

Covenant Church Newsletter
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A Christ centered covenant community;

Loving God,

Loving People,

Making Disciples

January 2020

Pastor's Ponderings

Well, it's not only a new year, but a brand-new decade! And of course, the fact that it is 2020 makes me think about having a clear and compelling 20/20 vision.

Most of us may be past making new years' resolutions, and I get that. You reach a point in life where if something is worth doing (or not doing), you go ahead and get it done. That being said, there is something about a new year that evokes a starting line—what is God calling us to do in the coming year, what new thing needs to begin.

Last summer and into the fall I subjected you to a loooong series of sermons on the subject of faith sharing. I suggested that most of us have worked out how to have a devotional time, complete with Bible study and prayer, most of us have sorted out our tithe of time, talent, and treasure, most of us understand (even if we imperfectly practice sometimes) our Savior's call to love one another.

The one thing we might be lacking is a clear and compelling plan to intentionally share our faith with someone who is close to us, but far from God. During that long series of sermons I asked at one point that you write down the name of four such people, and that you covenant to pray for them. I further suggested that you look for an opportunity to do some act of kindness for them, and finally, that you would make plans for an intentional conversation on matters of faith. I believe most of us dutifully wrote down the names, I am sure most of us dutifully prayed, I am even willing to believe that most of us got around to doing an act of kindness. But I have to wonder... (and please forgive me if I'm wrong), I have to wonder how many of us got around to having that intentional conversation about the most important thing. It's a big step, I know, but I also know that once you've done it once it will be a lot easier. Hey, you might even discover the joy and the power of the Holy Spirit that is given to energize the work of faith sharing!

So perhaps that could be your 20/20 vision, your fresh start, your serious spiritual intention. I'm praying that you will!

In Christ, Brant

FROM THE CLERK

The Mission Team reported that our 5th Sunday offering in September provided \$3200 for Habitat for Humanity from Covenant Church. If you wrote a check for Habitat for Humanity in September and it has not been cashed, please see Carol Smith. 5th Sunday offering for December will go to Logos Christian Academy. If you missed out on that and would like to donate to this wonderful school, please contact Carol Smith or Everett Greenwood.

Covenant continues to sponsor and support Seeds of Hope. We will be helping with their 5K run on Saturday, January 11 at Dave White Park. Please call Everett Greenwood if you can help that morning.

If you've been thinking of joining with us in commitment as a covenant partner (member) of Covenant Church, plan to attend a class on Sunday, January 19. Check with Pastor Brant for times.

Please plan to attend our annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, February 2. All covenant partners will get to vote on new officers and a modification of our bylaws. Our annual reports for last year's activities and our 2020 budget will also be presented.

New Member Class

A New Member Class has been scheduled following worship on Sunday, January 19. The class will last about 90 minutes (pizza lunch will be provided). Pastor Brant and Clerk of Session Mary Moore will offer this class to any and all who might be interested in exploring membership with Covenant Church, but there is no obligation to join the church after attending. Please RSVP (for lunch count) by emailing Brant (pastorbaker@covenantprescg.org) or Mary Moore (mnmoore68@gmail.com), or by letting one of them know in person or by phone.

Missions

Seeds of Hope will be having a 5K run/1K walk on Saturday, January 11 at Dave White Park. We will be serving coffee and hot chocolate to the participants. See Everett Greenwood if you are interested in helping.

Men's Bible Study

The men of the church meet at the church each Thursday at 11:00am, all men are welcome and you can bring a sack lunch if you like.

Neighborhood Help Team

The Neighborhood Help Team is continuing a service for those who could use a little bit of help. We would like to help you in replacing A/C filters or with some landscape trimming on the 4th Saturday of each month. Contact Nelson Moore in person or call him @ 520-483-0461.

January Calendar

- 5 Communion
- 7 Ladies Luncheon, Golden Corral at noon. All ladies of the church are welcome.
- 8 Prayers at the flagpole at McCartney Ranch Elementary, 7:15am.
- 8 Prayer Night, 6:30pm at Wiley & Carol Smith home.
- 9 Worship Team meeting, 1:00pm.
- 11 Seeds of Hope 5K run/1K walk, Dave White Park.
- 16 Session Meeting, 6:00pm.
- 19 New Member Class
- 22 Prayer Night, 6:30pm at Wiley & Carol Smith home.

January Birthdays

- 1 Ruth McLaughlin
- 8 Monica Vongkaysone
- 9 Jed Croll
- 26 Kirstin Jeffers
- 27 Rob Shuster

January Anniversaries

- 4 Rob & Lori Shuster