



# Pass It On

April, 2019

*Farmers who wait for perfect weather never plant. If they watch every cloud, they never harvest.*  
*Ecclesiastes 11:4 NLT*



Ask any crop farmer and they will tell you that there are no guarantees. The unpredictability of weather ensures that you never know quite how your planting and harvest will turn out. Nevertheless, the farmer sows the seeds year after year in uncertainty, hoping, trusting that God's good earth will produce an increase. Likewise, they go out to harvest even when conditions are poor and the yield is uncertain.

This time of year we begin thinking about planting, whether a small garden or thousands of acres. We recognize that the very act of planting is one of faith in a process that we cannot fully control. Yet, we also know that if we aren't willing to tolerate some level of risk in the process, we might as well not plant! Similarly, if we wait for the ideal conditions of harvest we may never bring in the produce.

The practical wisdom offered by the author of Ecclesiastes reminds us that to farm *is to risk*. Ecclesiastes wants to remind the farmer that they must carry on with planting and harvesting even when conditions aren't ideal, otherwise, you may fail to get anything done!

This wisdom isn't only good for crop farming. We can also apply this to our mission as the Church. Jesus once told a parable of the seeds as a metaphor for spreading the Gospel. In the parable, the seeds are sown widely and they fall in all manner of conditions. At the core of the parable is the same principle found in Ecclesiastes -- we cannot control the environment the gospel is sown into, nor the conditions of the harvest any more than a farmer can. We carry on, we sow seeds and we harvest as the opportunities present themselves, avoiding the paralysis of waiting for "ideal" conditions. Like the farmer, if we wait to sow and wait to harvest we may end up never sowing or harvesting at all.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Erik

## Dawson Covenant Church

2756 130th St.  
Dawson, Minnesota 56232-0370  
Phone: 320-769-2255  
[www.dawsoncovenantchurch.org](http://www.dawsoncovenantchurch.org)



## The Room Upstairs

### Maundy Thursday

You are invited to an interactive drama titled "The Room Upstairs" on Thursday, April 18th at 7:00 p.m. The audience will be transported to the upper room with Jesus and his disciples as they celebrate the Passover on the night Jesus was betrayed.

### Breakthrough Movie Good Friday

Dawson Covenant Church has reserved the "luxury" theater in Montevideo for a private viewing of the Christian movie, "Breakthrough". on Friday, April 19 at 4:00 p.m. (Good Friday). The Theater is offering a special for \$10 to include your movie ticket, mini-popcorn and pop. Pay at the door. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall if you plan to attend so that the theater can plan ahead.



### Easter Sunday

8:30 a.m. Breakfast served by H-League as a fundraiser for CHIC  
9:30 a.m. Easter Worship Service  
10:30 a.m. Prayer Meeting

*No Sunday School or Confirmation classes will be held*



The April 8th deadline to register for summer camps and receive the early bird discount is fast approaching! Please see Bonnie Gustafson if you have not received the church's transfer code. You will need the transfer code to allow Dawson Covenant Church to pay for half the cost of your camper from our church family. Summer camp brochures are on the table in the church entry. This year's theme is "Oasis - Encountering Life in the Desert". For more information visit the Lake Beauty website at [lbcc.com](http://lbcc.com), call them at (320)732-3218, or email them at [lbcc@lbcc.com](mailto:lbcc@lbcc.com), or talk with our own camp representative, Bonnie Gustafson.

Junior High #1	June 9-14
Trailblazers #1	June 16-20
Frontier Kids #2	July 1-3
High School	July 28- Aug 2



Join us July 18–21, 2019, for a triennial gathering for women by women! The triennial event will be held at the Marriot City Center in Minneapolis.

In the Evangelical Covenant Church, we believe that women are called to be disciples and disciple makers.

Our purpose is to:

- (Re)Discover who we are—as individuals uniquely made in God's image
- Listen to each others' voices and advocate for women to be heard
- Build a community of women of the Covenant, because we are stronger together

To find out more about this event visit [iam.covchurch.org](http://iam.covchurch.org).



Do we still believe in the Biblical mandate to share the gospel with others through proclamation and personal words of witness? In theory, YES! In practice? Well, the answer may not be as definitive.

Yet, because we still believe it is true, the emphasis throughout the 2019 NWC Annual Meeting will be just this ... bearing witness both personally and through our churches to the hope that is found in Jesus Christ and in Him alone. Come and be both encouraged and challenged!

If you are interested in attending the NWC annual meeting as a representative of Dawson Covenant Church, please see Pastor Erik. The meeting will be held April 26-27 in Grand Forks.

## SERVING SCHEDULES

### Sunday, April 7

**Communion Servers:**

Lee & Deb Ulstad, Joyce Busiahn, Bonnie Gustafson

**Greeter:**

Koch Family

**Scripture Reader:**

Dawn Hanson

**Nursery:**

Angie Sather, Alex

### Sunday, April 14

**Greeter:**

Myron & Judie Rosendahl

**Scripture Reader:**

McKenzie Ruether

**Nursery:**

Lauren Carlson, Gregory

### Sunday, April 21

**Greeter:**

Buer Family

**Scripture Reader:**

Dean Pearson

**Nursery:**

Andrea Lewis, Aiden

### Sunday, April 28

**Greeter:**

Gary & Arlene Miller

**Scripture Reader:**

Suzi Haugen

**Nursery:**

Karla Perkins, Kadyn



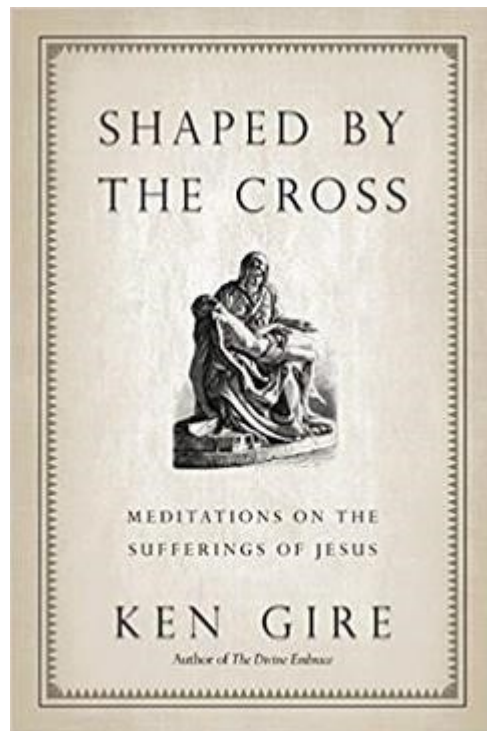
## A Peek Into the Past

This photo of the Dawson Covenant Church Junior Choir was taken in 1958. Gerda Bliss saved this photo and with help from Carolyn Korbel, Judy Stone, Sally Vogt, Ralph Bliss and Pat Lindblad many in the photo were identified. Do you have an old Dawson Covenant Church photo to share? We would love to feature it in an upcoming issue!



- 1 Richard Miller
- 2 Paul Miller
- 3 ?
- 4 ?Bob Bliss?
- 5 Judy Denelsbeck
- 6 Susan Pearson
- 7 Rita Hanson
- 8 Sandra Hanson
- 9 ?
- 10 Carolyn Denelsbeck
- 11 Sally Denelsbeck
- 12 Joy Baker

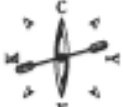
- 13 Jim Denelsbeck
- 14 Ralph Bliss
- 15 Stanley Miller
- 16 David Lindblad
- 17 Jeffrey Bliss
- 18 ?
- 19 Ellen Baker
- 20 Terry Fonkert??
- 21 Lucia Gustafson
- 22 Linda Bliss
- 23 Gary Miller
- 24 Clifford Hanson



Pastor Erik will continue to lead the Lenten meditation titled, "Shaped by the Cross" on Wednesday April 3 and April 10 from 6:30 -7:30 p.m.



## Covenant Youth of Alaska - Mission of the Month

 <p><b>Covenant Youth of Alaska</b></p>	<p>PO Box 203356 Anchorage, AK 99520 (907)222-1432 <a href="http://www.cyak.org">www.cyak.org</a></p>	<p>Covenant Youth of Alaska is a relational outreach, discipleship and leadership ministry for Alaska youth and young adults. A ministry of the Alaska Conference of the Evangelical Covenant Church, we work in partnership with 19 churches across Alaska for the cause of ministry to young people. To join our efforts or to learn more, go to <a href="http://www.cyak.org">www.cyak.org</a>.</p>
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**The Context:** Alaska is BIG! Its so big, that every man, woman and child in America could have one acre of land, and there still would be 800,000 acres of wilderness remaining! If you superimpose a map of Alaska over the lower 48 states, Alaska would reach from the East to the West. A large number of the state's population of 660,000 is made up of people living in rural villages which can only be accessed by plane, boat, or snowmachine.

**The Challenge:** Alaska Native youth have some of the highest rates of suicide, teen pregnancy and sexual abuse in the country. The United Nations considers the death by violent accident rate equivalent to a war zone. Because of various reasons including Alaska's remote geographical location, the struggles of Alaska Native people groups are not on the national radar.

**Our Response:** In 1992, Covenant Youth of Alaska was formed in response to this crisis through the Evangelical Covenant Church of Alaska (now the Alaska Conference of the Evangelical Covenant Church). Today, CYAK works in collaboration with churches and ministries for the cause of ministry to young people in Alaska.

Please pray for this ministry and consider financial support as well. We will be collecting offering throughout the month, and there is a basket at the back of the sanctuary.

Gertrude “Gert” Fondell died peacefully at Legend Senior Living in Tulsa, OK on February 14, 2019 at the age of 92. Gertrude Rachel Franklin was born on October 22, 1926 in Willmar, MN, the eighth of ten children of Rev. Nathaniel and Lillian (Peterson) Franklin. She was baptized, confirmed and came to faith in the Willmar Covenant Church. She graduated from Willmar High School in 1945 and attended North Park College, graduating with an associate’s degree in 1947. She moved to Dawson where her father was serving the Dawson Covenant Church and taught country school at District 37 in Yellow Medicine County.



While in Dawson, Gert met Ralph Vernon Fondell and they were married on Sept. 3, 1948 at Dawson Covenant Church. For the next 11 years, they lived in Minneapolis, Chicago, West Virginia and Kentucky in preparation and training for their calling to radio ministry. In 1958, Ralph & Gert were commissioned as missionaries by the Evangelical Covenant Church to Nome, AK. In the summer of 1959, they arrived with their young family in Nome and were instrumental in establishing the radio station KICY, serving there until 1984. Gert’s was a regular voice on the radio with her programs “Lines from a Mother’s Scrapbook” and “Gert’s Corner.” While in Nome, Gert maintained the FCC licenses required for coastal radiotelegraph stations and served as a state officer of the General Federation of Women’s Clubs. She was also an active member of Covenant churches in Nome, Anchorage and Eagle River, faithfully doing hospital visitation and leading women’s Bible studies. Her strong alto voice was well-known in Nome where Gert often provided special music for funerals and other occasions.

Gert’s gift of hospitality was extended to hundreds of visitors to their home in their years of ministry in Alaska. Though her life in Alaska separated her from her family in Minnesota, her larger KICY family included the staff families and volunteers who came to Alaska over several decades. Gert’s Christmas Eve Swedish smorgasbord was open to all KICY volunteers, providing a welcome holiday tradition for those living far from home.

In retirement, Gert and Ralph moved to Eagle River, then Chugiak and recently, to Tulsa. They enjoyed trips to Europe, China, Greece, the Holy Land and the Maritime Provinces with annual trips to visit their children and grandchildren.

Gertrude is survived by her loving husband of 70 years, Ralph Fondell, their daughters Kathryn (James) Congdon of Manley, AK and Rebecca (Wayne) Carlson of Algonquin, IL; sons Stephen (Lynne) Fondell of Jenks, OK and John (TrucLien) Fondell of Eagle River, AK; and daughter-in-law Luanne Fondell of Dawson, MN along with 16 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great grandchildren. She is also survived by her brother-in-law Guido Kauls and sister-in-law Eileen Fondell and numerous nieces and nephews from both the Fondell and Franklin extended families.

Preceding her in death were an infant son, her parents, siblings and spouses and her eldest son, Daniel Fondell.

A memorial service will be held at Dawson Covenant Church at a later date. Memorials may be directed to KICY Radio, PO Box 820, Nome AK 99762.

*The Fondells were commissioned for missionary service in Alaska from the Dawson Covenant Church and this church supported them and the KICY radio ministry for their entire career.*

## Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry

Steven and Heather Diaz will be moving in to the Providence Valley Lutheran Church parsonage on Sunday, April 7. We are asking for volunteers to stay after church that day to help them move in. A light lunch will be provided at church first. Steven’s official start date as the new Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry is April 12.

## Pantry Shower

We would like to welcome the Diaz family with a pantry shower to help supply their kitchen with some staples along with some treats! Any pantry shower gifts can be left on the table in the fellowship hall.

## Covenant Quilters

The Covenant Quilters will meet on April 4 and 18 from 10:00-3:00 in the fellowship hall. Please note the change in dates to the first and third Thursdays of the month. A light lunch will be provided. Anyone interested in quilting is invited to come!

## Attention!

If you are not getting church e-mails (prayer requests, occasional announcements, etc.) and you would like to be added to the list please let Karla Perkins or Pastor Erik know, or send an email to [office@dawsoncovenantchurch.org](mailto:office@dawsoncovenantchurch.org).



- 2 Brett Buer
- 3 Asher Perkins
- 6 Jill Chistie
- 7 Rose Buer
- 7 Peggy Crosby
- 7 Duane Haugen
- 10 Kolten Lindblad
- 14 Andrea Lewis
- 20 Mike DeJesus
- 20 Melody Herzog
- 20 Aidan Lewis
- 20 Alexander Lewis
- 20 Jordon Perkins
- 20 Justin Perkins
- 23 Mike Cosentino
- 23 Kristina Kimmel
- 24 Brittany Haugen
- 24 William Kamrath
- 25 JT Ulstad
- 27 Emma Perkins
- 29 Kevin Lindblad

### Electronic & On-Line Giving

Dawson Covenant offers electronic giving as a way to automate your regular offering donations. To set up an electronic giving schedule, please complete the Automatic Payment Authorization Form, which can be found on the table in the entry, and place it in the Treasurer's mailbox or the collection plate.

On-line giving is also available through our website at [www.dawsoncovenantchurch.org](http://www.dawsoncovenantchurch.org). You can use your checking account, debit card or credit card. If you have any questions, please see Dan Schluter or Loral Steinke.

### Church Council Notes

The church website has a password protected page where you will find the Church Council Meeting notes and other kinds of information that we want to share with our church family but not necessarily post publicly on the web. Please contact Karla Perkins to get the password. The church website is:

[www.dawsoncovenantchurch.org](http://www.dawsoncovenantchurch.org), then click on the "Members" tab. Church council meeting notes are also posted on the bulletin board, and past meeting notes are available to view anytime in the church office.

### DAWSON COVENANT CHURCH IS ON-LINE AND ON T.V.

Did you know you can view our past worship services online anytime?



Visit our website at [dawsoncovenantchurch.org](http://dawsoncovenantchurch.org).

Worship services are also shown on local cable t.v. in Dawson at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday and in Madison at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday. Like us on facebook to receive updates and reminders on your facebook newsfeed!

### Pastor's Office Hours

Pastor Erik scheduled office hours are as follows:

**Monday** ..... Off

**Tuesday** ..... 8:30-2:30

**Wednesday** ..... 8:30-2:30

**Thursday** ..... 8:30-2:30

**Friday** ..... 8:30-2:30

Other times he is available by appointment, and may be reached at church at 320-769-2255 or on his cell: 320-305-9304.



### PASS IT ON CONTACT INFORMATION

Deadline for the May *Pass It On* is Wednesday, April 24.

Dawson Covenant Church  
 2756 130th St.  
 Dawson MN 56232  
 320-769-2255

[www.dawsoncovenantchurch.org](http://www.dawsoncovenantchurch.org)  
[office@dawsoncovenantchurch.org](mailto:office@dawsoncovenantchurch.org)



### ON-LINE GIVING

Online giving is available through our website and is a powerful way to faithfully give in a consistent manner. Visit the church website at [www.dawsoncovenantchurch.org](http://www.dawsoncovenantchurch.org) to learn more or to sign-up.

**PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES**

Kevin & Sylvia Rosendahl  
 Joel & Kim Delp  
 Covenant World Mission  
 Covenant Youth of Alaska  
 Randy & Cheryl Bevis  
 Doug & Jill Nelson  
 Emma Weber  
 Luke & Emma Christie-Perkins  
 Prairie Waters Growing Project  
 KICY  
 Joy Boxes  
 Food for Kidz

# April 2019

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 2:00 Release Time 6:00 Midweek Fellowship 6:30 Pioneer Kids, Hi-League, Adult Study	<b>4</b> 10:00 Quilting 3:45 Hi-League to Esther's Kitchen	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Prayer Meeting 10:45 Sunday School / Confirmation 11:30 Lunch, Steven & Heather move-in	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 2:00 Release Time 6:00 Midweek Fellowship 6:30 Pioneer Kids, Hi-League, Adult Study	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Steven Diaz start date	<b>13</b>
<b>14-Palm Sunday</b> 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Prayer Meeting 10:45 Sunday School / Confirmation	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 6:30 "The Room Upstairs" Rehearsal	<b>18</b> 10:00 Quilting 7:00 Maundy Thursday Service, "The Room Upstairs"	<b>19</b> 4L00 "Breakthrough" Movie at Monte Theater	<b>20</b>
<b>21-Easter Sunday</b> 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 8:30 Easter Breakfast 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Prayer Meeting <i>No Sunday School or Confirmation</i>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 6:00 Midweek Fellowship 6:30 Pioneer Kids, Hi-League, Adult Study	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Prayer Meeting 10:45 Sunday School / Confirmation	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>				