

CONNECTION CARD

We'd love to know you were here!

Change In Contact Information

1st Time Guest NAME _____

2nd Time Guest EMAIL _____

Regular Attendee ADDRESS _____

Member CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ Landline Cell

SUNDAY 9/16	9:00am	Contemporary Worship (gym) Adult Classes
	10:30am	Traditional Worship (sanctuary) Small Group Outreach (rm.116)
	6:00 - 8:00pm	Big Life Kick Off
MONDAY 9/17	8:40 - 10:40am	Mom's Bible Study (rm. 222)
	12:30 - 2:30pm	Food Pantry (fellowship hall)
	7:00 - 9:00pm	BSF (family life center)
TUESDAY 9/18	6:30am	Men's Bible Study (Mr. Burger)
	8:30 - 11:30am	Beth Moore Bible Study (rm.207)
	9:30 - 11:30am	Griefshare (rm. 220)
	11:30am	Women's Ministries (rm.200)
	12:30 - 2:30pm	Food Pantry (fellowship hall)
	7:00 - 8:15	Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal (sanctuary)
WEDS. 9/19	8:00 - 2:30pm	CBS (whole building)
	2:30 - 5:30pm	Open Gym
	5:45pm	Dinner, Pizza,\$2 a person (rm. fellowship hall)
	6:00 - 8:00pm	Alpha (rm. 207)
	6:30 - 8:00pm	Jr. High (rm. 222)
	6:30 - 8:00pm	The Grove (rm. 220)
	6:30 - 8:15pm	Choir Rehearsal (sanctuary)
7:00 - 8:00pm	Prayer Meeting (rm. 107)	
THURSDAY 9/20	2:00pm	Youth for Christ (rm. 222 & gym)
	6:00 - 9:00pm	Worship Team (gym)
SATURDAY 09/22	12:30pm	JOY group Skinner ranch
SUNDAY 9/23	9:00am	Contemporary Worship (gym) Adult Classes
	10:30am	Traditional Worship (sanctuary) Adult Classes & Sunday School
	6:00 - 8:00pm	Big Life

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

Grief is a difficult journey that many people don't understand, unless they've been through it. That's what **GriefShare** is all about. GriefShare is a class that allows those who are going through the grieving process to talk with others who are grieving too. GriefShare will be meeting at FirstCov, Room 220, on Tuesdays, 9:30-11:30am, beginning September 18. It runs for thirteen weeks and the class is free to all participants. Contact Pastor Neal to attend or if you have questions.

Wednesday Night Dinners begin this week. We start serving at 5:45pm - 6:30pm. Pizza! \$2 per person. If you would like to help serve or create a new meal notify Judy Marsh in the office 453-6346.

Fundraiser for Esperanza Family Camp. Order chicken tamales that will be prepared September 22. The cost is \$15 for a dozen or \$10 for six. Proceeds go towards helping send families to our family camp. Please call (616-589-3925) or e-mail (esperanzacovenantchurch@gmail) Pastor Dale to order.

September 21, 10:00 -1:00pm, at 510 Clover Ridge, **God's Quilts** is having fall kick off potluck. Food and fellowship, with helpers and quilters. Please bring a dish to pass and your own table service. If you haven't come before, just come and see what we are all about. Call Cheri Matjaszek at 616-560-3093.



FIRST EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

THE MESSENGER

September 16, 2018

Sunday Mornings Activities

9:00 - 10:15am
Contemporary Worship
(Family Life Center/gym)

(Kids grades young 5's - 2nd will be dismissed for Children's Church during the offering to rm. 110) They will be brought back to the service before the service ends.

Nursery Provided

Infant rm. 101
Toddlers rm. 103
Preschool rm. 108

Adult Classes

-To Be Announced rm. 207
-Gospel of John
(begins in 3 weeks) rm. 220

10:30 - 11:45am
Traditional Worship (sanctuary)

Sunday School for Kids/Youth

-3yo pre-school	rm. 106
-4yo pre-school	rm. 108
PreK/Kindergarten	rm. 104
-1st/2nd Grade	rm. 102
-3rd/4th Grade	rm. 110
girls start in rm. 118, pickup in rm. 110	
-5th/6th Grade	rm. 112
-Jr. High 7th/8th	rm. 220
-Sr. High 9th - 12th	rm. 222

Adult Classes

-Young Adult Class rm. 224
-Sermon Discussion rm. 208
-Emotionally Healthy Spirituality
rm. 109
-Art of Marriage rm. 116
-Race, Justice & Unity in the church
rm. 107
-Friendship Ministry rm. 207
(Adults with special needs)

OUR STAFF

Craig Swanson

Senior Pastor
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Michelle Ludge

Director of Middle School Ministry
& Children's Ministry Team Leader
mludge@firstcovgr.org

Josh Hinken

Senior High & Young Adult Pastor
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Neal Herr

Pastor of Congregational Development
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Karin Alferink

Children's Ministry
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Jeremy Hoekstra

Contemporary Worship Leader
jhoekstra@firstcovgr.org

Katelynn Wenz

Nursery Coordinator

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES (birth- 6th Grade)

SUNDAY SCHOOL kicks off TODAY. We have many great teachers ready to serve. However, there are more spots to fill. We are looking for a helper in the 3 year old preschool class, a large group and small group leader for 1st/2nd grade, 2 small group leaders for 3rd/4th grade boys, 1 small group leader for 5th/6th grade girls every other week, and 1 small group leader for 5th/6th grade boys every other week. For more information, contact Karin Alferink or Michelle Ludge. We would LOVE to hear from you!

CREW 34 (3rd/4th grade ministry) kicks off on October 17th! Stayed tuned for details!

CLUB 56 kicks off on October 3rd with a trip to a Corn Maze, Hayride, Donuts & Cider! 6:00—8:00pm. Meet at church and be ready to leave at 6:00pm. Cost is only \$5.00 for this awesome adventure! RSVP to Michelle by 10/1!

YOUTH MINISTRIES (7th - 12th Grade)

FirstCovJH (7th & 8th grade)

THIS Wednesday, September 19 is our Junior High Fall Kick-off! 6:30 - 8:00 pm. FREE night of fun including LASER TAG!!!

FirstCovSH TONIGHT (September 16) | BIG LIFE KICK-OFF | 6-8p

Get pumped to team up with your life group and compete. Get ready for a photo scavenger hunt with a twist! SNAP, GRAB, & GO! Meet at FirstCov in the youth room at 6:00, eat food, grab the details, and GO! Come & hang with friends!

Parents... join us for a meeting @ 5:15p in the youth room.

SUNDAY (September 23) | Big Life 6-8pm @ First Cov. There will be food, fun, and convos about our faith. Bring a friend! Praise band practice at 5:00pm.

Stay Connected: Facebook (Firstcovgr Youth Group), Instagram (Firstcovgr_sh), & Texting (txt "firstcovseniorhigh" to 31996)!

The Union High school card ministry team is looking for additional volunteers to send 2-3/notes per school year to encourage staff members as they serve the students of union. Teachers have indicated that these notes have been a true blessing. For information call Patty 616-450-9927 or Gwen 616-453-6423.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES (18 - 25+)

The Young Adult Missional Community (MC) will gather for investigative Bible study and conversation centered around how we can live on-mission for Jesus in our families, schools, workplaces, and communities. Join us as we talk at 10:40am in The Overflow! (room 224).

PASSION 2019 January 1 - 4, 2019 in Washington D.C. Cost \$350.

WHAT IS PASSION? While they host large gatherings, Passion is more than a conference. More than an event. More than a feeling. Passion is people coming together saying goodbye to lesser things and saying yes to Jesus, the One whose name is above every name. **MORE DETAILS TO COME!** (We have 20 tickets.)

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Members will be voted on during the Sunday services on September 23, and confirmed into membership during services on Sunday, October 7th.

Bridal Shower for Michelle Visser (daughter of Ron & Janet Ziegelbaur) is Thursday, September 27 at 7:00pm in the fellowship hall. Sign up in the lobby. Nate & Michelle are registered at Target, REI, and Bed, Bath & Beyond.

Join us for a Bridal Shower on Thursday, October 4 at 6:30pm for Michaela Raymond on her engagement to Michael Piccard! They are registered at Target, Crate and Barrel, and REI. Sign up at the Information desk in the lobby.

JOY Ministries, September 22, lunch, hayride and bonfire at Skinner's Ranch from 12:30 - 5:00pm. Sign up and purchase tickets in lobby. \$20 per person.

CHOIR Rehearsals are Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:15pm in the sanctuary.

KIDS HOPE Kick Off Party: All Mentors, Prayer Partners and those interested in finding out more about Kids Hope. Join us for an informative and fun evening as we kick off a new school year! Sunday, September 30 from 6:30-8:00pm in room 207. RSVP Kim Theeuwes at ktheeuwes4@gmail.com

Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal Tuesday September 18, 7:00 - 8:15pm in sanctuary.

ADULT MINISTRIES

Join us for The Grove: Old Testament Survey, a class that invites us to step into the story of the Old Testament. This two semester class is open to anyone at any stage in their faith journey. This semester we will spend twelve weeks in the first half of the Old Testament (from creation through the life of King David). Invite a friend and take it together in the same small group! The Grove will meet on Wednesdays, from 6:30-8:00pm beginning September 19. The cost is \$15 to cover the cost of materials. Childcare is available for \$3 per session, if you let us know ahead of time. Contact Neal Herr at nherr@firstcovgr.org or (616) 307-3469 for more information and a link to register. See insert in today's Messenger.

ALPHA is a series of sessions where people can gather for a meal and explore faith and the basics of Christianity. It is a safe place to wrestle with questions and doubts. We are planning to run this eleven week session this fall following City Fest and are looking for those interested in learning more about this evangelization program by participating as prayer warriors, hospitality helpers, facilitators, or greeters. Be in prayer for this fall offering that seeks to lead seekers to Christ, and consider who you might invite to attend or if you'd like to attend yourself. To find out more contact Josh Hinken (616-295-0772) or Linda Carlson (616-690-1620). Starting this week Wednesday, September 19, from 6- 8pm, room 207.

Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting meet from 7:00 - 8:00pm in room 107.

Women's Beth Moore Bible Study "Breaking Free" begins Tuesday, September 18 and continues for 10 weeks. With video, optional workbook and class time, we will look into the Old and New Testaments to understand our freedom in Christ. Come for coffee at 9am and the study begins at 9:20am with Jan Dudley leading. All women welcome. Workbook is \$10. Sign up at the information desk today.

September 17, a Bible study for moms starts meeting every other Monday at 8:40 - 10:40am. There will be a mixture of morning meetings at First Cov. and evening meetings at a different location. We will be going through the video/Bible study titled "Armor of God" by Priscilla Shirer. Contact Meghan Gutierrez at gutierrezmeghan@gmail.com if you are interested.

Starting September 18, Men's Bible Study will meet on Tuesdays rather than Fridays. We will continue to meet at Mr. Burger on Lake Michigan Drive at 6:30am.

September 16, 2018

I WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN

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

I WOULD LIKE INFORMATION ABOUT

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

COMMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS