



Pass It On

December, 2019

*¹¹ And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. ¹² The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light.
Romans 13:11-12*

Advent and Christmas simultaneously call the Christian to look back on the promise of Christ's coming and on his return. Christ's return has captured the imagination of believers since the disciples first heard the idea from Jesus himself. Despite Jesus' clear statement that no one except the Father knows the day and the hour, Christians have often become overly interested in the precise timing of Jesus second advent.

Scholars can look back over the centuries and see how each generation were certain that they would see Christ's return while they were still alive. Even recently people have dared to proclaim that they have figured out the exact date of the End. You may remember a man by the name of Harold Camping. He was a Christian radio show host who famously announced that the world would end on May 21, 2011. He believed all of the living Christians would be raptured after a great earthquake and the world itself would cease to exist on that exact date. Mr. Camping reportedly spent tens of millions of dollars he collected from radio listeners who believed in his predictions in order to spread the word across the world.

As you may have guessed, the world did not end that May. Stunned

by the absence of the apocalypse, Mr. Camping offered his next prediction of October 21, 2011. This prediction also failed to come true and so soon afterwards Mr. Camping ended his radio show on Family Radio network.



This cautionary tale of Mr. Camping is instructive. Christians certainly should believe in the return of Jesus. However, we have the interesting balancing act of living as if Christ could return any moment, with the humility to recognize that we have no way to predict the day of his return. The result is

that Christians must live firmly planted in this world, while at the same time living according to the ways of the kingdom come. I think this uncertainty in timing is intentional on God's part, because it keeps us engaged in the mission while not allowing us to be fully consumed by the here and now. As Paul concludes Romans 13:12, the response to our belief in the nearness of Christ's return is living a life on earth that is not one that has given up on the world, but one that has been and is still being transformed by heaven.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Erik

Dawson Covenant Church

2756 130th St.

Dawson, Minnesota 56232-0370

Phone: 320-769-2255

www.dawsoncovenantchurch.org

Wednesday, December 4

Lucia Potluck

Everyone is invited to a "Lucia inspired" potluck meal on December 4 at 6:00 p.m. Bring your favorite Lucia dish or another dish that is special to your family or heritage to share. Following the meal, the adults will move into the sanctuary for a Christmas hymn-sing while the Pioneer Kids and Hi-League will meet as usual.

Friday, December 13

Hi-League Christmas Party

Hi-League Youth are invited out to church from 6:00-9:00 p.m. for a Christmas celebration.

Sunday, December 15

Sunday School Christmas Program

The Sunday School Christmas program will be held during the regular worship service on December 15 at 9:30 a.m. Sunday School and Confirmation will be held as usual following the program. Pioneer Kids (grades K-6) will be having a Christmas party during the Sunday School hour.

Tuesday, December 24

Christmas Eve Service

A candlelight Christmas Eve service will be held on December 24 at 5:00 p.m.

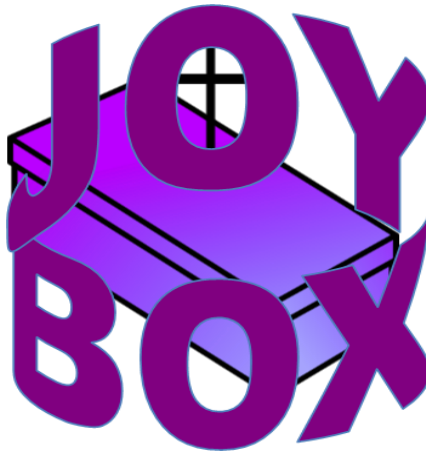
Food for Kidz

Food for Kidz is our mission of the month for December. Food for Kidz is a non-profit organization that is committed to feeding starving children around the world by providing specially formulated, hand-packed, easy to prepare meals. The Food for Kidz website states, *"Our mission is to bring awareness to hunger issues in the world by involving others in the participation of packing a nutritional meal supplement for distribution and also involve them in sustainability building to facilitate change; to expand the concept of children's' experiences beyond their vision of local to incorporate the world and to service, promote and educate other organizations to encourage their commitment for the purpose of making positive results in the fight against hunger."*



EMPOWERING CHANGE

The area churches have decided not to host a packing party as we have done in the past, however, we will be taking a special collection for this mission throughout the month of December. Please mark your donation as Food for Kidz and keep this special mission in prayer.



Thank you to all who helped organize the Joy Box packing party held on November 3. We had a great turn-out and appreciate all the help packing the boxes which will be delivered to Mexico for Christmas Outreaches through Grace Christian Outreach Ministries.



Covenant Quilters

The Covenant Quilters will meet on December 5 and 19 from 10:00-3:00 in the fellowship hall. Quilting is held on the first and third Thursdays of the month. A light lunch will be provided. Anyone interested in quilting is invited to come!



SERVING SCHEDULES

Sunday, December 1

Communion Servers:

Dennis Harding, Tina Harding,
Joyce Pearson, Dean Pearson

Greeter:

Buer Family

Scripture Reader:

Lee Ulstad

Sunday, December 8

Greeter:

Lewis Family

Scripture Reader:

Stephanie Weber

Sunday, December 15

Greeter:

Gary & Arlene Miller

Scripture Reader:

Reese Graven

Sunday, December 22

Greeter:

Tim & Suzanne Milbeck

Scripture Reader:

Linda Tensen

Sunday, December 29

Greeter:

Henry & Fran Greiner

Scripture Reader:

Kate Ulstad



*A PLACE SET APART WHERE
THE HEART, MIND, BODY AND
SOUL OF EVERY GUEST CAN
ENCOUNTER THE LIVING
GOD.*

For information on upcoming retreats at Lake Beauty Bible Camp, visit their website at lbcc.com, call them at (320) 732-3218, email them at lbcc@lbcc.com, or talk with Dawson Covenant's own camp representative, Bonnie Gustafson.



**LUTEFISK AND
MEATBALL DINNER**
DEC 7TH, 2019

SERVING FROM: 3:30PM - 6:00PM

**LUTEFISK, SWEDISH MEATBALLS, LEFSE,
POTATOES, VEGETABLES, DESSERT**

**AGES 2-9: \$5.00
10 AND UP: \$15.00**

CALL FOR SEATING TIME: (320) 732-3218

**ADVANCE TICKET SALES REQUIRED
AND END TUESDAY DECEMBER 3.**

Children's Moment

Shown at right is Deb Ulstad giving the children's message in November. Please keep these kids in prayer as they grow up in our church family.



FIREPIT PATIO

Cade Buer's Eagle Scout project is complete. The patio and benches surrounding the firepit are ready for you to use. The poured cement provides access to the area through the patio doors in the fellowship hall. Thank you to Cade and those who helped complete this project!



MAILBOXES

Just a reminder that the mailboxes for Pastor Erik, Steven, Karla and their families are located in the fellowship hall due to the limited number of mailboxes available in the hallway. You can also find labeled mailboxes for the treasurer and secretary in the fellowship hall. We are trying to post all sign-up sheets on the small bulletin board in the fellowship hall as well for easier access and better visibility. Thank you!

DAWSON COVENANT CHURCH YOUTH BAKED GOODS AUCTION

The Hi-League youth held a baked goods auction after church on November 10th. Thank you to everyone who supported the youth by donating or purchasing the baked goods! All the money raised will be used to help fund the Hi-League mission trip to Colorado next summer.



2020 Schedules Printed

Schedules for greeters, scripture readers and communion servers have been printed for the new year. If you signed up to serve in one of these areas, you should have received a printed schedule in your mailbox. If you are not able to serve on a Sunday when you're scheduled, please trade with someone and mark it on the bulletin board. Thank you for serving the church in this way!

BAPTISM OF HANNAH MARGARET GOPLEN

Hannah Margaret Goplen, Daughter of Jared and Marissa Goplen, was baptized on October 27. We rejoice on her baptism into the family of faith and into the nurture and care of the Church.



Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of Dawson Covenant Church will be held on Wednesday, January 22 at 7:00 p.m. All members are encouraged to attend this meeting.

CHRISTMAS BLESSING FOR PASTORS

There are specially marked envelopes available on the table in the entry way if you would like to give a Christmas gift to Pastor Erik or Steven this season. The envelopes can be left in the offering plate.

Bible Quiz

Where did the child Jesus and his parents flee for safety?

A. Ethiopia
B. Syria
C. Rome
D. Egypt

Answer: D (See Matthew 2:13.)

Christmas Card Display

If you have a Christmas card or photo you'd like to share with the church family, please bring it and hang on our display in the fellowship hall. It would be fun to see it full of photos by Christmas!

PUZZLE

season

Symbols of the *season*

Many traditional decorations convey the meaning of Christmas.

Directions: Use the picture clues to the right to complete the words. Then write the boxed letters in order to complete 2 Corinthians 9:15, NIV.

shepherd's staff _ □ □ _ _ _ □

tree that keeps its leaves _ _ _ □ _ _ _

shines to lead the way _ _ _ □

green for eternal life,
red for Jesus' blood □ _ _ _ &
_ _ _ □ □ _

sounds to announce
good news □ _ _ _

has no beginning or end _ _ _ □ _

Th □ □ ks b □ to □ od fo □ □ is
indesc □ □ ba □ le gif □!

2 CORINTHIANS 9:15, NIV

Answers: candy cane, evergreen, star, holly & berries, bell, wreath. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! 2 Corinthians 9:15, NIV



| | |
|----|-----------------|
| 4 | Gary Miller |
| 4 | Eden Weber |
| 5 | Cindy Miller |
| 6 | Denice Hassel |
| 6 | Judie Rosendahl |
| 7 | Sam Ashling |
| 8 | Kayla Koch |
| 11 | Rebekah Harding |
| 11 | Myron Rosendahl |
| 11 | Tammy Wiebe |
| 14 | Stacy Miller |
| 17 | Larain Steinke |
| 18 | Arlene Miller |
| 18 | Wayne Lindquist |
| 21 | Amos Sather |
| 22 | Reese Graven |
| 23 | Kreed Perkins |
| 29 | Sawyer Ashling |
| 30 | Chuck Herzog |

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. 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, 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. 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.

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.

Worship Schedule

| | |
|------------|--------------------------------|
| 9:30 a.m. | Worship Service |
| 10:30 a.m. | Prayer Meeting |
| 10:45 a.m. | Sunday School and Confirmation |

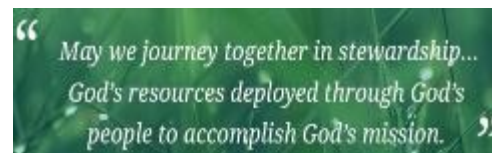
PASS IT ON CONTACT INFORMATION

Deadline for the January *Pass It On* is Wednesday, December 18.

Dawson Covenant Church
2756 130th St.
Dawson MN 56232

320-769-2255

www.dawsoncovenantchurch.org
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 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

December 2019

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|-----------|---|---|-----------------------------|---|-----------|
| 1 8:15 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Prayer Meeting 10:45 Sunday School & Confirmation 11:30 Christmas Decorating | 2 | 3 7:00 Church Council Meeting | 4 2:00 Release Time 6:00 "Lucia" Potluck 6:30 Pioneer Kids, Hi-League & Christmas Hymn-Sing | 5 10:00 Quilting | 6 | 7 |
| 8 8:15 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Prayer Meeting 10:45 Sunday School & Confirmation | 9 | 10 | 11 2:00 Release Time 6:00 Midweek Fellowship 6:30 Pioneer Kids, Hi-League, Advent Collage | 12 | 13 6:00 Hi-League Christmas Party | 14 |
| 15 8:15 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Sunday School Christmas Program 10:30 Prayer Meeting 10:45 Sunday School, Confirmation & Pioneer Kids Christmas Party | 16 | 17 | 18 2:00 Release Time 6:00 Midweek Fellowship 6:30 Pioneer Kids, Hi-League, Advent Collage | 19 10:00 Quilting | 20 | 21 |
| 22 8:15 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Prayer Meeting 10:45 Sunday School & Confirmation | 23 | 24 5:00 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Prayer Meeting 10:45 Fellowship Time <i>No Sunday School or Confirmation classes</i> | 30 | 31 | | | | |