

# 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

## This Week at FirstCov

|                      |                          |   |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <b>SUNDAY 12/30</b>  | 10:00am<br>1:00 - 7:00pm | One Sunday Service (gym)<br>Fellowship Hall Occupied  |
| <b>MONDAY 12/31</b>  | 8:00pm                   | New Years Eve Fun, Games, Potluck and Service<br>(sponsored by Esperanza, everyone invited!)                              |
| <b>TUESDAY 1/01</b>  | Happy New Year           |   |
| <b>WEDS. 1/02</b>    | 9:00am                   | Church Undecorating Event   |
| <b>THURS. 1/03</b>   | 12:30 - 2:30pm           | Sr. Adults Volleyball   |
| <b>FRIDAY 1/04</b>   | 9:30 - 11:30am           | MOTS (rm. 207)  |
| <b>SATURDAY 1/05</b> | 10:30am                  | Funeral for Jean Bolinder   |
| <b>SUNDAY 1/06</b>   | 9:00am<br><br>10:30am    | Contemporary Worship Service (gym)<br>& ABF's<br><br>Traditional Worship Service (sanctuary),<br>Sunday School, and ABF's |

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

**Thank you** for the lovely poinsettia given to me in memory of LeRoy. It has brightened my days and lets me know that there are many caring folks in our church. Thank you so much and may God bless those who have blessed me so much. ~Mary Clark

OFFICE PHONE (616) 453-6346

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



# FIRST EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH THE MESSENGER

**December 30, 2018**

**10:00am Combined Worship Service**

### Nursery Provided

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

**These Adult Bible Fellowship Classes start  
Sunday, January 6, 2019**

### 9:00am Adult Classes

**Room 207 | Diane Portfleet**

**Room 220 | Dave Egner**

### 10:30am Adult Classes

**The Whole Sex Talk, Room 109, Pregnancy Resource Center** A Biblically-based six-session multimedia program that empowers parents to have healthy, ongoing conversations with their kids about love, sex, and relationships. The cost is \$5.

**Art of Parenting, Room 116, Joe and Theresa Phillips** A 12-week video-based study designed to help parents integrate faith into everyday parenting moments and to create an environment where parents can shoulder burdens together, celebrate breakthroughs, and relate to one another's day to day parenting journey.

**Church Between Borders, Room 107, Dale Dahlman.** A look at the Hispanic culture, immigration, community and ways to extend justice to our neighbors. Please join us as we learn from our brothers and sisters in Christ and seek to love our neighbor.

**The Watering Hole, Room 208, Jim Strobridge** This group meets every week to discuss the sermon.

**Friendship Ministry | Room 207 | Brooke Johnston** This is a class for adults with special needs. We play games, sing songs, learn together, and pray for one another.

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

**CREW34** (3rd & 4th grade) CREW34 will break for the Christmas and New Year holiday. We will resume on January 16.

**CLUB 56** (5th & 6th grade) CLUB 56 will break for the Christmas and New Year holiday. We will resume on January 16.

**Children's Worship** We will not meet during Christmas break TODAY. There will be a Christmas resource table, for children, in the back of the Family Live Center.

**Sunday School** We will not meet during Christmas break on December 30. Classes resume on January 6th!

**Reminder to Parents** If your kids stay for Sunday School, please stay in the building. Sunday school is from 10:30 - 11:45am. Please drop your kids off between 10:25 and 10:30am for safety reasons, as that is when the teachers arrive.

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

### JUNIOR HIGH (7th & 8th grade)

**SPECIAL Event Bowling Party** at Clique Lanes on Sunday, January 6th! 6:00 -8:00pm. Cost is \$10 per person includes shoes, unlimited bowling, pizza, pop, and FUN! Invite your friends!

**No Youth Group** Wednesdays on January 2, or January 9.

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

**NO YOUTH GROUP** Tonight, December 30, Christmas Break

**SUNDAY** (January 6) **BIG LIFE BOWLING NIGHT** 6:00 - 8:00pm. Meet at Clique Lanes (533 Stocking Ave NW, GR). Cost is \$10 per person includes shoes, unlimited bowling, pizza, pop, and FUN! Invite your friends!

**SAVE THE DATE:** Sr. High Retreat @ Portage Lake | Feb. 8-10, 2019  
Get pumped for an awesome experience up north at PLCBC! It will be a weekend you will not want to miss! Registration info is coming soon. Cost: \$95\* (deposit of \$40 & registration form due by 1/27/19). Full payment due by February 7. \*Need financial help? We can help! We have resources and would love to help you be a part of this life changing end.

**Stay Connected:** Facebook (Firstcovgr Youth Group), Instagram (Firstcovgr\_sh).

## YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES (18 - 25+)

### PASSION 2019 January 1 - 4, 2019 Washington D.C. \$250

**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. We have 2 tickets left! Interested/ Questions? Contact Josh Hinken

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The FirstCov family is invited to join Esperanza for their New Year's Eve party.** We will be playing games from 8:00 to 10:00pm followed by a potluck meal and then a time of worship and prayer to receive the New Year. Please contact Pastor Dale at 616-589-3925 for more information.

**January 20 - Believer Baptisms** - If you have recently given your life to Christ, we would love to celebrate that with you through baptism! If you are interested, we invite you to contact us at the church so we can include you in our baptism service on Sunday, January 20 at 9:00am. Celebrate the New Year by celebrating your new life in Christ!

**February 10 - Infant Baptisms** - Are you interested in having your child baptized? We are going to be having infant baptisms on Sunday, February 10. Contact the church office if you're interested.

**Your 2019 Offering Envelopes** - are in your church mailbox. If you need a set, please contact the church office or Marv Malmberg.

### STEWARDSHIP REPORT as of 12/23/18

|                                       |    |                  |
|---------------------------------------|----|------------------|
| <b>Total 2018 Budget</b>              | \$ | <b>1,239,883</b> |
| <b>Received as of 12/016/18</b>       | \$ | <b>1,151,613</b> |
| <b>Needed by 12/31/18</b>             | \$ | <b>88,270</b>    |
| <b>ESTMATED ACTUAL EXPENSES</b>       | \$ | <b>1,200,000</b> |
| <b>NEEDED TO MEED ACTUAL EXPENSES</b> | \$ | <b>48,387</b>    |

## ADULT MINISTRIES

**Join us for the second half of The Grove:** Old Testament Survey. We meet 6:30-7:00 in small groups, then 7:00-8:00pm as a large group. In this second semester we'll be looking at the Old Testament prophets and the later historical books. Invite a friend and take it together in the same small group! If you have never taken this class before, the cost is \$15 to help cover the cost of materials. If you took semester 1 last year and want to jump in for semester 2, we would love to have you. Childcare is available for \$3 per session (suggested donation), if you let us know ahead of time. Contact Neal Herr at [nherr@firstcovgr.org](mailto:nherr@firstcovgr.org) or (616) 453-6346 for more information or to register. Everyone is welcome!

**The FirstCov Pregnancy Resource Center Ministry Team** is sponsoring a 6-week video and discussion series beginning January 6 entitled "The Whole Sex Talk." The curriculum is designed to guide parents on how to have Biblically based, culturally relevant ongoing conversations with their children about relationships, love, marriage and sex. Parents are encouraged to attend, as well as any interested adults. We will meet promptly at 10:30-11:45 in Room 109. Study guides are \$5/ each. For questions, call Bill & Gwen Petroski.

**Beth Moore Bible Study** is cancelled from November 20, 2018 until January 15, 2019. We will meet again on January 15th in room 207 at 9:00am for coffee and 9:20am for the study.

December 30, 2018

I WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN

- Prayer Ministry
- Youth Ministry
- Nursery
- Kids Hope USA
- Greeting/Ushering
- Children's Ministry

I WOULD LIKE INFORMATION ABOUT

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

COMMENTS/PRAYER REQUESTS