



BCC CONNECTION

FALL KICKOFF 2021



office@buffalocov.org // 763.682.1470 // buffalocov.org

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SUNDAY SERVICES

Services: 9:00 & 11:00 am // Livestream: 9:00 am (buffalocov.org/live)

10:10 Express Sunday School: 10:10-10:50 am (buffalocov.org/express)

*All Sunday School classes begin September 19, 2021. See page 5 for details.

Nursery Care: Birth through age 5 during both services & 10:10 Express.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday: 8:00 am–4:00 pm // Friday: 8:00 am–12:00 pm

Office Closed: September 6

MONDAY PRAYER MEETING

Mondays // 12:00-1:00 pm // Room 200

Attendees of this group meet weekly to pray for BCC, the pastors and staff, and the needs of the BCC congregation. This prayer time is open to all of the BCC family.

PRAYER

We would love to lift up any prayer requests you have. Please email requests to pray@buffalocov.org. If you are not signed up for the prayer letter or prayer chain, and would like to be, please contact the Church Office. (763.682.1470) Learn more at buffalocov.org/pray.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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buffalocov.org

2021

FALL KICKOFF

SEPT 12—CHURCH PICNIC & KICKOFF CELEBRATION

Join us on September 12 as we kick off our ministry season with a special outdoor Sunday worship service followed by a church picnic and celebration. Find more information enclosed about the church picnic, Sunday School, upcoming sermons, Small Groups, classes, Support Groups, Awana, other upcoming events and more.

Find details online at buffalocov.org/kickoff.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

TECHNOLOGY MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS

We have numerous openings in our technology department for volunteers looking to learn more about Sound, Music Production, Camera Operation, Video Production and more. All ages are welcome and we encourage anyone interested to contact us to learn more. Contact Joe Buhlig for more information. (joe@buffalocov.org)

NOURISHING HOPE PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION

If you would like to volunteer for this outreach to our community, please contact: reid@buffalocov.org or terri@buffalocov.org. This is a GREAT ministry outreach for families.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE (AUG 27, 9:00 AM–3:00 PM)

Volunteer opportunities are available to help with registration and canteen. Two shifts are available (8:45-12:00 pm & 11:45-3:00 pm) If you are able to volunteer, please sign up in the Commons.

10:10 *express* SUNDAY SCHOOL

Buffalo Covenant's Sunday School, known as 10:10 Express, is held each Sunday between services from 10:10–10:50 am. Classes are available for everyone during the school year and begin Sunday, September 19.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Birth–Grade 5—Children's Area (*Classes run during the school year, Sept–May.*)

Preschool Care: For birth through age 5 during both services & 10:10 Express

MIDDLE SCHOOL SUNDAY SCHOOL

6th & 7th Grade Boys—Room 200

6th & 7th Grade Girls—Room 202

8th Grade Confirmation—Room 201 (*Parent meeting & first class on Sept 12 at 9:00 am*)

ACCESS SUNDAY SCHOOL // Room 108 (*See class details on page 26*)

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES (*See class details on page 8*)

Faith Foundations—Room 106 // Facilitated by Elder Board

Visionary Parenting—Youth Room // Facilitators: Pastors Janine Kruger & Joel McQueen

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT // BCC Gym

September 12—Church Picnic, 10:00 am Outdoor Service

September 19—Women's Ministry Preview

September 26—Love Inc: a BCC ministry partner, Executive Director Jonathan Parker

October 3—Steadfast: A Growing Ministry at BCC, Jeremy Rice

October 10—Creation and Our Culture, Dennis Lingo

October 17—Access: A Special Needs Ministry at BCC, Tonya Sands

October 24—Missionary Update: InterVarsity Missionary Max Lemp

October 31—Winning the Spiritual War, Pastor Joel

November 7—Come and Encounter: Prayer Ministry, BCC Elder Board

November 14—Lead Pastor Search Update, Call Committee Chair Mick Ling

November 21—Christmas Love Project

November 28—Perspectives: God's Heart for the World, Pastor Reid and Pastor Joel

UPCOMING MESSAGES

AUGUST 22 // A Shepherd Looks at Worship – A Study of Psalm 23

There are more musical compositions set to this text than any other in all literature. It's the favorite for funerals and one of the most requested of hospital chaplains. Yet, this psalm is seldom seen as a psalm of worship. It is the celebration of a Shepherd, a psalm of praise. The Shepherd is our provider, our contentment, and our guide. He is with us in difficult times, and He has a purpose and a future for each one of us.

AUGUST 29 // What If I Don't Feel Like Worshiping – A Study of Psalms 13 & 37

We may attend church on a Sunday morning with our hearts not inclined to worship. Perhaps we are frustrated or angry with God, or filled with questions while He seems silent. Should we abandon coming together when we feel this? Both of these psalms indicate that the times we feel the least like worshiping are the times we need to pour out our hearts before Him, letting worship show us God's love and care.

SEPTEMBER 5 // Worship: A Celebration of Praise-A Study of Psalm 103

In this Psalm, David's heart cries out in thanksgiving to God for all He has provided. We are reminded of those things we often take for granted and should praise the Lord for redemption, forgiveness and spiritual healing. This Psalm begins with a call to "praise the Lord" and ends with a similar refrain. Our hearts should always be filled with thanksgiving to God.

New sermon series on BCC's Statement of Faith

SEPTEMBER 12 // So, What Do YOU Believe about...the Bible?" (Statement #1)

10:00 am Outdoor Service

The Word of God is inspired. The Word of God is inerrant. The Word of God is the complete revelation of God. The Word of God is the final authority.

SEPTEMBER 19 // So, What Do YOU Believe about...God?" (Statement #2)

God is one God. God is Spirit. God is eternal. God is omnipotent. God is omniscient. God is omnipresent. God is love. God is holy. God is the Creator of all. God is Triune.

SEPTEMBER 26 // So, What Do YOU Believe about...Jesus Christ?" (Statement #3)

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

Just who is Jesus? Why did He come? What happened while He was here? How can He change my life?

OCTOBER 3 // So, What Do YOU Believe about...the Holy Spirit?" (Statement #4)

The ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify Christ. The ministry of the Holy Spirit is to convict the world of sin. The ministry of the Holy Spirit is to help us with the indwelling of the Spirit, the guiding of the Spirit, and the empowering of the Spirit.

OCTOBER 10 // Creation Sunday– Bryan Osborne from Answers in Genesis

Bryan Osborne holds a master's degree in the Art of Teaching from Lee University. He taught Bible history in the public school for 13 years, and has been teaching Christians to defend their faith for nearly 20 years. Bryan is a speaker and author for Answers in Genesis and will deliver the morning message, *"The Genesis of the Gospel."*

OCTOBER 17 // So, What Do YOU Believe about...Man & Sin?" (Statement #5)

Man is a created being. Man is a fallen being. Man is a helpless being. Man is NOT a hopeless being.

OCTOBER 24 // So, What Do YOU Believe about...Salvation?" (Statement #6)

The blood of Jesus Christ is the price of redemption. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the proof of our redemption. The acceptance of Jesus Christ is the only way to experience redemption. The rewards of salvation include being declared justified and being adopted into the family of God.

OCTOBER 31 // So, What Do YOU Believe about...the Church?" (Statements #7&8)

The Church is made up of those who have been regenerated. The Church is united in Christ Jesus. The Church and its relationship to Jesus Christ is described as being like that of a husband and wife and the head and the body.

NOVEMBER 7 // So, What Do YOU Believe about...the Future?" (Statement #9)

Is this all there is? Is this all that life offers? Is there something else? Is anyone in control? What is God really doing? As one looks at this world, it is so important that, as believers, we recognize that God is in total control and that there is hope for us.

NOVEMBER 14 // So, What Do YOU Believe about...Heaven & Hell?" (Statement #10)

Is life over when a person dies, or is there something beyond death? The Bible tells us that two eternal destinations await an individual following death: heaven, the glorious abode for those who have trusted in Christ, and hell, the terrible abode for those who have rejected Christ.

NOVEMBER 21 // So, What Does the Bible teach about Human Sexuality?

This is one of the most important, yet controversial issues facing the Church in these days. Does the Bible speak to this issue? What does God say? Is there an answer to this question that can be foundational for us?

GROUPS & *classes*

SUNDAY MORNINGS (*Sunday School Express: 10:10-10:50 am*)

FAITH FOUNDATIONS

Room 106 // Begins September 19 // Facilitated by the Elder Board
Register at the Ministry Fair or online at buffalocov.org/classes.

Building a strong foundation, rooted in God's word, is essential to experiencing a faith that lasts and grows. Faith Foundations will be facilitated by the elders of BCC, who are passionate about helping people of all ages find these building blocks that will help their faith flourish. The BCC Class and materials, including a new Bible, are completely free of charge.

VISIONARY PARENTING

Youth Room // Begins September 19
Facilitators: Pastors Janine Kruger & Joel McQueen
Register at the Ministry Fair or online at buffalocov.org/classes.

This class is for men and women of all ages and walks of life. Whether you are a parent or not, you are called by God to be a spiritual parent that passes on their faith to the next generation. This is THE challenging assignment that shapes the world, and teacher Rob Rienow knows that it is not enough to just tell people that they should be shaping the next generation's spiritual hearts—he draws on years of study and experiences to equip listeners to lead spiritually.

SUNDAY EVENINGS

BECOMING A COUNTER-REVOLUTIONIST

Sundays // 6:00–7:00 pm // Worship Center // Begins September 12
Facilitator: Pastor Max Frazier
Register at the Ministry Fair or online at buffalocov.org/classes.

It seems that, no matter where we look today, those foundations that have made Western Civilization strong have been assaulted by forces seeking their destruction. At its heart, this is a conflict between competing worldviews and philosophies. Absolute Truth has been cast aside in favor of personal opinion and what once was wrong, is now considered to be right. The world seems to have become a confused and chaotic place. Yet, for the follower of Jesus Christ, the command to be salt and light in this world has not changed. How can followers become successful in the midst of the assault? The answer is simple, and yet profound: "...I felt I had to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints." (Jude 3). Jude declares that we are in a battle—a counter-revolution, if you will. Join us to learn how to see the world from a biblical viewpoint.

MONDAY EVENINGS

ENGAGING THE CULTURE FOR CHRIST

Mondays // 6:30–8:00 pm // Room 201 // Sept 13–Nov 1
Facilitator: Bill Everett
Register at the Ministry Fair or online at buffalocov.org/classes.

Your belief system, your worldview, is what defines and shapes every aspect of your life. Join us for a stimulating look at topics such as Ethics, Philosophy, Origins, History, Politics, Theology and how Jesus commanded us to go and make disciples! But how do we do that in a world where we are bombarded every day with news that the forces lined up against Christ are winning, and it seems we are losing? Lawyer and teacher Bill Everett leads this quest to understand the "culture war" and to find Christ's answers. Participants will learn how to keep their testimony for Jesus strong and true in the face of social changes, media influences, and political messaging that can distort our understanding of the Gospel. Get prepared to become saltier salt and brighter light!

JOEL, THE PENTECOST PROPHET

Mondays // 6:30–8:00 pm // Room 108 // Oct 4–Nov 15
Facilitator: Dr. Oliver Blosser
Register at the Ministry Fair or online at buffalocov.org/classes.

The Prophet Joel saw divine judgments that affected all Israel and their way of life. That is why he urged the people to repent. But these judgments were an illustration of something even greater to come. Instead of a great invading army of locusts, the Day of the LORD will bring the final battle between good and evil. At that time, Israel's Remnant will see the wounds of their Pierced Messiah and the Holy Spirit will be poured out on the Remnant of Israel for their salvation. Joel's Prophecy on the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, thus, has a short-range fulfillment (the Spirit's infilling of Jesus' Followers on the Day of Pentecost) and a long-range fulfillment (the Spirit's infilling of the Jewish Remnant during the Day of the LORD). Come and learn more about Joel, the Pentecost Prophet.

GROUPS & *classes*

🕒 TUESDAY EVENINGS

ROMANS—PART 1

Tuesdays // 6:30–8:00 pm // Worship Center // Sept 7–Nov 16

Facilitator: Pastor Max Frazier

Register at the Ministry Fair or online at buffalocov.org/classes.

What is the link between Augustine, Martin Luther, and John Wesley? It is the impact the Book of Romans had upon their lives. For Augustine and John Wesley, the message within Romans created a hunger for God that resulted in salvation; for Martin Luther, that same message ignited a fire within his soul that literally changed the world. The Book of Romans contains this very message of the Gospel. You are invited to join the BCC Family on Tuesday nights this fall as we begin a journey through this amazing book. Part 2 will begin January 22, 2022.

FAITH FOUNDATIONS

Tuesdays // 6:30–8:00 pm // 201 // Sept 14–Nov 2

Facilitator: Don Muilenburg

Register at the Ministry Fair or online at buffalocov.org/classes.

Building a strong foundation, rooted in God's word, is essential to experiencing a faith that lasts and grows. Faith Foundations will be facilitated by retired Pastor Don Muilenburg, who is passionate about helping people of all ages find these building blocks that will help their faith flourish. Class and materials, including a new Bible, are completely free of charge.

Therefore encourage one another

and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11



ABOUT SMALL GROUPS

We believe it is very important to find community and connection beyond Sunday mornings. Small groups provide a community-based environment that gives group members a safe place for transformation, connecting with others, and growing in faith and Biblical discipleship that is essential to become mature disciples of Jesus.

Group members are joined from a cross section of life, including singles and married couples of all ages. Groups range in size from 6 to 18 people, providing opportunities for weekly or biweekly meetings and groups for those with children.

Sign up for a small group online at buffalocov.org/smallgroup or join us at the Ministry Fair on August 22 & 29 to sign up and meet some of the Small Group leaders. Contact Pastor Joel (joel@buffalocov.org) with questions or for more information.



DISCOVER BCC

October 24 // 12:15–4:00 pm // Room 201

Join our Discover BCC class to learn more about our church family or to explore what it means to be a member of Buffalo Covenant Church. You will have a chance to learn about our church's mission, values and history. Contact the Church Office to sign up. (office@buffalocov.org // 763.682.1470)

PERSPECTIVES CLASS // Class Begins January 13, 2022

Perspectives On the World Christian Movement is coming back to BCC! This course is not just for those being called into missions. It is for anyone who has a desire to seek and understand God's global purpose for us as followers of Christ and is especially helpful for high school and college students who are seeking God's will for their lives. This 15-week course will guide you in finding and fulfilling your purpose in furthering God's Kingdom. This class features different engaging speakers each week, along with a Perspectives Reader, Workbook, and more. In this class we will cover four areas:

Biblical: Discover how The Living God is a Missionary God

History: Study the Eras of Mission History from the time of Abraham until the present

Culture: Learn about the culture and inter-cultural communication of the Gospel

Strategy: Discover what it means to integrate our lives for Christ's Global Purpose as a "World Christian".

Perspectives Informational Meetings

Monday, August 30 // 7:00 pm

Sunday, November 28 // 10:10 Express

Join us for our informational meetings to answer any questions you have about Perspectives. If you have questions before the meeting, please contact Pastor Reid or Terri (reid@buffalocov.org, terri@buffalocov.org), or learn more at perspectives.org.

PASTOR APPRECIATION

October is Pastor Appreciation Month. Join us in showing appreciation and encouragement to the Pastoral leadership here at BCC as they seek to lead the church according to the Lord's biblical path. Some ideas for showing our gratitude could include:

- Notes, cards, or emails of encouragement
- Let them know how the Lord is using them to impact your family.
- Send them out to dinner, give gift certificates or other similar ideas.
- Pray for them and the church!

Upcoming EVENTS

MINISTRY FAIR

Aug 22 & 29 // Between & After Services // Commons

It takes many volunteers working together to create an environment where people can connect with others and experience the love of the Lord in real ways. Getting involved not only creates that environment, but it also provides a space to connect with other people and grow personally, relationally and spiritually. Come join us in the Commons to check out the many different ministries Buffalo Covenant Church offers to participate in, and learn about current opportunities available for serving in those ministries!

APPRECIATION OPEN HOUSE FOR MARSHA KIRKPATRICK

August 29 // BCC Gym

Lunch at 12:15 pm. Program at 1:00 pm, followed by refreshments

Please join us in thanking Marsha as she steps away from her position as Buffalo Covenant's Choir Director after 24 years of service to the Lord. Enjoy a lunch, followed by a program and refreshments.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLESSING

September 5 // During Both Services

Blessing our children at the start of the new school year helps them realize their faith belongs in all areas of life, including school. It also lets them know their church is praying for them. Our staff and elders will be in the front of the Worship Center following both services to pray for your children.

NEWCOMER LUNCHEON

September 26 // 12:15-2:00 pm // Youth Room & Patio

Join us for a casual, free lunch where you will meet our pastors, staff and members and learn more about classes, groups, events, serving opportunities, and ways to connect here at BCC. Families with children, of all ages, are encouraged to come together.

IN CASE YOU GET HIT BY A BUS

A seminar focused on "planning for the unexpected"

Saturday, September 25 // 9:00 am-12:00 pm // Youth Room

Register at the Ministry Fair or online at buffalocov.org/planning.

No matter what age you are, or what stage of life you are in, having a plan in place for the unexpected is important. Join us for this Saturday morning seminar that will provide instruction and guidance on creating your plan. Cost is \$10 per person, \$15 per couple. (Cost includes one book, materials and a light lunch following the seminar.)



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

October 3 // 4:00 pm // Worship Center

Prayer for meeting: October 3 at 3:00 pm in the Youth Room

We are thankful for God’s continued protection and provision for the ministries of BCC. Please join us for an afternoon of ministry highlights. We will also present the members of the Lead Pastor Call Committee, the Lead Pastor Job description and the next steps in the process.

LOVE INC-BIG WOODS GALA

October 9 // Buffalo Covenant Church

Save the date for this year’s annual fundraising gala. Tickets will be available at area churches or at the door. Watch for more information coming soon. For questions call 763.682.2550. To learn more about Love INC–Big Woods, visit loveincbigwoods.org



Kickoff Sunday Celebration

Church picnic

Join us as we kick off our ministry season with a special outdoor Sunday worship service followed by a church picnic and celebration. Bring a blanket or lawn chair. Seating is available on the patio for seniors or those with limited mobility. Catered church picnic immediately following the service. Pork chops, sides and refreshments provided. Bring a dessert to share. In case of rain, the service will be moved inside to the Worship Center at 10:00 am followed by an indoor Church Picnic in the Youth Room.

September 12 // Service at 10:00 am

1 outdoor service on the South Lawn // Music begins at 9:30 am

buffalocov.org/picnic

COMMUNITY & *connection*

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE AT BCC

Friday, August 27 // 9:00 am–3:00 pm // BCC Parking Lot

The American Red Cross will be holding a Blood Drive at Buffalo Covenant Church. Schedule your appointment time at buffalocov.org/strong.

PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION DAYS

Sept 13, Oct 11, Nov 8, Dec 13 // 4:00 pm // BCC Parking Lot

For the past year and a half, BCC has partnered with Nourishing Hope to distribute fruits, vegetables, dairy and more to those in need in the Buffalo area. This drive-through food giveaway is available to anyone who would benefit from receiving nourishing food. There are no financial requirements or fees to receive a box of food. We are currently giving away approximately 175 boxes of food each month. If you or someone you know would benefit from a box of fresh food, please come! For information or questions, contact the Church Office (763.682.1470).



DELIVER MEALS IN OCTOBER

Buffalo Covenant Church will once again have the opportunity to deliver meals in October. We are looking for 3 volunteers per day, Monday through Friday. Times are approximately 11:00 am–1:00 pm.

Sign-ups will begin in September. Watch for more information.

Please contact Mary Redlin or the Church Office with any questions.
(mary.redlin@buffalocov.org or office@buffalocov.org.)

Adult MINISTRY

☛ **PROPEL WOMEN** (buffalocov.org/propel-women)

Thursdays, Sept 30–Nov 18 // 7:00–9:00 pm // KidSpace

Elijah-Faith & Fire by Priscilla Shirer

Register by emailing Rissa Schrick: PropelBuffaloMN@gmail.com.

Join us on this seven session journey through the life and times of the prophet Elijah to discover how the emboldened, fiery faith you desire is being fashioned by God in your life!!

☛ **MEN'S BREAKFAST** (buffalocov.org/men)

First Saturday of the month // 8:00–10:00 am // Youth Room

Enjoy a great free breakfast, see old friends, make new friends and be encouraged and challenged by a biblical devotion. Invite a friend or bring a family member to be encouraged.

☛ **MEN OF FAITH** (buffalocov.org/men)

Saturday Mornings // 6:00–7:00 am // BCC Commons

Men of Faith, Jumpstart your weekend! Join other men for a time of prayer, devotion and fellowship.

☛ **BUFFALO COVENANT MEN'S RETREAT**

Be strong & of good courage

At Ironwood springs Christian ranch in Stewartville, MN

September 17–19 // For all men, age 13 & older

You are invited to the Buffalo Covenant Inaugural Men's Retreat at Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch. Join us for a life-changing retreat focused on the strength and courage the Lord provides to those who follow Him. Each man will be challenged to live the life that God has called him to and to shepherd his family through this tumultuous and dangerous culture. Each registrant will receive a copy of Voddie Baucham's book, *Family Shepherds*, which will be used as the discussion guide for the weekend. Pick up a brochure at the Welcome Center and find more information and online registration at buffalocov.org/mens-retreat.

**Note: Sign-ups for Friday's golfing and Saturday's free time activities are available at the table in the Commons.*



S.A.L.T.
SENIOR ADULTS LIVING
triumphantly!

Senior Adults Living Triumphantly (S.A.L.T) is a group for you and/or your spouse, age 59 or over. We meet in the afternoon on the third Tuesday each month for worship and fellowship. Invite a friend to come and share with you in these exciting and informative afternoons! (buffalocov.org/salt)

Tuesday, September 14 // 8:00 am–4:00 pm // Lake Beauty Bible Camp

Join us for our Annual Lake Beauty Bible Camp Senior Adult Day! Enjoy a great program, a delicious meal and fantastic fellowship with other friends.

Reservations: Contact the Church Office or Pastor Max to register. Deadline is Sept 7.

Transportation: Contact the Church Office if you are interested in riding the bus, which will be leaving BCC at 8:00 am and returning to BCC around 4:00 pm.

Tuesday, September 21 // 1:30–3:30 pm // Youth Room

The SALT Family is delighted to welcome Pastor Joel McQueen, BCC's new Adult & Family Ministries Pastor, as our guest on this special September 21 gathering. Come and hear his story and catch his vision for Adult Ministries here at BCC. Some delicious refreshments will be served after the program.

Tuesday, October 19 // 1:30–3:30 pm // Youth Room

Our SALT Family welcomes back our friend Pati Kachel from the Parable Fund. Pati is a gifted story teller and has shared stories of some of the amazing women God has used in the past. This time she will be sharing with us the wonderful story of Florence Nightingale, one of the great nursing pioneers. Invite a friend to come and share with you in this opportunity to learn of a dynamic Christian lady who stepped out boldly for Christ. Refreshments will be served.

Tuesday, November 16 // 1:30–3:30 pm // Youth Room

November is a time for remembering and giving of thanks. You are invited to join our SALT Family as we celebrate an afternoon of thanksgiving. There will be testimonials from our members and songs of praise. Come prepared to share a word of thanksgiving to our awesome God. More information will be forthcoming about this afternoon of praise.

support GROUPS

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS (buffalocov.org/narcotics-anonymous)

Tuesdays // 7:00–8:00 pm // Gym // Narcotics Anonymous offers recovery from the effects of addiction through working an organized twelve-step program. If you, or someone you know, is in need of this ministry, please contact the church office.

N.O.W. MINISTRY (buffalocov.org/now-support)

4th Tuesday of the Month // 1:30-3:00 pm // Youth Room/Designated Locations
Nurturing Our Widows (NOW) Ministry is for those who have lost their husband, either recently or many years ago. Monthly social events provide spiritual and emotional support, encouragement, and fellowship. Contact Judy Grochow (djgrochow@charter.net) or the Church Office for more information.

GRIEFSHARE (buffalocov.org/griefshare)

FIRST MEETING: *Loss of Spouse* // Tuesday, Sept 7 // 6:30–8:00 pm // Room 201
FALL CYCLE: Thursdays, Sept 9–Dec 9 // 6:30–8:00 pm // Room 201

GriefShare is support group that focuses on the biblical concepts for healing from grief and provides support so grieving individuals are not walking through the journey alone. Please contact facilitators, Byron (763.244.0668) or Lisa (763.245.3462) Gjerstad for more information or to register. You may also register at griefshare.org/findagroup. Note: (No class November 25)

PRODIGAL MINISTRY (buffalocov.org/prodigal)

Meeting Dates: Sept 9, 23; Oct 7, 21; Nov 4, 18 // Do you have a family member who has walked away from the Lord or has separated themselves from you and your family? This ministry is open to anyone who has suffered the loss of a relationship through willful separation. We will be reading Timothy Keller's book *The Prodigal God*. There will be a time of optional sharing, book discussion, and prayer for our prodigals. For more information contact Reid Gilbert (reid@buffalocov.org) or the Church Office.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY (buffalocov.org/celebrate)

Tuesdays // 7:00–8:00 pm // Gym // Celebrate Recovery is a Christ-centered recovery ministry for people with all kinds of hurts, habits and hang-ups. People taking part in Celebrate Recovery ministry are able to find healing, forgiveness, restoration and transformation in many areas of their lives. Contact the Church Office for more information.

Youth MINISTRY

HANG TIME (GRADES 6-8)

Meets Wednesday evenings from 6:00-8:00 pm in the Youth Room—Begins Sept 15
Hang Time stresses commitment to Jesus Christ and serving others. Gatherings include a time of fellowship, worship, teaching, small group time, snacks, activities and special events throughout the year. **Break Dates: October 20, November 24**

CHILL OUT (GRADES 9-12)

Meets Sunday evenings from 7:00-9:30 pm in the Youth Room—Begins Sept 12
Chill Out helps students transition to adulthood while honoring God. Meets weekly for a time of fellowship, worship, teaching, small group discussion, snacks and activities, as well as special events throughout the year. **Break Dates: October 10**

BIBLE HANDOUT FOR 8TH GRADE STUDENTS

September 19—During the 9:00 am service



JUNIOR HIGH 5TH QUARTER

October 1 // 9:00 pm–12:00 am
Youth Room

After 4 quarters of football, join us for a night of fun, food and fellowship until midnight. You will need to provide your own transportation from the game to BCC. Cost is \$5. Dress for the weather. Contact Pastor Val with any questions.



TURKEY BOWL

November 24 // 9:00 pm–12:00 am
BCC South Lawn

The stakes are high on the gridiron as the High Schoolers face BCC youth alumni in a game of flag football. Come dressed for outside and enjoy the warmth of a bonfire as you cheer on your favorite team. Hot cocoa and pizza will be served after the game.



SEE YOU AT THE POLE 2021 // September 22 // 8:00 am // Gather with us as we lift up our schools and nation in prayer. This year's theme is "Just Pray", and there has never been a better time than now to see God's loving hand at work in our schools, church, community and nation!



TRIP TO THE ARK ENCOUNTER & CREATION MUSEUM

For 8th & 9th graders and their families // October 21-23 // We are planning on taking a trip to the Ark Encounter and Creation Museum in Williamstown, KY over MEA weekend. For costs & specifics, please contact Pastor Val. (val@buffalocov.org) Learn more at arkencounter.com.



REALITY STUDENT APOLOGETICS CONFERENCE

November 12-13 // Grace Church, Eden Prairie
\$39.00 Early Bird Pricing (\$49.00 after Sept 17, \$59.00 after Oct 29)

We see it every day. Gender confusion, racial turmoil, and human inequality. It's a disorder of ideas. It's chaos. That's why this year we're bringing an ancient truth to speak into the world we live in. We're bringing clarity to make sense of the confusion. Don't miss this conference as we show how Christianity can move our culture from chaos to clarity. Students/Parents will be responsible for sign-up and payment. More information coming soon. Learn more about the conference at realityapologetics.com/mn.

Childrens **MINISTRY**

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ELEMENTARY

This fall we are moving back into a more "normal" feeling Sunday School setting, with each grade group in their own classroom and space. ALL Sunday School classes will be held at 10:10, between services. It is not necessary to register for Sunday School, but to give us a semi-post-covid idea of numbers, please sign up at the Ministry Fair on August 22 or 29 so we have an approximation of our Sunday School attendance numbers. You can also email Pastor Janine to let her know your child(ren) will be attending. (janine@buffalocov.org)

NURSERY CARE (AGES 0-5)

There will be nursery care for children ages 0-5 (pre-school) during both the 9:00 & 11:00 services and during the 10:10 Sunday School hour. In order to provide nursery care we need....Caregivers! If your family will be utilizing the nursery, we kindly ask that at least one representative from your family volunteer in the nursery a minimum of once per month. Please contact Anna K. or Pastor Janine to let them know your availability for the nursery if you plan to utilize this ministry. (janine@buffalocov.org // anna@buffalocov.org)

BABY & CHILD DEDICATIONS

November 14 // During both services, 9:00 & 11:00 am

The next infant and child dedications will be held on Sunday, November 14 during both services. Please contact Pastor Janine if you are interested in having your child dedicated. (janine@buffalocov.org)

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Christmas talk already?! YES! Watch for Christmas Program sign-ups in September, as rehearsals will start in early October. The Christmas Program will be on Sunday, December 12 at both services.

Worship Workshop

WORSHIP WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS AND KIDS

Sunday August 29 // 10:10 am // KidSpace

Do you love the idea of your kids always attending the worship service, but the reality never plays out how you wanted it to? One of the goals of Children's and Family ministry here at BCC is to walk alongside parents as they disciple their children. We will explore why it's important for children to attend worship services and how to do that as a family in a (mostly) successful way!

***This will be piggybacking and doubling up with the Kindergarten Milestone Event, but we are encouraging 1st-5th graders to attend also!*



KINDERGARTEN-WORSHIP // August 29 // 10:10 am // KidSpace

As children enter into Kindergarten they are ready to take on the responsibility of attending regular worship services. This Milestone doubles up with the Worship Workshop above.

3RD GRADE-THE BIBLE // September 19 // 11:00 & 12:00 // KidSpace

Third graders will receive their Bible during the 11:00 am service. The Milestone and lunch will follow the service at 12:00 pm.

1ST GRADE-THE GOSPEL // November 21 // More information to come.



WHAT IS AWANA?

Awana at BCC is a discipleship program for children ages three (and fully potty trained) through grade five which actively involves parents, church leaders and mentors. Awana is a club program that focuses on learning Scripture in a fun atmosphere. The goal of Awana at BCC is "to reach boys and girls with the Gospel of Christ and train them to serve Him," by strongly emphasizing Scripture memorization at a foundational/grammar level consistent with child development through grade five.

Sign up for Awana at the Ministry Fair on August 22 & 29, or at the Awana table in the Commons on September 5 & 12. There will not be online Awana Registration, so please register in person on one of the four aforementioned Sundays.

FIRST NIGHT OF AWANA IS SEPTEMBER 15

AWANA PARENT MEETING—Wednesday, Sept 15 // KidSpace

The Awana Parent Meeting will be on the first night of Awana, Wednesday, September 15. This Parent Meeting is for ALL parents who are not volunteering for Awana, even if you've had kids in Awana for 20 years.

AWANA VOLUNTEERING

Interested in volunteering for Awana? Of course, you are! Please contact Pastor Janine (janine@buffalocov.org) to let her know that you would like to volunteer for Awana. **We will have an Awana Leader Meeting on Wednesday, September 1.**

Find current information throughout the year at buffalocov.org/awana.



SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY

Access desires to make the gospel of Jesus accessible to individuals with disabilities and provide relationships and activities through which they can experience God's love and grow in their personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

ACCESS SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays // 10:10-10:50 am // Room 108

Join us during the 10:10 Express Sunday School as teens and adults with Special Needs learn about Jesus and experience rich relationship with one another. The first step in joining our Sunday School class is to fill out a registration form. This will help us get to you know you a little before you come the first time. Contact Tonya Sands for more information. (access@buffalocov.org)

ACCESS IMPACT

Saturdays, Once a Month // 6:00–8:00 pm // Youth Room & Gym

Impact is a Youth Group for teens and young adults with Special Needs. We play games, sing songs, learn about Jesus, and build friendships with one another. The first step in joining Impact is to fill out a registration form. This will help us get to know you a little before you come for the first time. Contact Tonya Sands for more information. (access@buffalocov.org)

2021-2022 Impact Dates:

Sept 11, Oct 2, Nov 20, Dec 11, Jan 8, Feb 12, March 19, April 23, May 21, June 25, July 23

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

We want to celebrate the unique ways God has created and gifted each person through opportunities to be an active, ministering part of the body of Christ. Opportunities to serve include:

- Greeting and welcoming people to the 11:00 Sunday service.
- BCC Garden: Join us as we plant, weed, harvest, and pack produce in boxes, decorate the boxes for the produce, and/or deliver produce to people. (There are jobs for everyone!)
- Many more opportunities throughout the year.

Missions & Care MINISTRY

SOUP & PRAYER

August 22 // 12:15–1:30 pm // Youth Room

Prayer for Fall ministries and Back-To-School

Please join us for a time of prayer and a simple meal of soup and bread. We will pray for BCC Fall Ministries and for BCC students as they are returning to school.

Fall Soup & Prayer Dates: September 26, October 24, November 21.

UPCOMING SHORT TERM MISSION TRIPS: THE GAMBIA

Plans are still being made for a life changing trip to The Gambia with our supported missionary, Damtew Kifelew, later this Fall! Tentative dates are November 8–15. Please contact Reid or Terri with any questions or interest. (reid@buffalocov.org, terri@buffalocov.org) Watch for more information and find the latest at buffalocov.org/gambia.

UPCOMING MISSIONARY VISITS

October 24 // 10:10 Express // Gym

Please join us for the 10:10 Sunday School Express as we welcome Max Lemp. Max grew up attending BCC. He and his wife Claire are currently with Intervarsity and are working on Duluth and Superior college campuses. We look forward to hearing about what God is doing with their ministry to college students!



SAMARITAN'S PURSE OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Joy to the world one shoebox at a time!

Join us in this unique opportunity to share Christ with a needy child using a simple shoebox! In case you don't know, Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, a Christian relief and evangelism ministry led by Franklin Graham. This Christmas, needy children overseas will receive the shoebox gifts, hand delivered, along with Christian literature in their own language. What an opportunity to reach children with a clear presentation of the Gospel! This program provides an opportunity for individuals of all ages to be involved in a simple, hands-on missions project that reaches out to suffering children while focusing on the true meaning of Christmas—Jesus Christ, God's greatest gift.

Prepare a shoebox (or plastic shoebox-sized container with lid). Fill it with personal care items, school supplies, and small toys. Include a cash gift to help with delivery costs.

- **Boxes will be made available in mid October.**
- **Boxes are due back at BCC by early November.**

Watch for more details closer to the date at buffalocov.org/occ.
Learn more about this ministry at operationchristmaschild.com.

Missionary UPDATES

Damtew Kifelew • The Jesus Film/CRU

We are working with 20 strategic countries in Africa in order to accelerate church multiplication. To equip and mobilize in these countries, a collaborative alliance was formed between us and 12 other mission agencies working in Africa to pool resources. We have also identified 37 more languages to focus on in translating the Jesus Film into local languages. A Jesus Film equipment distribution hub for the Africa region was established in Nairobi, Kenya. This will reduce shipping costs for backpacks, church planting tools and equipment. God continues to move powerfully!

Prayer Requests

- Health and safety of our teams in Africa and peace and stability of the African countries
- Lasting fruitfulness and a global vision among the local churches we partner with
- For more Great Commission workers to join in the harvest

Gary and Cristen Schmalz • Athletes in Action (A Ministry of CRU)

Due to COVID-19, Athletes in Action has had to innovate and adapt. The large group setting for the Ultimate Training Camp (UTC) was switched to local UTC Sprint, a 3-day, high intensity event where college campuses around the world watch, worship and compete with and against each other while learning how to apply faith to sports using five Biblical principles. Please pray for Halle's recovery, both physically and emotionally and for funds to cover medical expenses.

Ben Harvey • Timber Bay

Prayer Requests

- All but one high school boy in our one-on-ones stated they don't believe in a one, true God and don't consider it important right now. Please pray for opened hearts.
- Funding is a continuous struggle. Our family needs are always met, but we are trying to raise around \$700/month in ongoing support by the end of 2021. We are also looking for a place of our own in God's timing, and would appreciate prayer for family/work balance.
- We are searching for a couple vehicles. We have the van from the Christmas Love Project, but we need more with the current staff/student numbers.
- A great way to connect with kids is working on cars together. We are doing small repairs/maintenance and rebuilding a 350 small block engine in a shop in Cokato. This is a huge praise but we also need to find a home for the engine. I'm also feeling a little over my head this far into the project, so I'm seeking knowledgeable and skilled people who could help with this project.
- Pray for protection from the enemy's assaults against the success at Timber Bay.

FINANCIAL REPORT

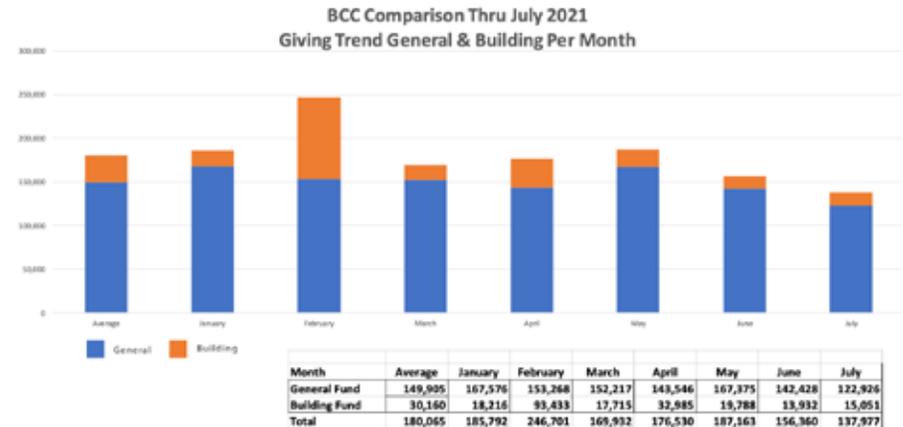
EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH of BUFFALO INCOME & SPENDING ANALYSIS - 2021 GENERAL OPERATING FUND

| | Year to Date: July | | | | Annual Budget |
|---|--------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| | Actual | Budget | Variance - Fav(Unfav) \$ | % | |
| OPERATING INCOME | | | | | |
| Giving & Interest | | | | | |
| Tithe & Offerings | 976,174 | 958,000 | 18,174 | 2% | \$1,770,200 |
| Charitable Grants/Other | 71,306 | 0 | 71,306 | | \$0 |
| Interest | 1,857 | 2,800 | (943) | (34%) | \$4,800 |
| Miscellaneous Income | 0 | 0 | 0 | | \$0 |
| TOTAL Giving & Interest | \$1,049,336 | \$960,800 | \$88,536 | 9% | \$1,775,000 |
| COMMISSION EXPENSES | | | | | |
| Operating Expenses | | | | | |
| Children's Ministry | (1,357) | 20,150 | 21,507 | 107% | 28,200 |
| Faith@Home | 27,897 | 24,000 | (3,897) | (16%) | 35,150 |
| Discipleship | 19,560 | 11,100 | (8,460) | (76%) | 17,250 |
| Missions - Care | 143,046 | 150,140 | 7,094 | 5% | 261,100 |
| Missions | 139,086 | 144,040 | 4,954 | 3% | 250,500 |
| Care & Prayer | 3,960 | 6,100 | 2,140 | 35% | 10,600 |
| Operations | 768,165 | 807,203 | 39,038 | 5% | 1,371,954 |
| Office Operations | 37,806 | 38,599 | 793 | 2% | 67,362 |
| Personnel | 578,205 | 611,562 | 33,357 | 5% | 1,059,607 |
| Buildings/Grounds | 96,536 | 95,050 | (1,486) | (2%) | 136,800 |
| Technology | 16,503 | 18,900 | 2,397 | 13% | 32,400 |
| Transportation | 9,214 | 8,190 | (1,024) | (13%) | 12,115 |
| Finance | 28,481 | 28,885 | 404 | 1% | 51,270 |
| Stewardship | 0 | 0 | 0 | | 1,500 |
| Hospitality | 1,421 | 6,017 | 4,596 | 76% | 10,900 |
| Youth Ministries | 326 | 16,201 | 15,875 | 98% | 30,686 |
| Worship | 13,534 | 16,410 | 2,876 | 18% | 30,660 |
| Other | 43,492 | 0 | (43,492) | | 0 |
| Income | (1,000) | 0 | 1,000 | | |
| Expense | 44,492 | 0 | (44,492) | | |
| TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES | 1,014,663 | 1,045,204 | 30,540 | 3% | 1,775,000 |
| Capital Expenses | - | 0 | - | | |
| Contingency Fund Expense | - | 0 | - | | |
| Non-Budgeted | (75,000) | 0 | 75,000 | | |
| Transfer to Building Fund | (75,000) | 0 | 75,000 | | |
| NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT) | (\$40,327) | (\$84,404) | \$44,076 | | |
| NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH | (\$40,327) | (\$84,404) | \$44,076 | | \$0 |
| CASH BALANCE BEGINNING OF PERIOD | \$ 569,109 | December 2020 | | | |
| CASH BALANCE END PERIOD | \$ 528,781 | Equal to 3.58 Months of Expenses | | | |

Financial Summary - July 2021 General Fund

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Cash Balance – Beginning of Year | \$ 569,109 |
| Tithe & Offerings/Interest | \$ 1,049,336 |
| Expenses | \$(1,014,663) |
| Non-Budgeted Transfer Building Fund | \$ (75,000) |
| Cash Balance – End of August | \$ 528,781 |
| Decreased Contingency Fund by | \$ (40,327) |
| <u>Cash in Bank Equals 3.58 Months of Expenses</u> | |

Financial Summary – July 2021 Giving Summary by Month





BUFFALO COVENANT

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