

The Salem News

Salem Covenant Church
7811 135th St. NW
Pennock, MN 56279

Address Correction Requested



February
2018

Salem Covenant Church

Website: salemcovpennock.org
7811 – 135th St. NW, Pennock, MN 56279

Pastor Rich Theilen

Interim
Office 599-4574

Bernadette Fuchs

Office Manager

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Office 599-4734, Cell 894-9305, Home 599-4340

Office Hours Mon. & Thurs. 8am-2pm

Weekly Church Schedule

Sunday:

9am-Confirmation 7th and 8th grade
9:15am-Sunday School, 2 years-102!
10:30am-Worship Service

Wednesday:

5:45pm-Supper (during the school year)
6:30-8pm-AWANA, 3yr's.-6th grade (during the school year)
6:30pm-Heart Association 7th-12 grade

“Compelling Christian Community” (Sixth in a Series on Being a “Healthy Missional Church”)

When I read the phrase, “Compelling Christian Community,” I can’t help but think of the ancient idea of a “parish.” It’s a concept we tend to associate with more hierarchical denominations, like Roman Catholics and Episcopalians, but I can’t help but wonder if there aren’t some things for us to consider for ourselves, even though we are neither of those.

Traditionally, the parish system meant that anyone living within a defined geographic area was connected to that area’s local church. This, of course, is quite different from what most of us are used to, where people are free to choose or not choose a particular church. It’s not uncommon for people to choose a particular church for any number of reasons other than where they live. When Cheryl was growing up, they drove forty miles each way (literally) to attend the nearest Covenant Church. And while that may be an unusually long distance, it’s not uncommon for people today to drive past many, many churches to get to the one they like, regardless of their denominational “pedigree”—or lack thereof.

Part of that make sense. Every church has a unique set of strengths, so it seems natural that people would choose a church based on their own family and personal circumstances—empty nesters, for example, may have very different concerns than a young couple just starting a family, and both might have very different issues to consider than a young single adult.

But, as natural as it seems, there’s a downside to the “consumer” approach to church. Not only do churches have strengths, but they have weaknesses as well. And when we choose a church based on what it gives us, we may not always realize what we are giving up. And perhaps the biggest thing we can lose with the consumer approach to church membership is a deep sense of true community.

Being in community is like being in a family. As someone said, we don’t get to choose our relatives. In some ways, the same is true of being part of the Body of Christ. Followers of Jesus are connected to each other regardless of whether we like each other or not, regardless of whether we always agree with each other or not, regardless of... (You finish the sentence).

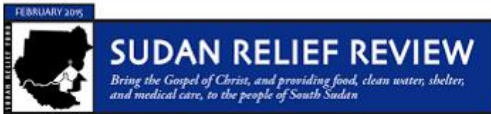
One word we sometimes use instead of *community* is *fellowship*. The New Testament word we translate as *fellowship* means “a shared life.” Think back to that ancient idea of a parish. People in a parish shared *life*—not just church. The farmers, butchers, bakers, bankers, blacksmiths, doctors, sheriffs, and everyone else in that parish lived together *in community*.

But let’s be honest: sometimes how they shared life worked, and sometimes it didn’t. When it worked, life was good and people flourished. When it didn’t work, life could be miserable. The “healthy missional marker” of *Compelling Christian Community* implies relational health. It is not just about coffee on Sunday morning or a pot-luck on Sunday afternoon—although those are things we sometimes put under the category of “community life.” As in a family, it implies unconditional love, strong leadership, appropriate accountability, shared values, and many other things. In the end, it’s about relating to each other in a way that is attractive and inviting—in other words, *compelling*. And that goes far beyond simply going to the same church.

--Pastor Rich Theilen

MISSION MOMENTS

By Kent Syverson



From *Sudan Relief Review* December 2017: **War Crimes: refugee women and girls targeted.** More than two million people have fled South Sudan to take refuge in Uganda. They are in need of food, clean water and medical care. "But many of the women and young girls

among the displaced are also suffering from the trauma of the assaults they faced fleeing the brutal warfare in their homeland." Children often travel alone, or with other children. They make up 61 percent of the people in the Ugandan refugee camp. A 15-year-old girl gave birth in the bush on her way there, and nearly died of hunger. Another 15-year-old girl, traveling with her 6-year-old sister, had been raped twice. By the time they get to the camp, they are "emotionally numb." "Most of them have seen their parents or siblings killed right before their eyes. They've suffered more in their young lives than most of us would suffer in a thousand lifetimes." Sudan Relief Fund continues to provide food, water, clothing, medicine, shelter and other necessities, along with showing the love of Jesus to all these refugees. Please pray for them.



Covenant Children's Ministries

A letter from *Covenant Children's Ministries* December 2017: A CCM grant went to **The Firehouse Community Arts Center**

located in North Lawndale, a neighborhood of Chicago. It's less than three miles from the Chicago Loop. This neighborhood has suffered "loss of industry, disinvestment, and population decreases." It has some of the highest crime rates in the metro area. The grant was for \$10,000, and it was used to fund the Art of Peace Summer Camp and their annual Hip Hop Revival. The Firehouse (which was once a real firehouse) also offers arts training and mentoring for at-risk youth. This includes music production, dance, graphic arts, computer technology, culinary arts, photography, creative writing and entrepreneurship. The Hip Hop Revival highlights the kids' accomplishments in music, dance, visual arts and poetry. Please pray for them.



A letter from *40 Days For Life* December 2017: **The beginning of the end of abortion.** As of the writing of this letter, 13,998 babies (that they knew of) had been saved from abortion. 90 abortion facilities have CLOSED and gone out of business. 170 abortion workers have had a change of heart and left their jobs. There's a picture of a baby boy on this letter, and his name is Emanuel. His Mom chose to come to a spring 40 Days for Life campaign. There's no other information available about them, but there is still enough here to know that there are positive results from these campaigns! Please pray for them.

Remember to Pray & Visit our Nursing Home Love Ones

Bethesda Grand

Josie Tollefsrud - #206

Copperleaf Senior

Liz Rundquist - #206

Praying for our Covenant National Missionaries

Feb. 4 – Robert McLeod – Music Education – 2017-Fundraising.

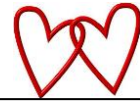
Feb. 11 – Lisandro & Patricia Restrepo– Christian Leadership Development; Christian Formation; Community Development & Evangelism. 2003-present.

Feb. 18 – David & Celia Stockamp – Seminary & Pastoral Education. 2014-present; 1978-95.

Feb. 25 – Alex & Melanie Viana – Evangelism/Outreach & Leadership Development.

February 2018 Family Prayer List

- 1 Marna Danielson
- 2 Adam & Melanie Dickman, James, Rebekah, Tabitha & Jonathan
- 3 Craig & Shawn Dischinger, Jack & Peter
- 4 Emily Fagerstrom
- 5 Bruce & Mary Felt
- 6 Brian & Linda Friedlein
- 7 Lucas & Katelyn Friedlein
- 8 Don & Donna Friedlein
- 9 Tom & Darcy Froehlich, Luke, Teagan, Cole & Shane
- 10 Aaron Fuchs
- 11 Bob & Bernadette Fuchs
- 12 Kevin Fuchs
- 13 Michael Fuchs
- 14 Trent & Angela Furney, Jaron & Zee
- 14 Steve & Sheila Geurtz
- 15 Ashley Geurtz
- 16 Dean & Barb Gunderson
- 17 Kelsey Gunderson
- 18 Matthew Gunderson
- 19 Stacy Gunderson
- 20 Mike Haglund
- 21 Ralph & Jean Halverson
- 22 Bruce & Patti Hoaglund
- 23 Doug & Darlene Holmgren
- 24 Duane & Brianna Holmgren, Emma, Lily & Brinley
- 25 Mariann Holmgren
- 26 Steven Holmgren
- 27 Jesse & Maria Hulscher, Henrick & Adler
- 28 Jim & Judy Huseby



4th Ben & Tia Johnson - 12yrs
22nd Don & Carmen Van Zee - 55yrs



- 1 Carmen Van Zee
- 2 Jared Johnson
- 4 Ely Johnson
- 6 Craig Johnson
- 7 Elizabeth Johnson
- 9 Karen Johnson
- 12 Bruce Hoaglund
- 12 Don Schemmel
- 14 Marna Danielson
- 15 Randy Broberg
- 15 Bernadette Fuchs
- 16 Angie Beyerl
- 18 Don Friedlein
- 18 Craig Dischinger
- 18 Stacy Gunderson
- 18 Jesse Hulscher
- 20 Rochelle Kallstrom
- 21 Tabitha Dickman
- 23 Todd Johnson
- 24 Cole Froehlich
- 25 Anika Johnson
- 26 Preston Broberg
- 26 Caden Danielson
- 28 Paula Broberg
- 28 Scott Rambow

Feb. 2018 Greeters

- 4 Ethan & Sharon Calvin
- 11 Bob & Bernadette Fuchs
- 18 Derrick & Kyle Broberg & Kevin Fuchs
- 25 Ardell & Katie Johnson



Feb. 2018 Nursery

- 5 David & Angie Beyerl
- 12 Todd & Erica Johnson
- 19 Aaron & Rachel Tollefsrud
- 25 Ron Aleshire & Girls



Feb. 2018 Nursery – Toddler Rm.

- 4 Kara Rothers & girls
- 11 Eric & Becky Peterson
- 18 Jon & Taya Broberg
- 25 Craig & Shawn Dischinger



Infant Rm.

- 4 Scott & Rachel Rambow
- 11 Maria Hulscher
- 18 Barb Sandvig & Kelly Sweere
- 25 Adam & Melanie Dickman



Feb. 2018 Wednesday Night Serving Teams

- 7 Becky & Eric Peterson Team 5
- 14 Leah & Marc Beckman Team 6
- 21 Terri & Howard Carlson Team 7
- 28 Confirmation Class



Fellowship Meal

Feb. 2018 Ushers

*Jerome Carlson, Jon Broberg, Chad Kallstrom, Scott Rambow, Don Schemmel, Bill Broberg, Tim Johnson and Marc Beckman. *Denotes head usher



February Coming Events

Thursday, February 1

6:30pm – Covenant Women, “Summertime in the Winter!” at Salem. Planners are Maria Hulscher and Leah Beckman

Friday, February 2 at 5pm AND Sat. Feb. 3rd at 9am

“Men’s Ministry Night” (women can come too) finishing the Grand Prix track. Contact Eric Peterson, Brian Friedlein or Craig Dischinger for more inform.

Sunday, February 4

11:45am – Farewell lunch for Pastor Andy & Shannon League and family

Sundays February 11th, 18th & 25th – Inquirers’ Class

This three-week discussion is for those who are new to Salem, or who have been here for a while and may be thinking about membership. Among the topics we cover will be:

- The history, mission, and ministry of Salem
- The history, principles, and ministry of the Covenant Church
- What church membership is all about
- Possible next steps in your own journey at Salem. While participation is required for church membership, it does not obligate you to join the church.

Registration Deadline: Wednesday, February 7th. Please contact Pastor Rich at 651-271-3271 if you are interested in attending this class. A light lunch will be served after church before each class.

Friday, February 16-Sunday, February 18

Lake Beauty Bible Camp – Marriage Retreat, Long Prairie, MN

Guest speakers will be Brad & Terry Friedlein of Rockford MN! We are excited to have Brad and Terry coming to share with us at our 2018 Marriage Retreat! Brad is currently the Interim Pastor at Crossroads Church in Forrest Lake, MN with over 30 years of ministry experience in a wide variety of settings. Terry has been creatively communicating God’s truth for many years through drama, music and the spoken word, including this past fall at our Women’s Retreat. Brad and Terry live in Rockford, MN and have three grown children (Jordan, Nicole and Grant).

VERY limited onsite housing still available. Call camp office for details at 320-732-3218. (Visit website at www.lbbc.com)

Cost with onsite housing through February 1: \$215 per couple (\$107.50 per person)

Cost with onsite housing after February 1: \$240 per couple (\$120 per person)

Cost for commuters* through February 1: \$160 per couple (\$80 per person)

Cost for commuters* after February 1: \$180 per couple (\$90 per person)

*Couples commute from home or an area motel (additional cost).

Deposit: \$100 non-refundable deposit per couple (\$50 per person) is required to register (online or by phone). Balance due at check-in

Thursday, February 21-Sunday, February 25

Men, sign up and come with me (Craig Dischinger) and Jonathan Broberg to Oklahoma! We are taking the on the Xtreme Character Challenge and we would love for you to join us. I have twisted many arms but they have not broken... yet... The purpose of the Xtreme Character Challenge is to *“Draw men to the highest place on earth, the foot of the cross.”* If you feel stuck in the rut with your walk with Jesus or want to take it to the next level, get out of your comfort zone and come with! *(The fieldwork can wait until you return).* There is still time to sign up. Go to the4thmusketeer.org/xcc for registration and a cool promo video. Just think, Oklahoma will be warmer than Minnesota in February! Please contact Craig at 320-420-4012 for more information.

