



Pass It On

March, 2018

Dawson Covenant Church

2756 130th St.
Dawson, Minnesota 56232-0370
Phone: 320-769-2255
www.dawsoncovenantchurch.org

What's in a name?

Mission Covenant Church
1893



*But now, this is what the Lord says—
he who created you, Jacob,
he who formed you, Israel:
“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have summoned you by name; you are mine
Isaiah 43:1*

At our most recent Annual Meeting the church council proposed some changes to the church constitution and bylaws. Included was a proposal to reclaim one of our historical names--Mission Covenant Church. Because changes to the constitution must be presented in writing one year before they can be voted on, our church has not yet voted on any of the proposed changes. In this article, I'd like to share more about why the council has proposed reclaiming the Mission Covenant Church name. The remaining changes proposed at the Annual Meeting will also be addressed in future *Pass It On* articles.

When our church was first founded, even before it was officially affiliated with the ECC, the church was known as the Mission Church of Maxwell and Providence Townships. As time passed, it became known as the Swedish Mission Covenant Church and then simply Mission Covenant Church. Our current name Dawson Covenant was adopted in the early 1960s in an effort to identify more strongly with the local town of Dawson, the mailing address in which the church resides.

Historically, identity was the core reason we changed our name from Mission Covenant to Dawson Covenant. Identity is also the primary reason the council has presented a proposal to reclaim the name Mission Covenant Church. Part of the DNA of this church includes sharing in the mission that God has called us to as friends, neighbors, and as brothers and sisters in Christ. Mission, both foreign and domestic, has been a central part of our life together since it was first organized on February 7, 1889. God has faithfully led this church through great changes in culture and demographic shifts.

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Wednesday Night Lent

Dawson Covenant Church continues to partner with our neighbor church, Providence Valley Lutheran, to hold joint Lenten services. Dawson Covenant will host on Wednesday, March 7 and 21. The Hi-League will serve a meal at 6:00 p.m. as a fundraiser for CHIC. The Lent service begins at 7:00.

Providence Valley will host on Wednesday, March 14 with supper served there at 5:30. The Lent service begins at 7:00. Wednesday night youth activities will continue to be held as usual.

Palm Sunday Choir

The junior and senior choirs will sing together on Palm Sunday, March 25.

Maundy Thursday

The congregation is invited to a Maundy Thursday service on Thursday, March 29 at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday Schedule

8:30 a.m. Easter breakfast served by
Hi-League

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

10:30 a.m. Prayer Meeting

No Sunday School classes

Easter Worship Band

We are looking for adults and youth to play their wind instruments during the Easter service. Practice will be held after church on Palm Sunday, March 25. Let Brandon Ulstad know as soon as possible if you would like to take part in this band so he can get you your music.

Throughout the past century, the population around the church's immediate geographic location has declined. Yet since being called here nearly 8 years ago, I have witnessed an undeniable shift. Our church family has moved from a township church, to a Dawson-community church, to a multi-county church. When we gather on Sunday morning, we have families traveling from upwards of 45-minutes to join together in God's mission. We are becoming a regional church. It is this unfolding identity as a regional church that caused our council to evaluate our current name. We are seeking a name that best reflects our current and future identity while staying true to God's call for this body of believers.

We want people to see they belong, no matter what town they are from. There is no doubt that the Holy Spirit has drawn people to worship here despite our name. But for those coming from outside of Dawson, the name did cause them to think twice-- they wondered if they could truly belong as someone from a different community. If reclaiming our historical name still speaks to our identity as a church and could lower barriers to our continued mission and ministry, why wouldn't we do it? This is the question the council has been pondering for years and the question that we now put before the church.

In the time leading up to our next annual meeting in 2019, the council will thoroughly explore the costs associated with the proposed change and present it well in advance. We invite the whole church body to be in prayer individually and together; we invite you to engage one another in conversation on the topic so that we will be ready for discussion at the annual meeting next January. I also welcome any phone calls and in-person visits on any changes proposed at the annual meeting.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Erik

Women's Gracious Table

If you enjoy knitting or crocheting, come join us on Saturday, March 10th, from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. We will meet in the fireside room. Bring whatever you are currently working on or start something new. Loom knitting will be taught for those who are interested. The afternoon includes stitching time, good conversation, and prayer. All women ages 12 and up are welcome.

Women's Gracious Table The Abbey of the Hills Luncheon Tour

Saturday, April 14th

11:45am Arrival Time

12:00 pm Soup/Salad/Sandwich Lunch

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm Presentation & Guided Tour

Cost: \$10/person



The Abbey of the Hills Inn & Retreat Center began as a Benedictine monastery on the prairie hills near Marvin, SD, overlooking the Whetstone Valley. The monastery was a self-sustaining community with the mission of ministering to Native American tribes. Benedictine monks occupied The Abbey for more than 60 years before closing on August 5, 2012. Today, The Abbey is owned and operated by a nonprofit organization who have opened its doors to the public for visits, retreats, and guided tours.

If you are interested in participating in the Luncheon Tour, there is a signup sheet located on the bulletin board in the hallway. Please sign up prior to Sunday, April 1st. For those of you who are interested in carpooling, we will meet at the Dawson Covenant Church parking lot at 10:00am. If you have questions, please contact Melinda Robertson.

Men's Breakfast

Men, you are invited to our Men's Breakfasts held every third Saturday beginning at 9:00 a.m. The March date is Saturday, March 19th. Bring a friend or neighbor to enjoy breakfast, fellowship and a short devotion led by Pastor Erik. The photo below shows some of the group enjoying breakfast at the last gathering.





Church Council

Shown at left are some of the church council members during a special time of prayer for them during the worship service on February 18. New council members voted onto the council at the annual meeting include Laurel Peterson-Chair, Loral Steinke-Financial Secretary, and John Lee-Council person, along with Brandon Ulstad-Christian Education and Andrea Lewis-Auditor. Other current council members include Lee Ulstad, Jill Christie, Ashley Tensen, Dan Schluter and Gary Goplen along with Rose Buer-Auditor.



Since the very beginning of our story with God, he has demonstrated his deep love for us through his blessing. In turn we become a blessing to others.
Genesis 12:2

BLESS is an approach to prayer and evangelism initiated by the Evangelical Covenant Church. It's less about downloading information or memorizing scripts, and more about loving our neighbors well. It helps us get "unstuck" and practice evangelism more effortlessly. BLESS is an intentional pathway for persons of all ages who follow Jesus to become like Jesus and join the mission of Jesus.

BLESS focuses on five missional practices we can engage to naturally introduce people to Jesus Christ. We will begin the BLESS initiative here at Dawson Covenant Church after Easter. Each week will focus on a different missional practice. Look for more information to come in the bulletins and in the next issue of Pass It On.



The children's choir sang at the worship service on February 18, even with many of the kids absent. They will also be singing on Palm Sunday, March 25, along with the senior choir.

Church Council Meeting

The next church council meeting will be held on March 6 beginning at 5:30 p.m. Please note the change from our usual time.

NEW MEMBERS

New members who were voted into membership of the congregation at the annual meeting include Denice Hassel, Lindsay Weber, Jacob and Kayla Koch and James and Carmen Kellen. A special time of prayer and welcoming will be held for them during the worship service on February 25.

Community Prayer Service

The monthly community prayer service will be held at the Presbyterian Church in Dawson on Tuesday, March 20 from 7:00–8:00 p.m. A different church from the Dawson-Boyd ministerium hosts this service each month, and the community is invited to attend.

PIONEER KIDS

Pioneer Kids is 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 to the Powerhouse in Madison for our games/lesson. 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.

During the season of Lent, Hi-Leaguers will be serving the suppers on the evenings when the Lent service is at Dawson Covenant Church on March 7 and 21. These suppers are a fundraiser for CHIC, Covenant High In Christ, a Covenant youth conference held every 3 years. A group from DCC is heading to CHIC in Tennessee this summer. A few of the Hi-Leaguers are shown below and at right serving their first supper.



Sermon Notes for Pioneer Kids

We have new sermon notes! Pioneer Kids—grab a sheet and fill it out during service, take it to Phil during Sunday School for a prize! Sermon sheets are at the table before you enter the Sanctuary.

Hi League 1/2 Lock-In

We will have our annual winter lock-in on Friday, March 16th from 6:00pm -March 17th 1:00am. Because of scheduling we had to move it to the spring time so no sledding this year. We are still planning on getting dinner at PK Eagan's in Canby and then heading to the Powerhouse. More details to come. Cost will be \$10.

EASTER MORNING BREAKFAST

Hi-League will be serving egg bakes for the Easter breakfast this year! Kids, please come with a dish to pass. We will also be making a couple of egg bakes, sausage, and beverages before serving breakfast Easter morning, April 1st. Please arrive around 7:30-7:45 a.m. to assist with set up and meal prep.



CHIC stands for Covenant High In Christ, and is the triennial youth conference event of the Evangelical Covenant Church held in Knoxville, TN once every three years. This summer, thousands of Covenant youth will gather for small group Bible study and devotion, large group gatherings with speakers and music, and outdoor recreation. We have a group of youth from Dawson Covenant Church who are planning to attend CHIC this summer! As a fundraiser for this trip, the Hi-League will be serving Wednesday night Lenten suppers for a free will donation. You can also leave your donation in the offering plate marked for CHIC2018 or use the specially marked envelopes in the back of the sanctuary. Thank you for your support!



SCOUT SUNDAY

The Scouts of our congregation served in many areas of worship on Scout Sunday, February 4. Here they are shown serving lunch during fellowship time.



COVENANT WORLD MISSION

Global mission. Local vision.

Covenant World Mission is our mission of the month for March. The Evangelical Covenant Church desires to see more disciples among more populations in a more caring and just world. In our mission partnerships around the world, we are committed to culturally relevant evangelism and the formation of communities of Christ followers, to spiritual formation and equipping God's people for ministry and leadership, and to transformational ministries that demonstrate the whole gospel by seeking to address the spiritual, social, emotional, mental, physical, and justice needs of people.

You can support global projects and missionaries through Covenant World Mission. Your gift will empower missionaries and international partner ministries as they seek to proclaim the gospel in over thirty countries around the world. There will be baskets in the back of the sanctuary to collect for CWM throughout the month of March. If you would like more information about CWM visit www.covchurch.org/mission. CWM thanks you for your investment and much appreciated partnership in world mission ministries.



Imagine a week of summer camp- where you become a detective, looking for the truth. You have tons of fun tools at your disposal. Discover the clues, unwrap the mystery, decipher the code. This is going to be a jammin' summer - where all the fun and new surprises of Lake Beauty will point us to the super important reality - we must Discover the Truth!! *"And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."* John 8:32

Please see Bonnie to get the church's Transfer Code before going online to register your child for the summer camps. Dawson Covenant church pays for half the cost of camp for the campers from our church family, and you will need the Transfer Code for Early Bird Discount registration by April 9th. Scholarships are also available if needed. For more information visit Lake Beauty at lbcc.com, call them at (320)732-3218, or email them at lbcc@lbcc.com. Or talk with our own camp representative, Bonnie Gustafson.

Junior High #1 June 10-15
Trailblazers#1 June 17-21
Frontier Kids #2 July 5-7
High School July 29-Aug 3

*"May we journey together in stewardship...
God's resources deployed through God's
people to accomplish God's mission."*

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.

THIS MONTH'S birthdays

1	Daniel Bevis
1	Sullivan Graven
1	Kim Lindblad
3	Solomon Citrowske
3	Ralph Gerbig
3	Brandon Ulstad
3	Stephanie Weber
4	Joyce Busiahn
4	Paul Iverson
4	Don Lindblad
5	Simeon Delp
6	Susan Kamrath
6	Kadyn Perkins
7	John Norland
8	Emerson Haugen
8	Jacob Koch
10	Abby Myers
10	Courtney Ulstad
11	Henry Greiner
11	Deb Schluter
11	Tyson Weber
12	Daryl Schutte
13	Joyce Pearson
15	Bonnie Gustafson
17	Evelyn Hanson
17	Kate Ulstad
18	Jennifer Graven
20	Sylvia Rosendahl
21	Charlie Busiahn
22	Derek Fjerkenstad
22	Julie Fjerkenstad
22	Kannon Wicht
23	Paula Byhaug
26	Derek Horst
27	Tim Haugen

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 Wendy Robertson.

Church Council Meeting Notes

The church website has a 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. 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.

Free Wi-Fi

The password to sign-in to the wi-fi at the Youth center is "guest2255".

PASS IT ON CONTACT INFORMATION

Deadline for the April *Pass It On* is Wednesday, March 21.

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

www.dawsoncovenantchurch.org
office@dawsoncovenantchurch.org

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

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

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, in Madison at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, and in Canby at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday. Like us on facebook to receive updates and reminders on your facebook newsfeed!

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

March 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4 8:15 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Prayer Meeting 10:45 Sunday School / Confirmation	5	6 5:30 Church Council Mtg.	7 2:00 Release Time 6:00 Midweek & Lent Supper at DCC 6:30 Pioneer Kids & Hi- League 7:00 Lent Service at DCC	8	9	10 2:00 Gracious Table - Fireside Room
11 8:15 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Prayer Meeting 10:45 Sunday School/ Confirmation	12 10:00-3:00 Quilting	13 6:00 Open Gym	14 2:00 Release Time 5:30 Lent Supper at PVLC 6:00 Midweek Supper at DCC 6:30 Pioneer Kids 6:30 Hi-League to Madison 7:00 Lent Service at PVLC	15	16 6:00 Hi-League 1/2 Lock -In	17 9:00 Men's Breakfast
18 8:15 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Prayer Meeting 10:45 Sunday School/ Confirmation	19	20 6:00 Open Gym 7:00 Community Prayer Service at Presbyterian	21 2:00 Release Time 6:00 Midweek & Lenten Supper at DCC 6:30 Pioneer Kids & Hi- League 7:00 Lent Service at DCC	22	23	24
25-Palm Sunday 8:15 Choir Rehearsal 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Prayer Meeting 10:45 Sunday School/ Confirmation	26 10:00-3:00 Quilting	27 6:00 Open Gym	28 2:00 Release Time 6:00 Midweek Supper 6:30 Pioneer Kids & Hi- League	29 7:00 Maundy Thursday Service	30	31

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