



What does
it mean to
follow
JESUS?

SERIOUSLY.

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WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO FOLLOW JESUS? SERIOUSLY.

November 12, 2017

9:30 a.m.

Gathering Time

Passing of the Peace

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 405

Jesus, Be My Guide and Teacher

*Opening Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading

Matthew 5:43-48, Jacob Flanagan

I Corinthians 13:1-8a, 13, Manuela Martinez

Ministry Highlight

Remembering the Persecuted Church, Martha Peterson

Song

Brother

Praying for the Persecuted Church

* Song

How Deep the Father's Love For Us

Giving and Living Out of Our Abundance

Choral Offertory

Be A New And Different Person (Paul J. Christiansen)

Children in grades Pre-K through 2nd grade are invited to continue worshipping in Children's Church. After the offertory, please meet the teachers in the back of the sanctuary.

Message

Love your enemies. Seriously?

Pastor Anne Vining

Responding in Prayer

*Closing Hymn 581

Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire

*Sending Words

Postlude

O Love How Deep, How High (arr. David Johnson)

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

**You are invited to stand if you are able.*

TODAY

Welcome to Worship at First Covenant Church! *Wherever you find yourself on your journey of faith, we are glad you are here! Please join us for a cup of coffee and a treat following Worship.*

This morning we recognize the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church. In Worship, we will unite in prayer for the persecuted church worldwide in the spirit that Christ commanded: if one suffers, we all suffer. Please see the insert in your bulletin for more information and to learn 10 ways to pray.

9:30am

Worship

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

Children's Church, children pre-k - 2nd grade are dismissed with leaders during Worship and will return with leaders during the closing hymn, *Room 104*

Resource Table for children and youth: check out this table as you enter Worship for bulletins, crayons & Bibles for children, and Confirmation worship notes.

10:30-11:00am

Fellowship Time, *Upper Fellowship Hall*

10:40-11:00am

Youth Group Music Lessons, *Graffiti Room*

11:00am-12:00pm

Nursery Care (birth through age 3), *Room 105*

Children's Sunday School, *(all start in Room 104 together)*

Please pick up your children at 12:00pm in the following rooms:

Pre-K - K, *Room 106*

Grades 3-4, *Room 104B*

Grades 1-2, *Room 104A*

Grades 5-6, *Room 201 (upstairs)*

Confirmation Class, *Game Room*

Youth, *Graffiti Room*

Adult Spiritual Growth Hour, *Upper Fellowship Hall*

Join us as we discuss the sermon theme, led by Joe Mann.

12:00-12:30pm, CHIC Information Meeting

(Youth Grades 9 -12 and a Parent or Caregiver)

Graffiti Room

Don't miss out on our 2018 Senior High Summer Trip! This year is a CHIC year for current senior highers - this triennial Covenant youth conference is a high-school highlight for many of our youth and we want you to be involved! Join us for a brief meeting where we will be covering logistics, registration details and fundraising plans. The first 10 kids who register will get a CHIC freebie! Questions? Contact Addin Vang.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Advent 2017 FCC Guidebooks will be handed out by the ushers as you leave Worship today.

We extend our sympathies to the family and friends of Dorothy Bjork, who joined the church triumphant on Sunday, November 5. Dorothy's funeral service was held yesterday at First Covenant Church. God's peace to those on a journey through loss and grief. Memorials may be given to First Covenant Church.

New church directory coming soon!

Tables near the Arcade west windows

Please stop by the tables today or next Sunday to verify your directory entry, to indicate any changes, or if you choose to not be in the directory. The directory will be available soon - just in time for your Christmas mailings! Judy Kline and Jan Thoes will be at the tables to answer questions. Thank you for your help!

Did you know that First Covenant Church was a polling site this past Tuesday?

This is one more tangible way that we are using our building in service to our community.

A huge thank you to all who attended, helped with, donated to or performed in the Broadway Dinner Night this past Friday night. Broadway Dinner Night is an annual fund-raising event to support the unique opportunity of presenting musicals every year with students from our neighborhood schools, Farnsworth Aerospace Schools and Johnson High School, as well as students from many other metro area schools. If you were unable to attend the dinner and would like to donate toward the musicals, your check can be made payable to First Covenant Church, "musicals" in the memo line. Drop it in the offering plate or place it in Rachel Hank's mailbox.

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 or Spiritual Growth Hour.

What does it mean to follow Jesus? Seriously! Resources are available on the bookshelves to the left of the Welcome Center, including the Truckers Against Trafficking wallet cards.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Bryants looking for dry storage space - Aaron and Becky Bryant, missionaries to Paraguay, are looking for a dry, secure spot to store some of their household items from December 2017-January 2021. Do you have an empty garage stall, basement area, attic, or storage shed that they could use? For more information, please contact Aaron, 651-231-4344 or aaron.bryant@sim.org.

Work teams needed in Houston - the Covenant Denomination is looking for individuals and teams to volunteer to help with rebuilding in Houston, which was ravaged by Hurricane Harvey. For more information, pick up a flyer at the Welcome Center.

THIS WEEK

***Beauty and the Beast* Musical Youth Meeting, Wednesday, November 15, 6:15-7:00pm**

***Beauty and the Beast* Musical Parent/Guardian Meeting, November 15, 7:00-7:30pm**

Lower Fellowship Hall

Youth, parents and guardians of youth in grades 7-12, plan to attend these important informational meetings. Future rehearsals will take place on Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30pm starting on November 29, and Sundays, 11:00am-1:00pm, starting on December 3.

Beauty and the Beast will be performed on February 23, 24, 25 at Johnson High School.

Gospel Choir Rehearsal, Thursday, November 16, 6:00-7:30pm

Choir Room

All are welcome to join us in rehearsing to sing during Worship on Sunday, November 19.

Rehearsal schedules and CD's are available at the Welcome Center.

Contact Steve Pittman, Gospel Choir Director, with any questions: steve@first-covenant.org.

LOOKING AHEAD TO THANKSGIVING WEEK

On Wednesday, November 22, there will be no Wednesday afternoon/evening programs at FCC due to the Thanksgiving holiday. The office and building will be closed on Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24.

LOOKING AHEAD TO CHRISTMAS EVE

It isn't often that Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday, but when it does, scheduling becomes interesting! After polling you, our congregation, and having conversations with our partner churches, Christmas Eve worship will be held on Sunday, December 24 at 4:00pm. Plan now to attend this beautiful time of worship as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.