

March 2017

Life Together

Lindsborg Covenant Church

Message from Pastor Darrell

It is always risky to assess the historical significance of any event as it is happening. Things that seem monumental as they occur may fade from our collective consciousness fairly quickly. And things that seem rather inconsequential may, in time, prove to be watershed events.

That said, I will go out on a limb and say that I feel like our church may be wading through water of the “shed” variety. I am referring to the two proposals that the Diaconate has put before us regarding the Sunday morning worship schedule.

By way of review, approximately 95% of the congregation is content with the worship schedule the way it is. There is little or no motivation to change it for internal reasons. However, the pastors and the Diaconate have agreed that for outreach purposes it is much easier to reach unchurched people with contemporary music and a late-morning start time. So the Diaconate is bringing two proposals to the April 30th Congregational Meeting to address this potential shift.

Proposal #1 is to change the start time of the services. Specifically, first service would be from 9:00-10:00 a.m., Sunday School from 10:15-11:15 a.m., and second service from 11:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. We think this is a good move because 8:00

a.m. is a difficult start time for most people and an extra hour of sleep will be a gift to whichever service gets put in the earlier time slot. Service and transition times get shortened a bit, but Sunday School still gets a full hour.

Proposal #2 is to then swap the order of the services, putting the Traditional Service in the early slot and the Contemporary Service in the late slot. Our reasoning is that churched people are already committed to Jesus and church attendance and are more likely to be willing to make schedule compromises in order to participate in worship that is meaningful to them. Unchurched people, by definition, are not committed to any of that, so they are less likely to sacrifice either sleep or music preferences to come check us out.

February was all about information. We had a series of three informational meetings in which we explained the two proposals and gave opportunity for feedback and discussion. March and April are all about prayer. We are asking everyone to earnestly seek God’s face and discern His will for our church on this matter. We will also have an all-church prayer meeting about this on March 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Continued next page ▶

▶ Pastor Darrell (cont)

Then, on April 30th, during the quarterly congregational meeting, we will vote first on Proposal #1. We will count the ballots and report the results. A “Yes” vote is to change the start times. A “No” vote is to leave them the same. If the “Yes” votes win by a 2/3 majority we will change the service start times.

Then we will vote on Proposal #2. Again we will count the votes and report the results. A “Yes” vote is to swap the order of the services. A “No” vote is to leave them in the current order. If the “Yes” votes win by a 2/3 majority we will reverse the order of the services.

The vote results could be that we change nothing, in which case my “watershed” prediction becomes more of a “trickle-down-the-drain” moment, ;-) but I bring this up because this vote at least has the potential to make significant changes in the way we do worship on Sunday mornings.

As your pastors, we are asking you to please pray about this. We want everyone to ask God to reveal His will to us. And then we are asking everyone to vote, not necessarily according to your preferences, but according to your sense of God’s will for us. And then we are asking everyone to accept the results of the vote as God’s revealed will for us, to embrace it and help us make it fruitful for His Kingdom.

Will you please join us on our knees as we seek and serve our Savior together?



Sunday, March 12, 8:00 p.m.

Guest Speaker will be

Coach Daniel Greene from Bethany College.

If you’d like to help contact
Kathy Peterson, 785-472-1821

Adult Forum

March 5, 9:30 a.m.
Adults meet in the
Sanctuary

Review and pray for the
proposed worship time change

Board Bits

From Monday, February 6, Meeting

- ▶ The Trustees have had some carpets cleaned recently and are talking about ways to retire our debt early.
- ▶ The next quarterly meeting was changed from April 23 to April 30.



The Book of Acts
Missions

5th Acts 4: 32 - 5: 11
12th Acts 5: 12 - 42
19th Acts 6: 1 - 15
26th Acts 7: 1 - 8: 1a

McKinney Sisters in Concert

Sunday, March 5, 6:30

Be sure to reserve Sunday, March 5, at 6:30 p.m. for a concert in our Sanctuary by the McKinney Sisters of Moundridge. The girls have been homeschooled since birth and have enjoyed traveling about as a bluegrass gospel trio for about four years. Daryl plays guitar and mandolin, Randyl plays banjo, dobro, guitar and mandolin, and Mikyl plays fiddle and mandolin.



They have shared their love for this music and its message from care homes and banquets to the youth stage of the Walnut Valley Festival in Winfield. In 2015 they released their debut album, *The McKinney Sisters*, and in early 2016 their second offering, *Homesick for Heaven*.

If you missed their concert here in 2015, don't make that mistake again! Come and bring your friends. The community is invited to share this event.

There is no charge, but a basket for free-will offering will be available.



Results

January 29, 2017

Congregational Meeting

The following were affirmed for membership:

- Joseph Carbonneau
- Kurtis Ebling
- Philip & Abby Hinman
- Jennifer Huffman
- Richard & Laura Johannsen
- Hank & Hannah Kummer
- Ashley Losey

Nominating Committee At-large Members elected: Stacey Lott and Harris Terry

Suzanna Swenson and Kristen Carlson were affirmed as our delegates to the Midwest Conference Annual Meeting.

Easter Lilies

In Memory/ In Honor

If you wish to place a lily in the sanctuary for Easter (April 16), you are invited to bring one to the North Kitchen by noon Thursday, April 13. There you will find a clipboard with instructions for:

- Designating the person(s) you are honoring
- Identifying your plant

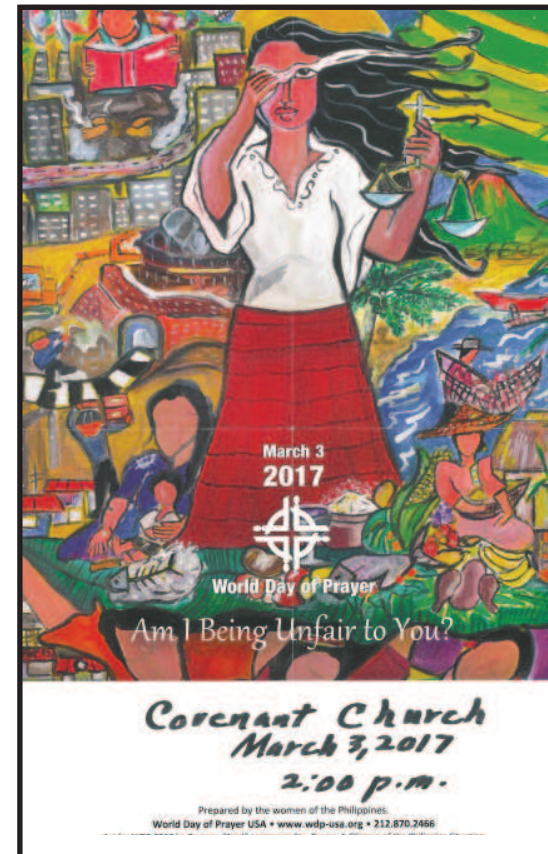


The Easter bulletin will list those being remembered.



Leadership Team: Pam Kellogg, Debbie Johnson, Ruth Ann Leaf, Jennifer Ebling, Suzanna Swenson

SAVE THE DATE: The Annual Covenant Women's Salad Supper will be held on Tuesday, April 25th, at 6:30 PM in the Multi-purpose Room. We are excited to welcome speaker Debbie Armbruster Wolfe and artist Shelly Carlson as we explore the theme of "Heavenly Rain". Cuddly Covenant Cutie certificates will be awarded to babies born in 2016. Free nursery provided. Hope to see you there! Please consider inviting your friends and family to join us too!



55+

McKinney Sisters in Concert



Sunday, March 5, 6:30

Our 55+ group will host this event for our church family and the Lindsborg community. See separate article in the newsletter. We will provide cookies and coffee after the program.

Cookie donations are needed! If possible, please bring them Sunday morning; otherwise, bring them when you come to the concert. In either event, please leave them in the south kitchen.

Looking Ahead: Noon potluck Sunday, April 2

~ ~ ~

Planning Meeting

Thursday, March 2, 10:00

Room 117

Hospitality Ministry

A new Hosting Group booklet is coming early summer. There are a few areas that need to be filled. Our congregation is divided into 5 serving groups. Each group is lead by 2 co-chairs. The co-chairs job is to contact people to help with social events of the church. Each Hosting Group is responsible every 5th month. Please consider filling these areas of need. For more details please talk to one of the Hospitality Committee members.

Thank you!

Carolyn Kejr, Marla Peterson, Kris Carlson

SPOT-LIGHT ON ... ECC Men's Ministry

by Brian Bowman

Howdy all! Our Encounter The Cross Weekend was fantastic and our post Encounter sessions have been excellent as well. I encourage you to go encounter God—the next Encounter weekend is April 21-23. Please consider attending or contact Pete Duerksen or Keith Swenson for information. There is information on the website: (<http://www.encounterthecross.com/men>);

Men's Encounter is a time for us men to get away and encounter God, perhaps like never before; a time to consider, give thought to our lives, and discover solutions to the unique challenges facing men.

Who would you like to provide solutions for you? Who better than God?

It is important to take the time to step away and gain perspective. Whether you think you have it all figured out or not, you will benefit from attending and you will come home with no regrets.

A March gathering of men in our community will be on either the 18th or 25th. We should have an announcement at church once things are finalized. Strengthen the brotherhood.

Though one may be overpowered,
two can defend themselves.
A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.
--Ecclesiastes 4:12

Blessings to all...

As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another. --Proverbs 27:17 (NIV)

Church Library News

There are new books in the new year at the church library! Authors like Lauraine Snelling, Deborah Raney, Lynn Austin, and Anne Graham Lotz have expanded our shelves. Books on prayer, missions, marriage, parenting, life as a Christian - come take a look! There's more to arrive in 2017, too. New books for children and youth are on the way. You may even find a new DVD or two. Stop by the church library soon.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>March 2017</i>						
5 8:00 Worship 9:30 Bible Classes 9:30 Adult Forum 10:55 Worship 6:30 Sr Hi Youth 6:30 Concert by McKinney Sisters	6 7:00 Ind. Boards 8:15 Church Board	7	1 5:00 Children's Chr 6:00 Supper 6:30 HIS Kids/Jr Hi 6:30 Bible Study 7:45 Sanctuary Chr	2 10:00 55+ Planning	3 2:00 World Day of Prayer Service	4 7:00 Men's Prayer
12 8:00 Worship 9:30 Bible Classes 10:55 Worship 6:30 Sr Hi Youth 6:30 Missions Report 8:00 The Station	13 Newsletter Deadline	14	8 9:15 Women's Bible Fellowship 5:00 Children's Chr 6:00 Supper 6:30 HIS Kids/Jr Hi 6:30 Bible Study 7:45 Sanctuary Chr	9 2:30 Bethany Home Coffee	10 7:00 Men's Prayer 9:00 Confirmation	11 7:00 Men's Prayer 9:00 Confirmation
19 8:00 Worship 9:30 Bible Classes 10:55 Worship 6:30 Sr Hi Youth Hospitality Night	20 2:00 Missions Interest Group	21	15 1:00 Worship/Music 5:00 Children's Chr 6:00 Supper 6:30 HIS Kids/Jr Hi 6:30 Bible Study 7:45 Sanctuary Chr	16 2:30 Bethany Home Coffee	17 7:00 Men's Prayer	18 7:00 Men's Prayer
26 8:00 Worship 9:30 Bible Classes 10:55 Worship 6:30 Prayer Meeting 6:30 Sr Hi Youth	27	28	22 6:30 Bible Study 7:45 Sanctuary Chr	23 2:30 Bethany Home Coffee	24 7:00 Men's Prayer	25 7:00 Men's Prayer
			29 5:00 Children's Chr 6:00 Supper 6:30 HIS Kids 6:30 Jr Hi Youth 6:30 Bible Study 7:45 Sanctuary Chr	30 10:00 55+ Planning 2:30 Bethany Home Coffee	31	

Missions Reports

[Complete letters are posted on the Missions Bulletin Board]



Junior and Senior High Camp Covenant Cedars, Nebraska

Junior High Camp July 2 - 7
For those entering grades 7 and 8 (fall 2017)
Cost: \$365 (\$325 if registered by April 1)

Senior High Camp July 9 - 14
For those entering grades 9-12 (fall 2017)
Cost: \$365 (\$325 if registered by April 1)

Direct questions to Jim Christopher, Camp Coordinator 785-668-2477. Please turn your registrations into the office so we can plan for transportation needs.

Trailblazer and Explorer Rock Springs, Junction City

Grades 3-4 (fall 2017) July 10-13

Grades 5-6 (fall 2017) July 10-13

If you have questions please contact Nancy Bolden at 227-5034.

There will be no HIS Kids or Youth Group on March 22 due to Spring Break.



Missions Report

Sunday, March 12, 6:30 p.m.

Come and meet Matt Barnes and learn more about his family's call to serve with Arctic Barnabas Ministries in Alaska.

"Three years ago God showed Alicia and me how much pastors desperately need retreat and rest so that they can continue to shepherd well. We felt the desire to help provide this retreat and started seeking pastoral retreat centers where we could put our gifts of service to use. What followed was God's leading step by step. Now we cannot wait to join the team in Alaska and start serving pastors, helping to provide rest and encouragement. I will be doing mechanical maintenance, and Alicia will be hosting in our home. As a family we are excited to get to know the pastors, their families and specific ministries. Our four children are looking forward to being "on-call" friends to folks in the villages."

Matt will be sharing here on Sunday evening, March 12 at 6:30.

From Paul Carlson Partnership, Congo Clinic Initiative Update

Dear Friends,

We want to take this occasion to express our deep gratitude.

First, we are grateful to God for having united us by his love despite the geographic distance that separates us. Next, we are grateful for you, partners and donors, for having accepted to support this project with your financial gifts.

We assure you that the solar kits that impact. The absence of light in these laboratories, surgical wards, maternity wards, and especially pediatric women, and children died because their capacities, lacking the electric-good health care. The solar kits that thanks to your contributions, have resolved this problem and, since the installation of these kits, the impact has been very positive for the population. We have received very good reports from the leaders of these clinics.



Pray for Missions

Here are a few indicators that testify to this program's positivity: 1. The number of patients using the health centers has increased. 2. The risks taken by nurses who work at night have decreased significantly. 3. The high costs of kerosene for lamps and batteries for flashlights have been eliminated. 4. The risks and uncertainties that come from delivering babies at night have been eliminated. 5. Children that have been hospitalized due to severe malaria now receive better care in well-lit facilities.

I hope you understand that your support has positively changed our work in these health centers, especially as it has decreased the risk of death for many of our people.

Our prayer every day is that God would bless you abundantly and return upon you a blessing one hundred times greater than what you have given for His work. May the love of our all powerful God, the grace of our Savior, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

On behalf of the CEUM,

Rev. Jules Mboka Ngate President of The Communauté Évangélique de l'Ubangi-Mongala (CEUM - Covenant Church of Congo)

Missions Interest Group

Tuesday
March 21
2:00 p.m.

Church Library

Dolores Stevens
Hostess

Marion Eklund
Devotions

March Birthdays and Anniversaries

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Joe Bowden | 21 Blakely Bunning | 27 Tracie Elvin |
| LoRita Doherty | Ben and Savannah Carlson | Rooney Nichols |
| Annabelle Jones | Jarold Lindholm | 28 Amenda Huse |
| Nicole Nichols | Lukas Spare | 29 Mark and Nancy Galloway |
| 2 Jim Bean | 22 Jeff Waugh | Jeff and Deb Garretson |
| 3 Drew & Charity Porter | 23 Todd Butterfield | 30 Jessica Smith |
| Barbara Boca Swanson | 24 Ethan Grimmett | Warren Hett |
| (Sweden) | 25 Kirsten Hansen | 31 Don and Kristen Carlson |
| 5 Edragene Hart | Wyatt Johnson | Lisa Christopher |
| 7 Lynette De Vore | 26 Kiara Heizelman | |
| Chloe Willis | Judy Pilewski | |
| 8 Sandra Brunzell | | |
| Robert Holloway | | |
| Anna Shultz | | |
| Dale Tolbert | | |
| 9 Sandy Lloyd | | |
| 11 Melinda Hansen | | |
| 12 Kathryn Woods | | |
| 13 Janine Kuckhahn | | |
| 14 Kara Peterson | | |
| 15 Lane Schrag | | |
| Haydon Snyder | | |
| 16 Kean Anderson | | |
| Harris and Faye Terry | | |
| Janna Weldy | | |
| 17 Miriam Crockett | | |
| Jerry Cooper | | |
| Mary Mattson | | |
| 19 Jim and Carla Bean | | |
| Caren Ebling | | |
| Kaylee Hansen | | |

If you should note any discrepancies or omissions in this list, please contact the office.

Thanks!



Daylight Savings
Begins March 12

Spring Ahead

This Is Sunday Night

For March, 6:30

- 5th Concert by McKinney Sisters
- 12th Missions Report - Matt Barnes
- 19th *Hospitality Night* (no service planned at church, but you are encouraged to use this evening for your own hospitality ministry)
- 26th All-Church Prayer Meeting - We will meet and pray for the worship schedule decision to be made in April.

Life Together is published monthly as a newsletter of the Evangelical Covenant Church, 102 S. Washington, Lindsborg, KS 67456-2333, (785) 227-2447. E-mail: office@lindsborgcov.org. Fax: 785-227-3666. Web site: www.lindsborgcov.org. Ministers—All Members of the Congregation. Pastor Jeff W. Waugh; Associate Pastor Darrell Cooper; Youth Pastor Jeremy R. Elseth; Editors: Kristen Carlson.

THANKS

From Bethany Home

You are a blessing! Your gift, along with the gifts of others like yours, enables Bethany Home to continue to provide the many activities that engage and enhance our residents' lives. Thank you for joining us in our mission of "celebrating life's journey together in God's love." Thanks so much!

From Suzette Perry and Family

Thank you so much for your love, support, and hospitality shown to myself and my family as we had my mom's, Glenda Stein's, memorial there. Thanks for recording it and broadcasting it. Not only was our son, Mike, able to see it in South Korea, but also cousins all over the US and even England. Bless you all!

From Ruth Trued

Dear Covenant Church Family, "Cups of cold water", including many prayers, cards, flowers, visits, phone calls and lots of love, have warmed my heart, and helped to heal my bruises! Thank you! Thank you!

From Jane (Carlson) & Duane Allison

Dear generous church, Thank you, thank you for again coming alongside me and my family to help support "The Dan Carlson Family Clinic" in Congo. The Paul Carlson Partnership brings together so many good people with hearts wanting to share Jesus!

From Pastor Darrell & Kate Cooper

We do not know how to thank you, especially since we do not know who you are. But you know who you are. And we know what you did. And we are very grateful. Thank you! P.S. If at first you don't succeed, dry, dry again!"

From Mark, Susan & Konner Goss

Thank you all! We appreciate the prayers and the financial boost.



Coming event:

Bridal shower for Eva Spare

Saturday, May 6, 2017 2:00 p.m.

Lindsborg Covenant Church

More details next month.

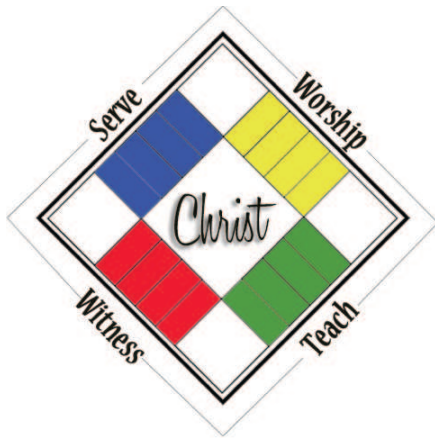


The Bulletin Board

Please note the following changes on your church directory:

- Albert Hart, deceased 2-22-17
- Phone number correction: Joseph Carbonneau 620-755-1886

Newsletter Deadline
Monday, March 13



**MARCH 2017
PRAYER CALENDAR**

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

Moms In Touch: Call Julie Waugh (227-4470) for times/locations.

Men's Prayer Group Saturday mornings at 7:00 in the Library.

Prayer Chain: To add urgent requests to the prayer chain or to participate, call the church office during the day (227-2447) or e-mail office@lindsborgcov.org. If you need it sent after hours text or call Kristen Carlson (227-5554). The Prayer Chain is intended for urgent prayer requests only. If a request is received that is not urgent it will be printed in the next weeks bulletin.

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| <p>1 WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAM
Director Jodi Duncan and many teachers and helpers; Barb Wilson and all those who serve the meal</p> <p>KIDS CHOIR
LaReta Olson, director; Amanda Houghton, accomp.</p> <p>2 55+ MINISTRY
Debbie Johnson, Ruth Ann Leaf, Coordinators</p> <p>3 COVENANT WOMEN MINISTRIES
Leadership Committee: Treasurer Pam Kellogg, Ruth Ann Leaf, Debbie Johnson, Jennifer Ebling, Suzanna Swenson</p> <p>4 MEN'S MINISTRY
Brian Bowman, Coordinator</p> <p>5 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES
Bob Armbruster, Ralph Roberts, Ed Pilewski, Neill Walker, Craig & Holly Lofton, Pastor Darrell</p> <p>6 CHURCH BOARD
Pray for church board meeting</p> <p>C.E. BOARD
Keith Swenson, Nancy Bolden, Jerry Cooper, Kristi Peterson, Sharon Vajgrt, Kandis Crawford</p> <p>7 CAREGIVERS</p> <p>8 WEEKDAY CHURCH SCHOOL
Eileen Patrick & Mary Patrick, coordinators, and all their teachers</p> <p>9 BETHANY HOME MINISTRY</p> <p>10 SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADERS
2 YRS - KINDERGARTEN
Brad & Sarah Carlson, Lynette DeVore, Mary Pywell, Joe Vajgrt, Ruth Houghton, Nancy Walker</p> <p>11 CONFIRMATION CLASS
Pastor Jeremy, Bob Armbruster, Leaders Barrett Anderson, Seth Garretson, Ethan Grimmett, Lydia Peterson, Marika Peterson, Kathryn Woods, Jalen Elseth, Kajsa Peterson, Stephen Peterson, Madison Repp, Cameron Rodgers, Jaci Waugh</p> <p>12 THE STATION
Fill students with the Word of God and the gospel</p> <p>13 SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS</p> <p>14 SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADERS
GRADES 1-6
Suzanna Swenson, Kristi Peterson, Keith Swenson, John Esh, Edragene Hart, Kelli White, Kathy Cooper, Stacey Lott, Micki Swenson, Amanda Houghton, Cheryl Spare, JoMae Shaw</p> | <p>15 WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE
Pastor Jeff, Pastor Darrell, Melinda Hansen, Caren Ebling, Judy Pilewski, Jerry Hall, LoRita Doherty</p> <p>16 MISSIONARIES
Paul & Sheryl Noren, C.A.R. and Congo Cheryl Anderson Clark, Christian Ed., Ecuador Barbara (Boca) Swanson, Mosaics Project, Belgium Dale Lusk, Covenant Merge Ministries Roy & Joi Christians, Andrea Cooper, Bob & Carolyn Easley, Julie McLaughlin, Kara Peterson</p> <p>17 HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE
Carolyn Kejr, Marla Peterson, Kristen Carlson, Pray for new Co-Chairs to be found Pat Weibert, Carolyn Yoder</p> <p>18 SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADERS
GRADES 7-12
Lizzy Reece, Marla Peterson, Ben Houghton, Pete Duerksen, Steve Hansen, Pastor Jeremy & Jaime Elseth, Emily Nelson</p> <p>19 CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
Kristen Carlson, Nursery Coordinator; Sonja Woods, Children's Church Coordinator</p> <p>20 SUNDAY SCHOOL ADMIN.
Children's Sunday School Superintendent Mikaela Carlson; Attendance Secretary Judy Pilewski; Adult Sunday School Coordinator, Lori Shultz; Curriculum Coordinators Cheryl Spare, Shelly Carlson, Martha Roberts</p> <p>21 MISSIONS INTEREST GROUP
Co-Chairmen Dolores Stevens & Kathy Lindgren, Secretary/Treasurer Mary Ann Johnson</p> <p>22 WORSHIP LEADERS
Pastor Jeff, Pastor Darrell, Melinda Hansen, Cheryl Spare, Caren Ebling, Eric Swenson, John Woods, Greg Peterson, Elijah Waugh</p> <p>23 SMALL GROUP LEADERS
Willard Keding, Ruth Peterson, Glen & Ann Heikes, Pastor Darrell, Harris Terry, Pastor Jeff, Lori Shultz, Delores Stevens</p> <p>24 TRUSTEE BOARD
Dave Duncan, Daniel Rauchholz, Craig Lofton, Jean Hall, Steve Hansen, Brad Pywell</p> <p>25 DIACONATE
Judy Pilewski, Reva Esh, Vince Rocco, Calvin Carlson, Ernie Diederich, Nick Blanchat, Bob Armbruster, Neill Walker</p> | <p>26 WORSHIP SCHEDULE CHANGE DECISION</p> <p>27 STAFF
Pastor Jeff Waugh, Pastor Darrell Cooper, Pastor Jeremy Elseth, Kristen Carlson, Kent & Caren Ebling</p> <p>28 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Pastor Jeff Waugh, Pastor Darrell Cooper, Pastor Jeremy Elseth, Dave Duncan, Keith Swenson, Sharon Vajgrt, Vince Rocco</p> <p>29 JR/SR HIGH YOUTH STAFF
Pastor Jeremy, Jaime Elseth, Lizzy Reece, Emily Burchett, Meagan De Vore, Micah Waugh, Kurt Krehbiel, Steve Hansen. High School: Caleb Shaw, Greg Peterson, Nathan Peterson, Jaime Elseth, Lizzy Reece, Emily Burchett, Emily Nelson, Suzanna Swenson</p> <p>30 MIDWEST CONFERENCE STAFF
OUR COUNTRY AND ITS LEADERS</p> <p>31 STUDENT MINISTRIES COMMITTEE
Pastor Jeremy, Marla Peterson, Caren Ebling, Tracy Repp</p> |
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