

CONNECTION CARD

We'd love to know you were here!

Change In Contact Information  
 1st Time Guest  
 2nd Time Guest  
 Regular Attendee  
 Member  
 9am  10:30am

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
 Landline  Cell

This Week at FirstCov

<b>SUNDAY 5/19</b>	<b>Graduate Sunday</b>	
	9:00am	Contemporary Worship Service (gym) & ABF's
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service (sanctuary) Sunday School, & ABF's
	10:30am - 11:45pm	PRC Ministry Team Meeting (rm.109)
	10:30am	Graduate Youth Celebration (rm. 222)
	<b>12:00pm</b>	<b>Congregational Meal &amp; Annual Mtg, Part II (gym)</b>
	1:00pm	Esperanza Covenant Church (rm. 222)
	5:15pm	Sr. High End of Year Party
<b>MONDAY 5/20</b>	12:30 - 2:30pm	Food Pantry (fellowship hall)
<b>TUESDAY 5/21</b>	6:30am	Men's Bible Study (Mr. Burger)
	10:00 - 12:00pm	VBS Prep Day (rm. 207 & 209)
	12:30 - 2:30pm	Food Pantry (fellowship hall)
<b>WEDS. 5/22</b>	9:00 - 12:00pm	CBS Craft Day (rms. 207 & 208)
	12:00 - 2:00pm	CBS Meeting (rm. 200)
	2:30 - 5:30pm	Open Gym (gym)
	6:00pm	Choir, Hand Bells, & Orchestra Potluck (fellowship hall)
<b>THURS. 5/23</b>	2:30 - 5:00pm	YFC (gym)
<b>SUNDAY 5/26</b>	9:00am	Contemporary Worship Service (gym)
	10:30am	Traditional Worship Service (sanctuary)

\*The church's full calendar can be found on our website.

Have a prayer request? Email Our Prayer Chain at [firstcovprayerchain@gmail.com](mailto:firstcovprayerchain@gmail.com)

OFFICE PHONE (616) 453-6346

[www.firstcovgr.org](http://www.firstcovgr.org)



THE MESSENGER

May 19, 2019

Graduate Sunday

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**

Dave Egnor 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**

The Watering Hole rm. 208  
 Friendship Ministry rm. 207

OUR STAFF

**Craig Swanson**

Senior Pastor  
[cswanson@firstcovgr.org](mailto:cswanson@firstcovgr.org)

**Michelle Ludge**

Director of Middle School Ministry & Children's Ministry Team Leader  
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**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  
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**Katelynn Wenz**

Nursery Coordinator  
[kwenz@firstcovgr.org](mailto:kwenz@firstcovgr.org)

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES (birth - 6th Grade)

**Children's Worship** is offered during the 9:00am worship hour. Kids in Kindergarten - 2nd grade are invited to participate. Children will be dismissed at the offering and return during the closing song.

**Activity Sheets** for kids in worship are available at the Connection Corner and Information Center. Show Karin your completed sheet for the answers and a prize.

**Register for VBS online!** VBS is June 17-20 for kids entering Kindergarten - 5th grade. The theme is "In the Wild - Amazing Encounters with Jesus." Register your students online at: [www.firstcovgr.org](http://www.firstcovgr.org). Volunteers are also needed. Contact Karin or Michelle if you're interested. Childcare is provided for younger volunteer kids.

## YOUTH MINISTRIES ( 7th - 12th Grade )

**JUNIOR HIGH (7th & 8th grade) SAVE THE DATE:** Wednesday, 5/29 we will meet at church at 6pm and then head to Mr Burger for dinner! We will return to church for our last ALPHA study. Bring money for dinner!

### SENIOR HIGH (9th - 12th Grade)

**TODAY (May 19) Graduate Sunday Celebration!** Come celebrate with our graduates & eat food! 10:30am in the youth room.

**End of the Year Party at Rebounderz Tonight at 5:15 - 8:15pm.** Join us for an awesome night at the indoor trampoline park, foam pit, air dodgeball, Ninja Warrior course, human foosball, arcade, cafe, virtual reality, and LASER TAG! Cost is only \$10. Meet at church for PIZZA at 5:15pm. WAIVER must be filled out before you come on Sunday night (<https://rebounderzgrandrapids.pfestore.com/waiver/>). We will return to FirstCov at 8:15p. (If you want, bring extra money for the cafe, arcade, or virtual reality.)

**Save the Date:** Mission Trip to Covenant Mountain Mission Bible Camp. July 6 -12, 2019 (Registration due by TODAY)! For more information & registration: <http://bit.ly/CMMBCmissiontrip>. First meeting: June 2 at 10:30am in the youth room.

**Save the Date:** Senior High Leadership Appreciation Brunch. June 9 at 10:30 -11:15am in the youth room. Thank you for serving this year! Bring your family to brunch & then stop by the open house to say goodbye to Jeremy & Pastor Neal. RSVP by Wednesday, June 5: <http://bit.ly/volunteerbrunchRSVP>

## YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES (18 - 29)

**TODAY (May 19) Graduate Sunday Celebration** (10:30 in the youth room).

**THURSDAY (June 6) YA: MISSIONAL COMMUNITY SERVE** at Dégagé from 6-7:30pm. Txt Josh (616.295.0772) to "RSVP" by Thursday, June 5. Plan to meet at Dégagé (144 Division Ave. GR) by 5:30pm.

**Save the Date:** Passion 2020 // December 30 - January 2, 2020.

**Stay Connected:** Stay Connected: Facebook (Firstcovgr Young Adults) & Instagram (Firstcovgr\_ya)!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join us TODAY for Annual Meeting, Part 2, 12 noon,  
A catered meal will be served at noon with the meeting following.  
Childcare will be available for kids up through sixth grade.

**Today is GRADUATE SUNDAY** - We will be recognizing all graduates during the 9:00am service. There is a celebration at 10:30am in the youth room for students and parents.

**GIVING TREE** is full of leaves to support VBS. Please stop by the tree, grab a leaf or two, and return the items to the office labeled for VBS.

**Praying for the Process** - The Search Committee would like to invite you to be involved, by being part of a "prayer team" that will support the work of searching for a new pastor and partner in ministry. If you would like part of a prayer team, check the box on the Messenger tear off and fill out the information.

**Pantry Needs** - Cereal, laundry soap, canned fruit & corn, spaghetti noodles, toothpaste, rice, jam, TP, shampoo, flour, sugar, and syrup. (no black beans or mac & cheese, we have plenty) No outdated or opened items can be accepted.

**NURSERY** - Summer is finally approaching and with that comes opportunities to serve the children of the church again or for the first time! Did you know that 85% of Christians become Christians between the ages of 4-14 years old? That means you play a HUGE part in these children's lives, and as a church we are grateful for YOU. Contact Katelynn Wenz at [kwenz@firstcovgr.org](mailto:kwenz@firstcovgr.org) to serve in our nursery.

**The Open Gym Bible study group** continues throughout the year. If you would like to bless and fellowship with 10 - 15 teens by preparing them a meal on Wednesdays at 5:30pm please contact Pastor Dale at 616-589-3925.

**There will be a Potluck Supper for Chancel Choir, Hand Bell Choir, and Orchestra**, on Wednesday, May 22 at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

**Men's Bible Study** meets on Tuesdays at Mr. Burger on Lake Michigan Drive at 6:30am. Men, come and bring a friend.

**UNITE , WALK & PRAY!** The 1stcov PRC Ministry team invites everyone-- singles, teens, families, small groups to **UNITE** with other believers @ **9:00 a.m. on Saturday, 6/15** to **WALK** and **PRAY for the Sanctity of Human Life**. See today's Messenger for more details. Pledge forms available at the Information Desk and Connection Corner. Walk begins @ the PRC offices @ 415 Cherry SE, where Registration starts at 8:30 on 6/15. The walk course is in the downtown area of GR and is only about two miles. Parking available at the Mercy Health building across from the Mercy Hauenstein Center at Cherry and Lafayette. Questions: Call Bill & Gwen Petroski (453-6423).

**FOUND TEA CUP** - There was a tea cup and saucer left at the Ladie's Tea last week. It is from Eversberg, Bavaria. If this is yours, please contact the office.

May 19, 2019

I WOULD LIKE INFORMATION ABOUT

Baptism/Dedication  
 Church Membership  
 Becoming a Follower of Jesus

Prayer Ministry  
 Nursery  
 Greeting/Ushering

Youth Ministry  
 Kids Hope USA  
 Children's Ministry

I would Like to be on the **Prayer Team** for searching for a new pastor & partner in ministry.

COMMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS