

The Promise

The People of Covenant are called to:
gather, grow and go serve with Gods Love!



November 2022 The Monthly Newsletter of Covenant Lutheran Church, ELCA

Inside This Issue

1. A note from the Pastor
2. Council Announcements
3. Call Team News
4. Volunteer Schedule
5. Opportunities to Bless
8. Invited to Connect
11. Treasurer Report
12. Property Committee
14. Stewardship
16. Education Information
19. Social Action Invitation
20. Clothing Center
21. Gratitude
27. Community Opportunities
28. Contact Information

Dear Covenant Community,

We have had a very full fall! September was Rally Day/God's Work. Our Hands, the start of Sunday School, baptism and my installation. In October we kicked off our Stewardship Pledge Drive, heard the Report of the Call Team and ended our Stewardship Pledge Drive with WAFFLES! Thank you to the Call Team for their diligent work in pulling together all of the information for all of us as we move forward in ministry together. And, thank you to everyone for participating in our stewardship pledge drive. May you be blessed by intentional, regular, generous and joyful giving so that you grow closer to Jesus.

November brings its own remembrances and celebrations:

November 6, All Saints Sunday we will remember our beloved who have died and the saints still living among us. November 13, we will receive new members.

Wednesday, Nov. 23, Thanksgiving Eve, we restart the Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve service at 7pm at St. Ann's. Sunday, Nov. 27, Advent starts.

As we move into November and our season of gratitude, I give thanks for the work of the Holy Spirit that has brought us together and inspires, guides and challenges us to do the work God is calling us to do. I give thanks for Covenant and the work to meet the needs of those far and near. I give thanks for the many hours our council and ministry leads and teams offer for the work of Jesus in this day and age.

Having just celebrated Reformation, I give thanks for Martin Luther and the other reformers that formed the foundations of our Lutheran faith. At this time we have the opportunity to consider how to re-form Covenant "after" a pandemic and with a new senior pastor. What an exciting time to be God's hands and feet in the world!



Council Announcement

A special thank you to all who donated to the “Help our Sister Parish” drive this past month. Our congregation collected \$550. This amount is being generously matched by the Covenant Foundation. A check for \$1,100 will be sent to our sister parish, Ascension Lutheran Church in Dorado Puerto Rico, to help them help their neighbors as they get back on their feet following Hurricane Fiona and much flooding. God is Good!

The end of the year is fast approaching. Our current constitution calls for a congregational meeting in December to vote on various positions that need to be filled in our church for 2023. Our meeting will be held Sunday, December 11th following our worship service. A newly appointed Nominating Committee will be working hard to find individuals to serve on the 2023 Council, the Audit Committee, delegates to the Synod Assembly, the 2023 Nominating Committee and our congregation’s representatives for Skaalen and Lutherdale. We will also be voting for individuals to serve on the Foundation in January 2023. These leadership positions are very important in the life of our church. If you know of someone who you would like to suggest to take on one of these roles or if you are interested, please put the name and the name of the position in the leadership suggestion box that will be in the Narthex for the next few weeks. I am sure you know persons that you would be comfortable with in positions of leadership in our church. Let them know that you recognize their skills and talents by bringing their name forward. Anyone that is suggested will be contacted to see if they are interested and willing.

Penny Vodak, Tom Christian, Pastor Wendy and I have been working on updating Covenant’s Constitution and Bylaws. We are working with the Model Constitution for Congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America which contains changes adopted by all churchwide assemblies, including the sixteenth Churchwide Assembly in 2022. Our current constitution was last updated in 2012. There have been modifications to this model four times in the past ten years (2013, 2016, 2019 and now in 2022). Covenant has not made these changes during this 10-year period up until now. Many amendments in the constitution are required amendments and when a congregation makes updates, they must be included word-for-word as presented in the model constitution. The synod also provides verbiage for amendments that are not required word-for-word, but can be included in the revised constitution with some variation if the congregation chooses. Ultimately, whatever changes are made, the changes need to be approved by our Synod. It is our goal that we will be able to share a draft of the updated constitution with the congregation for approval at our annual meeting in January 2023. Since Covenant hasn’t made changes to its constitution in the last ten years, there are several updates. We plan to have at least one listening session sometime in January to review these updates and answer any questions you may have so we will be ready to vote for approval at the annual meeting.

Stay tuned.



**Give Thanks to the Lord for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!**

Psalm 107:1

Call Team News

Covenant's Call Team recently completed its assigned responsibilities. It concluded by writing a summary of its findings, and presented it to the congregation on Sunday, October 23rd.

As part of its work, a major task of the Team was to gather congregational feedback about Covenant's past issues and conflicts, traits of the congregation in the present, and their vision, hopes and dreams for its future. To gather input, the Team created an 18' timeline which hung on the sanctuary wall. Members could then post messages on the timeline. The Team also collected feedback from members by having small group discussions with the Council, staff, committees, other organized groups, and interested congregational members via zoom, written surveys, and after-church meetings.

After compiling the comments from the small groups and the timeline project, the Team met to analyze and evaluate the comments. They then sorted out the major themes and ideas which flowed throughout them. The summary captured those themes and ideas.

The summary will now be sent to the Synod office, with copies given to Pastor Wendy and the congregation. The Council, committees and other church groups will be given the opportunity to use the summary as a guideline to direct them in addressing any significant issues or planning activities for Covenant's future.

Covenant members may request a copy of the summary by contacting the church at 608 873-7494 or picking one up at church.

The Team was honored to be a part in selecting Pastor Wendy for our new senior pastor, and is excited about our ministry going forward. They appreciated all of the prayers, support and thoughtful comments the congregation made along its journey.

Your Call Team:

Chris Melland (Chair), Mark Herbst (Co-chair), Ingrid Thompson (Communications), Craig McCullum (Secretary), Denise Pigarelli (Spiritual Guide), Judy Heil (alternative), Jocelyn Edwards (alternative) and Penny Vodak (Council liaison)



Volunteer Schedule

Sunday Worship 2022

Role	Nov 6	Nov 13	Nov 20	Nov 27
Assistant Minister	Thompson, Ingrid	Oakland, Deb	Andrusz, Kathy	Nelson, Thomas P.
Lector	Angerhofer, Makenna	Diebold, Jessica	Tarpinian, Gary	Royston, Rebecca
Usher Team Leader	Nissler, Karl	Westrand, Tamarine	Sime, Norm	Chose, Thomas
Ushers	Anderson, Thor Eversoll, Mike Grefsheim, Larry Olson, Larry E Pietruszynski, Oliver	Heil, Matthew Heil, Judy Tarpinian, Gary Vodak, Greg	Christian, Thomas Seamonson, Mark Sime, Jean	Cope, Jack Cope, Helga Maag, Ella Pietruszynski, Oliver Surrell, Jude
Communion Assistant	Peterson, Kristin Peterson, Jeff	Peterson, Kristin Peterson, Jeff	Peterson, Kristin Peterson, Jeff	Peterson, Kristin Peterson, Jeff
Altar Guild	Sime, Jean	Sime, Jean	Sime, Jean	Sime, Jean

Here are the Worship Volunteer schedules for the month.

Please let the office know if you are unable to make your scheduled date or if you are interested in serving but not currently being scheduled.

Amanda will be happy to get you on the volunteer schedule as your time allows!

Have extra time? Care to cook for members?

Marijo Vols is organizing a group to provide meals to members returning home after a hospital or rehab visit.

The idea is to prepare casseroles, soups, brownies, bars, or other easily frozen meal and dessert items, in the kitchen at Covenant as a group. To be delivered to members as needed. If you are interested in helping with this ministry group please contact Marijo Vols!

Email: dvols1@charter.net or 608-873-0622

After gaging interest Marijo will set a date to meet and discuss!

Thank you for your kindness!

Poinsettia Orders



Please indicate quantity:

_____ 6 ½ inch pot \$16.00

_____ 7 ½ inch pot \$ 35.00

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

_____ I would prefer to provide my own plant and will bring it to the church by Tuesday, December 20.

_____ I prefer to make a donation to the Stoughton Food Pantry.

Signed: _____

The notice in the church bulletin should read as follows:

In *Loving memory of*: _____

Given by _____

In *Honor of* _____

Given by _____

Please return this form to the Covenant office by Wednesday, November 28. We ask that you pick up your poinsettia sometime between Christmas Day (after 9:30 worship) and New Year’s Day. If you are unable to pick up your plant, please make arrangements with the church office. 608-873-7494

Covenant Lutheran Church,
1525 N. Van Buren St.,
Stoughton, WI 53589



Opportunities to Bless



Help Triangle Community Ministry (TCM) build a washcloth and bath towel tree for residents at this year's Christmas celebration on Monday, December 19! Towels and washcloths will be given to residents as gifts at the celebration and throughout the year.

Bring new or gently used washcloths and large bath towels to the church for collection by **Sunday, December 11.**

Washcloths and towels should be light to medium weight - heavy towels take too long to dry.

No white or light colors, please.



Thank you for your participation in this important ministry to Madison's underserved population.

May we start each day with a grateful heart!! Continuing to be a blessing to those not yet given the opportunity to be as fortunate as we have found ourselves to be!



HOST FAMILY

Stoughton area Host A Family has announced that for the 2022 holiday season, they will return to its traditional format. As soon as they are up and running, Covenant will be assigned 4-5 families. We will put up a display of the requests for members to choose from sometime in November.

Donations will be picked up by December 4th so it's a pretty quick turnaround!

Please let us know if you are able to help with the display and/or delivering the gifts to Lakeview Church.



Galatians 6:2

"Carry each other's burdens and so you will fulfill the law of Christ."

Acts 20:35

"It is more blessed to give than to receive."



Luke 6:30

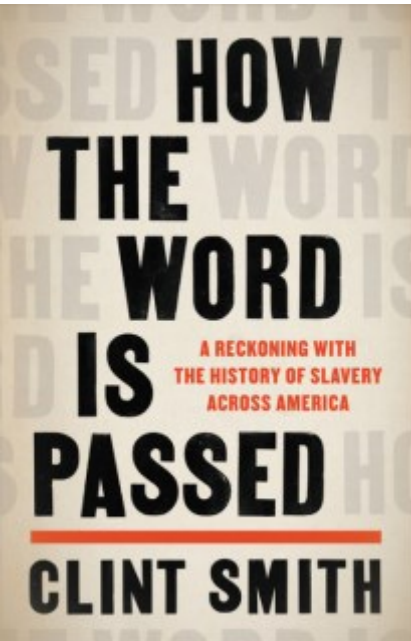
³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back.

Luke 6:37-38

³⁷ "Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you.

Covenant Lutheran Book Club

Discussing:
How the Word is Passed
by Clint Smith



Meeting: Thursday, November 17, at 1pm

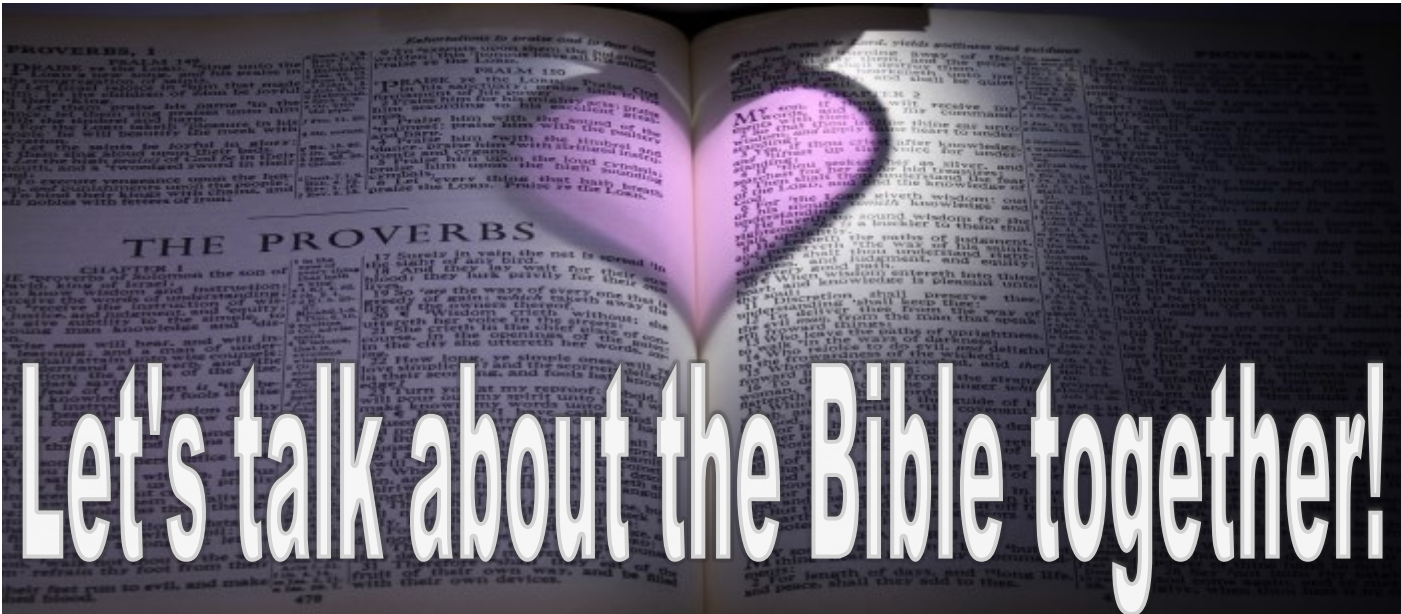
At Cynthia Liddle's home.

We Encourage Everyone to Join,
contact the office for more information!



Wednesday Evenings Bible Study

Join Wednesdays @ 7pm
in-person in the Gateway Room or via zoom!
[Click here to Join the Zoom Meeting](#)



Invited to Connect

We have a New Name- *The Vocal Choir* -Come Sing With Us!



As you look at your bulletin or read the information projected on the screen during worship, you may notice that the Senior Choir is now called the *Vocal Choir*. Why the name change?

"Senior" was a useful designation in the days when congregations had Senior, Junior, and Children's (or Cherub) Choirs. Today, however, it has a different connotation.

We want to make it clear that all singers, high school age and up, are welcome. You don't need to be a senior in high school or college or a senior citizen to add your voice to the chorus!

We rehearse at 8:15 on Sunday mornings in the music room (next to the columbarium) **please join us!** For more information, contact Beth Gardner (bethgardner5678@gmail.com or 608-873-9426) or talk to any choir member.



Invited to Connect



**Requesting 3 volunteers
to prepare and serve food**

10:30am-1:30pm,

the second Friday of each month

(November 11th) at St. Marks in Madison



If you are able to help please contact Pat Johnson at
608-535-0441 or johnson.pat.skip@gmail.com.

Mark those calendars, and contact Pat today!



Looking for an **Easy, Stress Free** way
to **Get Involved** at Covenant Lutheran Church?



We have opportunities for you!!

Is it a weekly, monthly or seldom commitment you are looking for?
We have many ways to get involved!

Sunday Worship Service Assistants

Weekday Service Prep

Church Committees

Sunday School

& Much More!



Contact the office if you're interested in information
on our current Volunteer Opportunities!



Treasurer's Report

SEPTEMBER 2022

INCOME	Current Month Actual	Same Month Last Year Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Last Year
Contributed Income	14,113.00	16,246.00	172,231.52	191,250.03	154,190.81
Misc. Benevolence	-	-	7,590.00	599.99	-
Other Income	3,606.70	348.19	17,890.52	34,423.51	22,604.26
TOTAL INCOME	17,719.70	16,594.19	197,712.04	226,273.53	176,795.07
EXPENSE					
Mission Partners	2,027.44	1,622.90	23,539.09	19,125.73	17,599.67
Staff	21,097.32	11,298.47	136,893.90	142,374.04	89,623.96
Education	788.04	57.28	6,141.38	4,950.00	785.79
Stewardship	-	-	-	525.01	233.5
Congregational Life	295.07	358.94	578.26	562.53	394.94
Social Action	139.88	58.00	239.88	750.01	308
Worship & Music	468.05	736.73	7,737.27	5,475.01	2,865.72
Office Administration	3,161.98	2,208.68	21,446.16	20,598.78	16,852.31
Occupancy	3,152.91	3,547.18	30,424.79	31,912.51	27,411.16
TOTAL EXPENSE	31,130.69	19,888.18	227,000.73	226,273.62	156,075.05
INCOME – EXPENSE	-13,410.99	-3,293.99	-29,288.69	-0.09	20,720.02

I hereby submit financials for September as approved by council. Per usual, we are fairly on target with our overall budget total; however, expenses continue to exceed total income. Our expenses were unusually high this month due to a variety of reasons that I don't expect for October. Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Donna Tarpinian, Treasurer





Air Conditioning in the Education Wing

Over the summer, air conditioning was added to the upper and lower floors of the Education Wing. This was done to increase the usability and air quality of the rooms in that area. Included in the installation is a new control system that is state-of-the-art and easy to use. The old air handlers were replaced with new ones that can either heat or cool the air. Variable speed fan motors will adjust the air flow based on needs of the building. The pictures below show the major components of the new system.



Outside AC Compressors – One for each Floor

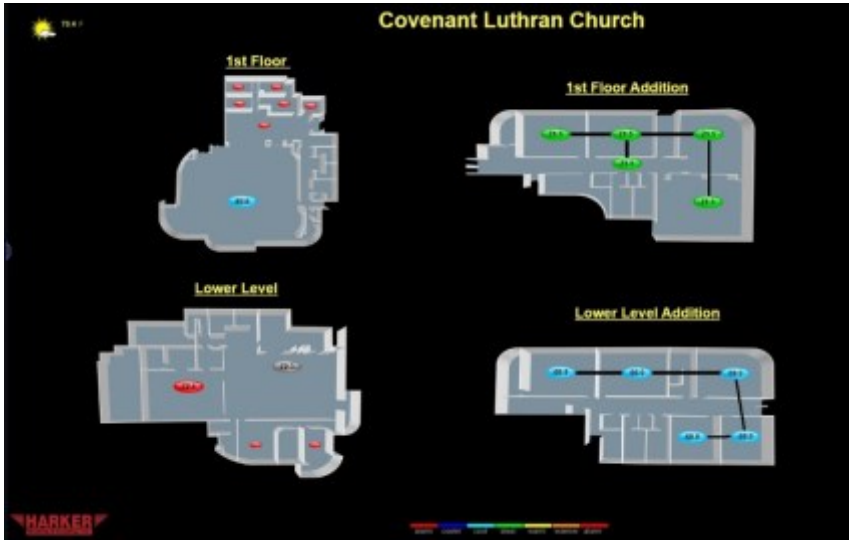


Air Handlers – One for each floor

Property Committee



Hardware Controllers



New Monitoring Software

The new air handling system will give us plenty of flexibility when we decide how the rooms in the Education Wing can be used.

Special thanks to the Covenant Endowment Foundation for funding this project.

Peace and Friendship,
Mike Gilbert



Covenant's 2023 Stewardship





Growth Steps Giving Challenge

- † Find the step that matches your current weekly giving.
- † Prayerfully consider increasing your giving by one step, or increase by 1%

Please Prayerfully consider returning your pledge card, if you haven't yet done so already.

Thank you to all who helped organize, cook and those who attended the Stewardship Waffle Brunch!!

What percentage of income do you give?

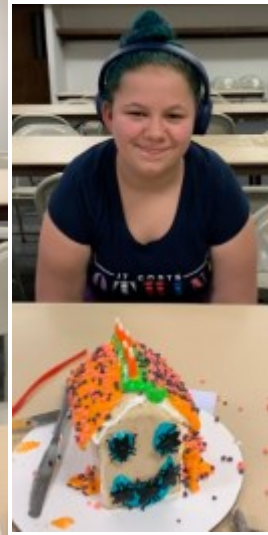
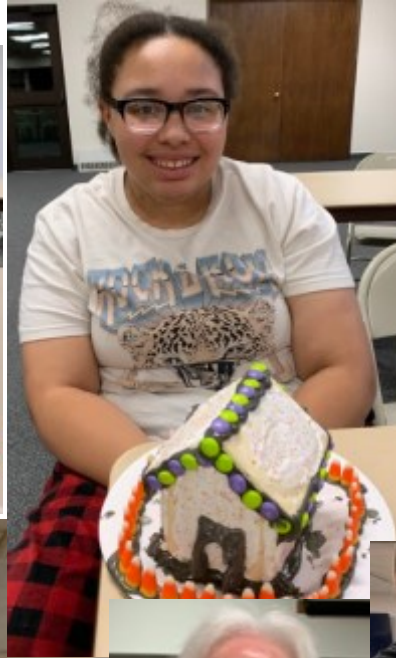
$$\frac{\text{Weekly giving}}{\text{Weekly income}} = \text{Percentage of giving}$$

(.10 = 10%)



What Shall I Return to the Lord?

Haunted House Craft was a Success



Thank You for Attending!



Education Information

Sunday School students have their first family-centered service experience. Any skits that reflect the gospel will be moved closer to the reading of the gospel. The kids jumped into different jobs during the service and were helped by the adults who were at the service. They will be deciding what to do with the current funds in the ELCA Good Gifts account. There is enough money to purchase several different options of animals with the current funds. The students will decide to save the money for a larger purchase (a cow or family farm) or what they want to purchase to help others.



Cow

One dairy cow can produce a few gallons of calcium-packed milk each day. A family can receive the nutrition they need and also start a small business selling extra milk, cheese and more. With food, funds and fertilizer, the gift of a cow has got it all.



Family farm

Help a family break the cycle of hunger and poverty — for good. With eggs, milk and meat to eat and sell, and tools and training to increase the harvest, this gift can create a world of opportunity for a family living in poverty.



Thank you for your help with this special project!

Don't miss our 'Parent's Day Out' Opportunity

There will also be a Parent's Day Out opportunity coming up on December 4th. Children who are potty trained can stay at the church from 11:00-3:00 to give parents an opportunity to take care of shopping or holiday preparation. There will be a sign-up and registration for families who want their children to attend. There will also be a sign-up for members who would like an opportunity to help out for a few hours. Our plan is to provide a meal, some crafts, games, and a movie option.



It's okay to take a break, let Covenant help!

Care to help connect with High School Youth?
We'd love your help!!

We would like to begin offering some activities for high school youth.
We have some ideas for November and December.

We would love some extra adults involved, especially a few males!

**Please prayerfully discern if this is an area you could try out
and see if it's a good fit for you.**

Contact Pastor Wendy if interested or
to suggest someone you think would be good with youth.

**Do you remember
Sunday School?**

There are many opportunities
to lend a hand and help create
great memories for the current
children of Covenant.

**No commitment is too
small, we only ask that you
practice radical acceptance
of all of our children!**



Social Action Invitation



**Meeting Hybrid by Zoom and in the
Gateway room**

November 14th at 6:30 pm

**Scan the QR code below to join the zoom
meeting.**



You can also click [Here](#) to Join the Zoom Meeting!





Stoughton Clothing Center helps everyone!



The Stoughton Clothing Center receives daily requests for winter jackets, snow pants, insulated mittens/gloves and boots. If you have gently used winter outerwear especially in children's sizes we can get them into the hands of families who need them!

Everyone is welcome to shop the Stoughton Clothing Center!

No referral or identification is needed!



Our current schedule is posted on our website (www.stoughtonclothingcenter.com). We are also open by appointment via email at contact@stoughtonclothingcenter.com or message us through our Facebook page The Clothing Center.

The Stoughton Clothing Center is located at the back entrance of Covenant Lutheran Church. Typical weekly hours are Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10 am – noon, and Thursdays from 10 am – 5:30 pm.

The Clothing Center is extremely appreciative for the partnership with Covenant as they work to serve a need in our community.



Together we build a Safe, Supportive Community!



Thank you to our
**Members, Volunteers, Friends, Neighbors,
Musicians, Pastor and Staff!**

Covenant Lutheran Church **SURVIVES** on the
DEDICATION & LOVE you **SHARE!**

The world is blessed by your generosity
Blessings to you as you continue to bless others
May God's Grace and Love Surround you always!

Gratitude



**Much gratitude is sent from
Pastor Wendy**

for all of the prayers, flowers,
cards, gifts and the many
ways she has been
celebrated!

Thank you so very much Covenant!



Thank You for
the Gift Certificate
It is greatly
appreciated.
Michael Munch



Gratitude



Everyone deserves a home to have their hat.

Dear Covenant Congregation,

Your continued support of the Housing Advocacy Team of Stoughton, Inc. (HATS, Inc.) through your recent quarterly tithe of \$40.55 continues to assure the success of the *Step Forward Program*. Your contribution truly makes a difference in our efforts to help Stoughton area families who struggle to achieve stable affordable housing.

With gratitude,

Joyce Kaping, Secretary

on behalf of the

Board of Directors

Housing Advocacy Team of Stoughton, Inc.

Mark Petersen, Joyce Kaping, Mike Eversoll,
Teresa Hermanson, Cindy McGlynn, Donna Tarpinian,
Sharon Mason-Boersma, Scott Dirks



HOUSING ADVOCACY TEAM OF STOUGHTON, INC.

1525 N. Van Buren St., Stoughton, WI 53589

hatsofstoughton@gmail.com

October 11, 2022



Stoughton Resettlement Assistance Program

126 Manilla Street, Stoughton, WI 53589

October 8, 2022

Dear Pastor Moen + Members of Covenant Lutheran Church

Thank you so very much for the recent donations + generous support for the families represented by the Stoughton Resettlement Assistance Program (SRAP) for the Ukrainian Week-end. We are so appreciative of your support and contributions that make a significant difference in helping to support the mission for helping to transition people in crisis from Ukraine to our community - we are grateful!

Again, thank you so much for your kindness + care.

Sincerely,

Sharon Mason-Boersma

Volunteer of SRAP



Gratitude



October 7, 2022

Covenant Lutheran Church
1525 N. Van Buren St.
Stoughton, WI 53589



SToughton Area Resource Team - START
1520 Vernon Street, Stoughton, WI 53589
STARTctoughton.org

Dear Covenant Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your support of SToughton Area Resource Team Inc. (START) through your recent donation of \$111.51. Your generous gift will help Stoughton Area School District residents experiencing hardship or crisis. It will allow us to link families with community resources and provide support in case management, housing, utilities, health, employment, education, and all other areas of basic needs. Please know that your contribution truly makes a difference.

Thank you again for your generosity, and feel free to contact me if you have any questions or suggestions. I can be reached at 608-577-5650 or lbraund@startstoughton.org.

With gratitude,

Laura Braund
Executive Director

START is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.



Global Health Ministries

Helping the hands that heal



BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- President
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- Connie Lien Adams, MT, ASCP
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- Sarah Brock, PA-C
- Jim Buhr, BA, MD
- Anne Langdji,
ELCA Global Mission Rep
- Prosperity Eneh, PharmD
- Peter Getts
- Glen Holt, MD
- Allen Klingsporn
- Elijah Madukuli
- Miriam Monson, RN, BSN
- Fehy Rabemahefa
- Rev. Samuel Wolff

September 30, 2022

Wendy Moen
1525 N Van Buren St
Stoughton, WI 53589-1099

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your partnership in making health for all more than a slogan. Your support has helped make it possible for Global Health Ministries (GHM) to ship life-changing medical equipment and supplies around the globe to benefit some of the most vulnerable people on earth. Jeremie in Cameroon, who coordinates the receipt and distribution of supplies, wrote recently, "OSEELC is blessed once again with the arrival of 20,000 KG of materials and medical equipment from GHM. Yes we did it together! Praise God! Please know that we're so grateful for this shipment and opportunity of this wonderful partnership for the best care of our patients. They will feel Jesus Christ's blessings in their life. Be blessed again!"



Gratitude



Lutheran
Campus
Ministry
Madison, WI

325 North Mills Street
Madison, WI 53715
608-257-7178
www.lcmmadison.org

September 29, 2022

Covenant Lutheran Church
1525 N Van Buren St
Stoughton, WI 53589-1028

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your recent gift to Lutheran Campus Ministry. Your ongoing support ensures that students at UW-Madison have a community of faith that supports them and accompanies them during their formative college years.

Thank you again for your gift. May God bless you.

In Christ,

Pastor Emily
Rev. Emily Tveite
Campus Pastor & Director

*Thank you so
much for your
support!*

*Lutheran Campus Ministry is a nonprofit organization
under IRS code 501(c)(3). No goods or services were
provided by the organization in return for this donation.*



Skaalen Retirement Services • 400 North Morris Street • Stoughton, WI 53589
www.skaalen.com • 608.873.5651 • Fax: 608.873.5748
Affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

September 29, 2022

Covenant Lutheran Church
1525 N. Van Buren St.
Stoughton, WI 53589

Dear Friends of Covenant Lutheran Church;

Skaalen Nursing & Rehabilitation Center gratefully acknowledges your gift of \$40.55.

Thank you for this gift that will help us care for all who reside here for years to come.

Sincerely,

Kris Krentz
Kris Krentz
President/CEO



STOUGHTON CHAMBER SINGERS

& JOHN BEUTEL, CONDUCTOR

PRESENT

Music

in the

Air

NOVEMBER 18, 2022

7:30 PM

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
700 CO RD B, STOUGHTON, WI

FREE WILL DONATION AT INTERMISSION



The Promise - November 2022

The monthly newsletter of Covenant Lutheran Church—ELCA

Covenant Lutheran Church
1525 N. Van Buren St.
Stoughton, WI 53589



Phone: (608) 873-7494

Email: covlutheran@covluth.org

Website: www.covluth.org



Like us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#)

The next issue of "The Promise" will be published in December 2022.

*The deadline for submitting items for the **December** newsletter is **Monday, November 28.***

Please submit to form [here](#) or to covlutheran@covluth.org.

Thank you!

Covenant Lutheran Church
1525 N. Van Buren St.
Stoughton, WI 53589

