



Pass It On

October , 2017

Dawson Covenant Church

2756 130th St.

Dawson, Minnesota 56232-0370

Phone: 320-769-2255

www.dawsoncovenantchurch.org

Dear Church Family,

I am excited to share a recent development with you. Earlier this year I was nominated for a fellowship through the Collegeville Institute. I applied for the fellowship and was just notified of my acceptance along with 11 other pastors at the beginning of September. I believe this opportunity will contribute to my own development and to our church and community.

The Collegeville Institute Rural Minnesota Fellows Program brings together an ecumenical group of pastors from rural Minnesota with professionals from other sectors of rural Minnesota society in order to strengthen these religious leaders' sense of themselves as civic leaders and public theologians. Clergy who serve rural areas in Minnesota are often underserved by leadership development opportunities designed to meet their specific needs: we hope to help address this deficit through the Rural Fellows Program.

This unique leadership development opportunity is for pastors in the early to middle years of their career. The program is designed, then, for those who are approximately 5 to 15 years out of seminary, with 20 or more years to give in ministry to church and community. The first cohort of 12 fellows will begin in October 2017 and end in July 2019.

Rural ministry must pay attention to the larger context within which a congregation or parish lives out its mission. Such ministry responds to the issues affecting peoples' lives, and does so with compassion, wisdom, competence and hope.

— Bernie Evans, Program Director

Some of the topics we will be exploring include:

- The Changing Face of Minnesota and Its Implications for the Future
- Agriculture and Food Production
- The Rural Economy Beyond Farming
- Immigration as an Opportunity and a Challenge
- Health Care in Rural Minnesota
- Rural Poverty – Both Real and Hidden

*To know Christ, to be like Christ,
and to make Him known.*

As a Fellow I will:

- Participate in an ecumenical colleague group of 12 individuals for 22 months
- Attend eight cohort meetings in Collegeville, MN
- Hear from civic and professional leaders and experts on key cultural issues
- Sharpen my skills at social analysis and theological reflection
- Expand my horizons concerning our rural Minnesota communities and my vision of myself as a pastoral leader
- Gain confidence to become active participants in conversations about matters of public import both within and outside the congregation
- Plan a pastoral project for our congregation or community
- Receive \$4,000 in stipends over the period of the program, and have all travel costs relating to meetings covered by the Collegeville Institute
- Build a support system lasting past the Rural Minnesota Fellows Program

It has always been my desire to continue to learn and develop myself as your pastor both spiritually and intellectually so that I can best serve the church and its mission. I hope that this process will not only sharpen my own skills as a pastor and leader, but continue to feed into our church's desire to know Christ, to be like Christ, and to make him known in our surrounding communities.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Erik



New Fire Pit

Heath Buer, along with help from other Boy Scouts, built the fire pit behind the church. He also supplied a patio bin and camping chairs for anyone to use. Thanks to Heath for completing this project that will get lots of use by the whole church family!



Hi-League Campfire

Hi-Leaguers are invited to stay on October 18 (after youth group) for a campfire. We will roast smores at our new campfire pit built by Heather Buer and the Scouts. This will be from 7:30-9:00p.m.

Release Time Begins

Children in grades 1-6 at Steven's Elementary are invited to take part in Release Time every Wednesday from 2:00-3:30 p.m. beginning on October 4. You need to register through the elementary school office to attend. Pastor Erik and Phil will meet the kids at school and walk them over to Grace Lutheran Church for an hour of singing, lesson time and fun. They will walk them back to school in time for the bus.

Open Gym

In October we will have Open Gym every Tuesday night from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Parent volunteers are always appreciated! Please sign up (bulletin board in new addition) if you are able to assist on Tuesday nights. Thank you to our volunteers!

PIONEER KIDS

Pioneer Kids for kids in grades K-6. We meet every Wednesday night. The entire congregation is invited to supper at 6:00 p.m. and after supper we will divide up into our smaller groups by ages.

HI-LEAGUE

Hi-League is for kids in grades 7-12. Hi-League meets at DCC every Wednesday for supper at 6:00 p.m. On the first Wednesday of the month we will bus up to the Powerhouse in Madison for our games/lesson. You need to let Phil know if you need a ride to/from (Madison kids, if you would be able to grab a ride home from a parent that would be easiest). Our hope is to drop off kids at DBHS around 8:15-8:30 those nights. Talk with Phil about rides and arrangements. On the second, third and fourth Wednesdays of the month we stay at DCC for the evening until activities wrap up around 7:30 p.m.

NURSERY NEWS

Emma Weber and Abby Myers have volunteered to be co-coordinators of the Dawson Covenant Church Nursery. We are very thankful for their help in this area of ministry! Additional volunteers to staff the nursery on Sunday mornings are also needed. Even if you can only volunteer once a year, it is helpful! Please see Emma, Abby or Karla Perkins if you have any questions or can help in this area.



New Seating & Stage

Wylie Wiebe recently built new benches for seating in the Elementary Sunday School room. They are larger in size to better fit the older elementary kids. He also built a small stage for the front of the room that is really helpful when leading in worship. Thanks to Wylie and the Boy Scouts for completing this needed project!

Wednesday Nights

You are invited to church each Wednesday night for supper served at 6:00 p.m. Following supper we divide into our smaller group so Pioneer Kids, Hi-League and the current adult study #struggles being led by Pastor Erik.

Wednesday Night Study

The #Struggles study will end on October 4. We will spend the following 2 Wednesday evenings watching the documentary film titled *Bonhoeffer* (Pastor-Pacifist-Nazi Resister).

This film is described as, *“Deitrich Bonhoeffer was a young German theologian who offered one of the first clear voices of resistance to Adolph Hitler. Bonhoeffer openly challenged his church to stand with the Jews in their time of need, and eventually joined the plot to kill Hitler. Extensive research in the U.S and Europe brings to life this amazing story of moral courage. Extraordinary archival footage is interwoven with interviews with friends, family and students of Bonhoeffer, with historians and theologians, and with the words of Bonhoeffer himself, read by Maria Klaus Brandauer.”*

A new adult study will begin the first Wednesday in November.

Our Wednesday night Pioneer Kids, Hi-League at Bible Studies are in full swing. The photo below shows a group of the Pioneer Kids playing a game led by Shane Myers. They really had to use cooperation for this one!



Thank you Pastor Erik & Phil

October is Pastor Appreciation Month, and we want to remember with thanksgiving our wonderful church leaders, Pastor Erik and Phil. Our congregation is blessed to have them both. We want to thank them for leading our church in so many different ways, and contributing in ways both seen and unseen. We appreciate Pastor Erik and Phil for being great examples to us on how to live out our beliefs. Let's all encourage them with our prayers, love and appreciation.



Operation Christmas Child

A PROJECT of SAMARITAN'S PURSE

Sunday, October 8

We will have time during the Sunday School hour for children in all classes to write letters for Operation Christmas Child. Everyone is invited to stay after Sunday School to help fill baggies with small items for the OCC shoeboxes. This will save time for our packing party scheduled for November 5. A light lunch of hot-dogs will be provided.

Sunday, November 5

Please join us for our 4th annual Operation Christmas Child Packing Party! We will meet during the Sunday School hour with a goal of packing 128 shoeboxes. A potluck meal will follow. Free will offering/donations will help offset the cost of shipping. Individuals are still welcome to pack their own shoebox as well. Please remember to insert \$9 per box for shipping. The boxes will be collected on November 12 with a special time of dedication during the worship service.



COVENANT YOUTH OF ALASKA

Everyone is invited to a Salmon Supper fundraiser on Wednesday, October 25 at 6:00 p.m. served by Byron Bruckner of Covenant Youth of Alaska. Following supper the kids will have their usual Pioneer Kids and Hi-League activities while the adults are invited to hear more about the ministry of CYAK, which is one of the missions our church supports. Many people are unaware of the unique role CYAK plays in the lives of youth in Alaska, so this is a perfect opportunity for us to learn more and support CYAK while having a delicious meal of fresh caught Alaskan salmon.



LAKE BEAUTY
BIBLE CAMP

The summer camps have ended, but the fall retreats are in full swing!

October 13-14: Trailblazer Retreat
October 14: 55th Annual Meeting

Visit the Lake Beauty website at lbbc.com to register for the Trailblazer retreat and upcoming Quilting retreats as well. If you have questions you can also ask our camp representative, Bonnie Gustafson. For more information visit the Lake Beauty Bible Camp website at lbbc.com, call them at (320) 732-3218, or email them at lbbc@lbbc.com.

AED INSTALLED

On our Ministry Fair/Rally Sunday morning Jill Christie demonstrated using the new AED that was recently installed in the fellowship hall. An AED is a device that checks a person's heart and delivers an electric shock if it has stopped beating normally, such as in the case of sudden cardiac arrest. If you have any questions on the use of the AED see Jill.



KICY

AM-850 & ICY 100.3 FM

Nome, Alaska

KICY is our mission of the month for October. KICY broadcasts from Nome, Alaska and is owned by Arctic Broadcasting Association, which is a 501(c)3 non-profit, affiliated corporation of the Evangelical Covenant Church. KICY serves native Alaskan villages throughout the Seward Peninsula, Yukon & Kuskokwim Deltas and the Russian regions of Chukotka, Kamchatka and Siberia.

The fourth Sunday in October is the date set aside to partner with all of the churches in North America in a concerted fund-raising effort for KICY. The goal is for a donation of just \$1.00...but from 100% of those worshipping on Sunday morning. 100% Sunday has the potential to be a significant part of fundraising efforts for this mission. In addition, this allows everyone throughout the church body to invest in the work of KICY.

Please keep KICY in prayer throughout the month and consider supporting this ministry with a financial donation.

Population 1,500

Elisabeth Fondell recently had an essay published in the Covenant Companion magazine. If you have not yet had a chance to read the essay titled "Population 1,500", you can find it online at covenantcompanion.com.

Fellowship Time

Would you like to help serve coffee and refreshments during Sunday morning fellowship time? There is a sign-up sheet in the kitchen. There are cookies/snacks on hand at church unless you want to serve something else. Thank you to those who serve!

Rally Sunday & Ministry Fair

The annual Ministry Fair and Rally Sunday was held on September 10th with a great turnout. Thank you to everyone who signed up to serve in various areas of ministry for the coming year. The kids also participated in a fun scavenger hunt that helped them get to know others in the congregation. We are looking forward to a great year of working together! The photo below shows the kids in line to get snacks and sign-up to serve.



QUILTING GROUP

You are always welcome to join the Covenant Quilters! We will meet on Monday, October 9 and 23 from 10:00-3:00 p.m. A light lunch will be provided. Come and go as you are able. Beginners are always welcome!

Garden Abundance Table

If you have a garden that produces more than you can use,



you are invited to share in our Garden Abundance program. We have a designated table in the fellowship hall where you can leave your extra produce for someone who can use it. There will be a basket for free-will donations for those who take the produce.

THIS MONTH'S birthdays

| | |
|----|--------------------|
| 3 | Peter Haugen |
| 5 | Carson Besonen |
| 7 | Todd Horst |
| 9 | Ralph Fondell |
| 9 | Dawn Hanson |
| 9 | Josh Rosendahl |
| 11 | Jonathan Kimmel |
| 12 | Cheryl Bevis |
| 18 | Kyle Ashling |
| 22 | Gert Fondell |
| 23 | Lilly Ashling |
| 24 | Benjamin Gustafson |
| 25 | Randy Bevis |
| 26 | Tyler Robertson |
| 28 | Shelia Greiner |

Electronic 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. If you have any questions, please see Dan Schluter or Wendy Robertson.

Pastor's Office Hours

Pastor Erik & Phil's 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 they are available by appointment, and may be reached at church at 320-769-2255 or Pastor Erik's cell: 320-305-9304 Phil's cell: 269-547-7537

Free Wi-Fi

To sign-in to the free wi-fi in the church building choose the "Church-guest" network. The password is "guest". To sign-in at the Youth center the password is "guest2255".

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 and click on the Worship tab. 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!

PASS IT ON CONTACT INFORMATION

Deadline for the November *Pass It On* is Wednesday, October 25.

Dawson Covenant Church
2756 130th St.
Dawson MN 56232

320-769-2255

www.dawsoncovenantchurch.org
office@dawsoncovenantchurch.org

On-Line Giving

On-line giving will soon be an option at Dawson Covenant Church. We will be set up through the Evangelical Covenant Church's online giving portal on a one-year trial basis. This is just one additional option for people to use if they would like to. You do not need to use on-line giving. More information will be coming soon!

Church Website has New Feature

The church website has a new password protected page where you will find things like 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. The password will be given out at church once we have uploaded some documents to the page. The church website is: www.dawsoncovenantchurch.org, then click on the "Members" tab.

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

PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES



Kevin & Sylvia Rosendahl
Joel & Kim Delp
Covenant World Missions
Covenant Youth of Alaska
Randy & Cheryl Bevis
Luke & Emma Christie-Perkins
Covenant World Relief
KICY Radio Station
Operation Christmas Child

October 2017

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|--|----------------------------------|---|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 6:00 Open Gym 7:00 Church Council Mtg. | 4 2:00 Release Time 6:00 Mid-Week Supper 6:30 Pioneer Kids & Hi-League 6:45 #struggles | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Prayer Meeting 10:45 Sunday School/ Confirmation 11:30 OCC Baggie Bash & Lunch | 9 10:00-3:00 Quilting | 10 6:00 Open Gym | 11 2:00 Release Time 6:00 Mid-Week Supper 6:30 Pioneer Kids & Hi-League 6:45 Bonhoeffer Film | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Prayer Meeting 10:45 Sunday School/ Confirmation | 16 | 17 6:00 Open Gym | 18 2:00 Release Time 6:00 Mid-Week Supper 6:30 Pioneer Kids & Hi-League 6:45 Bonhoeffer Film 7:30 Hi-League Bonfire | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Prayer Meeting 10:45 Sunday School | 23 10:00-3:00 Quilting | 24 6:00 Open Gym | 25 2:00 Release Time 6:00 CYAK Salmon Supper 6:30 Pioneer Kids & Hi-League 6:45 CYAK Presentation | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Prayer Meeting 10:45 Sunday School/ Confirmation | 30 | 31 6:00 Open Gym | | | | |