

Love is patient; love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.

I Corinthians 13:4-8a

"Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."
Matthew 11:28

Sunday, May 28, 2017

Gratitude Sunday

May integrity and uprightness
protect me because my hope,

O Lord, is in you.

Psalms 25:21

You will be enriched in every way
to be generous in every way,
which through us
will produce thanksgiving to God.

But as for me, II Corinthians 9:11 (ESV)

I watch in hope for the LORD,

I wait for God my Savior;

my God will hear me.

Micah 7:7

MEMORIAL DAY SUNDAY

May 28, 2017

10:30 a.m.

Gathering Time

Passing of the Peace

Memorial Day Peace

Greeting

Please complete the Connect Card and place it in the offering plate.

Invitation to Worship

*Opening Song

Holy Spirit

*Opening Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Scripture in word and song from Selection 828

Psalm 98

Karah Bain

Looking Back with Gratitude

Open mic sharing time

*Hymn 72

To God Be the Glory

Prayer of the People

Giving and Living Out of Our Abundance

Choral Offertory

He Never Failed Me Yet (Robert Ray)

Monica Holm, soloist

Looking Back with Gratitude

Open mic sharing time

*Closing Hymn 600

We Are God's People

*Sending Words

II Corinthians 9:11

Postlude

This Is My Father's World (arr. Edward Broughton)

Prayer Time for Health and Wholeness is offered in the Prayer Chapel following Worship.

TODAY

Welcome to Worship at First Covenant Church! Wherever you find yourself on your journey of faith, we are glad you are here. The Connect Card in your bulletin provides a way to give or receive information, or to ask for prayer. Many are already part of our e-mail communication. If you would like to receive periodic church updates electronically, please indicate this on your Connect Card. Place your completed Connect Card in the offering plate.

10:30am

Worship

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

Children's Church, will resume in the fall

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

11:30am

Fellowship Time, *Upper Fellowship Hall*

Summer 2017 Calendar: Make sure you get your new calendar before you leave church today, available from the ushers or at the Welcome Center.

Graduate Bibles: Each of our high school graduates receives an NIV Study Bible as their graduation gift from FCC. Help them celebrate this milestone by highlighting or underlining verses for each graduate TODAY at the tables in Upper Fellowship Hall.

Financial Commitment Cards: Thank you to all who have turned in their commitment cards. If you have not yet turned in your card, you are not too late. If you are in need of a card, they are available at the Welcome Center. Please return them by June 4 (in the offering plate or Rachel Hank's mailbox in the church office), to allow future budget planning.

NEXT SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 10:30AM

Next Sunday is Graduation Sunday, when we will celebrate our graduates during Worship, with a reception following. We will be honoring those who graduated from high school, college, graduate-level or other course work during the 2016-2017 school year. THE DEADLINE IS TODAY to provide Kate Makosky with the names of any graduates.

EVERY KID TO CAMP (EKTC) UPDATE

Goal: \$15,000.00 (to send 44 kids to camp)

Raised so far: \$13,509.61

Total left to raise: \$2,190.39

At First Covenant, we believe that every kid, no matter the family's financial situation, should be able to have a camp experience at Covenant Pines Bible Camp each summer, and our EKTC fund helps to make that possible. You can help close the gap to meet that need. Give your tax-deductible gift, or pay your camper's balance, by using an EKTC envelope available at the camp table in Upper Fellowship Hall. Place it in the offering plate or in the Covenant Pines mailbox in the church office. Make the check out to First Covenant Church with EKTC in the memo line. Questions? See Donovan DeGaetano or Kate Makosky.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Stay connected: Stop by the Welcome Center to order a CD of any worship service. Weekly worship bulletins and podcasts can be found on the church website under the Worship and Arts tab. Podcasts of our recent Spiritual Growth Hours can also be found on our website under Life Together - Spiritual Growth Hour.

We extend our sympathies to the family and friends of Gretchen Sirian, who joined the church triumphant on Wednesday, May 24. Her funeral service will be held at First Covenant Church on Wednesday, May 31 at 11:00am, with a visitation at 10:00am. God's peace to those on a journey through loss and grief.

The Church office and building will be closed tomorrow, May 29 for Memorial Day.

THIS WEEK

Nursery Volunteer Training+Parent Info Night, Wednesday, May 31, 6:00-7:30pm, 104
Do you currently volunteer in the nursery, want to volunteer, have a child in the nursery, or do not realize we have a nursery? You are invited to come and learn about the wonderful ministry happening with our little ones and their families. Emily Caro, FCC Nursery Coordinator, will walk us through new policies and procedures. She will also be telling about the awesome curriculum that we will start using this summer. Questions? Contact Emily, emily@first-covenant.org.

Gospel Choir Rehearsal, Thursday, June 1, 6:00-7:00pm, Choir Room
All are invited to join us for Gospel Choir rehearsal! This month we will practice on June 1 and June 15, in preparation to lead in Worship on Sunday, June 18. Pick up a summer Gospel Choir schedule at the Welcome Center. Questions? See Steve Pittman, steve@first-covenant.org.

Men's Prayer Breakfast, Saturday, June 3, 8:00-9:30am, Upper Fellowship Hall
All men are welcome to eat, study the Word, and pray together. Everyone is invited to bring a breakfast treat to share. Questions? Roger Carlson: hilljumper2@gmail.com.

SERVING LOCALLY/GLOBALLY

Arrive Ministries "Discover Your City Tour", Saturday, June 17, 8:45am-1:30 pm
St. Paul – Frogtown/Rondo Tour

Meet at Bethel Christian Fellowship - 1466 Portland Ave, St Paul, MN 55104

These tours are meant to help participants discover what God is doing in our cities as they also are introduced to refugee communities. You will get a 'hands-on' feel for what really is going on in the city. Focused prayer is a part of every tour as well. \$18.50 per person. Extra cost for lunch. More Info: info@cityvisiontc.org.

Serve Globally: Feed My Starving Children Event for Love Somalia, June 2-5

Saint Paul RiverCentre, 175 W. Kellogg Blvd., Saint Paul

Love Somalia is a relief collaborative of faith-based communities. Together, *Love Somalia* partners have organized the largest Feed My Starving Children MobilePack event to help stave off a famine in Somalia. Help pack meals for the 6.2 million in Somalia that are in desperate need of food and water. For more information: lovesomalia.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

Summer "Soup Groups" are back! Deadline to sign up is June 4

Last summer, many enjoyed fun-filled evenings sharing a simple meal in homes. Three "Soup Group" events will be held this summer, and you won't want to miss them! If you would like to take part, please fill out a sign-up form at the Welcome Center and return it to Tom Cameron's office mailbox before June 4. Dates are pending, but will be decided soon. Attend one, two, or all three! Contact Barb Johnson with questions: barbanddickjohnson@q.com.

Outdoor Worship Service and Potluck, Sunday, June 11, 10:30am

Join us for our first outdoor worship of the summer with a potluck following. There will be two this summer; the second one will take place on Sunday, August 13. Please help out by choosing one or both Sundays to volunteer to set up, serve or clean up. Sign up at the Welcome Center. See insert for more information.

Hero Training Camp (HTC), Monday, June 12 - Thursday June 15, 2:00-5:00pm (Children entering grades K - 6th grade), Phalen Rec Center

This year's theme is "Gadgets & Gizmos - Uniquely Wired and Wonderfully Made". Every kid is uniquely wired for one reason-they were wonderfully made in the image of God. HTC is geared to capture a kids' imagination about their Creator so they can discover who they are - MADE by God - MADE for a relationship with Jesus - MADE to love others. They will have the opportunity to participate in different sports and art clinics as well (Cooking is back for the WHOLE WEEK). We are also looking for volunteers for the week, grades 7 through adult. HTC brochures are on the Summer Camp Table, and contain a registration form for your child(ren) and a volunteer form. You can also register on the church website: www.first-covenant.org. Don't miss out on the:

HTC Volunteer Meeting, Wednesday, June 7, 5:30-7:00pm, Upper Fellowship Hall

Sanfoka Trip Update!

Our intergenerational Sankofa trip is August 11-15 and is now coming your way with a reduced cost. This trip is now available for your life-changing experience at the low-low cost of \$225! This incredible price gets you a 5 day trip with hotel stays, tours of historically significant civil rights sites and awesome food in the Twin Cities, Milwaukee, and Chicago. Pick up your registration form at the Welcome Center and turn it in to the Sankofa box in the main office TODAY! Next Sunday, June 4, from 11:45am-12:45pm, we will see you in the Graffiti Room for updates. Questions? Contact Susan Carlson: susancarlson@northcountryautobody.com.

Summer Worship on the Lawn

June 11, and August 13 at 10:30 am

Sunday, June 11, is our first 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

In celebration of our new babies, dessert will be provided and served by the Men's Saturday Morning Bible Study. Beverages will be provided as well as plates, cups, napkins and silverware.

In case of rain we will be meeting in Upper Fellowship Hall for worship and 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 either or both of these dates, let us know by signing up at the Welcome Center!

For questions please contact:

Richard Voth, richard@first-covenant.org or

Judy Kline, judy@first-covenant.org and

Jan Thoes, jan@first-covenant.org, coordinators of the June 11 Potluck.