

CONNECTION CARD

We'd love to know you were here!

Contemporary Worship Traditional Worship Change In Contact Information
 1st Time Guest NAME _____
 2nd Time Guest EMAIL _____
 Regular Attendee ADDRESS _____
 Member CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 PHONE _____ Landline Cell

SUNDAY 1/14	5:45pm 6:00 - 8:00pm	Confirmation Dinner/Mtg. w/Pastor Sr. High Big Life
TUESDAY 1/16	7:00 - 8:15pm	Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal
WED. 1/17	2:30 - 5:30pm 5:45 - 6:30pm 6:00 - 7:30pm 6:30 - 8:15pm 6:30 - 8:00pm 6:30 - 8:00pm 6:30 - 8:00pm 6:30 - 8:00pm 6:45 - 8:00pm	Open Gym Dinner (Tostadas) Crew 34 (rm. 110) Choir Rehearsal (sanctuary) The Grove Pastor Craig's Bible Study Club 56 (rm. 112) Junior High (rm. 222) Prayer Meeting (rm. 107)
THURSDAY 1/18	2:00pm 6:30 - 8:00pm	JOY Fika Time (fellowship hall) Worship Dance (rm. 110 & 112)
SUNDAY 1/21	9:00 - 11:45am 6:00 - 8:00pm	Breakfast with Jesus Sr. High Big Life (rm. 222)

*The church's full calendar can be found on our website or on the app.

Our youth ministry is hosting a **2nd Best Sale on March 2nd & 3rd** to raise funds for our upcoming summer trips. Our JH will be going to Colorado for a worship/adventure trip, and our SH will be attending CHIC at the University of Tennessee. Please start putting your donations aside! This will be a great help to our youth! We will take just about everything! (only working electronics, and no old tube TV's) Thank you so much!

Acknowledgements & Needs

Pantry needs: cream of mushroom soup, chicken noodle soup, tuna helper, soda crackers, canned, corn, carrots, pears and pineapple, pork -n-beans, peanut butter, jam, syrup, laundry soap, dryer sheets, pancake, mix, cereal, butter, dish soap, paper towels, bags for groceries.

Dear Church Family~ We thank you for the beautiful poinsettia with many words from children as well as adults. Thank you for your prayers. We are both being challenged with health issues. We love & appreciate you! ~Gordon & Geneva Chirstensen

FirstCov~ Please accept my sincere thanks for the beautiful card and the lovely poinsettia you gave me for Christmas. Both were so much appreciated. I wish I could be in church but these kindnesses make me feel a part of the service I love so much and I am very grateful. Lovingly, Eleanor Lago

This Week @ First Cov

FIRST EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH



THE MESSENGER

January 14, 2018

MESSAGE

Pastor Craig

Beginnings: In the beginning...and beginning again

SCRIPTURE Genesis 8:13 – 9: 7

Sunday Mornings @ First Cov

9:00 - 10:15am

Contemporary Worship (Family Life Center)

(Kids grades K-4th will be dismissed for Children's Church during the offering.)

Adult Bible Fellowship Classes

- Jonah rm. 207
- Romans 12-16 rm. 220

10:30 - 11:45am

Traditional Worship (sanctuary)

Sunday School for Kids/Youth

- 3 yrs. to 6th grade lower level
- Jr. High Sunday School rm. 220
- Sr. High Sunday School rm. 222

Adult Bible Fellowship Classes

- Young Adult Class rm. 224
- Immerse Beginnings rm. 208
- Sermon Discussion rm. 109
- Parents of Youth rm. 116
- Crossing Cultures rm. 107
- Friendship Ministry rm. 207
(Adults with special needs)

1:00 pm

Esperanza Covenant Church (rm. 222)

OUR STAFF

Craig Swanson

Senior Pastor
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Michelle Ludge

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& Children's Ministry Team Leader
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CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES (birth- 6th Grade)

Club 56: (5th & 6th grade ministry) This Wednesday! 6:30 - 8:00pm in room 112 (lower level) We will be making trail mix for Kid's Food Basket!

Crew 34 Meets this Wednesday. 6:00 - 7:30pm in rm. 110.

Father/Son sledding party at Union Hill on Feb 3 from 4-6 for boys in

Kindergarten – 6th grade and their dads. A postcard with details is coming soon.

PARENTS: You are invited to a special night hosted by Protect Young Eyes on Wednesday, Jan. 31st 6:30—8:00pm. Join us for a FREE seminar and learn more about social media, technology and your kids.

YOUTH MINISTRIES (7th to 12th Grade)

Junior High: (7th & 8th grade) THIS Wednesday is our service night! We are making trail mix for Kids Food Basket. 6:30—8:00 pm Come and make a difference for our community!

Senior High:

- Tonight! Sunday, January 14, Big Life! 6:00 - 8:00pm @ FirstCov. There will be food, fun, & convos about our faith. Be there!
- Adult Leadership meeting @ 4:30pm in rm. 224.
- Sunday, January 21, Life Groups in host homes from 6:00 - 8:00pm

SAVE THE DATES!

- Winter Retreat, February 16 - 18.
- CHIC, July 15 - 21.

JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH Saturday, January 28 **GLOW Night**. BIG GAMES. BLACKLIGHT. 5:00—8:00 pm. Cost is \$2.00 and includes dinner and all kinds of glow in the dark fun.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES (18 - 25+)

Stay Connected: Facebook (Firstcovgr Young Adults) & Instagram (Firstcovgr ya)!

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Open up the Heavens - Meredith Andrews
Hosanna - Paul Baloche
God of Wonders - City on a Hill
Great Are You Lord - All Sons & Daughters
Speak O Lord - Gettys

Worship Leader: Jeremy Hoekstra
Bass: Geoff Schalow Percussion: Rich Zeck
Drums: Jose Rodriguez Keys: Mark Schut
Vocals: Karin Alferink, Kim Theeuwes

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAVE THE DATE! AUGUST 17TH, 18TH, AND 19TH, (Friday to Sunday) the all church family retreat at Portage Lake Bible Camp.

Volunteer needed to organize & monitor the busy bags every 6 weeks. That person would look through the bags and take out coloring books that are full, sharpen colored pencils, take out toys that are broken and replace with new ones, change out books for different seasons, and overall will keep the bags fresh and fun for the kids who use them. Contact Michelle Ludge or Karin Alferink if interested.

Our Annual Meeting Part 1 will be Sunday, Jan. 28 at 12:00pm in the Family Life Center. We'll start with a catered meal for lunch and fellowship and our meeting will be done by 1:50pm. Childcare will be available for families during the meeting. We have lots to celebrate and share: updates from Esperanza, Pastor Josh and Youth Ministries, a short timeline of where we've been as a church the last few years, as well as an update on Pastor Craig's upcoming Sabbatical. We will also be approving our 2018 budget. Since we have such important matters in our church life to share and discuss, we hope to have as many church members attend as possible. Consider sending one from your family if it's not possible for the whole family to stay. **Please RSVP** by Monday January 22nd by filling out the section on the Connection Card (please include your name) or by contacting the office (453-6346 or office@firstcovgr.org).

ADULT MINISTRIES

The Crossing Cultures class starts back up today, Sunday, Jan. 14 at 10:30 in room 107. We will start by taking an in-depth look at Islam & explore ways to reach out with Christ's love. New students are always welcome.

JOY Ministries ~ Fika Time. Thursday, January 18th @ 2:00pm in Fellowship Hall. Join us for food & fellowship. We will also have the pleasure of hearing Rev. Richard Gleason speak. He was a Freedom Rider with Martin Luther King. Sign up at the Information Center

Men's Bible Study. The group meets at Mr. Burger on Lake Michigan Drive, Friday mornings @ 6:30am. Contact Mike Poggi with questions, 446-7161.

DATE NIGHT is back! Friday February 9th \$30 per couple includes dinner and a comedy program! Reservations begin this Sunday and end Sunday January 28th. Sign up in fellowship hall.

January 14 2018

I WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN

- Prayer Ministry Youth Ministry
- Nursery Kids Hope USA
- Greeting/Ushering Children's Ministry
- Music/Worship Hospitality Team
- Assisting w/ Funeral Lunches

I WOULD LIKE INFORMATION ABOUT

- Baptism/Dedication
- Church Membership
- Joining a Small Group
- Becoming a Follower of Jesus
- Hosting a Refugee Family

I/We will be attending the Annual Meeting Part 1 / # Attending?

COMMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS _____