

# COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Weekly Update

January 3, 2019

## Happening this Week

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### Thursday, January 3

**Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study:** 9:00 a.m., Room 204.

**Grilled Cheese Lunch:** *On Christmas break until January 10.*

### Saturday, January 5

**GraceFULL Quilters:** 9:30 a.m.–3:00 p.m., Room 208-209.

### Sunday, January 6

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

- **Kids:** Birth–4 years, Room 104; K–2nd, Room 107; 3rd–5th, Room 101.
- **Middle and High School:** Room 208/209.
- **Mosaic:** Room 204.
- **Roundtables:** Will not be meeting and will return on January 13.

**Worship Service:** 10:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

**Un-decorating:** Plan to join us as we take down the Christmas decorations after the worship service.

**Blankets, Brunch, and a Buddy:** Sign-ups begin today in the Atrium.

**High School Youth Group:** 5:00–7:00 p.m. The Hansons' home, 7670 Conifer Dr. Dinner will be served.

### Tuesday, January 8

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

### Wednesday, January 9

**Awana:** 6:00 p.m., Family Room. It is not too late to sign up your child or to volunteer to serve at Awana. Contact [children@covenant-pres.org](mailto:children@covenant-pres.org) for more information.

**Middle School Youth Group:** 6:00 p.m., Room 208/209.

## Looking Ahead

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**Children's Ministry Leaders:** We are excited to announce that we have new curriculum for kindergarten through fifth grade classes. There will be a meeting introducing the curriculum on January 20 for current leaders and all who are interested.

### Youth Group Winter Retreats

*Snowbound* for middle school students: January 25-27, 2019.

[Register online.](#)

*High Altitude* for high school students: February 15-17, 2019.

[Register online.](#)

**Sacraments Class:** Pastor Steve Nofel will be leading a three-week class on the sacraments beginning January 13 at 9:00 a.m. All are invited to the class, from elementary school to the most seasoned adults. We ask that all children be accompanied by an adult.

## Missions Update

Nici Barrett, a member of our Covenant family, has been serving in Thailand with BEE (Biblical Education by Extension). She will be moving home to Colorado Springs in January due to issues with her visa. Please keep Nici in your prayers as she makes this move, says goodbye to those she is leaving behind, and as she discerns her future direction.

The January Outreach Opportunity Offering, taking place on January 27, will be given to Nici in order to help with the moving expenses that she will incur in relocating back to the States. You may donate [online](#), or drop your gift in the offering basket (please use a yellow envelope).

## 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. Make blankets with us on two Saturdays, January 19 and January 26, 9:00 a.m. to noon in Room 208/209. Sign-ups will be January 6, 13, and 20. Bring a buddy, a pair of scissors, a yardstick or ruler, and something to share for our brunch. No sewing experience necessary. Donations are appreciated to help cover the expense of the material. Each blanket costs approximately \$13. Sign up this Sunday in the Atrium.

## Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be on Sunday, February 3, directly following the Worship Service. We will elect a slate of elders and deacons to do the business of the church. Those who normally submit a written report, please email it to [rdillon@covenant-pres.org](mailto:rdillon@covenant-pres.org) and [lcraig@covenant-pres.org](mailto:lcraig@covenant-pres.org) by January 11. Thank you.

## Grilled Cheese

One of the most exciting ministries at our church is making upwards of 600 grilled cheese sandwiches that are eaten by more than 200 students from Rampart High School on Thursdays. They come to our Family Room in two different shifts. They eat sandwiches, chips and salsa, fruit, and cookies. The cost to them is just \$1. If you feel called to help, it does not take much training or special skills. Grilled cheese will be returning Thursday, January 10 between 10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. in the Family Room. We'd love for you to come join the team—we have a lot of fun!

## Pray Now

January 3, 2019

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

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

**Rochelle Fralick:** Her father is having health issues.

**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.

**Terry Skiba:** Thumb surgery

**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 the Pastor Nominating Committee.

## Praise Now

**Praise God for:**

- the generosity of our church family.
- giving us a new year with so many possibilities.
- being with us when we are with our loved ones and for being with us in our solitude.

**From Rebecca Dillon, Director of Operations—**

The **abundance** of God manifested through all of you has put us solidly in the black as we end 2018. In the next week or so we'll have a final number. Thanks be to God!

## Giving

**December 23:** \$33,510

**December 24:** \$16,319

**December 30:** 13,917

**Weekly Need:** \$8,347

**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](#).

## Your Light Has Come

*Teri Antti, Worship Leader*

I remember my first year as a Christian. Being a new believer was like waking up to Christmas morning every single day.

Words like *Epiphany, salvation, mercy, and grace* came alive before my very eyes. I never questioned why God orchestrated salvation by coming to earth as a baby, a most humble King for it touched my heart to the core. This strange way of saving humanity would become a story I shared year after year with the poorest of the poor and the richest of the rich in which not one of us could deny relating to at least one of the characters; if not to the daunting submission of young Mary to God's sovereignty, then to the three kings who had been waiting for this moment all of their lives. Imagine that the sole purpose of your entire life was to deliver a gift to a baby whose birth, time and place, was merely a prophecy passed down through centuries and miraculously passed on to you. The faith with which these kings followed a star is no different than the faith that causes us to gather together week after week at this thing called church. As I shared recently, never in all my life could I have anticipated singing with hundreds of people as a form of worship. What an incredible upgrade I was given!

As we continue to live out the gift we have each received in Jesus Christ, may we never lose the sense of wonder and awe that came over us when we first saw the baby, the light of the world.

*"Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you." Isaiah 60:1, ESV.*

## Sermon Series—Dented Heroes of Faith

Steve Nofel, Pastor

From Sunday, January 6, until Transfiguration Sunday, March 3, we will be focusing on the heroes of faith that led us to the coming of Christ. Our focus will be on the fact that they are just like us. These great people of God were not haloed, stained-glass saints. They were human people with faults, doubts, strengths, weaknesses, and plenty of foibles. Yet, God raised them up. God raises you up. We (and they) are not necessarily broken, but dented. A broken down car will not run, but a dented car, while not looking all that pretty, is still of great use. By looking at how God used Noah, Sarah, Abraham, Moses, Joshua, Ruth, and Esther, we will see how God uses and depends on you and me.

**This Week's Sermon—Noah: More Than a Flannel Board Figure**

## Covenant Presbyterian Church

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