

# SUMMER 2018



## First Covenant Church of Saint Paul

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# UNITE

**July 1, 2018**

**10:30 a.m.**

Gathering Time

Passing of the Peace

Invitation to Worship

*If you are a visitor, have a prayer request or have a change of address, please note this on a Connect Card found in the pew pockets. Place it in the offering plate.*

\*Opening Hymn 593

*In Christ There Is No East or West*

\*Opening Prayer

"Future Faith" Challenge

*Challenge Seven: De-Americanizing the Gospel*  
Charissa Verdoorn

\*Song

*Light of the World*

Ministry Highlight

Sankofa, Sue Peterson

Giving and Living Out of Our Abundance

Choral Offertory

*We Are One* (Mark Hayes)  
Sanctuary Choir and Janet McClellan, piano

Message

Unite in Mission

Acts 1:8, 8:1

Rev. Karl and Sue Peterson, Missionaries to Mexico City

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

*We invite all who follow Jesus as Savior and Lord to receive and celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion with us.*

\*Affirmation of Faith

Ephesians 4

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

\*Closing Hymn 48 (English and Spanish)

*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

\*Sending Words

Postlude

*This Little Light of Mine* (arr. Michael Hassell), Sandy Norris, piano

*If you temporarily leave the sanctuary during a Worship service, please return to your seats using the rear sanctuary doors. This will minimize disruptions. Thank you for understanding.*

## TODAY

**Welcome to Worship at First Covenant Church!** *Wherever you find yourself on your journey of faith, we are glad you are here.*

### **10:30am, Worship**

**Nursery Care**, (birth through age 3), *Rooms 105 & 106*

**Resource Table for children**, please check out this table as you enter Worship, where you will find worship bulletins, crayons and Bibles for children.

**Thank you** to accompanists Sandy Norris and Janet McClellan for playing piano today during Pat Kohnen's absence.

**This morning**, we have the privilege of hearing from our missionaries to Mexico City, Karl and Sue Peterson. They, along with their sons, Zachary and Jonathan, have been on a 2-year home assignment. They were commissioned for long-term missionary service to Mexico in 1993 by the Evangelical Covenant Church (ECC). Sue has focused her work on relational evangelism, teaching and discipling women. Karl has focused on establishing the Congregational Vitality Ministry in Mexico City churches, specifically at Talpan Covenant Church. He also served as the coordinator and treasurer for the ECC missionaries in Mexico. Sue's parents are Jim & Jan Chelgren. Karl grew up as a pastor's kid, the son of the late Rev. Bill Peterson (Pastor here at FCC 1983-1996). They met here at FCC, and felt God calling them to missions during youth mission trips to Ecuador. Karl, Sue, and Jonathan are preparing to return to Mexico City in August. Zachary will return to North Park University in Chicago. Please remember to pray for the Petersons as they transition.

**"Future Faith" Challenge:** Each summer we try to add different pieces to our worship experience that offer week-to-week reflection and hopefully inspiration from laypeople in our congregation. This summer we are looking at a different weekly challenge for the church, from the book, "Future Faith: Ten Challenges Reshaping Christianity in the 21st Century", by Wesley Granberg-Michaelson (and Foreword by North Park Theological Seminary professor, Soong-Chan Rah). There are still a few chapters and weeks available. If you are interested in being one of the presenters, please contact Pastor Anne.

### **11:30am, Fellowship Hour, Upper Fellowship Hall**

Please join us for a cup of coffee and a treat!

### **11:40am, Youth Group Music Lessons, Graffiti Room**

### **12:00pm - 1:30pm, GET ACTIVE! Ultimate Frisbee, meet in the Graffiti Room**

(Incoming 7th thru exiting 12th grade youth)

Join us for an hour of fun and movement. Lunch provided.

### **NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 8, following 10:30am Worship**

Congregational Business Meeting, immediately following Worship.

You may have heard about some exciting improvement projects to the buildings and grounds in the Congregational Forum on June 17th. FCC has been approved by National Covenant Properties for a loan to fund these projects, but NCP requires a vote by the membership to ratify acceptance of the loan. We will hold a short business meeting in the Sanctuary directly after worship on July 8th to vote on the loan. Please plan to attend as we need a quorum of members present for the vote. Information sheets about the loan can be found at the Welcome Center.

## OUR LIFE TOGETHER

The church building will be closed on Wednesday, July 4.

Richard Voth, Minister of Worship and Creative Arts, will be out of the office July 4-8.

Last Sunday, we had the privilege of hearing Rev. Doug Bixby, Senior Pastor of the Evangelical Covenant Church in Attleboro, MA present the message. Rev. Bixby is also an author, works as a church consultant, and has recently developed the Four Corners approach to talking about the church and human sexuality. Copies of "A Proposed Way Forward: The 4 Corners" by Rev. Doug Bixby are available at the Welcome Center.

If you are in need of pastoral care this summer, please contact the church office and you will be connected with the on-call pastor. If you call after hours, please leave a message on the office voice mail. Ministry Team members will be taking time off throughout the summer, and we want to make sure that you receive the support that you need.

**Stay connected:** Weekly worship bulletins and podcasts of each week's message can be found on the church website under the Worship and Arts tab. Stop by the Welcome Center to order a CD of any Worship Service. During the summer, please allow more than one week to receive your ordered CD.

**New Volunteer Server Schedules** (July, August, September), are available at the Welcome Center.

**Interested in serving Communion?** The Worship & Arts team is in need of a few more volunteers to serve communion throughout the year. Communion is served once a month, and servers are generally assigned to serve once during a three-month period. Serving communion is a simple, but meaningful way to contribute to the life of our church. Please contact Michelle Fure at [mkib73@hotmail.com](mailto:mkib73@hotmail.com), or 651-707-7699.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Men's Prayer Breakfast, Saturday, July 7, 8:00-9:30am, Upper Fellowship Hall**  
All men are welcome to eat, study the Word, and pray together. Please bring a breakfast treat to share. Questions? Contact Jim Hinrichs at [jhinrichs1596@gmail.com](mailto:jhinrichs1596@gmail.com).

**Gospel Choir Rehearsals, Thursdays, July 12, July 26, 6:00-7:00pm, Choir Room**  
All are invited to join the Gospel Choir and rehearse together as we prepare to sing in Worship on Sunday, July 29. Questions? Contact Steve Pittman, Gospel Choir Director, [steve@first-covenant.org](mailto:steve@first-covenant.org). Schedules are available at the Welcome Center.

**"Hope Givers: Hope Is Here", Monday, July 16, 7:00pm**

*FCC Upper Fellowship Hall*

Presenter: Daisy Rain Martin, author, speaker and domestic violence/sexual assault advocate. Music presented by Emily Bolstorff, worship leader and mother of four. What is a Hope Giver? According to Daisy Rain Martin, it's simple. Hope Givers intentionally put themselves in close proximity to the suffering of others for the sole purpose of pouring out hope. Daisy's story includes childhood sexual abuse within her family of fundamentalist Christian Las Vegas performers. Whether you are in need of hope or have hope to share, this evening is for you. Childcare available. More information: [www.daisyrainmartin.com](http://www.daisyrainmartin.com). Questions? Contact D.D. Peterson, 651-776-7117 or Dawn Huso, 651-730-5854.

## **SUMMER BOOK CLUB**

**Join us this summer** for one or both of our remaining book clubs! All are welcome, but please read the book before attending the session. A few copies of “Torn” are available at the Welcome Center for \$10 each.

**“The Pietist Option”, by Christopher Gehrz and Mark Patti**

**Tuesday, July 24, 6:30-8:00pm**

*Pastor Anne and Gordy’s home, 1108 Hyacinth Ave E, Saint Paul*

This book was given to all Covenant pastors attending this year’s Midwinter Conference in February. We were privileged in April to hear from Dr. Gehrz about how our pietist roots impact our life together and provide a framework to meet the serious challenges the church faces today. Join us for further discussion of this vitally important spiritual movement.

**“Torn: Rescuing the Gospel from the Gays-vs-Christians Debate”, by Justin Lee.**

**Tuesday, August 21, 6:30-8:00pm**

*Dave and Joan Brand’s home, 1111 Hyacinth Ave E, Saint Paul*

*Facilitated by Dick and Barb Johnson*

In this book, Lee makes a thoughtful yet impassioned plea and challenge for the evangelical church. The author uses both episodes from his personal testimony and an intelligent and balanced interpretation of scripture to make a strong case for peace and unity. This is an important book for our times.

## **LOOKING AHEAD**

**SAVE THE DATE! FCC's Whole Church Retreat is coming soon! August 17-19, 2018**

*Covenant Pines Bible Camp, McGregor, MN*

More information to come, but please put the dates on your calendar now so you won’t miss it! Cost: adult \$112, child \$56, family max \$392. This includes 2 nights of lodging and 5 meals. Contact: Jim Hinrichs 858-349-3867, Christine Tharseo 651-325-1861, Benni Gilmore 763-807-2459.

**Sankofa – Journey Toward Racial Righteousness, September 20-23, 2018**

**Time is Running Out To Register for Fall Sankofa! Registration deadline is July 10th.**

This is an amazing trip to southern U. S. Civil Rights sites that you do not want to miss, organized through the Evangelical Covenant Church. Information and registration is available at <https://covchurch.org/justice/racial-righteousness/sankofa>.

Please contact: [susan.carlson8@gmail.com](mailto:susan.carlson8@gmail.com) ASAP for scholarship information!

**Man Camp, November 16-19, 2018**

*Covenant Pines Bible Camp, McGregor, MN*

Men, save the date! To register, go online at <https://covenantpines.org/mens-retreat>. Last year we had ten campers from FCC. More announcements to come. For more information, please contact: Jim Hinrichs 858-349-3867, Roger Valois 651-489-8330.

## EVENTS JUST FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

**Toddler Mondays, July 9 and 23, August 13 and 27, 9:00-11:00am,**  
*FCC Nursery*

All young families with children ages 0-4, along with their parents/guardians, are invited for a morning of fun activities. We will start exploring the Bible, do crafts, and have fellowship with other families. We look forward to spending our summers growing with the toddlers of our church. Hope to see you there!  
Questions? Please see Lora Murtha or Donovan DeGaetano.

**Youth Bible Study, Thursdays, 7:00-8:00pm,** (incoming 7th-exiting 12th graders)  
*Graffiti Room*

Let's study the Word of God together as a community. We will be going through the CHIC curriculum for the months of June and July then end with going through Ephesians in August. Snacks and drinks provided. If you have questions, please contact Addin Vang, Associate Minister for Youth and Families, [addin@first-covenant.org](mailto:addin@first-covenant.org).

**Messy Game Night, Wednesday, July 11, 6:30pm-8:00pm,**  
*FCC parking lot and yard*  
(incoming 7th - exiting 12th graders)

Come join us for a night of fun games, squishy and gooey competitions, and incredible mess here at church! Make sure that you bring a towel (or 5!), and wear a swim suit or clothes that can get messy. Dinner provided. Questions? Contact Addin Vang at [addin@first-covenant.org](mailto:addin@first-covenant.org).

**Summer 2018 Information Table for children and youth:** Visit this table near the camp bus poster in Upper Fellowship Hall, where you will find information for summer opportunities.

## SUPPORTING OUR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

**Kate Makosky** will be speaking for Family Camp at Covenant Pines Bible Camp in McGregor, MN, July 1-4. **Donovan DeGaetano** will be speaking for 5th-6th grade camp at Covenant Cedars Bible Camp in Hordville, NE, July 1-6. Please pray for Kate and Donovan as they lead and teach.

**Let's Pray! Praying for our Youth and Families, Monday, July 2, 6:00 - 7:00pm**  
*Sanctuary*

All are invited to come and pray for the children, youth and families in our church and community. Each month our prayer will focus on a specific group. July's focus is YOUTH. You can come into the sanctuary at any time during the hour and stay as long as you are able. Questions? Contact Addin Vang.

**Every Kid To Camp Fund (EKTC):** Total needed: \$10,881 to send 40 children and youth to Covenant Pines Bible Camp. **Amount still needed: \$2,588.** Envelopes are available by the camp bus poster in Upper Fellowship Hall. Please place the envelope in the offering plate, in the EKTC mailbox in the church office, or mail it. Checks should be payable to First Covenant Church. Questions? Contact Donovan DeGaetano or Addin Vang.

**CHIC Fund:** Total needed: \$26,710 to cover 28 students and 4 adult volunteers. **Amount still needed: \$1,100.** CHIC is our denomination's tri-annual youth conference held in Knoxville, TN, July 15-20. Checks should be payable to First Covenant Church. If you would like to donate or if you have questions, please contact Addin Vang.

## PARTNER EVENTS

### **Followers of Christ Hmong Baptist Church Vacation Bible School, July 9-13, 6-9pm**

*First Covenant Church Youth and Children's Wing*

Our building partner is hosting a Vacation Bible School and invites all children in our church and the community to attend. To register: <http://focbaptist.org>.

### **Fruit of the Vine Food Shelf and La Vina de Saint Paul Farm Fresh Produce Give-away First distribution - July 13, 4:00pm-6:00pm**

*First Covenant parking lot*

All can come... and all are invited to pick up farm fresh produce for free! Fruit of the Vine Food Shelf and La Vina de Saint Paul will be distributing fresh produce each month on the 2nd and 4th Friday afternoons in the church parking lot. The first distribution is July 13. Other dates are July 27, August 10 and 24, September 14 and 28, October 12 and 26. Distribution will be 4:00pm-6:00pm on each date. *Be sure to bring your own bags!* Get your produce and then stay for free hot dogs and activities for all ages. Volunteers (ages 13+) are needed! This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with two of FCC's partners. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Kim (Fruit of the Vine Volunteer Coordinator) at [kim@vcsmn.org](mailto:kim@vcsmn.org) or 952.595.5980 extension 107. This event is open to all!

### **Sanneh Soccer Camps, July 16-19, 1:00-3:30pm**

*Phalen Rec Center, 1000 E. Wheelock Parkway, St. Paul*

The Sanneh Foundation's FREE community camps provide thousands of kids ages 5-12 from the Twin Cities a fun, positive and inclusive day camp experience, welcoming kids from all backgrounds. Participants receive daily soccer instruction, a free t-shirt and more! For more information, contact Chrissy Thomas: [Christian.familyvaluesforlife@gmail.com](mailto:Christian.familyvaluesforlife@gmail.com). To register: [thesannehfoundation.org](http://thesannehfoundation.org).

### **Family Values for Life 2018 Back to School Golf Classic, Monday, July 23**

**Registration: 11:00am, Shotgun starts at 12:00pm, Banquet: 6:00pm**

*Keller Golf Course, 2166 Maplewood Drive, St. Paul, MN*

The 2nd Annual Back to School Golf Classic helps to support more than 3,000 individuals that FVFL serves. Golfers of all abilities are needed. The scramble format takes all the pressure off so you can focus on having fun while supporting a great cause! Not a golfer? All are invited to the evening banquet.

Cost: Banquet only - \$30; Golf Classic with the banquet - \$100.

To register: call 651-774-6663, or register on-line at [familyvaluesforlife.org](http://familyvaluesforlife.org).

### **Family Values for Life Backpack Event, Wednesday, August 29, 4:30-7:30pm**

*Bruce Vento Elementary School (409 Case Avenue)*

Whether you will be needing school supplies for your children, or you are available to volunteer, plan ahead and put this event on your calendar! Attendees receive free backpacks filled with school supplies for school-aged children. A parent/guardian must accompany children in order for them to receive a backpack. Community resources are also available including food, games, free haircuts and more.

For more information: [familyvaluesforlife.org](http://familyvaluesforlife.org).

# Summer Worship on the Lawn and Potluck

July 15 and August 12 at 10:30 am

**Sunday, July 15**, is our next outdoor worship, starting at 10:30 am. We will meet on the south lawn, under the trees. Please bring a blanket or lawn chairs (some chairs will be provided) and a dish to share for the potluck that follows. Sharing in a meal provides us with a great opportunity to reconnect with old friends and make new ones as we celebrate our life in Christ together.

Please bring a dish ready to serve, to share for the potluck:

Last names starting with...

**A-L** bring a side dish of either a salad or fruit or veggie tray

**M-Z** bring a main dish

Dessert and beverages will be provided, as well as plates, cups, napkins and silverware.

In case of rain, we will meet in Upper Fellowship Hall for worship and for the potluck.

## **Volunteers are needed to help in the following ways:**

- set-up chairs and sound equipment
- set-up/food prep
- preparing beverages
- servers
- set-up/take-down of tables and chairs
- clean-up

This is the perfect opportunity to offer hospitality and lend a hand in a practical way. If you are available to help on any or all of these dates, let us know by signing up at the Welcome Center!

For questions please contact:

Richard Voth, [richard@first-covenant.org](mailto:richard@first-covenant.org) or

Barb Johnson, [barbanddickjohnson@q.com](mailto:barbanddickjohnson@q.com)