

## UPCOMING EVENTS & INFORMATION

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

### PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

October is Pastor Appreciation Month – we have a great pastoral staff here at Buffalo Covenant and we encourage individuals and families to thank them for their vital service and roles. There are cards on the Commons Table available to write out a note. By showing appreciation, we recognize and encourage those whom God has called to proclaim His message and lead His people.

### WOMEN'S RETREAT

*October 13-15 / Lake Beauty Bible Camp*

We all have tough stuff in our lives - health issues, broken relationships, even loneliness. It's not always easy to see God's purpose and sometimes it's hard to believe that ANY good can come from struggles. Join us for an encouraging weekend away with stories of hope that will show you how God doesn't waste a single thing, even the hard things. Speakers will be Judy Bergstrom, Char McDonnell, Lindsay Rice and Logan Rhodes. Cost is \$130 for the weekend. Sign up at [buffalocov.org/women](http://buffalocov.org/women). **NOTE:** Last day to sign up is Monday, October 9.

### DOORS OF FREEDOM

*Monday, October 16, 6:30 pm / Youth Room*

Join us as we share the vision of this new ministry and why we are so passionate about fighting human trafficking globally and in our community. Exodus Road, a global leader in the fight against trafficking, will have a guest speaker who will present the reality of this battle in a way that brings awareness, compassion, and a desire to see God's justice. This will be an opportunity for education and to financially support Exodus Road's rescue mission. Come help launch the beginning of DOORS OF FREEDOM at BCC!

### SALT

*Tuesday, October 17, 1:30 pm / Youth Room*

Come and get to know Pastor Darren Olson and his wife Brenda. Darren will talk about his past experience and also how the programs for our youth are progressing. Enjoy the long awaited "walking tacos!"

### POPCORN & PUMPKINS

*Wednesday, October 18, 6 pm / Patio*

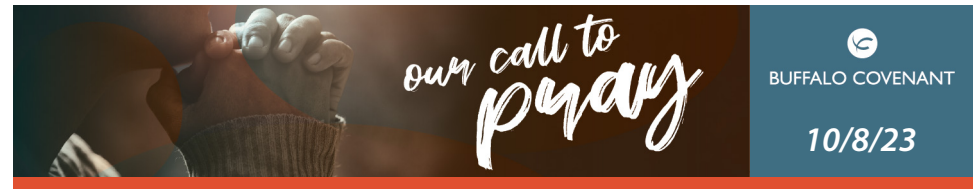
Bring your family and join us for pumpkin carving and popcorn. Pumpkins are provided. This is a free event and fun for the entire family! **NOTE:** due to Fall Break, there will be no Wednesday night meal, AWANA or Hang Time this evening.

### COMING THIS WEEK

**Mexico Mission Trip Informational Meeting:** TODAY, 12:15 pm, Room 201

**Discover BCC:** Monday, October 9, 6-9 pm, Room 201

**Women's Retreat:** Friday, October 13 - Sunday, October 15, Lake Beauty Bible Camp



## PRAYER: A BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATERS

Pastor Mark Stromberg

### James 5:13-16

*13 "Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. 14 Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. 16 Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."*

#### **"The Unseen Bridge" by Gilbert Thomas**

*"There is a bridge, whereof the span is rooted in the heart of man, and reaches without pile or rod, unto the great white throne of God.*

*Its traffic is in human sighs fervently wafted to the skies. 'Tis the one pathway from despair, and it is called the bridge of prayer."*

#### **WHAT THIS IMAGE IMPLIES:**

Bridges have to be built.

Usually a bridge is made for two-way traffic.

#### **THE PRACTICALITY OF PRAYER IN LIGHT OF WHAT JAMES ASSERTS:**

Prayer is a bridge over the troubled waters of strained relationships. (James 4:1-3)

*"What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? 2 You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. 3 When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures."*

Prayer is a bridge over the troubled waters of personal problems and physical maladies. (James 5:13-15)

*"I must have it at once"--causes me to demand an answer from God, instead of seeking God himself who gives the answer. Is today 'the third day' and He has still not done what I expected? Whenever we insist that God should give us an answer to prayer we are off track. The purpose of prayer is that we get a hold of God, not of the answer." --Oswald Chambers*

Prayer is a bridge over the troubled waters of spiritual alienation. (James 5:16)

A healing of the heart, soul, and spirit

Confessing sins to God and to one another

There's life ('Bios')...and then there's LIFE ('Zoe')!

The bridge of prayer...is it being built in your life? Does it need some rebuilding?

"So many times  
I hear people say  
'We are so busy,  
And have no time to pray!'

Why do we struggle  
With boredom each day?  
Yet, not bother taking  
Ten minutes to pray?

Yet there we are sitting  
In front of the screen,  
Texting or playing,  
- You know what I mean.

So many hours  
Are wasted each week,  
When we could be praying  
For the answers we seek.

Why is it so hard  
To set aside time,  
To find solitude  
And pray for a sign?

So let's make a plan  
At the start of each day,  
To make time for God  
And in that time pray.

—Angela Harvey Pitcher

# welcome TO BUFFALO COVENANT

## NEW TO BCC?

Here at Buffalo Covenant, you can learn, grow and connect in an authentic and biblically-based community. We want to get to know you! Scan the QR code to get connected, or stop by the Welcome Center to meet our friendly volunteers.



## COFFEE

Start your morning with a free coffee in the Commons.

## PRAYER

If you have a prayer request, you can submit it online via the QR code, or enter it on the connection card in the chair back. Drop the connection card off at the Welcome Center for our prayer team. You can also email requests to [office@buffalocov.org](mailto:office@buffalocov.org).

## GIVE

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

# sunday, october 8 WORSHIP WITH US

**TODAY** Prayer: A Bridge Over Troubled Waters with Mark Stromberg

**CHILDCARE** Available at 9 am and 11 am service (ages 0-5)

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

**HELD IN THE GYM AT 10:10 AM**  
TODAY - Oct 22 - 2 Thessalonians with Dennis Lingo  
October 29 - Teen Challenge Choir

## UPCOMING SUNDAY SERMONS

**OUR CALL TO PRAY WITH MARK STROMBERG**  
October 15 - The Necessity of Prayer



**BUFFALO COVENANT**  
[buffalocov.org](http://buffalocov.org)