



## Fall...a Season for New Beginnings

I love fall! It's been my favorite season of the year since getting married November of 2001. Growing up in California and Malaysia—respectively—didn't give me much of a chance to appreciate the wonderful fall colors. We didn't have much in the way of leaves changing colors and harvesting of corn and beans where I grew up. So I didn't have much of an appreciation for those things.

When Craig and I decided on our wedding date, right before Thanksgiving in Chicago, we disagreed on what our wedding colors would be. I had always wanted pink and black but his comment was, "It's not a funeral." So in looking at colors he picked out dark green and burgundy. I was like, "meh." Then when on a visit to my parents' - who still lived in California at the time—my mom and I went shopping for wedding decorations. She pointed out all the beautiful fall decorations and suggested we use those for our wedding. When I saw colors together that included green and burgundy but also golds, oranges, and reds, I was sold. Craig always jokes with me now that he and my mother were on the same wave length regarding our colors and I was way off base.

In the long run it was a beautiful wedding and I still use some of those decorations 20 years later when decorating for fall.

I never used to think of Fall being a season of new beginnings. It was always Spring that was touted as being the new life season. But for the church and school year, Fall is the season of new beginnings. Kids go back to school...a new grade...new teachers. And we begin Christian Formation ministries anew. Again, new grades, new offerings, maybe new teachers.

We are offering some new things in the way of Christian Formation this fall. Craig and I encourage you and your families to take part in them.

We've already begun our Kingdom Kids Wednesday night ministry in collaboration with Salem Lutheran church and the United Methodist Church. We have averaged around 25 kids so far grades pre-k through 6th. We are thrilled to have so much interest and commitment of our kids.

We have kicked off our Elevate youth ministries with pizza and a movie and we had 7 kids, including some new ones. We are planning a trip for our 7th—12th graders to Vala's Pumpkin patch this month. It is a little pricey so we

are asking each kid to pitch in a certain amount and they are going to raise the rest with a baked potato bar on October 10th right after worship. This is a great event for our kids to bring friends to. Ellie already has some friends interested in going with us.

We have begun Sunday studies again. Adults and youth are meeting at 9:30 and children are being invited to Children's church during the second half of our 10:30 worship service.

Over 20 years ago, the Covenant changed the name "Christian Education" to "Christian Formation" because the former was too limiting. Christian Formation is more than head knowledge; it indicates holistic learning—head, heart, and hands, and it's a continual process, a journey of a lifetime, which is what we as Christ-followers are called to. We don't ever "arrive" as perfect people until we get to heaven. In our youth Sunday School class we've begun a study on the book of James that's called "Faith Works." When we follow Jesus day by day our good works follow because we are in fellowship with him, being formed by him and the Holy Spirit in our lives.

We are trying to offer opportunities for all ages to grow in their relationships with Jesus. It's not enough to just attend church for one hour on Sunday mornings. This world puts many pressures on us to conform to its ways but we're reminded by Paul in Romans 12:2 "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is..."

There are opportunities for Christian Formation here. If you don't find one of the options we are offering to fit in your schedule, find another one. Join a community Bible Study. There is a men's group that meets at the Coffee Shop on Tuesday nights. There are women's Bible Study Fellowship groups that meet three different times and ways during the week. I know there are other Bible studies going on. If you can't find one that fits for you talk to Craig or I.

Start something new this Fall!  
Determine to kick your spiritual life up a notch so you can be salt and light to a world that needs Jesus.

In Christ, Pastor Mary



## Strengthen Faith, Cultivate Community, Care for Neighbors



## October Dates to Remember



**Wednesdays:** Kingdom Kids! 5:30—6:30 pm at Salem Lutheran Church. Ages Pre-K—6th Grade.



**Sunday, October 10: New Members Sunday!**

12:00 noon: Baked Potato Bar Fundraiser for Elevate Youth

6:00 pm: Elevate Youth group at church



**Thursday, October 21, 2021:** Rescue Mission Meal—5:30 pm



**Friday, October 22, 2021:** Elevate Youth outing to Vala's Pumpkin Patch. Youth 7th—12th grade welcome! More information to come!

**Wednesday, October 27, 2021:** Harvest Party and Trunk or Treat from 6:15—7:30 pm for ages pre-K through 6th grade. More information to come!



Charlotte Greenwall	Oct 23
Kent Erickson	Oct 24
Ivy Mentink	Oct 24
Cheryl Erickson	Oct 25



We are having a Harvest Party and Trunk or Treat on October 27, 2021 for our Kingdom Kids and their friends. We will have a bucket in the foyer for candy donations.

We will also need volunteers to decorate their cars and hand out candy for the Trunk or Treat. If you would like to be part of this please talk to Pastor Mary or Shayla Hier.

## Financial Update:

2021 Budget Summary (1/1/21 through 8/31/21)

Needed Income: \$ 95,985.33

Actual Income: \$ 87,367.99

Difference: (\$ 8,617.34)

Budgeted Exp: \$ 95,985.33

Actual Exp: \$ 86,456.90

Under Budget: \$ 9,528.43



ONLINE GIVING: To make a one-time or scheduled recurring gift to our church, please visit: [www.stromsburgcov.org](http://www.stromsburgcov.org) and click on ONLINE GIVING.



The updated church directory is printed! Copies are available on the foyer table. Please take one per family unit. Thank you!



And whatever you do,  
in word or deed,  
do everything in the name  
*of the Lord Jesus,  
giving thanks*  
to God the Father  
through him.

Colossians 3:17



## Ministry Team Leaders:

**Lead Team:**  
Dennis Nuttelman  
402-366-9803

**Worship Ministry Team:**  
Neeli Noyd  
402-363-3082

**Fellowship & Hospitality:**  
Pat Everingham  
402-764-0345

**Christian Formation:**  
Judy Hanson  
402-764-6681

**Outreach:**  
Julia Schram—402-710-9561  
Shayla Hier—402-764-0261

**Properties:**  
Kent Erickson  
402-765-6721

**Prayer Concerns?** Please contact Connie Nuttelman to have a request go out on the prayer chain or to be included in the bulletin. Connie's number is 402-366-9045 or you can send an email to [prayerchain@stromsburgcov.org](mailto:prayerchain@stromsburgcov.org).



## Ministry Partners:

### Sunday, Oct 3

*Greeters:* Doug & Linda Johnson

*Fellowship:* TBD

*Scripture:* Sunni Cooper

*Pianist/Worship Leader:* Ryan Cooper

*Worship Team:* Craig Pinley, Dennis & Connie Nuttelman

*Audio/Visual:* Ellie Pinley, Jodi Johnson

### Sunday, Oct 10

*Greeters:* Jan Randell & Dale Fike

*Fellowship:* The Hier Family

*Scripture:* Sunni Cooper

*Pianist/Worship Leader:* Ryan Cooper

*Worship Team:* Craig & Mary Pinley, Dianne Nielsen

*Audio/Visual:* Julie Hennessy, Maddie Hennessy

### Sunday, Oct 17

*Greeters:* Dennis & Connie Nuttelman

*Fellowship:* TBD

*Scripture:* Sunni Cooper

*Pianist:* Sue Rosenbaum

*Worship Team:* Craig & Mary Pinley

*Audio/Visual:* Ellie Pinley, Jodi Johnson

### Thursday, Oct 21

*Rescue Mission Meal:* Dianne Nielsen, Johanna Nielsen, Rachel Nielsen

### Sunday, Oct 24

*Greeters:* Mark & Judy Hanson

*Fellowship:* Judy Hanson

*Scripture:* Judy Hanson

*Pianist:* Sue Rosenbaum

*Worship Team:* Craig & Mary Pinley

*Audio/Visual:* Julie Hennessy, Maddie Hennessy

### Sunday, Oct 31

*Greeters:* Bob & Eleanor Greenwall

*Fellowship:* Sunni & Evie Cooper

*Scripture:* Pat Everingham

*Pianist/Worship Leader:* Ryan Cooper

*Worship Team:* Mary Pinley, Neeli Noyd, Dianne Nielsen

*Audio/Visual:* Julie Hennessy, Maddie Hennessy





## Meet Our New Members

*Another "New" this Fall is that we have five new members! New Member Sunday is October 10th.*



### **Ryan and Sunni Cooper**

Ryan and Sunni moved to Stromsburg in 2020. Ryan and Sunni met at Covenant Cedars Bible Camp and both have a passion for ministry. Over their 18 years of marriage they have ministered in churches in Nebraska, Illinois, Indiana and Arizona. Ryan works for Renewed Horizon in the area of case management for foster families and youth. Sunni is a librarian at the Stromsburg Public Library. They have two children, Benji, age 11, and Evie, age 9. Welcome Cooper family!

### **Dale Fike**

Dale comes to us from Oklahoma by way of York. He currently lives in York but will be moving to Stromsburg when he weds our very own Jan Randell. Dale grew up in the Church of Christ. He has been a professor and administrator at several colleges and universities. When Covid shut down his favorite coffee shop, Starbucks, in York, he made his way north to frequent our 4th Street Coffee Shop. One of the baristas there met him and determined that he should meet Jan. He did and they hit it off and now they are engaged. Dale has studied the Covenant denomination's affirmations and background and felt that Stromsburg Covenant was a church he could worship in, knowing that we are Word of God centered. Welcome Dale!



### **Mark and Judy Hanson**

Mark and Judy are returnees to Stromsburg Covenant Church. Mark grew up here and Judy was a member of Stromsburg Baptist church growing up. They have been involved in other area churches for the past 40 years. In 2019 they decided to respond to an invitation to return to the Covenant church and became involved in ministry right away. They have five grown children who all have families of their own so Mark and Judy are often surrounded by grandchildren, which they love. Mark serves on the Lead Team and Judy is chair of the Christian Formation team. They operate a farm near Benedict. Welcome Mark and Judy!



### **Doug and Julie Lamoree**

Doug and Julie Lamoree both grew up here in Stromsburg. Doug was raised in the Lutheran church and Julie in the Methodist church. They began attending Stromsburg Covenant last year after being invited by a current member. They felt welcomed and embraced by the congregation and decided to make this their church home. Welcome Doug and Julie!



# October 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Sundays:</b> 8:30 Worship Team 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11:45 Fellowship			<b>Wednesdays:</b> 9:00 Moms in Prayer 5:30 Kingdom Kids (Salem Lutheran)		1	2
3 Worship with Communion  Come to the Table	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 New Members & Youth Baked Potato Bar Fundraiser 6 pm Elevate Youth Group	11 	12	13	14	15	16
17 6:30 Lead Team Meeting	18 	19	20	21 5:30 Rescue Meal 		23
24	25	26	27 6:15-7:30 pm 	28 	29	30
31						