

JUNE 2022

# The Caravan

ON THE JOURNEY TOGETHER

## PENTECOST

Sunday, June 5

Wear  
**RED!!**

*Celebration for Mary Rieta!*



June 5 10:45am

more info on p. 7

*Craig Wilson flies  
his kites during  
June 5 worship!*



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# *Growing Deeper Roots in a Challenging Time*

## **A Letter from Pastor Charlie**

*"Be rooted and built up in him, be established in faith, and overflow with thanksgiving just as you were taught." - Colossians 2:7 CEB*

Madison is a better place because of Covenant. The world is a better place because of Covenant.

I firmly believe that our church has made a positive impact in the community and beyond, because people of our church have taken seriously the call to learn and live God's love.

With all the turmoil and uncertainty in the world right now, and as our congregation journeys through a transition time, this summer is a great time for us to renew our efforts to grow deeper in God's love and find ways to make that love present in the world.

So I invite you to Summer School!

We have three parts to the curriculum:

1. **Scripture.** Every Sunday in worship, we will announce a verse of the week. My hope is that we will learn it, internalize it, and memorize it if you like. "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly." (Colossians 3:16) God's word taken to heart will challenge and nurture and guide us. **Homework:** write the verse of the week in your own hand, and say it out loud three times a day.
2. **Prayer.** Almost every Christian I know says they want to pray more. Let's do so this summer. We have morning and evening prayers for each day of the week. We have prayer apps. We have prayer books. We just need the commitment and follow through. **Homework:** Spend five minutes a day in prayer, or in prayerful silence. Set a time. Join with a friend. Lift up your thanks and your concerns, and listen for God.
3. **Study.** Make a commitment to learn something new this summer. Get a study Bible and dig into a book. (I'm reading the little book of Colossians right now and it's wonderfully helpful.) Join the Racists Anonymous group as they reflect on Martin Luther King (read more on p. 5). Watch a documentary instead of a bad movie. Join me for summer book club, on Sunday, June 26 at 10:45, as we discuss the book I mentioned in a recent sermon: *If God Is Love, Don't Be A Jerk*, by John Pavlovitz (also on p. 5). **Homework:** Make a study plan, and stick to it!

Over the next three months, the next thirteen weeks, we all can learn and grow in some way – if we take the initiative. Now as much as ever our church and our world need deep and committed Christians who are dedicated to make God's love and justice and peace and righteousness become more real in the world. You can grow and change. You can make a difference in church and in the world! Join me in a summer of growth and transformation. School is in session!

## **Blessing of the Animals**

On **June 5 at 4:00pm**, bring your furry (or not so furry) friends with you for this special service and potluck to follow! Stuffed animals welcome also. Dogs and cats must be on leashes or in carriers. Other animals may be in whatever container they're most comfortable in.





## Happy Birthday This Month to...

### June 1

Nicole Curtis  
Dick Jones  
Jim Locher

### June 3

Lloyd Southwick  
Jim Spilburg

### June 4

Barb Eikenberry

### June 5

Alaura Diaczun  
Katherine Moore  
Sophia Gibson  
Heather Potter

### June 6

Piper Cook  
Marsh Finner

### June 7

Susan Goebel  
Megan Munson  
JR Schmidt

### June 8

Tyler Lenius

### June 9

Jane Kolakowski

### June 10

Avery Leonard

### June 11

Lynn Vande Sande

### June 12

Ethan Hack

### June 13

Mary Cole

### June 15

Marilyn Unruh  
Rosemary Jones

### June 16

Katherine Masden

### June 17

Barb Besadny  
Owen Gibson

### June 18

Ann Athas  
Claire Von Bergen

### June 19

Dale Myrland

### June 22

Joannie Carter  
Eli Mace  
Maya Mace  
Larry Poppelbaum

### June 23

Winfred Byrd  
Chelsea Cornelius

### June 24

Jack Carter  
Heather Douglas

### June 25

Max Cook  
Archen Parchment

### June 27

Cheryl Wise

### June 28

Jacky Jugenheimer

### June 30

Ella Krebs

\*If we missed your birthday, we apologize! Please contact the church office and we'll add yours for next year. Thank you for understanding!

# June Worship Schedule Page 3



## Sunday, June 5

### DAY OF PENTECOST

#### Holy Communion

(Please have bread/juice available if worshipping from home)

Charlie Berthoud | "Summer School" |

Acts 2:1-21 and John 14:26

## Sunday, June 12

### Trinity Sunday

Tom Popp | "Alert Expectancy" | Romans 5:1-5

## Sunday, June 19

### 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Charlie Berthoud | "Roots and Fruits" | Luke 8:4-8

## Sunday, June 26

### 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Breanna Illéné | "Following Jesus, Even When It's Hard" | Luke 9:51-62

## Joys, Cares & Concerns



Prayers continue for the following Covenant families and friends mourning these loved ones:

**Berthold Augustus Treiber**, father of Gretchen Girard; **Vernon Wavra**, father of Nancy McCulley; and **Eric Koenigs**, cousin of Jenny Von Bergen.

Congratulations to Marsha & Guy Mueller on the birth of granddaughter Oceania Lorraine Droessler, daughter of Melissa & Chet Droessler; to Nancy McCulley on the birth of grandson Roman Carter Rohowetz, son of Kaitlin & Robert Rohowetz; and to Aliko & Emilie Songolo on the birth of granddaughter Nova Imani Becerra Songolo, daughter of Tosha & Rogelio Becerra Songolo.

Congratulations to Leah & Peter Kechele on the baptism of their daughter, Ann Vivian Kechele; and the baptism of their niece, Emmaline Catherine McLaughlin, daughter of John (Leah's brother) & Angela McLaughlin. Little Ann and Emmaline were born on the same day and baptized at Covenant on May 8th.

## Children's Ministries

### Vacation Bible School

Join us for a week of fun and learning at Vacation Bible School. Our theme this year is *Playing with Parables*, where kids ages 3 years old to 5<sup>th</sup> grade can learn the stories of the Bible in a new and exciting way!

PLAYING WITH PARABLES



We will be joining alongside Bethany United Methodist Church (3910 Mineral Point Rd) this year from **June 13-16 from 3-5pm**. On June 16 at 5pm, we will have a pizza party for families and volunteers. It is \$5 per child, or \$10 for families. The registration deadline has passed, but if you are interested in participating, please contact Jo. Volunteers also welcome! Contact Jo if you want to help out.

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### Kaleidoscope Kids

**(3 years old through 1st grade)**

Kaleidoscope Kids worship education meets during 9:30am worship immediately following Children's Time in room A111. Come join the fun and learn all about what it means to worship!

### Sunday School

**(3 years old through 8th grade)**

Sunday School classes are off for the summer.

### Sunday Worship

On Sunday mornings, we invite families into worship! For your convenience, we offer **Family Worship Bags**, a selection of **Children's Bibles** to read during the service, and a **IN-PERSON (just reinstated!) Children's Time** that explains the morning's scripture lesson. Our **Nursery** is open from 9:15-10:45 for children under age 3.

For more information, please contact Children's Ministries Coordinator Jo Wiersema at [jwiersema@covenantmadison.org](mailto:jwiersema@covenantmadison.org).

## Youth Connection

### Middle School Youth Connection (MSYC)

#### Flower Project - June 5, 12:30-2:00pm

This is an outreach activity that will benefit the residents of the memory care unit at St. Mary's Care Center. Join us in the courtyard as we will be creating individual potted flowers for each of the 69 residents of the memory care unit. This project was very well received when we did it last year! Due to COVID, the youth will not deliver the plants in person.

#### Park Clean-Up - June 26

We will get a little dirty cleaning up a local park. The actual location will be determined that week by the need at the time. Details will be sent out to families that week. It will be in the afternoon on the west side of Madison, and it will involve something to eat and some tossing of frisbees as well!

### High School Youth Connection (HSYC)

#### Sunday Evenings (6:30-8:00pm)

- **June 5** - We will hang out, munch on some tasty pizza, and get into some good stuff. If the weather is good, we'll make use of the great outdoors.
- **June 26** - Grill & chill. Youth will cook their own tubular meats on the fire pit in our courtyard.

#### Serving Opportunities

- **Extended Hands Pantry - Friday, June 24, 10:30am-12:30pm**: Space is limited to the first 4 youth that contact Steve! Pantry is located at Lighthouse Church at 6402 Schroeder Road, just west of Vitense.
- **The River Food Pantry - Tuesday, June 28, 11:15am-1:30pm**: The clients will stay in their cars as we hand out food. Some will be working indoors preparing hot to-go meals. Space is limited. Sign up in advance with Steve. The River is located at 2201 Darwin Road, near the airport.

For more information, please contact Youth Ministries Coordinator Steve Royalton at [sroyalton@covenantmadison.org](mailto:sroyalton@covenantmadison.org).

## Adult Education - Summer 2022

At Covenant, we take a break from Adult Education classes in the summer. However, we like to keep the church engaged with other Christian Education opportunities. Charlie mentioned some already, but here are a couple more!

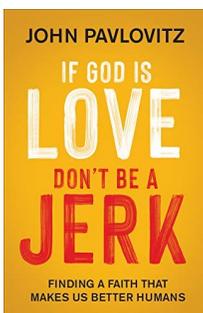
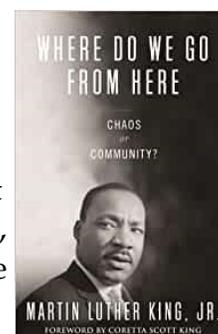
### *Summer Sunday Scripture Study (SSSS)*

Summer is here, and that gives us an opportunity to focus together on the Bible text for the Sunday's sermon. We will **begin meeting on Sunday, June 5** and continue through **August at 8:45-9:25am** in Bradfield Hall. Each Sunday will be an informal group who read and discuss the scripture passage of the day. A different person will facilitate each week, opening with prayer, reading the scripture passage, and asking a couple prepared questions to initiate the discussion.

Scripture comes alive when we gather together to read, share, and ponder the message God wants us to hear. Come join us!

### *Racists Anonymous Fellowship (RAF) Book Study*

Racists Anonymous Fellowship will begin a new book study that **begins June 2 at 7:00pm via zoom**, and runs for six weeks. The study will be on Dr. Martin Luther King's last book, "Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?" To subscribe to the email list, contact Jennifer Morgan at [jbmorgan@me.com](mailto:jbmorgan@me.com), so you can get the zoom link! In this prophetic work, which was unavailable for more than 10 years, Dr. King lays out his thoughts, plans, and dreams for America's future, including the need for better jobs, higher wages, decent housing, and quality education.



### *Book Club - "If God is Love, Don't Be a Jerk"*

In his sermon on Sunday, May 15th, Charlie mentioned that he would be having a book club on the book "If God is Love, Don't Be a Jerk" by John Pavlovitz. We can all be jerks sometimes, even us Christians, especially with those closest to us. Pavlovitz challenges us in this book to find a "faith that makes us better humans". This will take place on **Sunday, June 26 at 10:45am** (following worship). If you are interested, contact Charlie at [charlie@covenantmadison.org](mailto:charlie@covenantmadison.org). Copies of the book are available in our library or grab it on Amazon.

For more information on Adult Education at Covenant, visit [covenantmadison.org/adult](http://covenantmadison.org/adult). You can view resources from past classes and/or view videos from past classes as well.

## CONNECT Spiritual Stroll

Join us for our next Spiritual Stroll on **Sunday, June 26 at 2:00pm!** Join family and friends from the church for a stroll along Ice Age Trail - Table Bluff Segment in Cross Plains. The trailhead and Covenant rally point will be the parking lot at the end of Scheele Rd. in Cross Plains.

These Spiritual Strolls are part of a Covenant program called CONNECT. CONNECT is a program of events sponsored by the deacons of Covenant Presbyterian Church with the intention of fostering connection within the congregation and community.



## Library Corner

### ***Shameless: A Case for Not Feeling Bad About Feeling Good (About Sex)*** *Written by Nadia Bolz-Weber | Reviewed by Eric Wendorff*



[Excerpt] If your curiosity was piqued by “Let’s Talk About Sex” sermon references this past Winter, you may want to check out Nadia Bolz-Weber’s *Shameless: A Case For Not Feeling Bad About Feeling Good (About Sex)* from Covenant’s library. Bolz-Weber, who pastored Denver’s House for All Saints and Sinners church, presents her case primarily through stories – her congregants’ stories, her own story, and biblical stories.

Read more here: [covenantmadison.org/post/book-review-shameless](https://covenantmadison.org/post/book-review-shameless)

## Session Report

*Laurie Jones, Clerk of Session*

Your Session met for their regularly scheduled meeting on May 24 by zoom. Pastor Charlie gave a peek into what the summer holds. The focus will be on learning. There will be a weekly memory Bible verse and the congregation will be requested to pray regularly and be intentional on growing as a Christian. This focus is intended to help us strengthen the body (our own and corporately) for the work God calls us to.

The Deacons reported that they are continuing their birthday calls, hosting the Bradfield Café outside this summer whenever possible, and exploring additional Spiritual Strolls. July 10 is the church picnic to be held at Rennebohm park. The efforts of the Deacons are greatly appreciated!

The Elders received an update from the Finance Committee. The Building and Grounds Committee was praised for their diligent work on the boiler replacement project and the finance committee is working to be sure the bills are paid on time from the church’s savings. The reserves will take a major hit; however, the project will be completed without borrowing. The lighting in the sanctuary is also being looked at due to its age and inefficiency; costs for this project are unknown at this time.

The Personnel Committee reported that they have successfully hired a new Church Administrator to begin work on Monday, June 13. There will be some overlap with Mary for training purposes. The committee is also working on Pastoral coverage for the summer and coming year to bridge the time as we will eventually search for an Associate Pastor.

Covenant will host a Ukraine benefit concert on July 17 with proceeds going toward Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and another non-Presbyterian relief agency to encourage non-members to attend the concert and donate. More on this later!

As the Session works together to look after the health of the church and maintenance of the building, they are also concerned with the lives of those who make up the congregation. It is their prayer that you feel welcome and cared for at Covenant, growing as Christians in this difficult world. They also solicit your prayers as they continue their work.

## Mission Spotlight

### *Little Free Pantry*

In Matthew 25, we read, “For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink [...] Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord when did we see you hungry and feed you, thirsty and give you something to drink?’ [...] And the King replied ‘Truly I tell you whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did for me.’”

An opportunity is amidst us to meet this challenge at Covenant! It is called the Little Free Pantry. Located at the parking lot entry off Mineral Point Rd at church, it houses a multitude of offerings to those in need just for the taking.

The little free pantry idea is actually a nationwide movement to help out those less fortunate in our midst. This effort was initiated by Jessica McClard of Fayetteville Arkansas in 2016 and has been continuously growing to number over 2,300 pantries located in all parts of the country. Our church has been involved in this mission for some time now and the Mission Committee is in the process of refurbishing our Pantry and establishing schedules for stocking appropriate supplies for the pantry itself as well as finding storage in the church.

The pantry is freely open to neighbors and passersby 24/7 and is helping fill the gaps for the “least of these”. Read about “Little Free Pantry” at [littlefreepantry.com](http://littlefreepantry.com) to learn more.



## *Pentecost Special Offering*

On **Sunday, June 5**, we will receive the Pentecost Offering, a special offering of the PC(USA) that helps youth

begin life with a strong start – a solid foundation of faith formed in the first third of life, from childhood through young adulthood. Learn more about these programs at [pcusa.org/pentecost](http://pcusa.org/pentecost). 40% of the gifts Covenant receives will support ministries with children and youth in our local community. This year, the Mission Committee selected our mission partner Extended Hands Pantry to be the recipient of these funds. To learn more about Extended Hands, visit [extendedhandspantry.org](http://extendedhandspantry.org).



PENTECOST  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS



## Celebration for Mary Kieta

After 30 years of loyal service as our hard-working church administrator, Mary Kieta is retiring - so let's have a party to celebrate her!

When: **Sunday June 5 at 10:45am** - just after the worship service (*Remember, only ONE service at 9:30!*)

Where: Bradfield Hall

Refreshments will be provided! If you would like to give Mary a card, you can send it to church or just bring it with you to the party. See you there!



  
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