



What does
it mean to
follow
JESUS?

SERIOUSLY.

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WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO FOLLOW JESUS? SERIOUSLY.

September 17, 2017

9:30 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 368

Open My Eyes, That I May See

*Opening Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading

Matthew 16:24-26, Dale Pearson
Philippians 1:9-11, Kari Taylor

Ministry Highlight

Team World Vision

*Songs

*He Who Began A Good Work
Cry of My Heart*

Prayer of the People

Giving and Living Out of Our Abundance

Choral Offertory

Come, All Christians, Be Committed (arr. Mark Hayes)

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

You are what you love. Seriously?

Pastor Anne Vining

*Closing Hymn 423

Trust in the Lord with All Your Heart

*Sending Words

Postlude

Christ is Present (arr. M. Burkhardt)

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.*

And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God. Philippians 1:9-11

This morning we are recognizing our team of runners preparing to run the Twin Cities Marathon on October 1 as part of Team World Vision: Madison DeGaetano, Jill DeGaetano, Kevin Flanagan and Diane Carlson. Please remember them in prayer in these last weeks of training and pray for the community of Gemena they are impacting in the Democratic Republic of Congo. \$50 provides life-changing clean water to children in need. Please go to the Team World Vision table in Upper Fellowship Hall after Worship if you'd like to learn more or donate to their fundraising efforts.

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 final song in Worship, *Room 104*

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, as well as 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*

Today we continue exploring the question: What does it mean to follow Jesus?

Seriously. The class will be led by Janet Peterson and include an intriguing overview of the book, *You Are What You Love*, by James K.A. Smith.

NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH IS FREEDOM SUNDAY

Join us in Worship and for the Spiritual Growth hour as we take a stand for the millions of people trapped in slavery. Come alive with the hope of seeing them rescued and restored as we unite with churches across the nation who seek God's heart for justice. God's plan to end slavery begins with God's people.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Stay connected: Stop by the Welcome Center to order a CD of any worship service. Weekly worship bulletins and podcasts of each week's message can be found on the church website under the Worship and Arts tab.

Thank you to Nate Stromberg for the fall series artwork!

WE WANT YOU FOR THE IDI - RSVP BY 9/24! Join your FCC leaders in this great opportunity to take the **Intercultural Development Inventory** and move our church forward in the exciting plans God has for us! See the orange letter in today's bulletin, and turn in your form and payment at the Welcome Center by next Sunday, September 24th. Your Love Mercy Do Justice (LMDJ) team is committed to helping our church community grow in intercultural competencies in an increasingly diverse world in which we love God and others well! Questions? Contact Susan Carlson, 651-247-8082, susan.carlson8@gmail.com. (Note to FCC leaders: see your email dated 9/12 to RSVP).

Security System Changes: After many years, our security system has been updated, allowing us to monitor building access and enabling us to keep track of key cards. If you currently have a key card for the parking lot door, it no longer functions and will need to be re-entered into the updated system. Please bring your current key card to Jan in the church office on Wednesdays (9am-3pm), or Thursdays (11am-5pm). Based on approval, your key card will be re-programmed.

An informal celebration of Rose Pearson's life will be held on Saturday, September 30, 11:00am - 2:00pm at Como Park Pavilion, 1199 Midway Parkway. Friends of all ages are welcome. A picnic lunch will be served, rain or shine. Contact D.D. Peterson if you can join us, ddpeterson07@comcast.net or 651-776-7117.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Looking for Fellowship Hosts for Sunday mornings

Once a year, could you host Fellowship Time following Worship? Duties involves supplying treats, setting up/cleaning up, and making coffee (the machine isn't scary). The current list has anyone who has hosted in the last 3 years. If you want to be added to the list, please contact Wendy Bain at jwbkbain@usfamily.net.

Opportunities to serve through music at FCC

Are you wondering how you can share your gifts? If you like to sing, or if you play an instrument, come and join us!

Handbells: rehearses every Wednesday, 4:30-5:45pm, contact Richard Voth

Sanctuary Choir: rehearses every Wednesday, 6:15-7:30pm, contact Richard Voth

Gospel Choir: rehearses every other Thursday, 6:00-7:30pm, contact Steve Pittman

Worship Team: rehearses Thursdays, 7:30-9:00pm, contact Richard or Addin Vang

Youth Music Lessons: rehearses Sundays, 10:40-11:00am, contact Richard or Addin

THIS WEEK

Wednesday, September 20, Regular Wednesday evening programming at FCC begins:

4:00pm - After School Program

4:30pm - Handbells

5:45pm - Dinner for all served by Loaves and Fishes

6:15pm - Children and Youth Activities, Adult Bible Study, Jump Start, Sanctuary Choir

Community Bible Study, Thursdays, September - May, 9:15-11:15am

First Covenant Church

You invited to join us as we study "the Red Sea to the Jordan River", a journey through Exodus, Leviticus and Numbers. These books of the Bible tell of God's faithfulness to His people, from Egyptian slavery to their identity as a new nation. Class begins Thursday, September 14. For more information, contact Jill Weiss, jillianweiss@yahoo.com. Informational cards are available at the Welcome Center.

Gospel Choir Rehearsal, Thursday, September 21, 6:00-7:30pm, Sanctuary

Do you like to sing or would you like to learn? All are welcome to join the Gospel Choir as we rehearse to sing in Worship on September 24. CD's and fall schedules are available at the Welcome Center. For more information, contact Steve Pittman.

Tacky Homecoming, Friday, September 22, 6:00-9:00pm, 7th-12th graders

(meet at First Covenant Church at 5:45pm if you need a ride)

Voth Home, 3264 Lexington Ave. N, Shoreview, MN 55126

All youth are invited to our annual "tacky" event! This year it changed from Prom to Homecoming. Dress up in your wackiest way, dinner provided. Sign up on the youth bulletin board to let us know that you are coming. For more information, contact Addin Vang or Kate Makosky.

Golf Outing, Saturday, September 23, 12:00 noon, Badlands Golf Course, Roberts, WI

All golfers are invited to a golf outing (Scramble Format). Cost: \$25. Sign up as a team or individual at the Welcome Center, or email Bryan Norris: Norris.Bryan@gmail.com.

LOOKING AHEAD

Jonathan House Volunteer Training, Saturday, Sept 30, 9:00am-3:00pm

First Covenant Church, Upper Fellowship Hall

We were all so excited last Sunday, to announce to the congregation our new partnership with Jonathan House! Our parsonage across the parking lot is the first of their housing for asylum-seeking refugees. For more information about Jonathan House and the upcoming training, see our website, first-covenant.org, or International Association For Refugees, bit.ly/IAFR-Training.

Birthday Party for 80+ Royalty, Friday, October 6, 12:00 noon

Mark your calendars for the annual 80 plus birthday party. Those who are 80 years and older and their guest, will receive a royal invitation approximately two weeks prior to the event, held in upper fellowship hall. We will have a fabulous lunch fit for royalty, planned by Connie Benson and Corrine Pearson. And you will love the entertainment! If you need a ride, we will provide, call Mary Jane Rogers, Congregational Life Commission, 612.716.9131, sixmilecross@comcast.net.