



the connection

:: Sunday Worship Services

8:00 a.m. Traditional
9:30 a.m. Contemporary
11:00 a.m. Contemporary

:: Mailing Address

1601 Highway 25 N
Buffalo, MN 55313

:: Phone

763.682.1470

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:: Website

buffalocov.org



UPCOMING MESSAGES

April 1 – Easter Sunday – Why Preach the Resurrection of Christ?

We have just spent time in our Apologetics class examining the evidence for the resurrection of Jesus Christ and have discovered that it is one of the best attested events in history. But why should we preach the resurrection? Why should Easter Sunday be any different than any other Sunday? The answer is clearly found in Paul's great discourse on the resurrection in First Corinthians 15. The bottom line is simply this: if there is no resurrection, then there can be no faith, there can be no salvation. Yes, there is an urgency to preaching the resurrection – not just on Easter Sunday, but every day. Our hope is depended upon it.

April 8 – Josiah: A King with a Servant's Heart - 2 Kings 22-23 & 2 Chronicles 34-35

Josiah becomes King of Judah at the age of eight, but his heart is fully devoted to the things of God. He begins to cleanse the nation of the spiritual defilement that had occurred during the reign of his grandfather, Manasseh, and of his father, Amon. Josiah began that reformation right at home. He understood that there could be no national revival until the "home-front" was in order. Although God's judgment was still imminent, that judgment was delayed because of the passion of Josiah to help turn the hearts of the people toward God. One of the great lessons from the story of Josiah is how God can use a young person whose life is completely committed to him.



April 15 – Jeremiah: The Weeping Prophet Jeremiah 1:1-19 & 29:4-14

Jeremiah is a difficult book to read for a variety of reasons. It is a book where the judgment of God begins to descend upon a rebellious people. Jeremiah was chosen by God and given a difficult assignment of proclaiming God's truth in an age when that truth was not desired or wanted. There are several lessons to be learned from God's call upon Jeremiah: 1) that each one of us has received God's calling to serve Him with our lives; 2) that we have God's promise that He would never leave us or forsake us; and 3) sometimes the message that God has for us to deliver is not always the easiest to give. We will also focus upon that often quoted verse – Jeremiah 29:11 – and see what that verse truly says to us today. You just might be surprised.

April 22 - By Pastor Steve Wintermantel

Each one is looking for treasure. People are looking for whatever it is that can fill them up, and make life a little better. Our culture tells us to look for treasure in a variety of places, including: acquiring possessions, being "liked" on social media, giving everything to hobbies and interests, getting the right career or job, and going after relationships that can meet my needs. But is that all there is?

Jesus provided another option. His single-minded pursuit was, and is the building of God's kingdom! He has invited us to join with him and discover the greatest treasure of all.

April 29– The Foundation for Faith@Home By Pastor Geoff Bohleen

Deuteronomy 6:1-9, Matthew 22:34-40

Buffalo Covenant Church is a "Faith@Home" church and we are committed to equipping and encouraging families to grow in faith. We provide a lot of ideas and resources and they can be of great help. However, a lot of Faith@Home ideas will be limited in impact if we don't first build a firm faith foundation as families. The cornerstone for building a Faith@Home foundation is acknowledging Jesus as Lord and applying that truth to our daily lives.



MARCH/APRIL FAMILY WORSHIP GUIDES

The focus of our family worship guides is on worship itself, with the desire to teach adults, youth and children what the Bible teaches about worship. Take it home and worship with your family! March/April Family Worship Guides are available in a bin under the designated frame in the Commons.

MARCH/APRIL FAMILY MEMORY VERSE:

Sing to the LORD, all the earth; proclaim his salvation day after day. -1 Chronicles 16:23

BCC Updates

BCC FINANCIAL UPDATE THROUGH FEBRUARY 2018

General Fund Tithes and Offerings:

February Budget:	\$126,000
February Actual:	\$115,573
Budget YTD:	\$254,140
Offerings YTD:	\$254,013

Building Fund:

February Offerings:	\$12,363
February Charitable Grants:	\$7,200
Loan Balance:	\$964,292

Thank you for your generosity!

If you would like offering envelopes, please indicate this on the contact card and place in the offering plate, or call the Church Office 763-682-1470.



SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING *Sunday, April 8 | 10:35 a.m. | Youth Room*

The Elders of Buffalo Covenant Church have scheduled a special congregational meeting. The purpose for the meeting is to adopt a resolution on the subject of human sexuality. Discussions are growing within the Evangelical Covenant Church about human sexuality. The Elders believe it would be wise for the members of BCC to adopt a resolution that clearly states our commitment to biblical teaching about sexuality. If needed, this resolution could then be presented at the Northwest Conference Annual Meeting on April 26-28, at BCC, or at the Annual Meeting of the Covenant Church to be held in Minneapolis June 21-23. Members received a letter last week containing the resolution. Please carefully review it and if you have concerns or questions contact an Elder or Pastor. Only members can vote on the resolution but all are welcome to attend the meeting. Thank you for your prayers for the Covenant Church as they wrestle with this important issue.

We are scheduling two discussion forums on this issue for us to dialogue for as much time as needed. Pastors and Elders will lead each Forum.

Discussion Forums:

Wednesday, April 4 | 1:30 p.m. | Youth Room
Wednesday, April 4 | 6:30 p.m. | Youth Room



BCC ADULTS

There are multiple weekly and monthly opportunities to connect with others, to grow spiritually and to be supported through participating in a Class, Bible Study, Prayer Group, Support Group or Social Gathering.

GROUPS

PRAYER TEAM

Mondays | 12:00 p.m. | Room 200

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Mondays | 1:00 p.m. | Room 201

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Mondays | 6:30 p.m. | Room 108

HOPEKEEPERS LIFE SUPPORT GROUP

Tuesday, April 24 | 6:30 p.m. | Room 200

GRIEFSHARE

*Tuesdays | 1:30-3:30 p.m. or 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Room 108*

PRODIGAL MINISTRY

*Wednesday, April 11 & 25 | 1:30 p.m. or
Thursday, April 5 & 12 | 6:30 p.m.
Room 108*

PROPEL WOMEN

Thursday, April 12 | 6:30 p.m. | Youth Room

WOMEN'S MISSION CONNECTION

Monday, April 23 | 9:00 a.m. | Room 108

S.A.L.T. (SENIOR ADULTS LIVING TRIUMPHANTLY)

Tuesday, April 17 | 1:30 p.m. | Youth Room

Charles Lindbergh is a name well known here in Minnesota. Of course he is best known for the first nonstop Transatlantic flight in his plane – the Spirit of St. Louis. But there are many other facets to his life, some of which are not as glamorous. On Tuesday afternoon, April 17, we will have the privilege of having David Jones return to share with us a program he has titled, "Charles Lindbergh: Triumph, Tragedy and Controversy." Mr. Jones is a gifted historian and communicator and we are excited to have him return. This program is open to any who are interested in learning more about one of Minnesota's heroes. This would make a great outing for some of our home-schooling families. Following the program there will be an opportunity for fellowship around the tables accompanied by those delicious treats our SALT Family has come to enjoy. So, plan to come and invite a friend or two to come with you for this informative afternoon.

NOW (NURTURING OUR WIDOWS)

Tuesday, April 24 | 1:30 p.m. | Youth Room

Join us for a speaker this month. Judi Ewing will talk with us about her hobby of collecting toy sewing machines. Socializing and food as always to enjoy. NOW will now meet the 4th Tuesday of each month. Contact Judy Grochow for more information 763-843-0155.

*****To learn more about these groups,
please visit buffalocov.org***

ADULT SUNDAY CLASSES

9:30 A.M. CLASSES

THE CROSS AND THE FLAG: AMERICANISM VERSUS CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP

*Sundays | 9:30 a.m. | Room 106
Instructor: Bill Everett*

“GENERATIONS” INTERGENERATIONAL CLASS

Sundays | 9:30 a.m. | Gym

11:00 A.M. CLASSES

DIGGING DEEPER

Sundays | 11:00 a.m. | Gym

This class digs a little deeper into questions and topics pertaining to the text of the morning sermon.

ADULT WEEKDAY CLASSES

MAJOR MESSAGES FROM MINOR PROPHETS

*Mondays | 7:00-8:45 p.m. | Room 201
Instructor: Dr. Oliver Blosser*

DEEP WATERS – THE MISSION

Tuesdays | 6:00-7:30 a.m.

APOLOGETICS – GIVING AN ANSWER FOR WHAT YOU BELIEVE

*Tuesdays | 7:00-8:15 p.m.
Instructor: Pastor Max Frazier*

DEEP WATERS DISCIPLESHIP AND LEADERSHIP FOR MEN – YEAR 1

Wednesdays | 6:00-7:30 a.m.

DISCIPLESHIP EQUIP (DSE): MAKING DISCIPLES EVERYDAY

*Wednesdays | 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Instructor: Pastor Steve Wintermantel*

****To learn more about these classes,
please visit buffalocov.org/adults**



FAITHSEARCH: DISCOVERY WITH DR. DON BIERLE *Sunday, April 15 | 4:00 p.m.*

It is common for people today to dismiss the Bible as a collection of stories and myths. Many doubt that it is true or that it has any relevance to life today. Don Bierle was a biologist with a PhD. He dismissed the Bible, and God, as irrelevant. When challenged by some fellow scientists to apply his scientific methods to the evidence for the reliability of the Bible, he was shocked by what he learned. The Bible is reliable and true! God is real!

- If you ever wonder about the reliability of the Bible . . .
- If you doubt what the Bible says about Jesus . . .
- If you want to be better equipped to explain to others that the Bible is unique and its message about Jesus is true and life-changing . . .

Then attend the FaithSearch Discovery with Don Bierle. It is a free event, and you will receive a copy of Don's book "Surprised by Faith", and a free-will offering will be received. Attend with your family! Invite your friends!

Childcare will be available through age 5.



DISCOVER BCC MEMBERSHIP CLASS *Sunday, April 15 | 12:15-4:00 p.m.*

If you are interested in becoming a member of Buffalo Covenant, or if you are simply interested in learning more about our church family, we invite you to join us for Discover BCC. At this class you will learn about our church's mission, values and history. We will review our core beliefs, and provide you an opportunity to ask questions. You will get a chance to meet others, and tour the building. All of this is intended to help you fulfill our mission: We glorify God by being disciples who make disciples of Jesus Christ. Following your participation in the class, you will have the opportunity to pursue becoming a member of BCC. You can register in the BCC Commons through April 8, or contact Pastor Steve: Stevewint@buffalocov.org. A free lunch will be provided.

SOUP & PRAYER

Sunday, April 29 | 12:15 p.m. | Youth Room
Please join us for a simple meal of soup & bread, and stay for a time of prayer.



BUFFALO COMMUNITY SERVE WEEKEND

Sunday, April 27-29

SERVE Weekend 2018 is a time to serve in your congregation and beyond, into the community, neighboring communities, and with global concerns.

This year's SERVE weekend is a community-wide event of the Buffalo Ministerial Association on April 27-29. The SERVE planning team represents 8+ local churches, Lake Ridge Care Center, Parkview Care Center and Love INC.

Some highlights include:

- Truckload of Life food packing event will pack 100,000 meals at Zion
- Blessing Closet and Allina Bike giveaway will distribute free clothing and bikes

- Days for Girls Workday (Sat, April 21)
- Banquet servers at BCC for Northwest Conference
- Tying fleece blankets for families in need
- Various outdoor clean up
- Food for Friends cooking
- Birthday bags for Buffalo Food Shelf
- Spring caroling
- BINGO & Ice cream social at Parkview Care Center
- And MANY more projects that benefit the ministries of a variety of local churches

Check out all the different ways to serve!

Sign up for each project is available at bit.ly/ServeBuffalo ... all are welcome! This is a great way to serve with your family, friends, or small group.



BCC+YOUTH



GRADUATING SENIORS

We need information from you by May 6 for the Senior Sunday May 20 bulletin. Please email, or turn-in the following information **by May 6 to Julie Ellis** (julie@buffalocov.org):

- Name
- Parents names
- Names of people who have been a spiritual influence in your life
- Plans for your future
- Date of your open house
- Wallet size senior picture

If you would like to be a part of the Senior Sunday Service on May 20, please talk with Pastor Val (763-682-1470; val@buffalocov.org). Also, you may bring in an open house invite to Julie if you wish to have one displayed in the Commons.

BUFFALO FOOD SHELF CHALLENGE

The middle schoolers were challenged to help fill a grocery cart with food for the MN Food Share March Campaign.

These were the totals (in lbs):

6th Grade Boys - 43	6th Grade Girls - 40
7th Grade Boys - 98	7th Grade Girls - 102
8th Grade Boys - 65	8th Grade Girls - 49

That's 397 lbs of food!! Great work, middle schoolers!

DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL 1: NO CHILL OUT (EASTER)

APRIL 4: NO HANG TIME (SPRING BREAK)

APRIL 18: LAST HANG TIME

APRIL 22: LAST CHILL OUT

MAY 6: CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

ALL 3 services. Details will be sent home with confirmands in April, as well as emailed to parents.

BCC KIDS



5TH GRADE MILESTONE: MISSION & SERVICE

Sunday, April 15 | 11:00 a.m. | KidSpace

As our children grow in their faith and in their knowledge of God and His Word, they are encouraged to serve the Lord. The children decide on several mission and service activities, and take positions of leadership and responsibility.

AWANA

APRIL 4 - NO AWANA (SPRING BREAK)

APRIL 18 - VERSE-A-THON

Clubbers will ask sponsors to sponsor them per verse as they recite as many Bible verses as they can. The Clubbers are assigned teams and we will see which team generates the most money for the mission we support, Awana Ministry in Ethiopia.

APRIL 25 - NO AWANA

MAY 2 - AWANA GAMES NIGHT

MAY 9 - AWANA AWARDS NIGHT



VBS 2018 - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Shipwrecked - Rescued by Jesus

June 11-15

There are MANY places to serve at Vacation Bible School - we need decorators the week prior, leaders and helpers for preschool and elementary the week of, and cleaners afterwards. If you would like to be part of the MOST FUN WEEK OF THE YEAR, contact Janine Kruger or Stephanie Anderson (janine-kruger@hotmail.com; sraeanderson@yahoo.com; 763-682-1470).



WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS

Wednesdays | 5:00-6:00 p.m

Wondering how to fit supper in between school and Wednesday night Hang Time or AWANA? Come to church to eat! For just \$5 per person, you can eat supper from 5-6:00 p.m. at church and be right there for either Hang Time or AWANA.

APRIL MENU:

April 4 - NO Wednesday Night Activities

April 11- Tater tot hot dish, garlic bread, salad, dessert

April 18 - Sloppy Joes, salad, rice crispy bars

April 25 - NO Wednesday Night Activities



DATES & REGISTRATION 2018

That time of year for thinking about summer camps at Lake Beauty Bible Camp (LBBC) has begun! **LBBC offers an Early Bird discount to individuals that register online prior to April 9.** Register online at lbbc.com. LBBC Camp brochures are available in the Commons.

- **FRONTIER KIDS: July 3-5** (For campers who have completed 1st, 2nd or 3rd grade)
- **TRAILBLAZER: July 15-19** (For campers who have completed 3rd, 4th or 5th grade)
- **JUNIOR HIGH: July 8-13** (For campers who have completed 6th, 7th or 8th grade)
- **SENIOR HIGH: July 29- August 3** (For campers who have completed 9th-12th grades)

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation will be provided for the Frontier Kids & Trailblazers. If we have enough campers going to the Jr. High and Sr. High camps, we will send the van. If not enough campers are going, we will connect the names with other parents so you can carpool together. Space is limited. To sign up your kid(s) to get a ride in the church van TO and/or FROM Lake Beauty, contact the church office (office@buffalocov.org; 763-682-1470). **The deadline is June 15th.**

JOIN THE GENERATIONS CHOIR

The Evangelical Covenant Church (our denomination) is holding the annual District Conference at BCC April 26-28. The theme is "Ministry to Children, Youth, and Families." This is an amazing opportunity for BCC to share what we have been learning about Faith@Home and how it has impacted our congregation. We have been invited to participate in the Friday night worship service and share our vision of intergenerational worship, and there is no better way to do that, than to have the Generations Choir sing! So, the Generations Choir will sing on Friday evening, April 27. Generations Choir is for anyone, 3rd grade and up, and Kindergarten through 2nd graders if they have a parent participating. If someone from your family would like to participate, please contact Pastor Mary!

Here's the schedule:

Sundays, April 8, 15, & 22: 12:15-1:00 p.m. Practice
Friday, April 27: Warm up & run through before the Worship Service when we will be singing.

Sunday, April 29: We will sing the same songs in all three services on Sunday morning at BCC.

Please plan to make it to at least two practices. Spread the word, invite others. We want a HUGE choir of all ages to sing together the praises of our King Jesus!



CHOSEN stands for **C**ommunity **H**elping **O**rphans
and **S**upporting **E**ach other's **N**eeds.

TREES OF GLORY-ETHIOPIA

Exciting News! Trees of Glory care-point in Ethiopia is now in the process of installing a mill. Utilizing the electricity available at the care-point, the mill will grind corn, wheat, sorghum and tef into flour, a staple for meals at the care-point as well as in most households in the surrounding villages. Instead of having to walk miles to the closest mill in a nearby village and waiting most of a day to have it ground into flour, now this mill will be available at Trees of Glory, not only for the care-point but also for those in the surrounding villages and homes closest to the care-point.

Every day at Trees of Glory care-point in Ethiopia, 200 children arrive for the morning meal and school. Covered in dust from the morning walk across a dry dusty field, many are barefoot and wearing the same tattered clothes they wore yesterday, but sing-song voices and chatter and animated laughter immediately fill the schoolyard and classrooms.

Many of these children live at the care-point full-time because they are orphaned. Some because they have a disability that was considered a curse

in their communities and they were discarded and cast out with nowhere else to go. Some come here just for the day so they can attend school and have a safe place to go everyday and a meal to fill their tummies. All find a loving and welcoming place here at Trees of Glory among care-givers, teachers and friends.

Coming alongside these kids and the care-point staff through sponsorship ensures that each child (and there are 200 kids attending Trees of Glory) receives nutritious meals, clean water, clothing, medical care and a Christian education. Sponsoring a child is one of the most personal ways to make an impact on global poverty and gives that child the opportunity to learn and thrive and exercise their God-given gifts and talents.

There are 20 new children at the care-point this year and each of those children is waiting for a sponsor family.

Go to: trees-of-glory.hopechest.org/sponsor
to make a personal impact for one of these kids!



FORWARD IN HOPE

MINISTRY WITH CHILDREN,
YOUTH & FAMILIES

NORTHWEST CONFERENCE
2018 ANNUAL MEETING



The 2018 Northwest Conference and Ministerial Association Annual Meetings will be held at Buffalo Covenant Church on April 26-28. The theme for the meeting is Forward in Hope: Ministry with Children, Youth & Families. The Ministerial Association Annual Meeting (for pastors) will take place April 26-27. Then, the Northwest Conference Annual Meeting (for church delegates, lay leaders, pastors and others) will follow on April 27-28.

WHAT IS THE ANNUAL MEETING?

The Annual Meeting is the highest constituted authority in the Northwest Conference made up of pastors, lay leaders, church delegates and others from member Covenant Churches throughout the Conference. They gather together for worship and fellowship, and to elect leaders, review finances,

adopt a budget, and address the business of the Conference. At both the Ministerial and General Delegate meetings, participants will have opportunities to select specific workshops to attend that will provide different perspectives on children, youth & family ministry within the Church. Our own pastors will be teaching some of these workshops, helping other churches understand what Faith@ Home is all about! Some of these workshops may be geared more for pastors and ministry staff members, while others will be focused more heavily on the work of volunteers.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A DELEGATE?

Delegates are appointed representatives from member Covenant churches. Delegates vote on the policies and procedures presented to the Annual Meeting. Delegates receive a packet of information that includes reports, statistics, ballot information, etc. They are also given the privilege of speaking during the meeting and voicing their opinion.

CAN I ATTEND IF I AM NOT A DELEGATE?

Yes. Registered attendees may attend the Annual Meeting without officially representing a member church. But they are not allowed to voice their opinions, ask questions or vote. Registered attendees are invited to participate in the Saturday leadership workshops.

HOW DO I REGISTER FOR THE MEETING?

Stop in the church office by April 14th and talk to Barb to get registered.

WORSHIP SESSIONS

Everyone is welcome to participate in the evening worship sessions. You do not have to be registered. Worship sessions Thursday and Friday evenings start at 6:45. Thursday evening at the Ministerial Association Worship Service the speaker will be Tim Ciccone. Tim is Director of Youth Ministry for the Evangelical Covenant Church and has a deep passion to serve and encourage youth workers across the denomination. Prior to his role, Tim was the Pastor of Generational Discipleship at Hillcrest Covenant Church in the Kansas City area, and has been serving in the church for over 24 years. At the Northwest Conference Annual Meeting Worship Service Friday evening, our very own Generations Choir will be singing! Tiger McLuen will be the speaker that evening. With 45 years of ministry experience, Tiger is a national speaker and consultant and has a unique perspective on changes in ministry, cultures, families and churches.

A time of coffee and fellowship will follow both evening worship services. Come and learn, be both encouraged and challenged!



In the Community



MEALS ON WHEELS

BCC is responsible to deliver Meals on Wheels in the month of April. We are looking for drivers for three routes, Monday-Friday. Substitutes are welcome. This a wonderful opportunity to serve the community. On your day, you will pick up the provided meals at 11:30 a.m. at the Buffalo Community Center. Volunteers deliver the meals and then return the coolers. Sign-up sheets are located in the Commons. If you have questions, please contact Sharif Welch 763-682-1470.

GERRY AND SALLIE ANDERSON ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Sunday, April 29 | 2:00-4:00 p.m. | BCC

Gerry and Sallie Anderson invite you to join them for their 60th Anniversary Celebration on April 29th from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. at BCC. They invite you to share "fika" with them (afternoon coffee) and an afternoon program at 3:00. Your presence is their cherished gift.



REPRESENTATIVE NEEDED FROM BCC FOR THE BUFFALO FOOD SHELF COMMITTEE

The Buffalo Food Shelf is looking for one representative from BCC to serve on the Food Shelf Committee. Julie Lingo has served for a year and is stepping down. Please contact the church office at 763-682-1470 for more information.

The Buffalo Food Shelf is a Christian, non-profit, community-based organization supplementing food and hygiene items to those in need within the community of Buffalo, MN. If you would like to help in other ways, please go to:

buffalofoodshelf.com/ways-to-help