

## UPCOMING EVENTS & INFORMATION

[buffalocov.org/events](http://buffalocov.org/events)

### MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT - CHRISTMAS LOVE PROJECT

November 27, 10:10 am // Gym

Come learn more about this year's Christmas Love Project. The BCC Mission Commission team will be presenting the vision behind this year's ministry fundraiser, who it will benefit, and how you can get involved.

### WOMEN'S BANQUET

December 2, 6:30 pm // Gym

Come enjoy an evening of connection and encouragement before the hectic holiday season starts. We'll have dinner prepared for you and plenty of time for conversation at one-of-a-kind tables hosted and decorated by other BCC women. We're excited to start the holiday season with good food, great fellowship and an uplifting message from Gisela Gourley. Please RSVP by Nov 21 at [buffalocov.org/women](http://buffalocov.org/women). A free will offering will be taken to help cover the cost of food and supplies.

### FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS

December 4 // Prelude at 5:40 pm, Program at 6 pm // Worship Center

The evening will feature the Buffalo Covenant Church Choir, instrumentalists, including brass, strings, harp, flute, organ, piano, and maybe something unexpected. Come early to enjoy a prelude of traditional Christmas carols. Refreshments will be provided afterward.

### CHRISTMAS BOOKSTORE

December 4, 11 & 18, // Commons

No supply chain problems here! We've got all you need to give kids wonderful faith-based literature. The Bookstore is open Sunday mornings through Advent.

### LIVING NATIVITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

December 17 & 18, 5-7 pm // BCC

Living Nativity is our church family's gift to the local community and YOU ALL are part of the church family! This is our chance to serve and give this gift together. Sign up as a group of friends, with your family, or as an individual to "play the part" of Mary, Joseph, shepherds, wisemen, the innkeeper, singing angels, Roman soldiers, etc. Or serve "behind the scenes" making hot cocoa, serving cookies, wiping down tables, etc. Sign up in the Commons or by emailing the church office or Pastor Janine.

### COMING THIS WEEK

November 23 – No Wednesday night meal, Hang Time, Awana or 8th Grade Confirmation

November 24 – Office closed for Thanksgiving and Friday, November 25

November 27 – No Chill Out or youth Sunday school

# FRUITFUL AND FAITHFUL LIVING

BUFFALO COVENANT

11/20/22

## THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS SELF-CONTROL

Pastor Mark Stromberg

### Galatians 5:13-25

<sup>13</sup> You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love. <sup>14</sup> For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>15</sup> If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

<sup>16</sup> So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

<sup>19</sup> The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, and debauchery; <sup>20</sup> idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions <sup>21</sup> and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

<sup>22</sup> But the Fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness and self control. Against such things there is no law. <sup>24</sup> Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

## LAST BUT NOT LEAST...SELF-CONTROL

It is temperance, restraint, victory over impulse and desire, and self-mastery. It is "love in harness" and saying "no" to lesser things and "yes" to greater things. In a nutshell, it is living a balanced Christian life.

*"For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline." –2 Timothy 1:7*

## ELEMENTS OF SELF CONTROL:

### 1. Direction

*"Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."*

*–Philippians 3:13-14*

### 2. Discipline

*"Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever."*

*–1 Corinthians 9:25*

### 3. Disqualification

*"Therefore, I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize." –1 Corinthians 9:26-17*

When is a painting finished? **When it expresses the intent of its artist.**

*"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." – Ephesians 2:10*

Will we allow the Holy Spirit to enter into our surrendered lives, so that we will see a "bumper crop" of fruit in our midst?

# welcome TO BUFFALO COVENANT

## NEW TO BCC?

Here at Buffalo Covenant, you can learn, grow and connect in an authentic and biblically-based community. If you want to know more about us, or have questions on how to get connected, please stop in at the Welcome Center.

## PRAYER

For prayer requests, contact the Church Office or fill out the prayer section on the Get Connected card and return to the Welcome Center.

## CHILD CARE

Child care is provided for infants through age five (pre-k) during both 9 am and 11 am services.

## COFFEE & PASTRIES

Grab a free coffee. Purchase a \$1 pastry from the BCC youth fundraiser in the Commons.

## GIVE

Offering boxes are in the back of the Worship Center or you can give at [buffalocov.org/give](http://buffalocov.org/give).

## sunday, november 20

### WORSHIP WITH US

<b>TODAY</b>	Fruit of the Spirit: Self-Control (Gal. 5:13-26)
<b>CHILDCARE</b>	Available at 9 am and 11 am service (ages 0-5)
<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>	Classes available for all ages from 10:10-10:50 am
<b>MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT</b>	Held in the BCC gym at 10:10 am TODAY - Power in Prayer with Paster Joel McQueen November 27 - Christmas Love Project December 4 - Mexico Mission Trip Preview
<b>UPCOMING SUNDAY SERMONS</b>	<b>THE JOURNEY OF CHRISTMAS (ADVENT SERIES)</b> November 27 - The Journey of Expectation (Luke 1:26-56) December 4 - The Journey of Inquiry (Luke 2:8-20)  <b>CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM</b> December 11 - Carol and the Belles



BUFFALO COVENANT

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