

# CONGREGATIONAL COVENANT NURTURE

# To the Saints of Edgington:

I am sure that it is clear after the annual meeting and some other conversations and announcements that children's ministry has very much been on my mind in the recent months. If you haven't already heard the announcement about some of our plans for this essential area of ministry, please make it a priority to get yourself up to speed so you can share in the excitement of what we are hoping to develop.

There is a line of the position description for the Children's Ministry Director that has drawn much more attention than others. Under the qualifications and expectations section you will find, "Have a passion for children's ministry in a multi-generational church context emphasizing covenant nurture as a philosophy of ministry." Let me unpack a few of those concepts. First, a philosophy of ministry is a framework for how ministry is undertaken; think essential commitments and foundational principles. Second, to identify the significance of a "multi-generational church" means that we are not catering to any one specific age group across the entirely of our ministry, but rather, we are celebrating that we have a spectrum of generations and believe this is a beautiful expression of the diversity of the Kingdom of God among varied ages. Finally, within this multi-generation church, our philosophy of ministry as it relates to children is one of "covenant nurture." As one should expect in a presbyterian church that places the sign of the covenant (baptism) upon our children, we believe that the children of believers are in fact members of the Body of Christ. They are within the covenant in that meaningful sense and should be approached as such. We don't approach our children as little pagans; but as those to whom the Lord Jesus has said, "for to such belongs the Kingdom of God" (Luke 18:16). That is a brief overview of what we mean by this statement.

As a church, we shouldn't want these attitudes to be newly present by way of an additional ministry position but a reflection of attitudes already present among the entirety of the congregation. In many ways, that is already the case – but there is always room to grow! I was recently encouraged by an article called 25 Tiny Ways to Welcome Kids in Church. There are suggestions across four main categories of: Know, Love, Serve, and Engage. Here are just a few from each category:

# Know (Make Kids Feel Seen)

- Smile. Look kids in the eye. Say "hi."
- Get down on their level (while giving them personal space).
- Learn kids' names and use them. Tell them your name.
- Regularly greet the shy and reserved kids, not just those who are easy to talk to.

# Love (Make Kids Feel Valued)

- Say "I'm so glad you're here!"
- Give kids a high five, fist bump, or handshake (a kid-appropriate "holy kiss," 2 Cor. 13:12).
- Carry mints or other small treats to give to kids (always with parent permission).
- Say "See you next week!" when worship is over.

# Serve (Make Kids Feel Supported)

- Explain to visiting kids (not just to their parents) where to find facilities like Sunday School rooms, the coat rack, and bathrooms.
- Notice kids who look lost or confused and ask "Is there anything I can help you with?"
- Offer to help the kids sitting near you find songs in the hymnal and Scripture readings in the Bible.
- Ask "How can I pray for you?" Remember to follow up the next week.

# Engage (Make Kids Feel Useful)

- Ask kids to assist with small tasks like passing out bulletins, picking up trash after services.
- Assign kids to be "buddies" to visiting children to make them feel welcome.
- Tell kids "It was great to hear you singing in worship. It encouraged my heart."
- Tell kids "Thank you" or "Good job!" whenever you see them doing something helpful or kind.

Did you see anything, even just one thing, in those four categories that you could commit to doing more intentionally? We all have room to grow in this regard and remember that the motivation is not being more friendly for its own sake, as if somehow, if we were the friendliest church in history suddenly every child on the earth would flock to our congregation – no. The point is that God's grace has so affected our hearts, that we embrace that these little ones matter deeply to the life of the church; not as a mere ornament – but essential members of the Body of Christ.

I hope these reflections are an encouragement to you along with the direction that we hope to be moving toward. Please pray! Pray for the Lord's will to be made known to us as we seek it together. Pray for a candidate to be so inclined to step forward for consideration. Pray that, if necessary, we need to expand the diameter of our search, that the Lord will lead us in wisdom and provision. Much to pray for and much to be excited about!

Filled with joy to serve a multi-generational church family as,

Your Pastor & Friend,

ZACK

# **ELDERS**

Keith Wilson - Clerk
Jim Mueller
Kevin Oak
Mic Penry
Patrick Shovar
Todd Stegmiller

# **DEACONS**

Beth Flickinger - Chair
Jim Balmer
Teresa Balmer
Marlin Krueger
Darcy Krueger
Dorothy Rursch
Teresa Weber

# **TRUSTEES**

Mel Block - Chair
Larry Pithan - Secretary
Ken Benningfield
Kim Freyermuth
Jeff Fuhr
Phil Fuhr
Darren Hall
Cindy Oak

# **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

- 4 Chris Elliot
- 5 Linda Anderson
- 5 Judge Fuhr
- 5 Debra Wagamon
- 8 Steve Ryser
- 10 Josey Stegmiller
- 11 Patrick Shovar
- 15 Ione Hesch
- 16 Stacey Anderson
- 18 Cindy Thompson
- 20 Robert Crawford
- 20 Karrie Fuhr
- 20 Klay Goodnight
- 20 MaryAnn Vroman
- 24 Trenton Pearson
- 25 Shawn Terrill
- 27 Nathan Flickinger
- 27 Lincoln Fuhr
- 27 Hillary Terrill





# 2023 LOCAL BLOOD DRIVES

March 4th - Edgington EPC, 7 - 10:30am

May 20th - St. Pat's, 8 - 11am

Sept. 9th - Edgington EPC, 7 - 10:30am

Nov. 11th - Midwest Bank in Andalusia on the donor bus (tentative), 1 - 4pm



# **GREETERS FOR FEBRUARY**

February 5th – Todd and Lauren Stegmiller February 12th – Kyle and Tara Johnson February 19th – Kevin and Cindy Oak February 26th – Don and Beth Easterla





January 11, 2023, at 7pm

Location: Conference Room

**Present:** TE Zach Hopkins and RE's Jim Mueller, Kevin Oak, Mic Penry, Patrick Shovar and Keith Wilson. Todd Stegmiller also attended. A quorum is present.

Pastor Zach acted as moderator of the meeting. He opened the meeting with prayer and read from I Timothy 3:1, 6:10 and Hebrews 11:16. The Elders prayed for individual members of the congregation, then studied and discussed Chapters 18 - 20 of *Gentle & Lowly*.

**Approval/Amendment of Docket:** Motion was made and seconded to approve the docket. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:** December 13th, 2022 minutes were reviewed. Motion made, seconded and approved.

**Correspondence:** A thank you card from Kenzie Reimers was received and read. Kenzie expressed her appreciation for the funds received from the Education (Jahn) Fund for her studies.

**Zach's Report:** Zach reported on members with health concerns and prayer needs. Since our December 13th meeting, he conducted 3 office visits, 1 home visit, and 1 hospital visit. He conducted the wedding of Nathan and Lindsey Flickinger and two Leadership Training sessions and attended the Mission Committee meeting.

### **Old Business:**

- The Session discussed the Men's Chili Cook-off held on December 11th. There were approximately 40 men in attendance. Eric Moel was crowned the "Chili Champ". The cook-off was considered a successful event. The Session desires to schedule more men's events in the future.
- The Session discussed the Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols service and Christmas Day service.
   There were 160 in attendance on Christmas Eve and 58 on Christmas Day. We received good feedback on the Lessons and Carols format. A few minor changes were discussed.
- The Leadership Training Course was discussed. Three sessions were held with nominees for Ruling Elders and Deacons in attendance. Zach commented that we covered a lot of material in those sessions and would really like to have more time in these sessions in the future.

# **New Business:**

- The Session continued discussion on a 2023 Ministry Campaign and the possibility of creating a Children's Ministry Director to enhance the ministry to the church's children. Zach presented a revised draft of a position description to the Session. Zach has scheduled a meeting with Mark Drake and Kevin Perrine from YouthHope to discuss our plans and determine if there are ways to share a person for this position. Ruling Elder Mic Penry volunteered to attend the meeting with Zach. Zach will also coordinate a meeting with the Sunday School teachers to get their input.
- The church's Annual Meeting will be held on January 22nd. Zach presented the Docket and Membership Summary for the Annual Meeting. The reports were reviewed. A motion was made, seconded to approve these reports. The motion carried. Zach also shared the 2023 Budget Proposal. The budget had been approved by the Session at the December 13th meeting. It was then reviewed by the Trustees and affirmed.
- Zach reminded the Session that our church is hosting the Presbytery on January 27th and 28th. The session discussed plans for serving communion during the worship service.

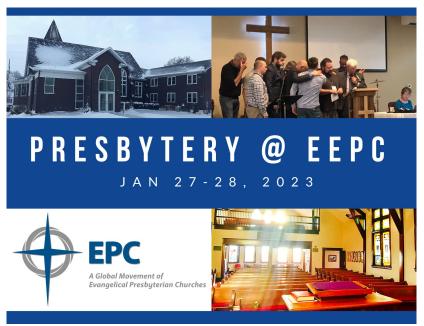
# Cont. from p. 4

- The Shepherding plan will need to be modified for 2023 due to the addition of Todd Stegmiller as a RE. This will be reviewed at the next Stated Meeting.
- 2023 Leadership gathering Zach has scheduled a meeting for Elders, Deacons, and Trustees on Saturday, February 18th from 9:00am to Noon. The meeting is intended to align our work.
- POI (formerly known as per member asking). The Session reviewed the amounts due the GA and Presbytery. The Session determined that for 2023 we would continue to calculate the amounts due based on the per member asking method and gradually step down our payments over the next 3 to 4 years. Based on this, our amount due to RLP is \$3,247 and GA for 2023 is \$4,393. A motion was made and seconded to authorize these payments to be made this month. The motion carried.
- Communion will be held on January 27th (Presbytery Worship) and February 5th. The next Called Session meeting will be January 31th at 7:00pm. The Session will discuss chapters 21 23 of Gentle & Lowly at that time.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:46pm. Motion Carried.

Teaching Elder Zach Hopkins closed the meeting with prayer.

Keith Wilson, Clerk of Session



**MANY THANKS** to everyone who helped with the 37th Stated Meeting of the Rivers & Lakes Presbytery!





1-18-23

Present: Mel Block, Phil Fuhr, Kim Freyermuth, Larry Pithan, Treasurer Barb Freyermuth, Session Representative Jim Mueller.

Mel opened the meeting with a prayer at 6:00pm.

Treasurer's report for December was reviewed and approved.

Minutes for December 21st, 2022 meeting were reviewed and approved.

# **Old Business:**

- Gutters on south side of building have been repaired.
- New room name plaques have been installed.

# **New Business:**

- Trustees approve two expenditures as proposed by Session:
  - \$4,393 Percentage of Income to General Assembly
  - \$3,247 Per Member Asking to Rivers and Lakes Presbytery
- Discussed proposal from Kone for various "maintenance modules". Due to the very limited operation time of the elevator, it was decided none of these services are required this year.
- Discussed the Presbytery meeting assignments for January 27th & 28th.
- After the meeting, trustees cleaned and swept the elevator pit, cleaned bugs from the sanctuary light fixtures and checked the building for any work required prior to the Presbytery meeting.

Mel closed the meeting with a prayer at 6:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Pithan

# **NEED A HAND OR ENCOURAGEMENT? ASK A DEACON!**

The Deacons' charge is to care for the church body. You may already know that we provide delicious treats to celebrate new members, collect coats for those in need, and organize blood drives. But did you now that we are ready to serve in other ways, too?

Here are some of the ways a Deacon can help out:

- Visit shut-ins (including those who are temporarily unable to make it to worship) to provide cheer and recordings of the sermon.
- Deliver meals to those who are injured, ill, or have experienced a loss
- Visit widows(ers) to comfort and provide company.
- Send cards to recognize milestone birthdays and anniversaries, and express condolences
- Organize transportation to doctor's appointments (please give advance notice)

Please, if you or someone you know could benefit in one of these areas, please let a Deacon know right away. We try to anticipate needs, but we are only human, and need help with knowing needs!

The 2023 Deacon team includes: Jim & Teresa Balmer, Beth Flickinger, Marlin & Darcy Krueger, Dorothy Rursch, & Teresa Weber.





Check out the next several pages for the ministries we support and for ways that you can get personally INVOLVED!













PROUDLY SERVING SENIORS SINCE 1968

For many years now Edgington EPC has been a host site for Senior Meals. The doors are now open here for meals **EVERY WEEKDAY!** 

Meals are available for a suggested donation of \$3 to anyone 60+ years or with a disability. If you are new to the program, you need to call 309-788-6335 the day before to request your meal.

Those who attend regularly come early to play cards and enjoy each other's company for a little longer than just meal time.

If you would like more information or want to check out the menu for the month click the Project Now logo above for the link to their website or call 309-788-6335.



# MCCALLUM'S JANUARY MUSE

Dear Friends,

A Quick January Update

Ed's had robotic total knee replacement this morning; Surgeon reported that things went very well. Pray for excellent results and recovery.

We are rejoicing that the New Testament Survey curriculum has been sent to our Southeast A... site for translation. Pray for the translation process to be accurate and a blessing to the translator. Mike Kuhn, with good reports. Pray for translator to accurately convey the content. It was used in S..... L.... earlier this month with our colleague. Pray for pastors in S..... L.... to be able to train their congregations well with the curriculum.

Our colleague, Bruce Anderson, will be teaching the week before Ed on Christian Community Development in tandem with a national pastor. Nan will be there the last 2 days of the class to be supportive. Pray for good interface in the teaching team.

Due to Ed's need for surgical solution to knee pain, he will not be able to teach in person in February, but will Zoom in. Nan will travel to be with the class. Pray for preparation for each of us. Pray for safe travel for the class and for protection on the families / churches.

We pray all is well with you and yours. Do stay in touch!

Casting our cares on Jesus, for He cares for us.

Blessings,

Nan & Ed McCallum



# THE BURDSALL'S Serge Grace at the Fray

# **Happy New Year!**

We had the experience of welcoming 2023 while in the air over northern Canada on the way back to L.....- certainly a unique new year celebration! This new year we have many goals and hopes and dreams, but I think the biggest thing we desire is to focus on Jesus - for our hope, our joy, our support. Pray for us that we can fix our eyes on Him and then work and live out of that vision.

For safety reasons it has been decided not to include a link to their full update. If you would like to receive their regular updates via email, please contact the church office and Lisa will connect you with the Burdsall's to be added to their email list.

"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart." Hebrews 12:2-3

We had a lot of things happen in December! Will try to share some highlights here:

While still in L...., we got to share in different Christmas outreaches that were both joyful and encouraging. There is an organization called C....... that works in the schools by teaching Christianity through dramas, talks and events. At Christmas they have a "Christmas Experience" event for middle school age - an interactive, modern retelling of the Christmas story that tells the truth of Jesus birth in a compelling way. We went through this program with the girls club and it was great to see them interacting and answering questions and understanding the story. Then Sc...., L..... and C..... also helped run the program for a local school group - also encouraging to see these mainly Muslim background kids engage in the story....

Then we flew to America! We had a great time in A... seeing C.... graduate- had a lot of family come in, and it was wonderful to see them after 3.5 years. Also great to see the ... campus, and very proud of C....!

..... We loved seeing everyone and are very grateful for all those that hosted us, fed us, came by to see us, prayed for us, loaned us a vehicle and picked us up from the airport..we can't say enough thankyous for all the care we had while in the states!

# Some updates and ministry prayer needs

While we were away, Asha had a Christmas event of a service, meal, and world cup final viewing and craft time. Sounds like it was well attended and everyone enjoyed. A neat story we heard was a little boy that came and was talking to a teammate about the birth of Jesus. She asked how he knew the whole story and he said he read it in the book he was given last Christmas at Asha, and that it is his favorite book! Encouraging to know God is at work, even when we don't always see it!

S.... and a teammate have been working on a podcast about life, Christianity, being English, being Bengali..if you would like to have a listen, check out the link here (Link not included for safety reasons. If you would like the link, please contact Lisa in the church office.). Pray that this podcast can connect to many, and will lead to conversations about Jesus.

Continue to pray for the people that come to Asha services. We have about 5 or 6 that come almost every week. Pray for God to be working in their hearts. And pray for our team as we lead and worship, that we would do so with joy and with dependance on God.

Also, continue to pray for the weekly things we are involved in- S.... and talks with people at the bookshop, for his mentoring and teaching, for book tables and those conversations. C..... and visits to schools and afterschool clubs, for time at ESOL, for Sunday School and planning outreach for kids through Asha. And, pray for more chances to meet one on one with people, both for building relationship and for being able to share the hope we have.

# Family prayer requests

We are still doing a little adjusting to being back .... after our trip to the US. Jetlag was rough! Pray for the kids back in school and university here, for learning and for growing in faith. Pray for us as we parent- that we can do it wisely and lovingly:)

With love,

S., C., and kids

# HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM ALL OF US!

We have great expectations and anticipation for what God has planned for 2023! Please join us in praying that God will do these things at and through YouthHope this year:

- Fill open positions with His staff!
- Complete the changes He wants to make!
- Bring Artistic Visions to Life!
- Establish Gun Violence Prevention Program!
- Shape futures by touching hearts now!
- Exponentiate how we bring HOPE!

We praise God for what He did in 2022!

- Hundreds of kids and teens found HOPE!
- Amazing new volunteers!
- New church partners!
- Met and exceeded the Year End Match!
- 87% of Camp Capital Campaign Raised!

Want to read the rest of the January Report? Click <u>HERE!</u>

We bring youth HOPE!

You help make this all possible! Thank you so much for helping bring youth HOPE in 2022!

We began 2023 walking by faith that God will provide the staff, volunteers and finances we need to continue our youth programs and finish our Camp Capital Campaign! This year, the new building at Camp Summit will be completed and used for summer camps!

You are such an important part of the ministry, and we are so grateful for your partnership, prayers, and support! God bless you!

~ Hannah Carr, Development Director



Register Now for Trivia Night! Saturday, February 4, 2023

Doors Open @ 5pm - Trivia Begins at 6pm Moline Youth Center 3928 12th Avenue Moline, IL 61265

TICKETS: \$10 per individual player

**TABLE PACKAGE:** \$100 for up to 8 players (Includes Mulligans

and Doubler)

MULLIGANS: \$10 (1 per team/round)

**DOUBLER:** \$10 Doubles ONE Round's Points

Please call the YouthHope office for any questions or more information: 309-762-4577.



Register as a team or an individual player!



Concessions, Raffles, and Bonus Games will be available for purchase! All proceeds benefit programs for kids and teens at YouthHope! PLUS Help meet the \$2,500 Matching Challenge from Modern Woodmen of America!

# A New Years Update

As we begin the new year, there are many reasons to PRAISE GOD!

Pregnancy Resources has seen a dramatic increase in the number of clients walking through the doors. Compassionate truth is being offered; hearts are being changed and lives are being saved.

Yet, our culture continues to devalue life, especially for the preborn. This was demonstrated just last week in our area when on Jan 10th the Illinois legislature passed more sweeping abortion legislation by way of a giant amendment to an unrelated bill. House Bill 4664 – featuring Senate Amendments 005 and 006 – will expand the Illinois abortion industry in six ways:

- It will allow non-physicians (namely, midwives, physician assistants, and advanced practice nurses) to perform surgical aspiration abortions that do not require general anesthesia. This means that a physician will not need to be present for an invasive surgical aspiration abortion.
- It creates a "temporary permit" for doctors and non-physicians to cross state borders to perform abortions. Abortionists will be able to come from Missouri, Wisconsin, Tennessee, Kentucky, and beyond to perform abortions in our state.
- It has made Illinois a "sanctuary state" for disgraced abortionists who've lost their licenses for performing illegal abortions in other states. Abortionist doctors will be allowed to be licensed in Illinois.
- Healthcare professionals and medical institutions will no longer be held accountable for the wrongful death of a person caused by a botched abortion, if the abortion was legal and consensual.
- Birthing centers are now legally able to provide abortions in addition to birth services.
- Insurance plans not otherwise exempt from state insurance law mandates are required to cover abortion, abortifacients, and hormonal therapy medication at no-cost to the women and children seeking these services.

While this is not good, we can rejoice that two items were excluded from the bill:

- Language that specifically targeted pregnancy resource centers and sidewalk counselors and threatened legal actions and fines by the Illinois AG was removed from the bill.
- Language that specifically allocated Illinois taxpayer funding for abortion services, transportation and lodging for women seeking abortion services from outside the state of Illinois was removed from the bill.

Please continue to pray that God will speak to the hearts of our leaders on a local, state, and national level regarding the value of life. Please also pray for the physical, emotional, and spiritual health of your Pregnancy Resources Team as these women and men serve every day in a place where life hangs in the balance.

There are many different types of volunteer positions at the centers.

Call 563-386-3737 to find out more.



# **PRAY**

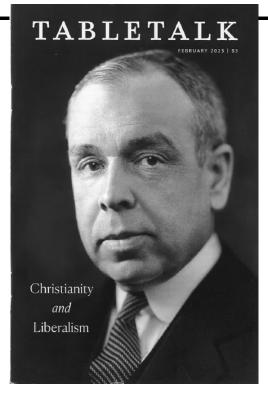
Intercession is an integral component of our ministry. Every week we email our prayer request and praise reports regarding the needs of each center, and the lives in need of a touch of grace.

To join our prayer team, please email angel@qcpregnancy.org

# EDGINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Treasurer's Report December 2022

	Balanc		Re	eceipts			Balance	
General (includes Edgington)	\$	93,662.99	\$	26,944.20	\$	27,906.94	\$	92,700.25
Education Fund (Jahn) Building Funds	\$	8,991.38		\$91.55			\$	9,082.93
Boughton	\$	217,110.99	\$	1,482.68			\$	218,593.67
Lauby	\$	26,845.30	\$	154.47	\$	-	\$	26,999.77
December 2022 MONTHLY REVIE	:W - Gen	eral Fund						
Receipts - December								
Pledges				26,067.27				
Interest Income - General Fund				11.93				
Per Member Asking				865.00	\$	26,944.20	\$	_
Expenditures - December 2022					Ψ	20,544.20	Ψ	_
Zach Hopkins salary				4,552.34				
Housing Allowance				1,800.00				
Fidelity (pension)				960.89				
EPC (health)				25.23				
Mileage				259.38				
Continuing Education				-				
Lisa Bowman				1,145.92				
Robin Preston				342.13				
Taxes / FICA / Penalty				95.50				
Reytel - Internet				117.42				
AT&T - Phone for elevator				106.41				
MidAmerican Energy				803.00				
Millenium Waste				46.70				
Repairs & Maintenance				1,282.54				
Membership & Subscriptions								
Office Supplies				356.99				
Software and Apps								
Music				110.00				
Computer System/Hardware								
ABS (copier rental)				160.11				
Mission - Local				8,925.26				
Mission - US (to be paid to World	Outreach	)		2,550.00				
Mission - International	<b>6</b> . <b>1</b>	1 15		4,250.00				
Flowers (payments for poinsettias Deacon Expense	to be pu	cnased)		(20.00) (471.34)				
Events				55.65				
Resource Materials				452.81				
TOTAL EXPENSES					\$	27,906.94		
NET OPERATING INCOME					\$	(962.74)		
INCLUDED IN GENERAL FUND T	OTAL							
Mission monies included in general	fund		\$	5,741.75				
Assistance Fund included in genera			\$	5,153.46				
*Boughton Fund includes sale of ma	anse		\$	159,000.00				

# GET YOUR FEBUARY COPY OF THE TABLETALK DEVOTIONAL



LOCATED ON A TABLE IN THE SANCTUARY FOYER

ALL submissions for the March 2023 Newsletter must be in by **NO LATER** than



Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. Items received after that date may not make it into the newsletter.

Thank you for your cooperation!

~ Lisa Bowman, Office Manager

Do you know anyone that is not receiving the Edgington EPC Newsletter each month? If so,



please contact the church office at 309-795-1713 or edgingtonepc@gmail.com and let me know. I will be happy to make arrangements for it to be received by whatever means works best.

The newsletter is distributed via email and postal service. It is also posted to our Facebook page and website: <a href="edgingtonepc.org">edgingtonepc.org</a>.

Thank you so much for your help!



Here is a wonderful opportunity to learn more of what Edgington EPC is all about!
The class is offered to anyone seeking more information about Edgington EPC; what it means to be a church member, our denomination, what we stand for, and much more. If you have been attending for awhile, but not yet committed to membership, you're encouraged to check this out!

If you are looking to join, you definitely want to mark your calendar!

Please call the church office at 309-795-1713 or edgingtopepc@gmail.com or put your name on the signup sheet and pick up, fill out, & return the Membership Personal Information form (both located on the table in the sanctuary foyer) by no later that September 7th.

# **SERMON SERIES**

We will be returning to the Old Testament study we started in October 2022 looking at the second half of the story of God's grace to the Patriarchs of Israel as we study "Generations of Grace - The Covenant Continues: Isaac & Jacob" in Genesis 25-35. We hope you will join us!

Sunday, February 5th – Genesis 28:1-9 Sunday, February 12th – Genesis 28:10-22 Sunday, February 19th – Genesis 29:1-30 Saturday, February 26th – Genesis 29:31-30:24

### **GENERATIONS OF GRACE**



THE COVENANT CONTINUES: ISAAC & JACOB



# **SCRIPTURE LINKS** - Download the apps!







ESV.org is an online Bible reading tool created to help you read and engage with God's Word. While many features of the site are available without signing in, we invite you to **create a free account**, which makes it easy to save personal notes, highlight favorite verses, and start interactive reading plans.

(Click on the images to go to their websites)



Blue Letter Bible provides powerful tools for an in-depth study of God's Word through our free online reference library, with study tools that are grounded in the historical, conservative Christian faith. We view the Bible as central to our study resources. We intentionally designed the website to include study tools that are linked directly to Bible passages. Dig deep into the Word using commentaries, encyclopedias, maps/images and much more. One of our most used tools is the Lexicon search, which

gives users immediate access to the original Hebrew and Greek words.

# MAKE A PLAN TO BE IN GOD'S WORD

We hope you have a plan to be in God's Word for 2023! To help you with that, Pastor Zach has included a chronological Bible reading plan on the next couple of pages. Hard copies are available on the table in the sanctuary foyer.



ESV.org has a number of Bible reading plans and if you are reading this in a digital copy you will find the link to those **HERE** and on the top of the reading plan on the two next pages.

You will also find a link to **BacktotheBible.org** at the bottom of the reading plan. It has too many opportunities to list to help you grow in your walk with the Lord, including a link to goTandem, which is basically a spiritual fitness app designed to assess your spiritual fitness and help you set goals, get strengthened, and be spiritually healthy. Check it out!

We encourage you to explore these plans designed to help you prioritize abiding in God's Word. Each plan differs slightly, so find one that fits your unique learning style and study goals for the year. We hope these options will serve you as you grow as a disciple of Christ and share the truths you are learning with those in your life.

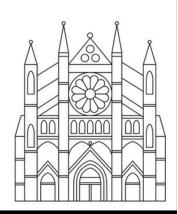
Pastor Zach is on Facebook Live every Sunday morning at 10am for our Lord's Day Worship Service .



If you are not already a member of our Facebook group, please click on the image for the link. "Like" our page and request to join. We are pretty quick to respond. Make sure you are "following" our page and turn your notifications setting on if you would like to receive a notification when Pastor Zach begins to stream. We will post a worship guide each week in advance of the service.

The Westminster Shorter Catechism, consisting of a summary of Christian doctrine in 107 questions and answers, was written by the Westminster Assembly in London over 350 years ago. When Presbyterianism came over the Atlantic Ocean to the shores of this country, the Catechism came as well. The Catechism has been acknowledged by many to be the most accurate and succinct summary of the Christian faith ever produced. So is it still useful today? Join us in Sunday School to learn more.





**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 2022** 

# THE SHORTER CATECHISM

9:00AM - FELLOWSHIP HALL

We meet every Lord's Day morning at 9am in the church basement. Please join us!



# CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Every Sunday morning at 9am



Toddler - Hillary Terrill & Kortney Geirlus

Pre-K - Beth Flickinger

1st-2nd - Katie Pearson & Sue Miller

3rd-5th - Kathy Stegmiller Junior High - Tara Johnson Senior High - Brandee Neece



All of Scripture is the unfolding story of salvation and Jesus is its focus. We show how Jesus, revealed throughout the Bible, came to seek and save the lost.

We look forward to the privilege of caring for and teaching your children about Jesus each Sunday!

# WOMEN'S MINISTRY SPRING BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays at 10am & Wednesdays at 6:30pm, beginning February 7th & 8th Please join us as we begin the third book in this series of five books that looks at and studies Jesus as He is revealed to us in the Old Testament.

What kind of king and what kind of kingdom are we asking for when we pray this prayer Jesus taught us to pray? A study of the Old Testament Historical Books—Joshua through Esther—enables us to see the kingdom of God not only as it once was, but also as it is now, and as it will be one day.

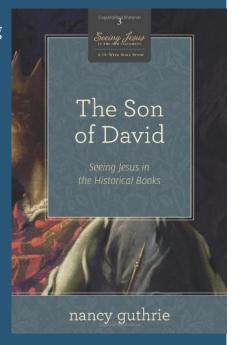
Grow

SERVE

REACH

Over ten weeks of guided study, relevant teaching, and group discussion, seasoned Bible teacher Nancy Guthrie traces the history of the people of God from the time they entered the Promised Land through a series of failed kings, exile, and finally their return to await the true King. Readers will see Jesus as:

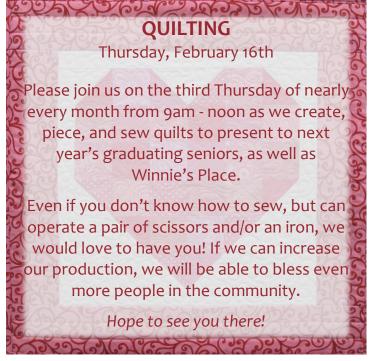
- the greater Joshua who leads his people into rest;
- the greater Boaz who has done all that is necessary to redeem;
- the greater King who will sit on David's throne forever;
- the greater Restorer who is building his church from ruined stones.



The Tuesday morning session, Feb. 7th, will be at 10am. Wednesday evening group will be Feb. 8th at 6:30pm for the video and 7:15pm for the discussion. This is flexible and the group can decide if they prefer different times. This is YOUR Bible Study and we want it to work for you.

We will be ordering the books on January 30th. If you are interested in joining us, please let Kathy Stegmiller (309-791-1162) know. It will be \$12 to cover the cost of the book. If you would rather have an eBook, it will also be \$12 and you can order it on Amazon.





# FERRINDV



EEPC

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SUN	MOM	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
56	30 Meal Site WM Book Bible Study Book Orders Due	31 Meal Site Session Mtg., 7pm	1 Meal Site	2 Groundhog Day  Meal Site	Meal Site	4
5 Food Pantry Sunday Deacon Mtg., 11:30am	6 Meal Site	7 Meal Site	8 Meal Site	9 Meal Site	10 Meal Site	11 Leadership Gathering, 9am-Noon
12 B/P Checks	13 Meal Site	14 Meal Site	15 Meal Site Trustee Mtg., 7pm Newsletter Items Due	16 Quilting, 9am Meal Site	17 Meal Site	18
19	20 President's Day NO Meal Site Foot Clinic	21 Meal Site Mission Comm., Mtg., 6:30pm	22 Meal Site	23 Meal Site	24 Meal Site	25
26 B/P Checks	27 Meal Site	28 Meal Site Session Mtg., 7pm	1 Meal Site	2 Meal Site	3 Meal Site	4