



## Happening this Week

### Thursday, December 13

**Grilled Cheese Lunch:** 10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., Family Room.  
Grilled Cheese Report—December 6: first lunch served 146 students and second lunch served 77 students.

### Saturday, December 15

**Nuts and Bolts Men's Breakfast:** 7:00 a.m., Family Room. Mark Hoffman will be leading a *surprise* lesson. Find more information [online](#).

### Sunday, December 16

*Learning Communities, 9:00 a.m.*

- **Children:** Birth–4, Room 104; K–2, Room 107/109; 3rd–5th, Room 101.
- **Middle and High School:** Room 208/209.
- **Mosaic:** Room 204.
- **Roundtables:** Family Room.

All Learning Community classes will be on Christmas break December 23 and December 30. All classes will kick off the new year on January 6.

**Worship Service: 10:15 a.m., Sanctuary.**

**STIX Ministry Rehearsal:** 11:30 a.m., Room 107.

*High School Youth Group is on Christmas break until January 6.*

### Tuesday, December 18

**Old Guys Breakfast:** 7:00 a.m., IHOP, 8065 N. Academy Blvd.

### Wednesday, December 19

*Awana is on Christmas break until January 9.*

*Middle School Youth Group is on Christmas break until January 9.*

## Looking Ahead

**Christmas Office Closure:** The Church Office will be closed between Christmas and New Year's. Rebecca Dillon, Director of Operations and Pastor Steve Nofel will check-in during the week. If you have an imminent need, you can always text or call Pastor Steve at 402.202.2381.

**Blankets, Brunch, and a Buddy:** The women of Covenant will be making tied fleece blankets to be given away to the Salvation Army for needy women and children on two Saturdays, January 19 and January 26, 9:00 a.m. to noon in Room 208/209. Bring a buddy, a pair of scissors, a yardstick or ruler, and something to share for our brunch. No sewing experience necessary. Sign-ups will be January 6, 13, and 20. Donations are appreciated to help cover the expense of the material. Each blanket costs approximately \$13. Hope to see you there!

### Youth Group Winter Retreats

**Snowbound for middle school students:** January 25-27, 2019. Cost after November 30, \$165. [Register online](#).

**High Altitude for high school students:** February 15-17, 2019. Early bird cost, \$150. Cost after December 31, \$165. [Register online](#).



## GRILLED CHEESE SURVEY RESULTS

A total of 164 juniors and seniors from Rampart High School recently filled out a survey on their participation in Thursday's *Grilled Cheese* lunch ministry at Covenant. This is what they told us:

- 35% don't attend any church.
- 7% said they have Christian parents but they aren't interested in Christianity.
- 15% said they are open to Christianity, but they wouldn't call themselves Christian.
- One student wrote: "You guys are super kind and I really see the love of God here."

## Poinsettias For Sale

It's time to order poinsettias to decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas. Order forms will be available in the Atrium this Sunday. The cost is \$12, cash or checks. Make checks to "Covenant" with "poinsettia" in the memo line. Plants may be dedicated in honor of someone or in remembrance of a loved one. Plants may be taken home at the conclusion of the Christmas Eve service.

## Mercy's Gate Opportunity

Our December Outreach Offering will be given to Mercy's Gate Home for Holidays. Donations will help families with rent or utilities help during the month of December. To give toward this fund, simply enclose your gift in a yellow envelope and drop it in the offering basket this Sunday, December 16. You may also donate to the Outreach Opportunity Fund [online](#). If you are writing a check, make it out to "Covenant" and put "Mercy's Gate" in the memo line.

## Angel Tree Outreach

Good news! Thanks to this generous and loving church, all the gift tags have been picked up!

Looking for another way to have your socks blessed off? We still are looking for three individuals or families to help deliver gifts the week of December 17 to 24. Gifts will be sorted by area, so it is not a huge time commitment.

**Reminder:** This Sunday, December 16, is the final day to return your wrapped gifts with the angel tag attached.



## Pray Now

December 13, 2018

**Tyra Young:** Health issues. Friend of Steve and Kim Nofel.

**Don Turner Family:** Don passed away last week. Friends of the Nofels.

**Chris Griffin:** Pray for Chris and his family at the passing of his grandmother into glory.

**Kathleen Szczur:** Her step-dad is in hospice care.

**Donna Arndt:** Her friend Wendy is in hospice care.

**Sarah Boatright:** Recovering from foot and ankle surgery.

**Martinson Family:** They are going through some transitions in life.

**Anne Madsen:** Pray for her parents Gary and Lee Kolbitski. Her dad has had cancer for two years and is receiving new treatments.

**Steve Skiba:** Undergoing cancer treatment.

**Julia Arndt:** Pray for protection, strength, and guidance.

**Don and Judi Shive:** Continue to pray for their grandson, Adrian, who is being treated for two forms of leukemia.

**Pray for** those who are grieving the passing of loved ones.

**Pray for** those caring for family members.

**Pray for** world leaders, that they catch the Spirit during this special season, and be moved in their hearts to follow the Prince of Peace.

**Pray for** the Pastor Nominating Committee.

## Praise Now

### Praise God for:

- our glorious deacons.
- our wonderful ruling elders.
- our terrific staff.
- all the hardworking discernment of our Pastor Nominating Committee and our Standing Nominating Committee.
- the incredible generosity of the people of Covenant.

We also send great and joyful congratulations to **Doctor** Elise Yenne and the entire Yenne Family.



### Third Week of Advent

*My Soul Proclaims  
the Greatness of the Lord.*

*Luke 1: 39-56, NRSV*

## Giving

December 9: \$12,209      **Weekly Need:** \$8,347.00

**You may donate online.**

**Listen** to past sermons on the podcast:  
[covenantpreschurch.podbean.com](http://covenantpreschurch.podbean.com).

**Find us online** [covenant-pres.org](http://covenant-pres.org) or on **Facebook**.

## Thank you Jun and Welcome Teri

We thank our interim worship leader Jun Harada for his dedicated and passionate ministry to Covenant. Jun came to us very quickly and fulfilled an immediate need. We can't thank him enough for all he has given our church.

At the same time, we are thrilled to announce that Teri Antti has agreed to become our worship leader. Teri is a delightful, faith-filled person. She is also very professional and accomplished. More so, she shares our view of worship as inviting, exciting, prayerful, worshipful, pointed to the Lord, and given to God as an offering. We are so excited to have Teri and her daughter, Sincerity, join our congregation. Please welcome them this Sunday.

Teri's call comes after a comprehensive search process by me and our Worship, Arts, and Prayer Commission. We had more than a dozen applicants. Teri was the top candidate; there was Teri and everyone else.

Teri and Jun will share worship leadership this Sunday, and Teri will be leading us on December 23, Christmas Eve, and in the New Year.

We will be having a cake reception in the Atrium following worship this Sunday to thank Jun for his ministry. Please plan to attend and personally thank him.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Steve Nofel



### December 16

10:15 a.m. Luke 1:39-56 — **The Revolutionary  
Song of Mary**

### December 23

10:15 a.m. Luke 1:57-80 — **The Birth of the Baptist**

### December 24

4:30 p.m. **Family Christmas Eve Service**

## Covenant Presbyterian Church

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