



# *In the Spirit*

A newsletter for the Libertyville Covenant church community about local happenings and Christian issues.

MARCH 2021  
Volume 28, Issue 3

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The Deadline for the  
April *In the Spirit* is  
Monday, March 15, 2021  
Please send items to  
[marti@libcov.org](mailto:marti@libcov.org)

## Give or Take by Pastor Steve Larson

**T**oday, our nation hit the horrifying benchmark of 500,000 deaths from COVID-19. I remember last March when we stood aghast as the death toll hit 1000. And then 10,000 in April, and then 100,000 in May. And while numbers of this magnitude tend to numb us to their true impact, enough of us have experienced these deaths personally that we can understand their impact. Every empty chair, every photo that brings a pang of grief, every tear emphasizes the enormity of what we have faced and have yet to face.

For some, the grief, pain, and stress of the last year make Lent, a season of reflection and contemplation, all that much harder this year. Who wants to reflect on the death and fear of this pandemic? Who wants to look back on the divisions within our country? Who wants to contemplate coming to terms with

the long history of racism in this country? What good could it do to dwell on this past year?

*"Contemplation is simply being fully present—in heart, mind, and body—to what is in a way that allows you to creatively respond and work toward what could be,"* says Richard Rohr on the Center for Action and Contemplation website. And while we'd rather hide from the pain of the past year, we have

a lot to learn from it if we are just willing to be present to it. And the good news is that we are not alone in our contemplation – God is with us as we do.



So what have we seen this past year? We've seen **faith**. Many have had to come to terms with the fact that God doesn't answer every prayer the way we want. But we've also seen just how important our personal faith, our prayer life, and our community of faith are to us. We've seen the impact that the Church can have. We've seen God at work

Continued from page 1

in many ways, small and huge. If your faith has not grown this past year, you should probably spend some more time in reflection and contemplation.

We've seen **hope**. Though this culture thrives on bad news, there have been plenty of stories emphasizing the love, compassion, and grace we have offered one another in Jesus' name. We've seen that though we are desperately lonely, we are not alone. And we've seen that God is still at work among us.

We've seen **love**. Stories of personal sacrifice for the sake of another abound if we look for them. Visits to loved ones have tightened our relationships. And I have lost count of the number of people who have told me that they feel closer to others this past year than ever before. We don't have time for trivia or trivial relationships anymore, and so our love for one another had deepened.

This Lent, take some time to contemplate, to be present to what is so we can work together toward what could be. And pray with me that we come out of this season with a renewed commitment to the faith, hope, and love of God.

## WORSHIP in March . . .

Lent brings us to our sermon series, "The Way of the Cross." This series focuses on the last week of Jesus' ministry, the Passion Week, as we prepare ourselves for the celebration of Resurrection Sunday in April. From the Last Supper to the Garden of Gethsemane to the trial, we examine how even in Jesus' last week He taught us to love one another. Join us every Sunday at 10:30am in person (register on our website) or on our [YouTube channel](#) for worship.



**Sunday, March 7**  
**Sacrifice**  
Mark 11:12-26

**Sunday, March 14**  
**Such a Waste**  
Mark 14:1-11

**Sunday, March 21**  
**Sleeping Through a Hurricane**  
Mark 14:32-42

**Palm Sunday, March 28**  
**Denied**  
Mark 14-15

### Suggestions for Lenten practices

Lent is a season with some specific practices associated with it, but also with room for creativity. This Lent, try one or a few of these activities that might help you prepare yourself for our celebration of Resurrection Sunday.

**Fasting:** giving something up for a period of time. Fasting helps our prayer life, humbles us, shows us what has superseded God in our lives, and can help us sense the Spirit's work more clearly.

*Possible fasts:* food, sweets, soda, alcohol, coffee; social media, television, streaming services; asking for things from God, complaining, busyness, gossip, creature comforts

**Reverse fasting:** adding something to your life for a period of time.

*Possible things to add:* bible reading, set prayer times, set prayer practices, connections with people, Sabbath time, join a small group, a Christian podcast, or daily journaling.

**Confession:** sharing the weight of your guilt with another trusted person. The effect of sharing a burden with someone else is immense, and so is the effect of hearing God's forgiveness spoken to you by another. Find a trusted person and ask them if they will help share your burden and remind you of God's grace. Then share your guilt with them and accept the words of God's forgiveness.

**Music:** We all have favorite Christmas playlists, songs, or albums. Develop a Lenten playlist with songs that help you reflect on Jesus' last days, death, and resurrection. I'm working on creating one that you can find by [clicking here](#).

**Giving:** It is traditional during Lent to give something more to those in need. Choose a ministry or person and give a little extra to them this Lent. Bonus: combine two and what you usually spend on coffee, give to the needy!

There are hundreds of sites with further suggestions about how to celebrate Lent. The key is not how you celebrate, but that you celebrate it at all.

## February Nursery "Grams"



"Gram" Deb Lindahl got busy in her sewing room creating Valentine Tomtes. She loaded up her market basket and made deliveries to our nursery families. This month even the siblings got a valentine and the Couleur family made a party of it.



### Vaccine Appointment Ministry



Obtaining access to a vaccine appointment can be complicated and stressful! If anyone in our church family is eligible and would like to be vaccinated, we would love to help you; we



have made almost 40 appointments for vaccine seekers so far. Please reach out to Niki Papak [npapak80@gmail.com](mailto:npapak80@gmail.com) or Teresa Anderson [Teresa.deer1@gmail.com](mailto:Teresa.deer1@gmail.com). You can also call or text us, though we may not be able to respond immediately due to our work and family commitments.



During February's deep freeze and snowy days, some warm wishes were delivered by Pastor Bruce and Merileen to many of our senior adults thanks to the lentil soup prepared by Marie Oppedahl and Merileen's valentine cookies. Judie & Bonita were smiling under their masks!

**Soups On!!**



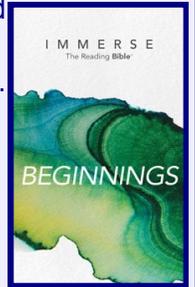
### **LCC Virtual Coffee Hour (BYOC) 11:45am in the LCC Private Zoom Room**

Join us every Sunday after worship for the LCC BYOC Coffee Hour. After we're finished worshipping together, log in to our LCC Virtual Zoom Room and connect with friends, split off into smaller groups just to catch up, and maybe even meet some new faces. Just go to [zoom.us](https://zoom.us), click "join a meeting" and use the church's phone number **8473623308** for the Meeting ID no Password is needed. Sponsored by our Deacons, we hope this is another way to connect with our church family each week.



## Spring Small Groups

Our goal is to read the Bible together as a congregation. This **February through May** (16 weeks) we are reading the first five books of the Bible together using the Immerse Bible Reading Experience. From **Genesis through Deuteronomy, Beginnings** delivers Scripture to the reader as it was originally created: without chapter or verse breaks.



**How It Works:** A family guide is available to use at home for parents, grandparents, or guardians to use with younger children. Groups (5-13 people or a family choosing to be a group) will meet weekly to discuss what was read or listened to. These groups are less like a Bible study and more like a "book club." Each week you will have four questions to guide conversations.

**Three ways you could be engaged.** We have three ways you can engage with the material either in English\Spanish 1). Hard copy 2). E-book. 3). Audio **Great for evangelism** You can invite your friends—Christian and non-Christian—to read and discuss the book. Or get one (or a few) for friends. \$10/copy available in the office or through Marti, call 847-751-0076 to arrange to pick up or have it delivered to you. It reads like a novel. Please email Zachs your questions, [zzgai-ya@tiu.edu](mailto:zzgai-ya@tiu.edu) or call/text 978-335-7140.

**[LCC SMALL GROUP SIGN UP FORM - SPRING 2021](#)**

## Financial Summary thru JANUARY 2021

### EXPENSES VS. BUDGET

Budgeted Expenses YTD	\$	42,325
Actual Expenses YTD	\$	34,596
Cost Savings / (Overrun)	\$	7,729

### GIVING VS. BUDGET

Giving YTD	\$	37,611
Budgeted Giving YTD	\$	42,325
Giving Surplus / (Deficit)	\$	(4,714)

### INCOME VS. EXPENSES

Income YTD	\$	37,611
Expenses YTD	\$	34,596
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	\$	3,015

### [LINK to online giving](#)

Checks mailed to the church will also be received and processed on a regular basis. If you have questions, contact Caren & Lee Vollrath at [carenvollrath@gmail.com](mailto:carenvollrath@gmail.com) or 847/549-6906

Link:

[LIBERTYVILLE  
COVENANT CHURCH  
ANNUAL REPORT 2020](#)

If you would like to place an Easter Lily in the sanctuary in memory or honor of someone for Easter Sunday, please complete the form linked below or email [marti@libcov.org](mailto:marti@libcov.org).



[LCC EASTER LILY REQUEST FORM](#)

## RACIAL RIGHTEOUSNESS SMALL GROUP

Our Racial Righteousness small group is going strong and well attended, with an in-person and an on-line format. All who are open to learning about issues relating to race and the Christian faith are welcome to come, even if you have not previously joined us or are not able to commit to coming every week. We meet at 6:30pm on Thursdays in person (masked) or via Zoom (meeting ID 8473623308). If you have questions contact Zachs Gaiya ([zzgaiya@tiu.edu](mailto:zzgaiya@tiu.edu)) or Teresa Anderson [teresad-er1@gmail.com](mailto:teresad-er1@gmail.com)

The LCC Racial Righteousness small groups would like to invite you, our LCC community, to a special evening with Dr. Boaz Johnson (interim teaching pastor at Redeemer Life Covenant Church in Vernon Hills), Dr. Russell Jeung (chair of SFSU Asian American Studies), and Pastor Mary Chung March (leader of the Covenant Asian Pastors Association). This Town Hall style Zoom gathering will focus on the recent increase in violence against the Asian American community, including our own Covenant family.



Violence against Asian Americans is rising at an alarming rate, yet news articles about this fact are few and far between. A recent Time article reported that "The NYPD reported that hate crimes motivated by anti-Asian sentiment jumped 1,900% in New York City in 2020." Jesus has called us to love one another, to heed the cry of the oppressed, and to pray for one another. And that's exactly what we hope to do.

On **Tuesday, March 2, at 7:30pm** we gather on Zoom (login information to follow) for a presentation, discussion, and time of prayer and lament. Please join with Covenant churches all over the northern suburbs of Chicago to support, learn from, and pray for our Asian American community.

## Women's Bible Study—Thursday Mornings

**Women's Study—Thursday Mornings** meets at 9:15 a.m. each Thursday in the narthex. We are currently studying the Sermon on the Mount. For information contact Pastor Bruce. [bruceethorson@gmail.com](mailto:bruceethorson@gmail.com).



## Men's Bible Study—Friday Mornings

Join us for Bible Study Zoom Meeting at 7:00 a.m.

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/619235826?pwd=VFhIWG1xYnRIY1VuQkp5MXdJWkRGdz09>

Meeting ID: 619 235 826

Password: John3\_16

For information contact [chris@beckercrew.com](mailto:chris@beckercrew.com)



One tap mobile

+13126266799,,619235826# US (Chicago)

# THANKS FOR SERVING

As we have moved into a new year at LCC it is time to say a BIG THANK YOU to our newly elected leaders. Hopefully, you will have a chance to thank them personally sometime soon. I was curious what may have led them to accept the call to serve on the LCC Council/Leadership Team and thought you might be as well—so I asked them.



*If just one year ago you would have told me that I would become the LCC Council Chair in 2021, I would have chuckled and walked away. And yet here I am, answering the nudge of the Holy Spirit and humbly serving our Lord within the ministry of LCC. I feel under qualified and ill equipped to serve in this important capacity. It is easy to think of others who have deeper Covenant roots, stronger biblical knowledge and better understand the complexities of a church organization that could lead. However, as is often the case, God used people within our congregation to help me discern and pray about God's specific calling to this position of service. As we begin this journey together, I ask for prayer, patience and grace in the many decisions ahead for our church leaders and that we always remain unified in our individual and collective service to our Lord! Paul Lundstedt, Chair*

*I am so happy to be able to step in as secretary of the LCC council. It has been many years since I have served on the council and this gives me the opportunity to join a wonderful group and get involved in church life at a deeper level. The timing is perfect for me as some previous commitments are ending. Karin Lundstedt, Church Secretary*



*During my 30-year membership at LCC I have served on several long range planning committees. My extensive business travel schedule prevented me from taking on additional roles at the Church. I am now retired and volunteer in the Business Development group of TeachBeyond, who own and manage Christian schools around the world. I had not considered additional service at LCC until asked by the Nominating Committee. After just a moment's hesitation, I concluded that chairing the Finance and Properties team would be a great fit for my skills and interests. The outgoing Chair, David Hinz, and his team did a great job over the last two years so my goals are to:*



- **maintain the high service standards already established,**
- **increase the number of team members to better share the workload,**
- **develop a long-range campus use plan, and**
- **develop a multi-year plan for anticipated capital projects (e.g., roof, parking lot, HVAC, etc.).**

*Please let me know if you have any interest in joining us!*

*Kerry Monson, Finance and Properties Chair*

*I'm excited to join the leadership team as the worship ministries chair. I hope to add to what we are currently doing by involving more of the entire congregation in music, drama and the arts. I've been brainstorming different ideas we could incorporate throughout the year but welcome any thoughts you have to make our corporate worship experience even better as we (hopefully) all return to in person worship. I miss seeing all of your beautiful friendly faces!*



*Michelle Pas, Worship Ministries Chair*

## LCC LEADERSHIP

*Please pray for the church **LEADERSHIP TEAM, COUNCIL & STAFF.***

*Contact them if you have questions, ideas or would like to get involved in a particular ministry.*

### STAFF

**Pastor:** Steve Larson (815/508-4450)

**Associate Pastor to Youth:**

Paul Couleur (847/331-3640)

**Pastor to Senior Adults:**

Bruce Thorson (847/421-2732)

**Office Coordinator:**

Marti Anderson (847/362-3308)

**Worship Music Coordinator:**

Kris Nikkel (847/543-8861)

**Custodian:** Dan Doherty (847/223-4971)

### LEADERSHIP TEAM:

**Church Council Chair:**

Paul Lundstedt (847/612-6237)

**Church Council Vice Chair:**

Niki Papak (847/951-8275)

**Church Council Secretary:**

Karin Lundstedt (847/340-5247)

**Treasurer:**

Dave L. Anderson (847/362-2569)

**LT Members at Large:**

Jill Heath (847/989-7089)

Kirk Johnson (847/573-8010)

### OTHER COUNCIL POSITIONS

**Financial Secretary:**

Lee & Caren Vollrath (847/549-6906)

**(CED) Christian Education &**

**Discipleship Team:**

Melissa Schau (847/287-9246)

**Deacon Team:**

Wes Lindahl (847/680-1018)

**Evangelism & Service Team:**

Trevor James (847/986-6677)

**Worship Ministry Team:**

Michelle Pas (224/213-5729)

**Finance & Properties Team:**

Kerry Monson (847/302-4089)



## ADDRESS UPDATES

Please send any address updates to:  
[marti@libcov.org](mailto:marti@libcov.org)

### John & Elizabeth Christian

1909 Alabama Avenue  
Great Lakes, IL 60088  
JandEChristian81@yahoo.com  
847-482-0854

### Chris & Lilian Johnson Jerome, Joshua

804 Fairgate Drive  
Wexford, PA 15090  
C 612-605-6939  
L 612-483-5566  
liliansudhakar@gmail.com  
christop96@yahoo.co.in

### Dave & Kay Johnson

2128 Crane Lakes Blvd.  
Port Orange, FL 32128  
davenkayj@comcast.net  
Dave 941-223-0774  
Kay 941-223-0778

### Harriet Johnson

2195 Foxglove Drive #904  
Northbrook, IL 60062

### Greg & Kristy Miller

**Jake, Ben, Sara**  
142 S. Lake Street  
Grayslake, IL 60060  
847-910-6046  
kmiller1023@comcast.net

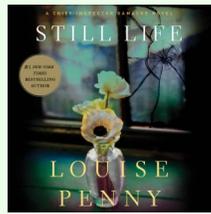
### Bob & Tricia Sorensen

7035 29th Court  
Vero Beach, FL 32967  
R4Sorensen@yahoo.com  
847-207-6341

### Gene & Beverly Sparks

Green Oaks Senior Living  
14595 W. Rockland  
Green Oaks, IL 60048  
847-281-7032

## Sensible Ladies Book Club



The next selection for our book club is

### Still Life by Louise Penny

Chief Inspector Armand Gamache of the Surêté du Québec and his team of investigators are called to the scene of a suspicious death in a rural village south of Montreal. Jane Neal, a local fixture in the tiny hamlet of Three Pines, just north of the U.S. border, has been found dead in the woods. The locals are certain it's a tragic hunting accident and nothing more, but Gamache smells something foul in these remote woods, and is soon certain that Jane Neal died at the hands of someone much more sinister than a careless bowhunter.

We will meet in the LCC Zoom room (ID# 8473623308) on March 5, 2021 at 7:00 pm. Questions? Contact Caren Vollrath [carenvollrath@gmail.com](mailto:carenvollrath@gmail.com)

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL



Each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. Central Time

Our Adult Sunday School Class is discussing our Bible reading experience of the Immerse Beginnings Book. Paul Hawkinson & Paul Nau-man facilitating.

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86494219792> Meeting ID: 864 9421 9792

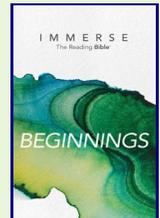
### Are you participating in one of the Immerse Bible reading groups?

If not, you are really missing something. No matter how familiar you are with the Bible, no matter how many times you have read it, no matter how many Bible studies you have participated in, this is a totally different experience.

I was hesitant about it at first, because I love the language of the King James version of the Bible and other versions that, while using more modern language, still retain the flavor of the King James. When I learned that there were no topical headings or chapters and verses, I thought would not like that. When I heard that groups based on the Immerse Bible are more like a book club discussion than a Bible study, my reaction was that I want to study the Bible, not treat it like a story.

But then our Adult Sunday School class decided to devote 16 weeks to the Immerse Bible, and I discovered that I could not have been more wrong. The Immerse Bible is "an edition of the . . . New Living Translation" of the Bible. No, it's not like reading the King James version, but it is worshipful and yet very readable in its own way. I find that the 4 or 5 pages that we are to read every weekday, can easily turn into 10 or 20 before I've noticed. It's a Good Book that you can't put down. It's a fascinating story (history really) of the people and events of Bible times, told in a somewhat different, but no less meaningful, way. And the discussions that we have about what we have read often center around things that we had never noticed or thought about or understood before.

Don't miss this chance to experience the Bible in a new and totally fulfilling way. It's not too late to join a group and I promise you will be glad you did! Valerie Makkai



# LAKE COUNTY PADS



As you can see by the photo, the response from our church body for requests from the PADS organization has been amazing! Once again our church (and friends of LCC) have answered the call to help people in need.

We are on track to serve 35-40 hot dinners this Sunday, 2/28 and all collected non-perishable foods and paper items will be delivered to the Waukegan office on Tuesday, March 2nd. We have committed to serving one more dinner for this season which is scheduled for Sunday, March 21st. Approximately 7-10 days before delivery of that meal, please watch for a Google Doc listing needed items.



Many thanks to all of you who continue to care for God's people as Christ has asked of us (and as we are reminded by Paul in I Timothy 6:18)

***"Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share"***

We appreciate Maggie's willingness to coordinate our efforts with PADS. If you want more information about what PADS provides and how we can help contact her at 847/772-8564 or [maggiejohnson122@gmail.com](mailto:maggiejohnson122@gmail.com)

## **Start-Up Ministry: Care Ministers**

For more information & to connect, please email [lauriem@loveinlakecounty.org](mailto:lauriem@loveinlakecounty.org)

We receive notes from our delivery teams each week about/from our neighbors that would be an awesome reason to reach back out to them and connect more deeply. But, like with any ministry...we need the right folks to connect! For this ministry, we are looking for a couple of administrative-minded folks to lead and any number of folks to be the ones to actually make the calls & help us follow up. **Please pray on this with us** and let me know if these descriptions resonate with folks you know w/in your church families. See [slide 10](#) for a few more details on ways to serve. We expect to have opportunities to serve both in the office & from home in this new ministry.

## **Serving Opportunity: Loved Twice Thrift Boutique**

For any questions, please contact Lynn at [lynnt@loveinlakecounty.org](mailto:lynnt@loveinlakecounty.org)

Our Loved Twice Thrift Boutique is a unique ministry on Grand Ave in Gurnee that gives us yet one more place to share the Love of Christ with our community. Sales ministers from our partner churches lovingly display the items, then help customers find just the thing they are looking for (or didn't know they needed!). Funds raised by these purchases support Love INC's ministries. Please share these opportunities and thoughts about how to serve through your church families!

- **Need for Sales Ministers:** regular shifts Wednesdays 2-6p & Fridays



Kelly Elwell and Cherith Anderson are the new Program Managers for Jill's House

Windy City. They

have been in touch with Caren Vollrath and Dave Anderson as they seek to get the respite program up and running once again. They hope to resume weekend camps in 2021. Continue to keep this important ministry and the families it serves in your prayers. W: [jillshouse.org](http://jillshouse.org)

The Covenant Home Altar is available online during this time

COVENANT

## HomeAltar

daily devotions

<https://covenantcompanion.com/home-altar/>



Limited packing sessions are available.

- Pray for FMSC leadership
- Give at [give.fmsc.org/covid-19](http://give.fmsc.org/covid-19)
- Support artisans through our online MarketPlace at [fmscmarketplace.org](http://fmscmarketplace.org)



## Love INC of Lake County

Physical Office & Warehouse

**339 North Lakewood Ave,**

Waukegan, IL 60085

[Our "no client walk-in" policy remains]

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 7796,

Gurnee, IL 60031

Office Phone 847.782.8630

Fax Number 847.782.8631

For current information check website:

[loveinlakecounty.org](http://loveinlakecounty.org)



LOVED TWICE  
THRIFT BOUTIQUE

Interested in volunteering? Contact Store Manager Lynn at:

[lynnt@loveinlakecounty.org](mailto:lynnt@loveinlakecounty.org)

# LIBERTYVILLE COVENANT YOUTH MINISTRY

## Senior High Sunday School



March 7, 14, 21, 28  
9 - 10 a.m. Sunday morning IN PERSON & via ZOOM ID#: 8473623310. Ken Greenfield and Pastor Paul will be leading the study using the Immerse Beginnings Bible Experience. Let us know if you need a book.

**CONFIRMATION CLASS:** Middle School students Confirmation Class each Sunday Night at 5 p.m. March 7, 14, 21, 28 Contact Pastor Steve at [steve@libcov.org](mailto:steve@libcov.org) if you have questions. IN PERSON & VIA ZOOM ID#8473623308

## CONFIRMATION SUNDAY IS SCHEDULED FOR MAY 2, 2021

Our combined 2020 & 2021 Confirmands will be:  
Brooke Sparks, Sophia Pas, Grace James, Haniel Gaiya, Lukas Beckstrom

Senior High Youth Group Sundays, 5-7 p.m. at LCC  
March 7, 14, 21, 28  
IN PERSON & Via ZOOM ID# 8473623310

Middle School Ministry - Wednesdays, 6-7:15 p.m.  
March 3, 10, 17, 24  
IN PERSON & Via ZOOM ID# 8473623310



This year, we have had the privilege of hearing from some of our youth as they have prepared and preached for us on

several Sunday mornings. Recently, Evan Dallas and Ryan Tanzer shared after spending much time working through the text with Pastor Paul and Jim Gillette. It was also great having a number of our youth sharing their gifts on the Worship Team as well as the Tech Team. If you haven't had a chance you can always listen to previous Sunday services by visiting our website [libcov.org](http://libcov.org) or YouTube Channel [LCC YouTube channel](#).



Paul Couleur, Associate Pastor to Youth  
[paul@libcov.org](mailto:paul@libcov.org)  
847-331-3640



To access ZOOM go to [zoom.us](https://zoom.us) and "join a meeting" the Youth ID will be our phone # 8473623310  
No password needed

# CED Update

As we look to re-gathering, CED has met and discussed a slow re-opening of our children's ministry and nurseries. For families that would like to attend our in-person services, the nurseries will now be available for reservation. We will not be providing childcare in our nurseries, however families may use the space to listen to the service while caring for their children. We hope to provide TV screens in the nurseries so that parents can view the live service while their children play. Parents will be responsible for cleaning the space upon departure. We look forward to begin offering children's church for children in grades K-3 during our in-person services in the near future.

The Christian Education and Discipleship (CED) Team will be meeting the 4th Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m.

If you have any questions or suggestions for the team, feel free to contact one of them.

Melissa Schau,  
Chair



**CED Team:** Kristin Hawkinson, Ben Palmberg, Valerie Makkai, Maggie Johnson, Jenna Glader, Dave & Darilyn Anderson, Mark DeWall, Pastor Paul, Pastor

# LIBERTYVILLE COVENANT CHURCH KIDS

March Verse



March Kids Bags should be arriving at your homes soon!



We are looking ahead with excitement to one of our favorite times of the year...**EASTER!** There is an opportunity coming soon to help our kids have fun and grow with Jesus this season! Easter egg hunts are a great way for families



to celebrate together, and we would like to join you in the excitement! This Easter we are offering to provide your family with eggs that are filled with an activity for everyone to participate in and of course candy! You can choose to have someone come and “egg” your house and hide the eggs around your front yard, or we can simply drop off the eggs and let you hide them for your kids. We need to know by March 21st if you would like to take part in the “egging” so that we can put yours together and get them to you before Easter! Don’t miss out on this tool to help you disciple your family!

Check out and follow us on our new social media pages!

Instagram: lckidsmin

Facebook: LCC Kids - Children’s Ministry of Libertyville Covenant Church



Mark DeWall, Director of Children’s Ministry  
2065 Half Day Road T575, Deerfield, IL 60015  
[mark@libcov.org](mailto:mark@libcov.org) 815-291-6470



February Bags were delivered by the CM “Bag” Team (Melissa, Maggie & Merileen)

“When I dropped off Isaac Larson’s bag he was playing in the snow. We watched a squirrel climb into its nest in a hole high in a tree. It was fun to see him and have a chance to talk about God’s care for animals in winter!”



Merileen



Lennon Schau had fun sending valentines to all of her peers in the LCC Children’s Ministry Program from the list she found in her February Bag.

When the Hickok family first received the cards from Lennon, they thought it was from one of Jonathan’s school friends named Lennon, but Eleanor realized it was from a church friend so now they both have friends named Lennon. Relationships can begin before you even meet in person.

**SUMMER IS COMING  
& SO IS VBS**  
August 2-6, 2021  
9 a.m.—noon

All kids age 3 through entering 6th grade are invited to LCC so mark your calendars now and plan for fun with friends. More details will be coming soon.

## March Birthdays

- 3 Nicole Papak
- 6 Steven Larson
- 10 Angela Kocinski
- 12 Heather Larson
- 13 Larissa Greenfield  
Kris Nikkel  
Craig Splinter
- 15 Julie Dahlberg  
Michelle Pas
- 16 Kirk "Cap" Johnson
- 18 Tina Beins-Gillette
- 19 Klara Cederberg
- 20 Caden Johnson
- 21 Scott Anderson
- 23 Max Anderson  
Forrest Christian  
Kajsa Dalton
- 26 Gary Traynor
- 27 **Dolores Sessler** 
- 28 Art Nikkel
- 31 Carol Nielson

 This month Dolores is celebrating 95 years so let's shower her with cards from her LCC family. As a charter member we appreciate the significant place she has in our church and our hearts!

Dolores Sessler  
Covenant Shores  
9103 Fortuna Drive #9210  
Mercer Island, WA 98040

## March Anniversaries

- 2 Lee & Caren Vollrath (1991)
- 29 Mark & Christine Cederberg (2003)



**Summer 2021 at  
Covenant Harbor and  
Covenant Point Bible camps  
Registration is open and spots  
are filling!**

Early registration is important as our capacities at both Covenant Harbor and Covenant Point are reduced for summer 2021 to allow for more distance between campers. That means some programs are filling quickly.

Here are some other important summer dates and tips:

- **Register by March 15 and save \$35 per camper!**

No child should miss camp because of financial reasons. Please call Covenant Harbor at (262) 248-3600 to apply for a scholarship, or complete Covenant Point's [Financial Aid Application](#).

- Both camps offer additional discounts, including Bring-a-Friend discounts that benefits both campers. Visit <https://covenantharbor.org/www.cpbpc.com> to learn more.

Find out which programs have capacity and which have wait lists. Check program availability [here](#) for Covenant Harbor and [here](#) Covenant Point. New cancellation and refund policies that respond to our unusual times are in place, as well as increased health and safety procedures. Visit [cpbc.com](#)

At LCC we believe Christian Camping is vital for our students and we support families by providing rebates/scholarships under the "Every Kid a Camper" program. Please complete the linked form indicating when your child will be going to camp and how we can help. Register SOON!

[LCC CAMP REBATE/SCHOLARSHIP FORM 2021](#)

## We are still hiring summer staff!

### **New opportunity: Work at both camps in one summer!**

Do you know a young adult whom God may be calling to serve in summer camp ministry? Please encourage them to apply for a summer position! And maybe you know someone who would like to consider working at both Covenant Harbor and Covenant Point in the same summer? This new opportunity offers an expanded experience of camp ministry. It's worth checking out! Please ask applicants to look at Covenant Harbor's opportunities [here](#) and Covenant Point's opportunities [here](#). To learn more about the combo option, ask them to check the option on each camp's application or to contact [Beth Piccard](#) at Covenant Harbor or [Dustin Johnson](#) at Covenant Point.

If you don't see your family's special days listed, please let the office know so we can keep our records up to date and also celebrate your special occasions with you. **Thank you!**

## Time to Retreat, Coming Soon!

We are excited to announce that our All Church Retreat is being planned for this year. We were very disappointed to have to cancel last years retreat due to Covid-19. It was the first time in over 10 years that were not able to have our retreat.

Our All Church Retreat is scheduled for **August 20-22, 2021**. This year's theme will be "Change".

We are pleased that our speaker will be Rev. Dr. Boaz Johnson, Ph.D., Professor of Hebrew Bible and Theological Studies at North Park University. He will be leading us through the Book of Jonah as it deals with God's willingness to change-he forgives Nineveh. In contrast to God, it shows Jonah's pigheadedness to not change.

Change is something that touches all of our lives in one way or another. This last year, having to deal with all the challenges of Covid-19, has brought on big changes for all of us. Change can be good, it can be hard and it can also be a growing experience if we let God guide us, listen to Him and trust Him. Some of us actually like change to mix things up. Some of us find change more challenging. We hear God speaking to us to do something and instead of listening to Him, we ignore Him and run away like Jonah did. Good thing for us that God does not give up on us and forgives us.

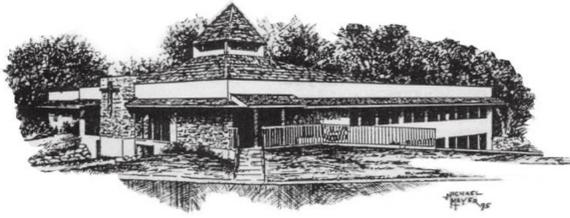
The theme of "Change" is very appropriate since there are several changes for our retreat this year; a different weekend than usual, a new location, different housing arrangements, to name a few. This year's All Church Retreat will be the weekend of August 20-22 (Friday night to Sunday lunch) at Covenant Harbor Bible Camp in Lake Geneva, WI. We will be staying in the Geneva Bay Center where we will have hotel room like accommodations with private bathrooms in each room and bedding provided. We will eat in the dining room, have our worship services and be able to hang out at Geneva Bay. We won't have to leave Geneva Bay unless we want to. We will still have a campfire, have use of the waterfront and golf cart transportation will be provided. There is a nice walking path along the lake from Covenant Harbor into the town of Lake Geneva. Having the retreat at Covenant Harbor also gives us the opportunity to support "OUR" camp which is owned and operated by the Central Conference of the Evangelical Covenant Church.

Another change is we will be inviting local churches, Redeemer Life and New Abbey to join us. We held summer services together in the past and would like to cultivate our relationship with them.

One last final change (well, maybe) is we need to set a Hard Deadline Date for registering for the retreat. The Harbor has a required date for us to give them a final headcount so they can prepare for our weekend. **The Hard Deadline Date to register for the retreat will be Monday, August 2nd.**

Our apologies we will not be able to accept any late registrations after that date. So, please put the date on your calendar now and make sure to register earlier than later. More details on registering and retreat prices will be coming.....

If you have any questions or you are willing to help with the retreat, please contact Jill Heath at 847-989-7089 or [wick423@comcast.net](mailto:wick423@comcast.net).



## Libertyville Covenant Church

250 S. St. Mary's Road, Libertyville, Illinois 60048  
(Corner of Route 176 and St. Mary's Road)  
Pastor: Steve Larson  
Church phone: 847/362-3308 Fax : 847/362-3310  
www.libcov.org

### Our Mission is...

to grow disciples, to grow the church, and to grow the Kingdom of God.

### Our Vision is...

We grow disciples as we praise and learn together  
We grow the church as we love and give together  
We grow the Kingdom of God as we serve and share together

### Our Core Values are...

Community: everyone is welcome to join us on the journey  
Authenticity: being real people with real issues before our real God.  
Relationships: with God, each other, and the world around us  
Engagement: all are gifted, all are called, all have a place in the ministry



The Evangelical Covenant Church affirms the centrality of the scriptures, with emphasis upon the grace of God. Covenanters also have a tradition of freedom that accepts a diversity of backgrounds and doctrinal positions, while maintaining a common unity in Christ. The Covenant has often been called a Family of Faith. Our congregational life indicates that this is an apt description.

### Smile.amazon.com donates to LCC!

If you shop through Amazon.com, use Smile.Amazon.com instead and designate LCC as the charity on the opening screen. Then, at no extra cost to you, a small percentage of all you spend will be donated back to LCC to support our youth!



Where is our Staff? On Tuesday mornings you will find us "together" sharing prayer requests and concerns as we work through the details of caring for each other, our congregation, facilities and the community at large. Thank you for your patience as we navigate these times and learn new ways of working and serving. Please contact any one of us as questions arise. 847-362-3308

The January/February/March issue of the Covenant Home Altar devotional book will be available at the church later this week. We apologize for the delay. Please let us know if you would like a copy delivered to you. Thank you.

### A NEW WAY OF EXPERIENCING LIFE TOGETHER IN THE BIBLE

<https://www.tyndale.com/sites/immersebible/beginnings/>

To contact Pastor Steve:  
Phone or Text: 815-508-4450  
Email: [steve@libcov.org](mailto:steve@libcov.org)  
For late night emergencies  
please call: 815-508-4450  
For family emails:  
[halfadozenlarsons@gmail.com](mailto:halfadozenlarsons@gmail.com)

**Immerse Blog:** Here you will find writings on the small group Bible reading (Immerse). This blog may help you dig deeper into the Immerse readings for that week. Click [here](#) to see the blog posts.

We also are looking for blog writers/recorders. If you are willing to share your thoughts on a day's reading, either by writing less than one page or recording less than 5 minutes, please [sign up here!](#)

