

## Connecting people to God with the message of God's love!



# Covenant

Covenant Lutheran Church  
VOLUME 15, ISSUE #8  
August 2013

Following a recent discussion during council there is a flag once again displayed within the church. During that discussion, I gave a brief history of the display of flags during church, and some members of the council asked if I might write it down for the newsletter.

The flag that you may have recognized as a Christian Flag . . . isn't. There is no unified Christian flag. Our symbol is the cross, proclaiming Christ crucified and risen (a stumbling block – 1 Cor 1:23). Flags, on the other hand, descend from the military standard, a sign to rally forces during battle. Which is why, in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, when military symbolism within the church was at its peak (cf. The Salvation Army, founded in 1865, “Onward Christian Soldiers”, written in 1865, “Soldiers of the King”, from 1900) the World Sunday School Association designed a flag for use in rallying students. It would be used during the service, after the readings (possibly during the hymn of the day, sung before the sermon) to lead the children out of the sanctuary and to class, so that they might not disturb the sermon or interfere with communion. The flag was an aid to understanding for children and adults alike, as Sunday School was at that point in a time of transition from a full day of formal education (the one day a week children weren't working in factories) to biblical and doctrinal education, coinciding with the rise of public schooling circa 1860 and compulsory education in 1900-1910.

The other flag is a very different subject: the American Flag. Traditionally, as a sanctuary, a safe place set aside for the worship of God, there were no national flags in churches. As Christianity breaks through boundaries (neither Jew nor Greek, Gal. 3:28), the sanctuary is meant to carry only signs and symbols of the Christian faith. Associated with this is the right of “Sanctuary” (think Quasimodo in the Hunchback of Notre Dame), providing a form of legal and political asylum, protection from the secular world that threatened them. Even now, refugees of civil wars find themselves seeking sanctuary, and finding it within churches – and the displaying of a flag of a nation attempting to harm them is troubling, to say the least.

Sentiment began to change, however, in the U.S. during the world wars, particularly among German Lutheran churches. At that time, in many of those churches, there were still services being held in the German Language, and with America at war with Germany, suspicions rose up about the loyalties of these German Lutherans. After all, people said, “They all live close by each other, isolated from us ‘real Americans’, they speak that other language, and in their churches... who can say what they are *really* teaching?” If this sounds a little overwrought, just remember what happened to Japanese-Americans during WWII. So in an attempt to allay fears about where their loyalties truly lay, American Flags started appearing in the sanctuary, and haven't really left. Since then, they have acted as signs and symbols of comfort for the returning servicemen, and a marker that even in our most holy places, we acknowledge their sacrifices.

Pastor Joshua



Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has set up a Schwan's fundraiser to help with expenses for an infant with spina bifida. We are currently taking orders for their products. Catalogs and order blanks are available at Covenant Lutheran and Trinity Lutheran Churches.

Orders for gift cards can be made online at [www.schwans.com](http://www.schwans.com) or by phone by calling 1-888-724-9267. Gift cards will be mailed to you, so if you're unable to be here on the delivery day, gift cards are a good option. Other orders will be available for pick up from the truck at Covenant Lutheran on August 2nd and 3rd from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm.

Please place your orders ahead of time so they will be ready for pick up on the above dates. When ordering, be sure to include the Campaign #43756 so that we will receive credit for that order.

We will receive 20% of the profits from what is sold and our goal is to sell over \$3,000 worth of Schwan's products.

If you have any questions call Jim Lockwood at 241-0233

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The annual blood drive sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will be held Monday, August 19th at Covenant Lutheran Church from 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Our goal is to collect 55 pints, and this year the supply of negative blood type is in high demand. Please consider donating regardless of your blood type!!

Your donation process will be made easier if you eat properly, drink plenty of fluids and avoid caffeine that day. Also, remember to bring your photo ID and donor card if you have one.

You may make your appointment online at [www.bloodhero.com](http://www.bloodhero.com) (sponsor code Wheatland) or by calling Arlene Robbins at 322-9250. You can also go online at [www.bloodservices.org](http://www.bloodservices.org) and do a self-interview by completing the Health History questionnaire on the DAY of your donation. Print the ticket and bring it to your appointment to ensure a quicker and smoother donation process.

Thank you in advance for your life-saving donation of blood!!

**WOMEN'S BIRTHDAYS &  
 ANNIVERSARIES FOR**  
*August*

*Birthdays this month are:*

*6th—Karen Skari  
 13th—Allison Boettcher  
 23rd—Ruth Johnson  
 24th—Sarah Jesse  
 26th—Natalie DeRyk &  
 Mary Ann Wilhelm*

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*Anniversaries this month are:*

*2nd Frank & Sarah Jesse  
 17th Merl & Dorothy Lockwood  
 Wayde & Laura Lauck  
 18th Kim & John Jeffords  
 19th Don & Judy Race  
 24th Thad & Tifanie Ehde  
 30th Larry & Joan McKee*



**THANK YOU** to Roseanne Solomonson and Bev Orr, daughters of Dottie Steeley for donating a sewing machine to Covenant Lutheran Church. They gave it to the church to use for Diaper Day and for anyone who needs to sew something up but doesn't have a machine of their own.

We used the sewing machine at our last Diaper Day and it worked great! It is in the Joy Room in a cabinet and can be moved for use as needed.

Thanks again, Roseanne and Bev!!

***VISITATION COMMITTEE***

First of all, we would like to give a big **THANK YOU** to Lil Prince for her devoted service to this committee for many years. Those whom you visited greatly appreciated your time and effort. The committee will miss your faithful service. Thanks, Lil!

We would like to introduce our newest member, Nadine Morris. She is new to our congregation and a real jewel. We welcome her to both our congregation and our committee.

Our mission is to visit our shut-in members with CDs and bulletins. We also welcome visitors with information about congregation activities and a loaf of bread. We are available to visit any member who might be confined to home by illness or as they recover from surgery. If you, or someone you know, are in need of our services, please contact the church office at 322-9423 or CLCWheatland@gmail.com.

If you are interested in helping by serving on the Visitation Committee we would be more than happy to have you. Please contact Dorothy Lockwood at 322-4892.

**COVENANT LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**July 18, 2013**

**Call to Order:**

Meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm

**Devotions:**

Devotions were led by Stu Hammersmark

**Roll Call:**

**Present:** Thad Ehde, Pastor Joshua, Jim Lockwood, Nancy Lubeck, Red Taylor, Reno Taylor, Stu Hammersmark, Connie Thomas, Joel McKee. Guest speaker from Platte County Foster care, Anne Petroski

**Absent:** Melissa Garcia, Sarah Rodocker, Rick Robbins, Lee Morrison, C.A. Thomas, Christy Watkins, Cody Garcia

**Additions to Agenda:** Congregation Comments

**Thrift Store:** Took in \$8097.25. Gave out \$154.51 in assistance in addition to the van rides to Cheyenne. Was able to pay off loan on van. Looking for a van with a ramp to purchase.

**Correspondence:** Received a fundraising letter from National Jewish Health regarding uranium workers. Council also reviewed a letter to go out to the County assessor regarding the 714 9<sup>th</sup> St. property.

**Reports:**

**Secretary:** Nancy moved, and Joel 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept report as written. Motion passed. *Posted on bulletin board.*

**Financial Secretary:** Reno moved, and Red 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept report as written. Motion passed. *Posted on bulletin board.*

**Treasurer:** Jim moved, Nancy 2<sup>nd</sup> to accept report as written. Motion Passed. *Posted on bulletin board.*

**President:** We are proud to announce that Sarah Jesse has accepted the position of Church Secretary. She has been in position for about 3 weeks and has been putting out the bulletins. She will have a Newsletter out for August.

**Elders:** All is good. Nancy complimented their money counting accuracy.

**Trustees:** No trustees present, but reported that mowing was going to be easier, Transitions into bathrooms completed.

**Pastor:** Pastor asks for your prayers as he faces surgery this week. Full report available. *Posted on bulletin board.*

**Committee Reports:**

**Education:** VBS was a great success. They had 40+ grade-schoolers and 20+ preschoolers participate. 5 different churches were involved, UCC, Episcopal, Catholic, Methodist and Covenant. All the kids had a great time.

**Youth:** Nothing going on right now.

**Stewardship:** Thanks to everyone who filled out the “Thinking of You” cards. We have over 90 and they will be on their way to Walter Reed hospital soon.

**Worship:** Praise In The Park will be July 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am at the band shell. Blessing of the backpacks will be late August or early September. Watch your newsletter.

**Women of ELCA:** Nothing going on right now, but still looking at a summer Bible study.

**Hospitality:** Had a baby shower for Wilson Hunzeker 7/17/13, it was well attended.

**Men of Covenant:** 7 men met for breakfast at A&W.

**Outreach:** Nothing new. Look for article in newsletter.

**Altar Guild:** Nothing new.

**Landscape:** Had a good work day 7/13/13we are currently waiting for our stone to show up. We will schedule another work day soon. 5 visitors have visited our prayer garden letterbox.

**Old Business:** Marge has decided to rescind her offer to sell the 866 Gilchrist property to Covenant Lutheran Church at this time.

**New Business:** Anne Petroski, from Platte County Foster Care Association came to explain their current situation and ask for our help in setting up their checking account under our 501-C (3) umbrella. The PCFCA is an organization that assists foster families with needs not met by Dept. of Family Services, mainly Christmas gifts and diapers. The PCFCA does all their own fundraising and has no assets other than the checking account which usually has less than a \$2000.00 balance. Joel moved, and Connie 2<sup>nd</sup> to allow the PCFCA to open a separate checking account under our 501-C (3) umbrella. The checking account would require 2 signatures, one from the church and one from the PCFCA. For now Nancy Lubeck and Reno Taylor will be signatory's for the church and Deana Haeffelin will be the signatory for the PCFCA. Church signatories will be assigned to a council position at the next Annual Meeting. Motion carried.

We had discussion, and history lesson on flags in the church. After agreeing that the American flag, while not a Christian symbol, does represent an ability to worship freely in this country. So it was decided by council to display the flag in the back of the sanctuary. It was also decided that we did not need to display the International Sunday School flag.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer

Next Council Meeting 8/8/13

Devotions for next Meeting: Pastor Josh

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jim Lockwood, Secretary

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

6th	McKenna Garcia
8th	Bob Scholten
9th	Woody Shore
10th	Ben Harnish
12th	Marcus Catchpole
13th	Wade Jenkins
15th	Kevin Thomas
16th	Don Race
17th	Quinn Zimmerman
18th	Joe Garcia
19th	Ron Bosch
21st	Don Dingman
	Larry McKee
29th	Kyle Lauck
30th	Delmar Bitterman

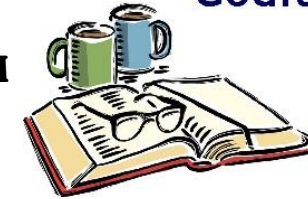
### MISSION STATEMENT

We covenant ourselves to gather around Word and Sacrament for mutual support and strength in Christ, that by God's grace we:

- Proclaim the gospel of the Kingdom
- Nurture the community through Christian Education
- Provide settings for Christian fellowship, and
- Equip the membership to be Christ's servant people

### GODFATHERS

**MEET AT 7:30 AM  
SATURDAY,  
August 3rd  
AT**



**Godfathers**

**A & W**

**ALL MEN ARE INVITED TO COME !**

## VBS 2013



**Vacation Bible School 2013**

Vacation Bible School was held on July 8-12 at Lewis Park. Five churches participated; UCC, All Saints Episcopal, United Methodist, St. Patrick's Catholic Church, and Covenant. Approximately 45 grade-schoolers and 20 preschoolers attended. Activities included making tie-dye shirts, singing at the nursing home, and water day. A program and ice cream social were held on Thursday night to share what was learned during the week. A good time was had by all!!

# AUGUST SERVERS

## ELDERS

8-4 Christy Watkins  
8-11 Joel McKee  
8-18 Rick Robbins  
8-25 Connie Thomas

## COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

8-4 Connie Thomas  
8-11 Christy Watkins  
8-18 Joel McKee  
8-25 Rick Robbins

## ACOLYTES

8-4 Amy Sluss  
8-11 Grady Haeffelin  
8-18 Sierra Jeffords  
8-25 Gage Brown

## USHERS

8-4 Floyd Ingold & Slick Seidel  
8-11 Larry & Joan McKee  
8-18 Woody & Karen Shore  
8-25 Steve Seim & Floyd Ingold

## READERS

8-4 Larry McKee  
8-11 Lisa Young  
8-18 Larry McKee  
8-25 Earl Schumann

## GREETERS

8-4 Floyd & Peggy Ingold  
8-11 Dave & Lisa Young  
8-18 Carolyn Walters  
8-25 Bob & Sharon Catchpole

## MUSICIAN

8-4 Mary Seim  
8-11 Nancy Schumann  
8-18 Lisa Young  
8-25 Sarah Rodocker

## ALTAR CARE

8-4 Gail Mattern  
8-11 Lorretta Lauck  
8-18 Suzanne Strom  
8-25 Marge Scholten

## VISITATION


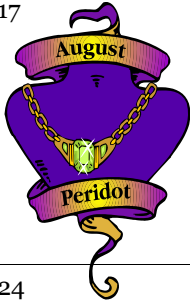


8-4 Lil Prince  
8-11 Cheryl Meier  
8-18 Dorothy Lockwood  
8-25 Bill Windmeier

## FELLOWSHIP/TREATS

8-4 McKees  
8-11 McKees  
8-18 Woody & Karen Shore  
8-25 Cindy Anderson

If you are unable to serve on your scheduled date, PLEASE CONTACT SOMEONE IN THAT CATEGORY AND MAKE A TRADE; THIS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY. Please call or email Sarah at the church office (322-9423 / CLCWheatland@gmail.com) with your trade info so that it can be included correctly in the Sunday Bulletin. THANK YOU!

# August 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM	2 SCHWAN'S FUND- RAISER PICK-UP 12:00-6:00	3 MEN'S GROUP 7:30 AM  SCHWAN'S FUNDRAISER PICK-UP 12:00- 6:00
4	5	6 PRAISE BAND 6:00 PM	7	8 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM  COUNCIL MEETING 7:00 pm	9	10
11	12	13 PRAISE BAND 6:00 PM	14	15 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM	16	17 
18	19 THRIVENT BLOOD DRIVE 12:00—6:00 PM 	20 NO DIAPER DAY  WELCA BIRTHDAY LUNCH 11:30 AM  PRAISE BAND 6:00 PM  WORSHIP COMMITTEE	21 THRIVENT MEETING 8:00 PM	22 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!   BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM	23	24
25 PRAISE BAND CONCERT @ LEWIS PARK	26	27 PRAISE BAND 6:00 PM	28	29 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM	30	31

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Office: CLCWheatland@gmail.com  
Pastor: pastorjoshua@wyomingwireless.com

**Office Hours:**  
Pastor Bruns—Tues.—Fri.: 9am—12 pm  
Office: Mon.— Fri: 9:00 am—12: pm  
Sunday Worship: 9:00 am—Sunday  
Sunday School: 10:30 am - Sunday  
Adult Bible Study: 10:15 am—Sunday  
Confirmation: 10:30 am—Sunday