

December 18, 2016

Covenant OPC is a family of followers of Christ who are committed to loving the Lord and loving each other. Our vision for ministry is to glorify God and to enjoy Him by embracing and advancing the gospel of Jesus Christ through faithful proclamation and personal witness of God's Word, actions of Christ-like love, caring fellowship and Christ-centered worship in southwestern Milwaukee, our surrounding communities and throughout the world.

We are a congregation in the Orthodox Presbyterian Church which has been proclaiming the good news of salvation from sin in Jesus Christ and planting churches throughout the United States and the world since 1936.

Covenant is a place of new beginnings, yet with its roots in the past. It is Presbyterian in that it is led by servant-leaders who serve Jesus Christ and His people. Covenant Presbyterian is a church that takes the Bible seriously. We desire to be a community that is formed and informed by His word.

The beliefs of the OPC are set forth in the Westminster Standards. These documents reflect the historical, scriptural teachings on the authority of the Bible, the necessity of faith and repentance for salvation, the conviction of salvation by grace alone and secured by the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Because "Covenant" rests on the promise of God and the completed work of Christ, "Covenant" shows great promise for the future.

If you desire more information, or are interested in becoming a member of Covenant, please contact Pastor Frank at 414.541.3282.

To contact by e-mail or to check out our church website please use:
www.covenant-opc.org

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Welcome to
Covenant
Orthodox Presbyterian Church

*A church with its roots in the past . . .
showing great promise for the future!*

*When the angels
went away from them into heaven,
the shepherds said to one another,
"Let us go over to Bethlehem
and see this thing that has happened,
which the Lord
has made known to us."*

Luke 2:15

Covenant Orthodox Presbyterian Church
4895 S. Calhoun Rd, New Berlin, WI
www.covenant-opc.org
Pastor Frank Marsh 414.541.3282

Morning Worship - 10:30 am

Prelude - please make the first note of the prelude your cue for quiet meditation

Welcome - Greeting of one another

Call to Worship the Lord: *Luke 2:8-20*

⁸ And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰ And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" ¹⁵ When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷ And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸ And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

God's Greeting - Prayer for God's Grace and Peace To Fill Our Lives.

Worship songs of praise to God

Hymn #208; O Come, All Ye Faithful (Red Trinity Hymnal)

Hymn #218; Angels, from the Realms of Glory (Red Trinity Hymnal)

Responsive Reading: Genesis 3:14-15, Isaiah 9:6, Matthew 2:18-25,

1 John 4:10-12, Hebrews 2:14-15 and Colossians 1:15-20

We listen to God and speak with Him

Congregational Prayer

Hymn #222; While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks (Red Trinity Hymnal)

We receive God's blessing and give to bless others

Tithes and Offerings: We are blessed by the Lord this morning to have Mrs. Nancy Jo Baratti singing a solo of "Gesù, Bambino" accompanied by Mr. Josh Agen and Mr. Matt Agen. Gesù Bambino is written by Pietro Yon.

God's Word speaks to us

Scripture Reading: **Luke 1:26-38** (page 855 in ESV Bible)

Sermon Title: **Are You Treating Jesus As Your Supreme Gift?**

We respond in faith

Hymn #203; Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (Red Trinity Hymnal)

Benediction

Hymn #224; Go, Tell It on the Mountain (verses 1-3) (Red Trinity Hymnal)

Responsive Reading

Genesis 3:14-15, Isaiah 9:6, Matthew 2:18-25, 1 John 4:10-12,

Hebrews 2:14-15 and Colossians 1:15-20

¹⁴ The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

¹⁵ **I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."**

⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

¹⁸ **"A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more."** ¹⁹ **But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt,**

²⁰ saying, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." ²¹ And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel.

²² **But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee.**

²³ And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.

¹⁰ **In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.**

¹¹ Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

¹⁴ **Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death,**

that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

¹⁵ **He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.**

¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.

¹⁹ **For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.**

Sunday School - 9:15 am

Please join us for Sunday School, a great opportunity to grow in your knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ and to fellowship with others around God's Word.

Adults - Led by Pastor Frank Marsh
Sunday school meets in the fireside room.

Children - Led by Jayne Langnes
Sunday school meets in the fellowship hall.

Memory work for the week of December 18:

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (ESV)

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

This Week and Upcoming Events

Custodial Care

December: Calvary Community Church
January: Covenant OPC - Nyenhuis Family
February: Calvary Community Church

Setup/Greeters

Today: DeLadurantey Family
December 24: Lisa Peterson
December 25: Ron Crown
January 1: DeLadurantey Family
January 8: Josh Agen
January 15: Becky Metz

Upcoming Events

December 20: Downtown Morning Bible Study; 7:00 am
December 20: Men's Evening Bible Study; 7:00 pm
December 22: Women's afternoon and evening Bible Study; 1:30 & 7:00 pm
December 24: Christmas Eve Service; 4:00 pm
December 25: Christmas Day Service; 10:30 am
January 1: Celebrating The Lord's Supper
January 4: Covenant Family Prayer Gathering; 7:00 pm

Covenant Praise & Prayer Requests

Praise God For Jesus Christ who is great without qualification with the greatness of being the eternal Son of God became a baby to become sin for us on the cross of Calvary so that we might have eternal life and peace in God.

Praise God that because Jesus was conceived inside the Virgin Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit He was qualified to die for our sin and was then raised from the dead by the power of God.

Praise God that the incarnation of Christ is so great because He not only died for our sins but rose again from the dead, is exalted as our supreme King and will return as our triumphant King to create a new heaven and a new earth.

Praise God for the beautiful musical accompaniment and special music that we have enjoyed this Christmas season.

Person of the week to pray for: Mary Hanson

Pray for continued encouragement and healing for Jane Konings. Pray that Jane and her family will be able to enjoy special times of being together and celebrating our Savior's birth. Pray that the Lord will fill Jane with Christ's peace and comfort.

Pray for John and Patricia Tremann for physical and spiritual encouragement and strength.

Pray that like the Virgin Mary we will recognize that by faith we must meet Jesus as Savior at His cross and trust in Him alone for eternal life and keep on trusting in Him.

Pray that we will take time to worship Christ as our Great God who became man for our salvation.

Pray that our children will grow in their love for Jesus.

Pray for those who are grieving the death of loved one's and other forms of loneliness during this Christmas season.

Pray that we will share Christ's love in actions and words with one another and the lost in our community.

Pray for President elect Donald Trump that the Lord will give him wisdom and humility before the Lord to lead our nation in ways that honor the Lord.

Pray for unsaved loved ones to come to know Jesus as Savior and Lord. Pray for children and grandchildren of believers who are addicted to drugs, alcohol and other life dominating sins to experience deliverance in Jesus.

Pray for physical healing for Rachel and Katy Sanders.

Announcements

Prayer Chain

If you would like to place a prayer request on the prayer chain it is active from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm. To place a request contact Gordon Morris at 414-526-4502.

Downtown Morning Bible Study - Tuesday, December 20

The downtown Bible Study meets at 7:00 am at the 600 East Cafe on Wisconsin Avenue. Everyone and anyone is welcome to join us for Bible Study on the book of Proverbs.

Men's Bible Study - Tuesday, December 20

Men's Bible Study is at 7:00 pm. All men are welcome! We will be studying the book "The Hole In Your Holiness" Become Who You Are.

Community Women's Bible Study - Thursday, December 22

The afternoon study is at 1:30 pm and the evening study is at 7:00 pm both are held at the home of Sharon Kolff which is located at 2950 S. 91st St in West Allis. Her phone number is 414-321-8941. All women are invited for an encouraging time of fellowship and prayer.

The Bible study for both morning and afternoon will be a 10 week study by Nancy Guthrie called The Lamb of God, Seeing Jesus in Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy.

You are invited to join us for our Christmas Eve Service this coming Saturday at 4:00 pm (note time change) at Calvary Community Church.

We will worship our Savior King Jesus Christ through Christmas hymns, reading of Scripture, a message from God's Word and then close our service gathering in a circle to light candles and sing Silent Night, Holy Night.

The time of the service has been changed from 5:00 pm to 4:00 pm because Calvary's Christmas Eve service is at 5:30 pm.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We want to wish you a very joyous and peaceful Christmas and New Year as we celebrate the birth of our Savior and look forward to all the Lord has planned for us in 2017. We thank the Lord for planting us here to serve and cherish our Lord Jesus Christ with you. We thank the Lord for His love through each of you. We look forward to serving the Lord with you and growing in His knowledge and grace together as we cling to Him and the promises of His Word together. Thank you for your prayers and support throughout this year.

May the Lord pour His tender mercies and His unfailing peace into each of your lives as you celebrate His birth with your family. May He fill you with the assurance of His care in the New Year as we follow Him together.

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Frank, Debbie, Hannah, Elizabeth and Rachel

Announcements

2016 Thank Offering

The total given for the 2016 Thank Offering was \$3687.00.

Upcoming Events

Lord's Supper - Sunday, January 1

The Lord's Supper will be observed and celebrated.

Covenant Family Prayer Gathering - Wednesday, January 4

Held from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm in Pastors office. You are invited to our prayer gathering as we gather together to share our praise and prayer requests and to lift them up before the Lord. If you have any prayer requests, please e-mail them or call them in to Pastor Frank so that we can intercede on your behalf and others behalf before God's Throne of Grace.

Donation Opportunity - Sunday, January 22

Our next special collection opportunity will be on Sunday, January 22, 2017, when we will be collecting diapers and baby wipes for Bethany Christian Services. Bethany Christian Services provides pregnancy counseling and resources for people adopting a baby for the first time. The local agency is based in Waukesha, and they will include the diapers and wipes we donate in their care packages for new parents. This is a great way for us to show our support of a pro-life ministry in a very practical way.

As well as baby wipes, diaper sizes newborn, 3, 4 and 6 are most needed currently, but all sizes are welcome. Please bring your donations to church on January 22 and set them by the Covenant mailboxes in the Fellowship Hall.

If you have any questions, please contact Josh Agen at 734-645-4482 or jaagen@hotmail.com. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Annual Congregation Meeting - Monday evening, January 23, 2017

Men Save-the-Date - February 24 & 25, 2017

The 5th annual Presbytery of Midwest Men's Retreat will be held at the Green Lake Conference Center in Green Lake, WI. The speaker will be Rev. Dale Van Dyke. Theme: Oak Trees In a Tumbleweed World; Standing Strong In a Secular Society. More information to be forthcoming.