out and invite people from the community to join! We pray before beginning the game and hope that all who attend will have their curiosities turned toward our gracious God. Lastly, every Thursday we plan on hanging out at Smokey Bear Park. It will be relaxed with lawn games and a time where youth can grow in relationship with one another and ask any questions they may have about God.

Personally, it looks like I am set to speak at the first two weeks of Bluewater Bible camp so I will have a very busy month of June! I would love for your con-

tinued prayers for the youth in this community and also for the youth who are attending Bluewater Bible Camp this year.

Grace be with you,
Marco

Under Construction



Vacation Bible School

July 26-28

We will be having in-person VBS this year! It will be for families, with a dinner provided and then activities.

More details coming!



Grief Share

Struggling with the loss of a loved one? Need someone to talk to? Someone to listen? Please contact Tucky Dill at 218.742.6040.



- June 1 -- Dan & Debbie Griffith
-- Phil & Missy Ruelle
- June 2 -- Kristy Hufnagle
-- Claire Zika
-- Pete & Carol Anderson
- June 4 -- Kimberly Dawn Nyborg
-- Chad Shoberg
-- Will & Sixta Davies
-- Tom & Jennifer Holm
- June 5 -- Eric Hall
-- Dixie Worth
-- David & Polly Hebig
-- Roger & Betty Williams
- June 6 -- Rodney & Judy Lofgren
- June 7 -- Darren Baumchen
-- Brian Keeney
-- Walter Kelly
- June 9 -- Karlie Gustafson
- June 11 -- Megan Clarity
-- June Henrikson
-- Mikaela Hultstrand
- June 10 -- Jeff & Vickie Bernard
-- Chadd & Kim Boyer
-- Gene & Judy Pierce
-- Wayne & Renae Bahr
- June 13 -- Olnick Hultstrand
-- Mary Shoberg
- June 14 -- Kris Morgan
-- Tom & Dixie Worth
- June 15 -- Jacob Pendergast
- June 16 -- Dave Herryly
-- Tom & Melanie Clarity
-- Jim & Betty Peterson
- June 17 -- Joan Lofgren
-- Don & Kim Schmidtbauer
-- Dan & Sharon Zika
- June 18 -- Dale Boyum
-- Howie & Carol Hauge
- June 20 -- Preston Benedix
-- Dee Olsen
- June 21 -- Ryan Todd
- June 23 -- Derek & Christina Dowty
- June 24 -- Caleb Levene
-- Emma Morgan
- June 25 -- Valerie Peterson
-- Joel & Michelle Maxwell
- June 26 -- Carson Line
- June 28 -- Tess Vollom
- June 29 -- Jim Ohlquist
-- Marcia Ohlquist
- June 30 -- Jase Veert



Moving Toward Good Days!

As was said in our May 16th Congregational Meeting, in congregational governance, "every member has a voice, every member has a vote, but not everyone gets their way." As chair I understand healthy leadership as controlling processes, but not outcomes, and this recent meeting had a healthy process of discussion around each issue. The results were unambiguous: We approved the purchase of a new boiler system with 90% support, rejected a change regarding voting technology, with 46% support, and rejected gender neutral presence on the Leadership Team, with 66% support. Eighty one members cast votes.

The tone of the meeting was positive and respectful, and reflects our "behavioral covenant" even when we disagree. Of course, there are those who are disappointed with the results, but the ramping up of our Ministry Teams allows us to lean into the ministry God has placed before us. Unity does not necessitate uniformity.

On another note, May 30th has given us cause for celebration with our return to *worship in our* sanctuary after more than a year of on-line worship, outdoor worship, and worship in our church gymnasium. Attendance is climbing and it is wonderful to reconnect with so many we have missed during the pandemic. Of course, COVID 19 is still with us, and we have people within the congregation who are very ill and need our prayers, so we encourage vaccinations and continuing health protocols.

Any leadership conversation these days emphasizes relationships since the pandemic has taken a toll on our fellowship, so a few pointers are in order. First, make sure you reach out to those who are outside your normal circle of relationships. We want *every person* to know they are seen and welcomed. Secondly, see every conversation as your ministry. Few of us live heroic Christian lives, but all of us can touch others by really noticing them, and putting our personal agendas aside. And thirdly, let's make a special effort to attend church events designed to help us reconnect. There are fellowship gatherings, meals, and fun opportunities to be together, but they will only be as good as our participation.

Finally, we are glad to announce the formation of a Staff Relations Team as spelled out in our bylaws. Dave Herryly (Personnel Officer), Andy Hedlund (Vice Chair), Elaine Johnson (at large), and Kathy Galusha (at large) will be establishing protocols to meet with all our church staff on an on-going basis for encouragement, suggestion, and support. We are so thrilled with our church staff, and are glad these four will extend care on our behalf.

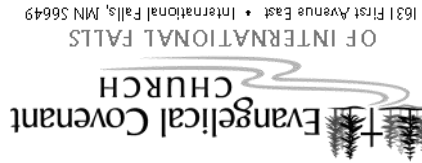
Alan Johnson, Chair



June

1. <input type="checkbox"/> LUKE 1:1-25	<input type="checkbox"/> EPHESIANS 1:1-14	<input type="checkbox"/> PSALMS 119:1-8	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 KINGS 1
2. <input type="checkbox"/> 1:26-38	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:15-23	<input type="checkbox"/> 119:9-16	<input type="checkbox"/> 2-3
3. <input type="checkbox"/> 1:39-56	<input type="checkbox"/> 2:1-10	<input type="checkbox"/> 119:17-24	<input type="checkbox"/> 4-5
4. <input type="checkbox"/> 1:57-66	<input type="checkbox"/> 2:11-22	<input type="checkbox"/> 119:25-32	<input type="checkbox"/> 6-7
5. <input type="checkbox"/> 1:67-80	<input type="checkbox"/> 3:1-13	<input type="checkbox"/> 119:33-40	<input type="checkbox"/> 8
6. <input type="checkbox"/> 2:1-20	<input type="checkbox"/> 3:14-21	<input type="checkbox"/> 119:41-48	<input type="checkbox"/> 9-10
7. <input type="checkbox"/> 2:21-40	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:1-16	<input type="checkbox"/> 119:49-56	<input type="checkbox"/> 11
8. <input type="checkbox"/> 2:41-52	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:17-24	<input type="checkbox"/> 119:57-64	<input type="checkbox"/> 12
9. <input type="checkbox"/> 3:1-20	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:25-32	<input type="checkbox"/> 119:65-72	<input type="checkbox"/> 13-14
10. <input type="checkbox"/> 3:21-38	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:1-21	<input type="checkbox"/> 119:73-80	<input type="checkbox"/> 15-16
11. <input type="checkbox"/> 4:1-12	<input type="checkbox"/> 5:22-33	<input type="checkbox"/> 119:81-88	<input type="checkbox"/> 17-18
12. <input type="checkbox"/> 4:13-30	<input type="checkbox"/> 6:1-9	<input type="checkbox"/> 119:89-96	<input type="checkbox"/> 19-20
13. <input type="checkbox"/> 4:31-37	<input type="checkbox"/> 6:10-24	<input type="checkbox"/> 119:97-104	<input type="checkbox"/> 21-22
14. <input type="checkbox"/> 4:38-44	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILIPPIANS 1:1-11	<input type="checkbox"/> 119:105-112	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 KINGS 1-3
15. <input type="checkbox"/> 5:1-11	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:12-20	<input type="checkbox"/> 119:113-120	<input type="checkbox"/> 4-5
16. <input type="checkbox"/> 5:12-16	<input type="checkbox"/> 1:21-30	<input type="checkbox"/> 119:121-128	<input type="checkbox"/> 6-7
17. <input type="checkbox"/> 5:17-26	<input type="checkbox"/> 2:1-11	<input type="checkbox"/> 119:129-136	<input type="checkbox"/> 8-9
18. <input type="checkbox"/> 5:27-32	<input type="checkbox"/> 2:12-18	<input type="checkbox"/> 119:137-144	<input type="checkbox"/> 10-11
19. <input type="checkbox"/> 5:33-39	<input type="checkbox"/> 2:19-30	<input type="checkbox"/> 119:145-152	<input type="checkbox"/> 12-13
20. <input type="checkbox"/> 6:1-16	<input type="checkbox"/> 3:1-9	<input type="checkbox"/> 119:153-160	<input type="checkbox"/> 14-15
21. <input type="checkbox"/> 6:17-26	<input type="checkbox"/> 3:10-14	<input type="checkbox"/> 119:161-168	<input type="checkbox"/> 16-17
22. <input type="checkbox"/> 6:27-36	<input type="checkbox"/> 3:15-21	<input type="checkbox"/> 119:169-176	<input type="checkbox"/> 18-19
23. <input type="checkbox"/> 6:37-42	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:1-7	<input type="checkbox"/> 120	<input type="checkbox"/> 20-21
24. <input type="checkbox"/> 6:43-49	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:8-13	<input type="checkbox"/> 121	<input type="checkbox"/> 22-23
25. <input type="checkbox"/> 7:1-10	<input type="checkbox"/> 4:14-23	<input type="checkbox"/> 122	<input type="checkbox"/> 24-25

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A Cup of Coffee with Pastor Seth . . .

Last month I asked the question, “What kind of church would we be if we were the church of your dreams?” I shared that I would love to be a **Commissional** church - a church that lives out the great commission to make disciples of all nations. This month I want to introduce another — a **Community** church.

We want to reach our community for Christ. The reality is though, they don't care what we know until they know that we care. Some churches want to hide inside their church walls until Jesus comes back. God doesn't want that. God doesn't call us FROM our community, He calls us TO our community.

About four years ago the leadership team sensed God calling us to “be a bigger blessing to the community.” I have seen more fruit from this vision than anything else. As we cleaned up playgrounds, poured cement at the school, built bunk beds for the homeless shelter, and served food to people in need, something else happened. We built relationships with people in our community. We had people get pointed to our church because they were told “they help people at the Covenant Church.” We showed them that we care. It reminded me of the early church where it was said about them that they were:

...praising God and having favor with all the people. - Acts 2.47 NKJV

Pastor Leith Anderson said a church should do as many community activities in the church as they can, and do as many church activities in the community as they can. As individuals we should partner with the church's efforts to reach our community, and figure out ways to use our gifts and interests to build relationships. That means fishing in the bass tournament, coaching in school sports, acting in the plays at Backus, hanging your paintings up at Coffee Landing. When people know how much we care, they will be so hungry to hear about our Jesus. Let me end with a question to hopefully challenge us toward being a **Community** church. If our church disappeared from our community tomorrow would we be missed?

Mercy, peace & love be yours in abundance.
Pastor Seth

In This Edition...

- Cup of Coffee with Pastor Seth
- Youth Update
- Leadership Team
- People to Celebrate
- Celebrate Recovery
- Grief Share
- Worship Highlights
- Missions Update
- VBS
- Short Term Mission's Trip
- Coming Events



No Small Jobs in God's Kingdom

Paul taught in 1 Corinthians 12 that effective ministry takes the whole body of Christ working together, "As it is, there are many parts, yet one body."

Sure, people are blessed when they hear Pastor Seth's sermon, but it takes more than just Pastor Seth for that to happen. Someone unlocked the church. Someone set the temperature in the room. Someone else got the microphones up and running. Another person cleaned up the church in advance. Somebody else mowed the lawn. Others prayed for the service beforehand. Different people greeted everyone at the door with a smile. And then, there's the COFFEE! The list goes on. Whenever we're blessed while we're at church, it's because the Spirit of God is moving through the entire body to be a blessing.

Every Sunday morning this summer, we will be acknowledging one of our past or present volunteers. As a part of the worship, we will recognize what God has been able to accomplish at our church through a willing servant. Our church IS what it is today, because of willing servants of the past AND current servants of today. This time of the service will be one of my favorites because it gives the whole congregation the opportunity to get to know someone a little better as well as show their appreciation for the service of their brother or sister.

Thank you, Church Volunteer

If you are a volunteer in any capacity in our church, we want to thank you publicly. From teachers, servers, greeters, prayers, ushers, kitchen help, donators and musicians to cleaners, fixers and cooks, we are blessed to serve in the kingdom of God alongside you.

We will be having a Volunteer Appreciation Lunch on Sunday, June 13, immediately following the service. All the food will be provided, so your attendance is all that is required! Please plan to stay to eat and visit with one another as we extend our thanks for your selfless service!

If you are a church volunteer hear it from us- your work and your ministry matter! It matters while we're here on earth, and it matters as an eternal blessing as well. We are grateful to all the people

who give of their time, energies and talents to see the kingdom advance.

Church volunteer, we see what you're doing, and we are grateful to you for it.

Mary Boyum
Welcome, Fun & Fellowship



Worship Arts Highlights

We are so excited to be back worshipping in the sanctuary! We sure have loved our time in the gym and are so thankful to have had that space to worship in when we needed it. Who would've thought that the gym would become such a special space for us! As we transition back into the sanctuary, I'd love to take some time to acknowledge some people within the worship arts ministries who have worked so hard to enhance our worship services, all for the glory of Christ.

It has been amazing to see God working through our audio and visuals as we navigated through the unexpected pandemic and all of the needs that came along with it. Live streaming was new to us when we began, but our Audio and Visuals team has since put in so much time and effort into making our live stream the best quality for those watching at home to have an enjoyable church-from-home experience. Huge thank you to Stacy Hall in particular for everything that she has done for our live stream thus far! Ian Hall and Mike Carney have both worked so hard on improving the sound quality for the services, both in-house and via live stream. Their motivation and dedication is inspiring to me, and I am so thrilled by the improvements that they have made these last few months.

Lastly, I want to give a shout out to Joel Maxwell for the incredible graphics and videos that he has created for our services. His graphic design abilities are truly phenomenal and we are so thankful for Joel and his creativity!

It is so fun looking back on this past year and seeing all of the areas that the Lord has been moving in within our worship arts ministries. I can't wait to see what He has in store for the rest of this year!

Blessings,
Tess Vollom

Missions Update



The missions team has decided to support Mark & Tina Mast with One Hope Canada, and Matt & Heidi Keller with YWAM Boise, Idaho.

Mark & Tina minister out of Rainy River ON, holding Bible clubs during the school year and Bible camps during the summer. They have an outreach to Guatemala, where they are building a school. Their website is onehoperainyriver.ca.

Matt, Heidi and their 3 boys minister in Boise, Idaho, working with refugees from the Middle East or Africa. They build relationships with individuals and families, many who have a Muslim background. For more information check out: ywamidaho.org.

Prayer Requests this month:

Mark & Tina Mast - COVID restrictions have tightened again, so there will be no in-person camps this summer. But they are thankful for technology so they can use "Bible Fun", an on-line Bible program for children and teens. Please pray that many will participate. Their son Ben and his wife will be moving to Rainy River to pastor a church there.

The school in Guatemala is continuing to move ahead with their building project in spite of no work teams coming in 2021. Please pray for the believers to continue to reach out to their neighbors and for the school to disciple their students.

Matt & Heidi Keller - YWAM in Boise ID - Please pray for a believer from the Middle East that has just arrived in Boise and has been separated from his wife and son for 7 years. Pray that they will be united again. Pray for wisdom as to whom to invest time with this summer and for the young people who come to their home to study the Bible. Also that the ones who have left Islam would be bold to share their faith.

Tim and Mary Sue Austin - Dakar, Senegal- Their youngest child, Ben, will graduate June 10. He will be going to NDSU College of Science in Fargo. Pray as they adjust to no kids at home. They will be on home assignment for the rest of this year, so pray that they can be an encouragement to the people and churches they visit. Also pray for the school when they are gone, that all the positions will be filled by fall. They praise God that they could have a "normal" school year.

Colleen Estes - Pikangikum, ON- This has been a season of sorrow, so pray for the people there, especially pray for the tribal leaders, pastors of the churches, and the believers, that they can find peace, comfort and ways to encourage their community.

This is what has happened recently: the body of a missing man was found after 2 weeks of searching, a 3 year old girl drowned, cancer for a mom of 4 children, Colleen's close friend, Pyvillia passed away from poor health, and people have been starting fires that have caused damage to property and a home. Colleen is in Sioux Lookout with a young pregnant woman. She is going to be with her during delivery, since the young woman didn't have someone to go with her. Colleen is going to stay longer for a time to rest, renew and refresh, so pray that she is able to do that with few distractions.

Thank you for keeping all of these requests in your prayers.



Short Term Mission's Trip

Work has begun on planning the trip. More information will be coming as the plans are worked out. Please pray that we will go to where God wants us to be.



Mark Your Calendar for...

- June 5 • Waffles & Widows
- June 13 • Volunteer Appreciation Lunch
- July 11 • Baptism service at City Beach
- July 23 • Family Movie Night in gym
- July 26-28 • Family VBS