

### Advent Worship Services

During Advent (the four weeks just prior to Christmas), Arbor Covenant and Foundry 414 will worship collaboratively. This continuation of our ongoing partnership will be a time for us to wait together again for Christ's arrival. Each week we will reflect on the biblical stories of those who dreamed of salvation, dreamed for an end to exile, dreamed of a world where the lowly would be raised up and oppression would cease, dreamed of an unfettered life when the people of God could know God's unfettered presence. As we do, we will also reflect on our own dreams — our own unrealized hopes, our longings for our own lives and for the communities of which we are a part — anticipating again that with Christ's fresh arrival streams of new possibilities will flood every part of our existence.

During these four weeks and the services on Christmas Eve and Sunday December 27th, we will sing favorites hymns and carols, along with new songs. We will also hear from some new voices and have new opportunities to engage in the story of Christ's arrival and the incarnation of God's love.

There are specific plans in the works, so look out for more information in the coming weeks.



## Status of Discussions with Common Wealth Development

As was shared in an email shared with the Congregation on October 26, we have heard from Common Wealth that they will be making an offer to Arbor that will enable the expansion of ministries on our site to include affordable housing. As of this morning, we have not received that offer. As soon as we have an offer, Arbor will share that information with all of you. (If you did not receive the October 26 email, please provide Pastor Peter your current email address so our list is up to date).

Sometime ago, Rachel Woofter mentioned that her uncle Don Hodgkinson and Jeff Lundeen (Karin Nordling's spouse) were working with churches that are working to provide affordable housing as part of their ministries. Don is a lawyer and Jeff has had a career with National Covenant Properties in development of the Covenant retirement communities. In anticipation of the Common Wealth offer, Pastor Peter, Roger Springman, Deb McGill, and Mark Hanson had a Zoom meeting with Don and Jeff on October 27 to learn of the experience of other congregations with affordable housing development and of potential assistance they might provide for Arbor.

One of the developments we heard of was at Emmanuel Covenant Church near North Park College and Swedish Covenant Hospital that is planning a 45 to 50-unit development on 0.87 acres. That is considerably less land than the 3.6 acres we have although the greenway easement behind our garden area restricts building in a section of our land.

Commonwealth's proposal is anticipated to provide for affordable housing in a single building that would be located on land in front of (East of) the church including some of the parking lot as well as some of the land in the community garden and playground area. Other land would be added to the playground area as well as for the garden. The development would include some underground parking. Our existing building would be kept for continued ministry. We use the word anticipated in that we don't know the offer yet, and the offer will be the next step in our discussions, collaboration, and negotiation.

Stably priced, affordable, attractive housing is a growing need in our community. Providing this as part of the work of a faith community is a unique opportunity to live out Christ's call to love your neighbor. Stay tuned for further updates and Zoom meetings to discuss as a Congregation.

Mark Hanson



## Staying Connected



Since we first became aware of COVID 19, it has become increasingly challenging to stay connected to the things we hold dear. We are all creating new ways to remain close to family, friends, and ultimately all relationships that sustain our spirits and make life worth living.

Our relationship to Arbor and our friends who are part of it has been life-giving in so many seasons of our lives. But, as with other aspects of our current lives, we have sometimes felt disconnected from our church relationships and with the church itself. What is happening that I don't know about? Are decisions being made in which I have no say? Is everyone at Arbor being cared for by somebody? Are good things happening in Arbor families that I do not know about? How do I find out what is going on at the church other than from a monthly newsletter?

At our last meeting the Leadership Team discussed the issue of staying connected and came up with the idea of a short, weekly communication that would be emailed each week to everyone that would deal with some of the above questions. Highlights would include a relevant question and answer section, prayers from and for the congregation, family news sharing, opportunities to observe or participate in church and committee meetings, and the sharing of announcements for events of the coming week. The format of this communication is not "set in stone" and this is where all of us need to help to make it meaningful. In the next week, please send an email to me or call with any suggestions for what you would like incorporated into this communication as well as any information or ideas you would like to share - prayer requests, family happenings, questions you would like answered by someone, events in which we can participate, suggestions for connecting. Don't worry about writing anything formal. We want to make it easy for you to tell us what's important!

Looking forward to "STAYING CONNECTED"

Jan Gietzel  
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608-577-8154

## Camp Information

Both Covenant Harbor and Covenant Point are planning summer camps for 2021. They are hoping and praying for overnight camps that look as normal as possible, but of course, much is still unknown. Registration will hopefully open in early January--stay tuned for more info, and prayerful as we wait!

This fall and winter, both Harbor and Point have cabins available to rent for "family getaways." There are a variety of options at both camps, but all include great escapes in nature, wifi, and personal cabins to limit contact with others. Check out their websites for more information.

## Families and Kids

We are connecting with families and kids in the congregation over the next few weeks, as we prepare for Thanksgiving and Advent. Look out for communication from Rachel and a drop off at your door! [Rachel.woofter@gmail.com](mailto:Rachel.woofter@gmail.com)

## Financial Report

General Offerings and CD Interest	\$	43,035.51			
Creek Day School Reimbursement	\$	19,369.00			
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$	<b>62,404.51</b>	\$	<b>69,898.22</b>	\$ <b>(7,493.71)</b>
***PPP Loan***	\$	14,700.00			\$ 7,206.29
<b>Special Funds (Non-Budgeted) Received YTD</b>					
		<b>TOTAL</b>			
Deacon	\$	307.00			
Good Neighbors Pantry	\$	7,600.35			
Levin Camp	\$	725.00			
Memorial	\$	365.00			
Women's Ministries					
World Relief					
Youth Mission					
Other	\$	1.57			

### Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry

#### Item of the Month

Dish Soap (10-14 oz)

Please bring donations to church during the hours we staff the Pantry (see calendar)

## Booklist

Several people have asked for a 2020 Booklist. Have you read any good books during this pandemic? If so, please send information to Kris Brown ([kristinelbrown@yahoo.com](mailto:kristinelbrown@yahoo.com)). This should include the title, the author, and a brief description of the book. All genres are welcome.



## Parish Notes



Daniel Isaiah Stachowiak arrived Sept 30, 2020. He weighed 7 lbs. 9 oz. and was 20 inches long. Proud parents are Michelle and Daniel. Proud big sister is Michelle Anna. Grandma and Grandpa (Sue and John Pecotte) and Aunts Karen, Amanda and Brenda are excited to welcome him as well

### November Birthday

November 3	Adrian Swanson
November 4	Mark Hanson
November 11	Will Woofter
November 23	Doug Keillor

### November Anniversary

November 26     Amanda and Matthew Fledderjohann



## November Calendar



<i>End of Daylight</i> <b>1 Savings</b> <b>All Saints Day</b> 9:30 AM-10:25 AM Sunday Morning Study Group 10:30 AM-11:30 AM Worship (Zoom)	2	3  <i>Election Day</i>	4	5 7:00 PM Small Group Study (Zoom)	6 10:00 AM- noon Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry (Arbor Parking Lot)	7
8 9:30 AM-10:25 AM Sunday Morning Study Group 10:30 AM-11:30 AM Worship (Zoom)	9	10	11	12 5:30 PM-7:00 PM Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry (Arbor Parking Lot) 7:00 PM Small Group Study (Zoom)	13 10:00 AM- noon Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry (Arbor Parking Lot)	14
15 9:30 AM-10:25 AM Sunday Morning Study Group 10:30 AM-11:30 AM Worship (Zoom)	16	17 6:45 PM Leadership Team	18	19 7:00 PM Small Group Study (Zoom)	20 10:00 AM- noon Good Neighbors Personal Essentials Pantry (Arbor Parking Lot)	21
22 9:30 AM-10:25 AM Sunday Morning Study Group 10:30 AM-11:30 AM Worship (Zoom)	23	24	25	26 <i>Thanksgiving</i> 	27	28
 29 <b>First Sunday in Advent</b> 9:30 AM-10:25 AM Sunday Morning Study Group 10:30 AM-11:30 AM Worship (Zoom)	30					

**Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour Saturday night (October 31/November 1)**

**Don't forget to vote November 3, 2020.**