



# COVENANT COMMUNITY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embracing all. Feeding spirits. Reflecting Christ...  
Changing lives forever!



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2020 - 10 A.M.

FORWARD  
FROM CAREFREE TO COMMITMENT:  
ALL IN

## LIVE STREAMING

CCPC live streams our worship services every Sunday morning. Please join us in spirit by going to [www.covenantcommunitypc.org/live-stream](http://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/live-stream). You can give, fill out a Connection Card, and also view archives of past services and sermons all from the comfort of your home.

**Ministers** - All members of the congregation

### Staff:

**Pastor** - Jim Gates

(757) 615-1799 or jim@covenantcommunitypc.org

**Director of Children & Family Ministries** - Amanda Fuls

(715) 573-6296 or amanda@covenantcommunitypc.org

**Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries** - Dan Frost

(815) 262-5273 dan@covenantcommunitypc.org

**Director of Music Ministries** - Les Fraaza

(715) 574-2059 or les@covenantcommunitypc.org

**Parish Visitor** - Jess Wakefield

jess@covenantcommunitypc.org

**Communications & Evangelism Coordinator** - Drew Bouché

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**Office Manager/Bookkeeper** - John Jacobs

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**Choir Director** - Deb Perrin

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**Bell Choir Director** - Ruth Wrynski

ruth@covenantcommunitypc.org

**Housekeeper** - Carol Anklam

### Church Office

(715) 359-6467 or ccpc@covenantcommunitypc.org

1806 Weston Avenue, Schofield, WI 54476  
[www.covenantcommunitypc.org](http://www.covenantcommunitypc.org)



## Gathering Around the Word

**Prelude:** "Change My Heart, O God" JeHae Kim-Bixby

### Quiet Reflection and Preparation for Worship:

What if God's call is not to go "back to normal" but to go forward with Christ? In what direction is your life moving? Are you going backwards to your old life, or forward into the Spirit's new adventure? Consider this morning what your next step towards God might be, and commit to strain forward to what lies ahead.

### Welcome & Announcements

**Call to Worship:** Exodus 24:7-9

Then Moses took the book of the covenant, and read it in the hearing of the people; and they said,

**"All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient."**

Moses took the blood and dashed it on the people, and said,

**"See, the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."**

**\*Hymn:** "The Potter's Hand" Kent & Deb Perrin

**\*Call to Confession:** Luke 14:34-35

Jesus says, "Salt is good; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is fit neither for the soil nor for the manure pile; they throw it away." We are the salt of the earth, but we risk losing what makes us distinctive when we stray from our Savior. Let us instead return to Jesus using our prayer of confession.

### \*Prayer of Confession:

Lord Jesus, you instruct us to weigh the cost of the Christian life. While we would prefer an easy religion of comfort and convenience, you offer us something different. You call us to be different, to be holy. You ask us to carry the cross and follow you.

Often we have sought alternative routes to you, detours that did not involve our own crosses. We had hoped this would be a victorious path and not just a virtuous one. Yet each of those broad and easy paths have led us away from you.

Forgive us again for the ways we have blended in with the world around us, losing our distinctiveness, our saltiness. You alone can make us salty again. Work your redemption in our lives today. To you we confess, in you we trust, with you we serve, and for you we live.

(We keep a moment of silence for reflection)

### \*Assurance of Pardon:

Luke 15:7

Jesus says, "I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance." Believe the good news: our repentance is accepted and our sins forgiven, thanks to Jesus Christ, our Lord! Thanks be to Him! **Amen.**

### Children's Message

### Period of Fellowship

## Proclaiming the Word

**Old Testament Reading:** Exodus 24:1-18 NRSV Bible

**Special Music:** "Our God" Jeff Theilig

**New Testament Reading:** Luke 14:25-35 NRSV Bible

**Sermon:** Forward from Carefree to Commitment: All In Jim Gates

## Responding to the Word

**\*Hymn:** "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" Kent & Deb Perrin

### Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

### Offering & Stewardship Update

**Offertory Music:** "There is a Fountain" Marcy Fehrman & JeHae Kim-Bixby

Connection Card and giving are available on the live stream web page.

## Bearing and Following the Word into the World

### Announcements

### \*Benediction

**\*Choral Benediction:** "Standing on the Promises" (vs. 2) Kent & Deb Perrin

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**COVENANT NEIGHBORS**—We are launching a new idea at CCPC called “Covenant Neighbors.” In a nutshell, this will connect everyone in our church to two or three other members/families who live nearby. These connections will be *VERY* simple and will function similarly to a phone tree. Once every other month, you will receive an email called “Neighborhood News.” This will be a short list of questions or information to share with each other by phone. This will be designed to never require more than a brief, 2-3 minute conversation (of course, if you get to chatting, that’s a-ok). For example, for our first “Neighborhood News,” we will email you about upcoming Advent and Christmas plans, and ask you to share with your “Covenant Neighbors” about what’s happening in Advent. Super easy! Before we create these neighborhood groups, we want to give everyone the opportunity to “opt out.” So, if you’d rather not be a part of our little phone tree system, just reply to this email or call the church and let us know. No worries whatsoever! Otherwise, stay tuned for more information right after Thanksgiving to discover who will be your Covenant Neighbors!

**HEARTS OF HOPE 2020**—You can now adopt Hearts of Hope in TWO ways!

1. As always, there is a table in the Narthex where you can adopt a single heart (gift), and entire child, or an entire family.
2. Hearts are available for adoption on our website! Click here to register for hearts.  
<https://covenantcommunitypc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/603189>

All gifts are due back to church by December 13. If you register electronically, there will be a paper heart at the The Hub (our welcome desk at the Bouldin Hall entrance) for each of your gifts - just let us know when you drop off and we will connect gifts and labels. If you have any questions, on the online registration, contact the church at 715-359-6467.

**2021 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN UPDATE**—Thank you to everyone who submitted a Commitment Card with your 2021 pledge! If you have not done so yet, you can mail those to the church or complete them online here:  
<https://covenantcommunitypc.org/people/forms/179281>. Our current totals as of this morning are **87 pledges for \$294,427**.

**COVENANT ADVENT CELEBRATION**—CCPC will be celebrating the kickoff of Advent with a celebration of our faith family’s many talents! On Sunday, November 29 from 4-5:30pm, we will be live streaming folks of all ages singing, dancing, playing an instrument, or sharing any other entertaining skills! There will be a limited number of spots for a live presentation that evening, but all are welcome to pre-record their performance either from home... or by coming in to the church ahead of the event. We invite everyone to participate and/or tune in to celebrate the beginning of this amazing season of Advent. Registration information will be made available for those who wish to perform. If you have any questions about this event, want to submit a video from home, or plan to come in and record, please contact Dan Frost ([dan@covenantcommunitypc.org](mailto:dan@covenantcommunitypc.org)).

**GRATITUDE CHALLENGE**—We invite all members to share their gratitude by filling out a leaf found in the Narthex and dropping it in the offering plate. Anything you are thankful for can be written on the leaf and we will place it on the Gratitude Tree located on the southern side of the Sanctuary. Want to submit something your grateful for from the comfort of your home? Send it to Amanda Fuls ([amanda@covenantcommunitypc.org](mailto:amanda@covenantcommunitypc.org)) and she will put it on a leaf to include on the tree! We will continue the Gratitude Challenge through *NEXT* Sunday, November 22.

**ENDOWMENT PANEL DISCUSSION**—Following worship *NEXT* Sunday, November 22 (in-person and via live stream), we will have a panel discussion about our new Endowment Fund. We would like to solicit questions in advance for our panel! So, if you have any questions about our new Endowment, please submit them to Jim Gates no later than Monday, November 16. You can email him or call the church. No question is too simple or complex!

**ONLINE DIRECTORY**—We now have an online directory which includes both pictures and contact information! Go to <https://covenantcommunitypc.churchcenter.com/directory/people> to get started. Call or email the church office with questions.

**IN-PERSON WORSHIP RESERVATIONS**—Reservations for next Sunday, November 22 will open *TOMORROW* (Monday) November 16 at 9am. Please go to [www.covenantcommunitypc.org/reservations](http://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/reservations) for the 10am service. You can also call the church office at 715-359-6467.

## BIBLE STUDIES & SMALL GROUPS

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM**—We continue our new Bible study on the first six “minor” prophets: Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, and Nahum *THIS* Tuesday, November 17, at noon. Remember that you can purchase the study book for \$9 by visiting the church building, or by contacting Jim Gates ([jim@covenantcommunitypc.org](mailto:jim@covenantcommunitypc.org)). All men are welcome!

**PRAYER MEETINGS**—Our weekly Prayer Meeting has resumed via Zoom every Wednesday night at 6pm, continuing *THIS* Wednesday, November 11. All are welcome! To join the Zoom meeting, go to:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82054635060?pwd=MTkzOGJqMFRWamxrMy9CSHBwcUMrUT09>  
Meeting ID: 820 5463 5060 Passcode: 711155

## YOUTH, CHILDREN & FAMILY

**YOUTH GROUP VIA ZOOM**—All students grades 6th-12th grade are invited to join us online, using Zoom, *THIS* coming Wednesday at 6pm. If you would like to see video messages and materials from previous weeks, please go to <https://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/youth-group>. If you have any questions, contact Dan Frost ([dan@covenantcommunitypc.org](mailto:dan@covenantcommunitypc.org)).

**YOUTH I.D. VIA ZOOM**—Youth Institute of Discipleship has *THREE* classes (6th & 7th; Confirmation; 9th & 12th) via Zoom at 9am every Sunday morning. For more information, please visit <http://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/sunday-school-2> for more information, or contact Dan Frost ([dan@covenantcommunitypc.org](mailto:dan@covenantcommunitypc.org)).

**KIDS I.D. VIA ZOOM**—Kids I.D. is all about growing closer to God through Bible knowledge. We have special plans for the kiddos so that they are not just sitting in front of a screen! All kids start in a large group via Zoom and then breakout into two groups (PreK-1st & 2nd-5th grades). Each group will need their own device. Join us every Sunday at 9am. Learn more at <https://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/sunday-school-1>.