Community Covenant Church 122 S Main Street PO Box 278 Upsala, MN 56384

Phone: 320-573-2672

Email: covenant@upsalacov.org

www.upsalacov.org



Pastor Steve Weihsmann Senior Pastor steve@upsalacov.org (218) 428-8010

Zach Klein Youth Ministries zach@upsalacov.org (763) 242-7237

Bible Camp Church Scholarships

Send your child, grandchild, or a sponsored child to camp to hear God's truth for a week!



*Please contact the church office for the camp scholarship code 320-573-2672







Sunday Worship Service at

Lake Beauty Bible Camp



July 20 At 10:00am **Family Camping Weekend**

at

Lake Beauty Bible Camp July 18-20

Please register at:

LBBC.com or call 320-732-3218





Publication of Community Covenant Church, Upsala, MN

March/April 2025



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Easter Services at Community Covenant

Ash Wednesday, March 5

6pm Soup, 6:30pm Worship Service

Sunday, April 13

10:15am Palm Sunday Service

Sunday, April 20

8:30am Easter Sunrise Service 9:00am Youth Easter Breakfast Served 10:15am Easter Worship Service Usually, the phrase in the title of this month's article is reversed and reads "now and not yet." It is often applied to the Kingdom of God, which is here now, having been brought by Jesus as evidenced by His teaching and miracles, and not yet fully here and will not be fully here until He returns and puts everything right in our world. The phrase is reversed for the article because there is an event coming that involves our church and the community, but not yet. And there are some things we can do now to get ready.

The event is an evangelistic outreach to be held at the Upsala School, in the gymnasium, on the night of Wednesday January 21, 2026. That is almost a year away, so it is not yet. We are partnering with the Todd Becker Foundation out of Kearney NE, which is skilled at this sort of thing. It takes a great deal of planning to do well, and the foundation is doing it well in other places until then, and so the date is far out.

When it happens, the foundation will bring a semi containing a sound stage that will stretch from foul line to foul line in the gym. And with the sound stage, a band and instruments and lights. The musicians will put on a concert, having set up all day and having piqued everyone's interest. The songs are all original. And there will be a speaker who will tell the story of Todd Becker. Todd was tragically killed in an automobile accident in which alcohol was involved. The dangers of drinking and driving will be spelled out. But the speaker will also clearly and plainly present the Gospel and invite all present to follow Jesus. This is possible in a school setting because the foundation will rent the school, giving it freedom to proclaim Christ. Happily, school administrators are in full support. It is a year out, and that is the not yet part.

The now part is getting ready. Several things need to be done. One is finishing the fundraising. The Lions have already given half of what is needed. The churches, businesses, and community members are asked to contribute another \$3200, a reasonable amount given the time allotted. Counselors will be needed to help people begin a new life with Christ. Training will be offered for this. Band members will

need housing. How cool would it be to have one stay with you? Invitations will need to be given to friends and family. You probably know somebody who needs to know Jesus.

So, this is the not yet and now in which we are living. We have been thinking about and praying about and learning about evangelism and discipleship for several years. Our chance to do it is almost at hand. Will you join Christ in the effort to enlarge His family? Pastor Rudy reminds me from time to time, "One of the greatest blessings you will ever know is that God would use you to show someone else that He is alive and is in pursuit of them."

Pastor Steve



April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 6 PM meal	3	4	5
			6:20-7:35 PM JTeam/ALand			
			6:30 PM Ignite		Confirmation R	etreat at LBBO
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship	9 AM Children's Team Meeting 8 PM Men's Bible Study		6 PM meal 6:20-7:35 PM JTeam/ALand 6:30 PM Ignite			
return	Study					
Palm Sunday 9 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship	May/June Newsletter Deadline	15	16 6:30 PM Ignite	7 PM Leadership Meeting	Good Friday	19
20 <i>Easter</i>	21	22	23	24	25	26
8:30 Worship 9:00 Easter Breakfast 10:15 Worship	8 PM Men's Bible Study		6 PM meal 6:20-7:35 PM JTeam/ALand 6:30 PM Ignite			
27 Confirmation Sunday 9 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship With Communion	28	29	6 PM meal 6:20-7:35 PM JTeam/ALand 6:30 PM Ignite		HE IS R	

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March 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship	1 PM Women's Bible Study 7 PM Women's Bible Study	7 PM Youth Meeting	5 Ash Wednesday 6:00pm Soup 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service 7:15 Ignite (7-12th)	6	7	Remember to Turn Your Clocks Forward tonight
9 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship	10 1 PM Women's Bible Study 7 PM Women's Bible Study 8 PM Men's Bible Study	7 PM Properties Meeting	6 PM meal 6:20-7:35 PM JTeam/ALand 6:30 PM Ignite	13	14	15 Ladies Day Out 9:30am Tutti Fruitti Sauk Centre
9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship w/ Communion	17 St. Patrick's Day 1 PM Women's Bible Study 7 PM Women's Bible Study	18	6 PM meal 6:20-7:35 PM JTeam/ALand 6:30 PM Ignite 7 PM CW Mtg.	20 First day of Spring 7 PM Leadership Meeting	21	Jamaica Mission Trip March 22-29th
23 No Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship 30 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Worship	24 1 PM Women's Bible Study 7 PM Women's Bible Study 8 PM Men's Bible Study	25	26 10 am Prayer Team Meeting 6 PM meal 6:20-7:35 PM JTeam/ALand 6:30 PM Ignite	27	28	29

Office Talk

Office Hours

Tuesday 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Wednesday 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Thursday 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Friday 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

122 S. Main Street PO Box 278 Upsala, MN 56384 320-573-2672 covenant@upsalacov.org www.upsalacov.org

Evangelical Covenant Church www.covchurch.org Northwest Conference www.northwestconference.org

March Worship Servers

Ushers: Trent & Elizabeth V.

PrayerScripture2 Pastor SteveTracy Rodewald9 Karen HoffmanLydia Prout16 Rudy KingNina Prout23 Wanda EricksonLucy Aleckson

30 Betty Olson Tina Yorek



April Worship Servers

Ushers: Ken & Molly Abrahamson

<u>Prayer</u>	<u>Scripture</u>
6 Pastor Steve	Michelle A.
13 Leif Johnson	Suzi Johnsor
20 Anne Weihsmann	Robin Block
27 Sandi Soderberg	Tina Yorek



Staying Connected

We send out Sunday bulletins and bi-monthly newsletters via email. If you aren't receiving them, call the church office at 320-573-2672, or send us an email: covenant@upsalacov.org

Publication Deadlines:

Sunday bulletin: 10pm Wednesday Monthly Newsletter: February 10, April 14, June 13, August 15, October 13, & December 10

Interested in setting your offering as an ACH?

ACHs can occur weekly, every 2 weeks, monthly, or any specific day you choose.

Stop in the office to set the ACH to your preference Or

Visit the Giving tab at: www.upsalacov.org/donate (consider clicking the box to cover processing fees)

Please consider giving generously to support the ministries of our church, as we continue to serve our community and share the love of Christ!



Meal Train Purpose Statement and Procedure

Covenant Women's Meal Train Purpose Statement: We would like to provide meals through Meal Train as an opportunity to show love and bless those who, through various circumstances, could use a little help and encouragement.

1 Peter 4:9 - Offer hospitality to one another

For families with new babies, someone going through surgery, or extended illness, someone going through a disaster (fire/flood), etc.

Upon request from the person or their immediate family, a Meal Train will be set up for up to three (3) meals to those in need. (This could be more, depending on the situation.)

Contact Meal Train Coordinator with the following information

Name(s)

Number of people eating

Adults Kids

Date(s) meal(s) would be appreciated

Time preferred

Dietary restrictions

Food likes/dislikes

Email address

Phone number

Home address



- Meal Train is created
- Link sent to Church Office
- Email sent out to CCC congregation via Sunday Bulletin contact list
- Those interested in participating sign up for the Meal Train

Meal Train Coordinator Cyd Woller - 763-350-0292

Ignite Youth News



Winter Retreat Was GREAT!

During Presidents Day Weekend, six Ignite students and I went to Adventurous Christians in Grand Marais, MN for a weekend. We spent time in God's creation and fellowshipped with two other youth groups. We had opportunities to hike, jump in the frozen lake, sit in a sauna, play games, sing worship songs, hear devotionals from students and adults, and just enjoy some relaxation. It was a great time for our entire group, even if there wasn't indoor plumbing.

We also had a great time driving up to the camp and stopping several times for hikes and sightseeing.

UPCOMING UP EVENTS:

- Confirmation Retreat April 4-6
- Easter Breakfast April 20
- Confirmation Sunday April 27
- Graduation Sunday May 18

We have a new way of communicating with parents and students. Please either scan the QR code below OR send the word IGNITE to (833) 481-5655 to join.



During the month of February we have been going through a very fun series on the Spiritual Gifts. We studied 1 Corinthians 12 and took a Spiritual Gifts assessment, learning about what each gift means and how it can used to be a part of the body of Christ.

Bible Beans is our new IGNITE Fundraiser every other week 20 minutes before and after the church service.

Free Will Donations are welcomed.



Announcements

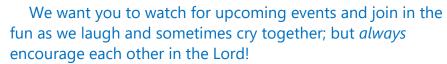
8



Ash Wednesday Worship Service March 5

6:00 pm Soup and Bread Meal
6:30pm Worship Service

Dear Ladies in our Church family,



Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken, bind us together, Lord, bind us together, O bind us together in love.

Next Ladies Day Out:

Date: Saturday, March 15

Time: 9:30 am

Place: Tutti Fruitti Restaurant

*Carpool leaves at 9am



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

Pray for America

The church will be open from 8am-8pm Thursday, May 1 for the National Day Of Prayer.

Romans 15:13 says, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit"



World Vision - Global 6k

The Global 6K is Back...

The GLOBAL 6K for clean water is planned for <u>Saturday, May 17</u>. Leadership will cover \$25 of the registration fee for each church participate. Adults need to pay an additional \$25. Time: TBA

To Do:

- 1. Sign up in the church office to get registered.
- 2. Ask people to sponsor you via a donation to World Vision.
- 3. Be ready to run (and have fun) on Saturday, May 17.





Every step you take is one they won't have to.

Why 6K? It's the average distance people in the developing world walk for water every day. When you and thousands of others cross the finish line, you'll be changing the lives of women and children by helping to free them from a life spent collecting dirty water.

Proverbs 19:17 says, "Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done."

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Adam & Jenny Roub are working with CRU in the Duluth and surrounding area.

Adam has only been going to Northland College for months now, but in that time, God has gathered about 10-12 students into a new community that seeks to be a light for Jesus in a dark place. We have two new leaders, Andy and Donna, who caught a vision to re-launch Cru for students on their campus. Adam visits every other week, helps with the bible study, and provides coaching. The bulk of his time on campus is spent discipling students whom he met at Cru.

One of the guys I met this fall was Fermin, who plays soccer and just transferred from California. He agreed to have dinner with Andy and me, and it wasn't long before he opened up about his spiritual background, and how God has been doing significant things in his life through the help of his extended family.

Fermin said, "...Recently I was talking to my uncle and aunt, and they told me that I can actually have a relationship with God, that's not dependent on how religious I am. I could tell that there was something different in their lives, and it's something that I really admired... I mean it seems like they really know God... And that's why I decided to come to the bible study last week, and it's why I was willing to meet with you guys tonight, because I'm trying to figure out how to know God like they do. Before I left for school this fall, they drove 4 hours to come and visit me to pray and encourage me. My uncle gave me a bible, and he often texts me scriptures. He has told me that I can go to God whenever I need him, and that's what I've been trying to do... just get closer to God, ya know".

I (Adam) asked, "Fermin, would there be anything keeping you from praying this now?", to which he replied, "I feel like I should wait or think it over, right? But realistically, I am probably going to pray this prayer later this week, so why not just pray it now, since I believe it, and I want Jesus in my life". Fermin personalized the prayer we shared with him and gave his life to Christ that very night!

Pray for Adam and Jenny as they share the love of Christ with college students.

We consider it a tremendous privilege to call you friends and partners in the Gospel.

Please know that, however the Lord may lead you to respond to our need, we are grateful for you and take great comfort in knowing that you continue to stand with us in reaching students for Christ. Thank You!

Yours for fulfilling the Great Commission, Adam and Jenny Roub March 23-30 we will be in Spring Village, Jamaica.

We plan to assist with their <u>after school program</u>, teaching about God's word, doing crafts and games with children ages 3-15.

We plan to <u>build a laundry room</u> to assist their vocational training center.

We made big plans, but flexibility is required as things often change without notice.

Please pray for the people of Jamaica and the team as we prepare, go, and serve!

*Thank you for your prayers during our January trip to Kingston and Montego Bay, Jamaica.

During the 2 weeks:

450 Jamaicans received <u>medical care</u> and referrals from doctors and nurses who serve with Mission Jamaica.

42 team members worked with local Jamaicans to <u>build four houses</u> for people in need. <u>Laundry</u> for 80 disabled individuals was washed, a <u>chicken coop</u> for food production was built, and activities with residents were enjoyed.

In the evenings, Dave & I were able to <u>visit with eight alumni</u> from Jamaica Christian Boys' Home, hearing their progress and concerns, hearing once again about the positive impact the teams (you) made in their lives.

Thank you for your financial support and donations.

<u>1 Peter 4:10-11</u> - Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.





2025 Team: Jim & Bella Warga, Dave & Linda Piasecki, Kyle, Ethan & Kelsey Bergem