



Grace Notes

Enjoying the Gift of God Together at FCPC!

JULY 2019

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Alice and David Ludwig
July 7

Andy and Amy Melville
July 22



JULY BIRTHDAYS

Kennedy Bradburn	July 1
Aaron Melville	July 1
Tilden Nottleman	July 1
Brenda Orr	July 2
Rick Baxter	July 6
Will Steinhausen	July 8
Jim Shields	July 17
Shirley Burmeister	July 19
Kyle McMahan	July 22
Carter Christensen	July 25
Lorie Freburg	July 30
Gordon Henricksen	July 31

PASTOR'S CORNER

4th of July is a wonderful holiday! Food, fun, and fireworks! What could be better? The only thing I thought of that could make this holiday better is for our nation to pause and really appreciate what it means to be a citizen of this country. What does it mean to be a citizen? It means that we have some freedoms that is making so many other people risk life and limb to get here. It also means that we have responsibilities to do our part to make sure this country remains a place of honor and fairness and justice. There are two sides of our citizenship – one that we enjoy and the other that keeps us committed to living up to our ideals as a nation. Freed and responsibility!

As I reflect upon this I am reminded of our covenant as members of Christ's church. There are two sides of the covenant that we have committed to uphold. The first side is enjoying the promises God will uphold to those who call upon God's name and save them. I love preaching to you these wonderful things – forgiveness, being an heir of God's kingdom, the amazing love God has for you and me, and so on. This side of the covenant is about what God will do for us and with us. We lean into these promises, and we rely on them when life gets troubling or hard. It is where we go to hold on to our anchor, rest beside the quiet pools, be renewed like that of eagles. Here is where we can catch our breath and then move out into the world again knowing that God walks beside us.

As great as our God is and the promises of God are, we must not forget that the covenant of God seeks from us to keep our word that we will be faithful, living as God has deemed best for us. God seeks for us to follow his Son Jesus – to carry our cross; to sacrifice ourselves for God's call. Here is where God leans into our promises; God holds us to our commitment to be a disciple, to be fishers of men and women. God wants us to live up to our profession of faith! It is like the old joke about confirmation classes – they make a profession of faith and commitment to the church to be active but then you never see them again. When this happens, we fail to hold up our end of the covenant. Our society has been slowly failing to live up to their commitment with God, and why I think this sounds a prophetic warning about the consequences of covenants.

Most covenants in the Bible are conditional covenants. God promises to do this and that, as long as the people of faith live up to their end of the agreement. We live under conditional covenants with God still today, but we only really focus on the unconditional covenant that God will be with us, save us through Jesus Christ, and come and take us home when we die. Now this unconditional covenant is awesome, and it is the good news of God. But God still seeks for us to be faithful to live up to our promises. We promised to support the church in its worship and its work with our efforts, our prayers and our gifts. We promised to live in the

everydayness of the human situation for Jesus Christ! Our promise to God also applies to the church as God’s body in the world.

How are you living into your promise to God to be a part of the body of Christ?

We need to remember that this is your church, when you become its member. Your covenant with God and each of us to fulfill our promise to pray, share, and be involved in the activity of God through FCPC. When we neglect our promises, our covenant, then there will be consequences of our lack of faith and commitment to God.

How are you going to live into your covenant as a member at FCPC?

The good news in all of this covenant thinking is that as we fulfill our commitment, our town and world will benefit with the presence of God working through us all! That will be some wonderful fireworks to witness. It all happens as we are faithful and committed to our God, who will lead FCPC to be a blessing and a voice of joy, love, and power! Can I get an AMEN to that? Let me hear it as we join together in worship, mission and caring for one another because this is your church!

This is your church! Why are you committed to it?

This is your church! Have you lived into your commitment to it? How active are you?

This is your church! It will only thrive when everyone who calls FCPC home holds to their commitment!

How might you fulfill your commitment to FCPC? Ask God to show you how to lend yourself to your church!

FCPC BLOOD DRIVE COORDINATOR

We are in need of a Blood Drive Coordinator. There are two blood drives per year. The Coordinator's responsibilities include:

- Being Present at the Blood Drives from 9-3
- Recruiting Donors
- Advertising the Blood Drive
- Working with the American Red Cross Donor Manager

This may sound like a lot, but it really is quite easy. The Red Cross has got all of the information that you need for Advertising and for Recruiting, you just need to be the FCPC Representative.

If this sound like something that you would be interested in, please contact Teri in the Church Office and she will get you in contact with the Rep at the Red Cross.

Thank you

The 2019/2020 Elders and Deacons

Administration – Jack Dill and Laura Pullen

Congregation – Carol Schutz and Fred Schutz

Education – Kristy Bolen

Membership – Nate Dougherty and Ron Penas

Mission – Tracy Baxter and Jamie Duckert

Worship – Gloria Penas, Marcia Delehoy

Deacons – Betty Kucera, Barb Moriarty, Linda Bluedorn, Ashley Ruiz, Ashley Dougherty, Anne Steinhausen, Mary Jo Dolinsky, Jamie Bouwman, Rebecca McMahan

Clerk – Nancy Boyer

Treasurer – Ralph Bluedorn

NEW DIRECTORY

I am going to be working on a new picture directory. I have put a copy of the current directory that prints from my database on the table in the sanctuary, could you please look it over and make changes as needed.

I would also like for you all to send me a picture of you and your family. It can be a formal picture, vacation picture or any picture that you think best represents your family.

Thank you—Teri Z

Session Meeting

Next meeting will be August 13th
No meeting in July.

Deacon Meeting

Next Deacon Meeting will be July
21st

What a wonderful week we had at Vacation Bible School! We had 170 kids this year and many adults and teens that volunteered their time to share their love of Jesus with the kids in our community.

A very special THANK YOU to all of our volunteers! And to all of you for your prayers and your generous monetary support.

Please continue to pray for the children in our community. The world they are growing up in is much different then when many of us were kids. We need to do everything we can to help them build their lives on the solid rock that is Jesus!

The Washington County Food Pantry is in need of BARS OF SOAP so for the month of July we will be collecting BARS OF SOAP to help replenish their shelves.

Thank You

Men's Ministry

Monday July 15 @ 6:30 is our next gathering for the men of FCPC.

Since we got rained out last month – we are going to throw axes!!!! Not at each other, but we are going to try our hand at seeing who will be the most accurate.

Invite someone to join you for this fun summer evening! If you would like to receive the Men's Ministry information and updates, email your cell number to pastorgreggfpcp@gmail.com or text it to his cell 402-616-4345.

RECYCLING MISSION DATES

**September 14, 2019
September 21, 2019**

Mark your calendars and plan to help at this very important Mission. There are two shifts that can be worked.

8:00 -10:00 or 10:00 - Noon

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Please let me know if you ever have anything that you would like to add to the Newsletter or the Pew News.

More is better.

**SUPPORT CALVIN CREST
2nd ANNUAL FUN DAY FUNDRAISER
AUGUST 24, 2019**

This event includes over 20 possible activities like music, games, hikes, food and fellowship. And a dunk tank that Pastor Miller will be on in the afternoon!

Come out and support Calvin Crest

JULY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9:30 am Worship	1	2	3	4 HAPPY 4 TH OF JULY	5 9:00 am Low Impact Aerobics	6
7 9:30 am Worship	8 9:00 am Low Impact Aerobics Miller's on vacation	9	10 9:00 am Low Impact Aerobics 1:00 pm Quilting 7:30 pm Lifegroup	11	12 9:00 am Low Impact Aerobics	13 9:00 am Revelation Wellness
14 9:30 am Worship Dale Everswick filling in for Pastor Miller	15 9:00 am Low Impact Aerobics Miller's return from vacation 6:30 pm Men's Ministry	16	17 9:00 am Low Impact Aerobics 1:00 pm Quilting 7:30 pm Lifegroup	18	19 9:00 am Low Impact Aerobics	20
21 9:30 am Worship 11:00 am Deacon's Meeting	22 9:00 am Low Impact Aerobics Miller's to Synod School	23 7:00 pm Prayer Shawl	24 9:00 am Low Impact Aerobics 1:00 pm Quilting 7:30 pm Lifegroup	25	26 9:00 am Low Impact Aerobics	27
28 9:30 am Worship Joanne Slader filling in for Pastor Miller	29 9:30 am Low Impact Aerobics Miller's return from Synod School	30	31			

