

March 2018

Covenant Connection

Newsletter of the
**EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH
OF WHITEHALL**
Serving Christ for over 130 years

900 South Warner, Whitehall, MI 49461
(231) 894-4271
www.eccwhitehall.org
Sunday Services: 9:00 & 10:45am



Join us for our current sermon series—Sundays, 9am & 10:45am!

*More people, more like Jesus,
Loving God and loving others.*

Children's Ministries



I know summer seems far away, but **Mega Sports Camp** will be here before you know it! We are having it **July 22-26**.

There are so many ways you can help! Contact me and we'll find a perfect fit for you.



Are you passionate about working with middle or senior high students? I'm looking for someone who would love to gather students and help them put together skits for Power Up. We have weekly skits that would be perfect for middle or high school students, but they need someone to lead them. Let me know if you're interested.



Have a happy March. Spring break will be here soon!

Terri Means
Director of Children's Ministries



AWANA FAIR—Tuesday, March 27 6:30-8:00pm

Parents—we want you to attend with your child!

**If you would like to donate NEW TOYS for the AWANA Fair, please drop them off in Terri Means' office by Sunday, March 25. Need ideas? Hot items are legos, longboards, remote control cars, drones, tablets, fingerlings and zoomers! Monetary donations are welcome as well—please mark them "AWANA FAIR" before you place them in the offering plate.

Children's Ministries Team

Darci Christensen
Autumn Johnson
Terri Means
Kristy Roberge
Jeni Stout

NURSERY

Infants-age 2

We offer a safe, loving environment!

Pages are available.

Please be mindful that we are not equipped to have children over 2 years of age in the nursery.



Youth Events

Junior High League

Grades 6-8



Wednesdays
6:30-8:00pm



Watch "Jr. High League" on Facebook for any updates and details!

Questions?

Contact: Chuck Connell—231-215-5814

Hi-League

Grades 9-12

Wednesdays, 7:30-9:00pm

Watch for updates/changes on Facebook: "World's Best Youth Group"



Questions? Contact:

Craig Smith—231-215-7075

csmith@eccwhitehall.org

**JUNIOR HIGH
BREAKFAST CLUB
SUNDAYS, 9-10:15AM
Grades 6-8
BREAKFAST CLUB**



Food, fun, good news from God's Word and more.....Join us and invite a friend, too!

Questions? Contact Chuck Connell at 894-4271, 215-5814 or cconnell@eccwhitehall.org.

JR & SR HIGH OVERNIGHTER

@ 3 Mile Project in Grand Rapids

March 16, 10pm—March 17, 6am (Fri-Sat)
Cost: \$20

Checks Payable to Bethany Christian Services

Cost includes travel, use of the entire 3 Mile Project facility, food, and a t-shirt (if you register by March 1). Bus leaves ECC on Friday at 8:30pm and returns on Saturday at 7:30am. Questions? Contact Chuck at 215-5814 or cconnell@eccwhitehall.org.



U N I T E
CHIC2018

CHIC 2018

July 15-20, 2018

University of Tennessee

Calling all Hi-Leaguers! CHIC is coming this July, and we want as many of our students as possible to go to this amazing conference. Cost: \$649

PARENTS: You can use your SCRIP earnings to help pay for this trip!

See one of the CHIC attendees for more information!

SOUP SUNDAYS—MARCH 11 & 25
Right after 2nd service.

All proceeds go to the CHIC Fund!

Missions Task Force

About Muskegon Pregnancy Services



BestOptions

Established in 1986, Muskegon Pregnancy Services has been serving the greater Muskegon community by providing a place of sanctuary for women and girls who are experiencing crisis during pregnancy. Our corporate name is Muskegon Pregnancy Services but our client services are provided under the name [BestOptions](#). Over the years our free services have expanded to meet the growing needs and circumstantial patterns we have observed in this population. From the first question, "Could I be pregnant?", to the birth of a baby and sometimes years beyond, Muskegon Pregnancy Services/BestOptions provides answers, direction, support, training, encouragement, and hope as we endeavor to make an eternal impact on lives in the name of Christ.

Mission Statement

We are committed to providing clinical life-saving services and empowering life-changing decisions.

Vision Statement

It is the vision of Muskegon Pregnancy Services/BestOptions to see the option of pregnancy termination in the Muskegon community as unthinkable due to the educational, emotional, physical, and spiritual services provided by our ministry to those who face uncertainty or crisis during pregnancy. As we serve God by being the "go to" agency for possible pregnancy, it is our vision that we will be a conduit of Christ's love and an agent of change, eternally impacting lives, one (or two) at a time.

Services Provided

All services are provided completely free of charge:

- Pregnancy testing by medical staff
 - Ultrasound scans for confirmation of pregnancy viability
 - Medically accurate pregnancy options education
 - Sexually transmitted disease testing and treatment and abstinence encouragement
 - Education for birth and parenting
 - Life Plan Program – opportunity to earn baby needs while learning
 - Personal advocacy – needs based and client driven
 - Compassionate help, restoration and healing for those who have had an abortion
 - Referrals to community help agencies, medical care, emergency housing
- Mentoring for male partners of clients by trained male advocates

231-726-2677

MTF Supported Ministries

These are the missionaries and ministries selected by the MTF to support financially and in prayer for 2018. Watch for Mission Moments from some of these folks in 2018!

Jared & Hannah Baker—France*
Paul & Allie Beeghly—Thailand
Randy Bevis—Thailand*
Nick & Chelsea Dombrowski—InterVarsity
Nick & Dana Harmon—CRU
Jochy & Tammi Hernandez—Merge Caribbean*
Ian Kennedy—West MI Youth for Christ
Pratim & Vanita Masih—India
Jeff & Abbie Nelson—Guatemala
Dave & Daphne Smith—India
Alex & Amanda Velasco—Merge Mexico*

Bridge to Life
Congo Jesus Film Project
Covenant Merge Ministries*
LoveINC—Muskegon
M.A.D. House Ministries/Muskegon
Muskegon Pregnancy Services
Muskegon Rescue Mission
Samaritan's Purse—Heal Our Patriots
Western Michigan Teen Challenge
Zimbabwe
*Covenant Missionaries

SCRIP!

WHAT IS SCRIP?

SCRIP provides an opportunity for fundraising for our youth groups! A percentage of each card goes back to our youth and also helps earn funds for your child's camp cost at Portage Lake or CHIC! Why not use them for the purchases you make weekly, like groceries, gas and entertainment?

Tax refund time is a great time to start using the SCRIP program! When you have some cash, you can get ahead of the cycle. You don't need to spend any extra money! Just exchange your cash for gift cards, and use those to pay for items/services at retailers you typically shop! Let me or Jodi Stratton know if you would like more information! **CHIC and Portage Lake Bible Camp will be here before we know it, let's start saving!!**

There are a lot more things to share about the SCRIP program, so if you would like more information, check the box on your communication card, or contact Melissa Brower (brower_melissa@hotmail.com or 231.794.8049).



ECC Calendar of Events

March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p>Sunday, March 11!</p>				1 Night of Prayer 7pm	2	3
4 9:00 & 10:45am Worship	5 Covenant Quilters I 1-4pm @ Lifehouse Men's Basketball HS & older 7pm	6 AWANA—6:30-8pm Preschool—6th grade	7 Junior High @ ECC 6:30-8pm Hi-League @ ECC 7:30-9pm	8	9	10
11 9:00 & 10:45am Worship Soup Sunday! 12:15 downstairs	12 Men's Basketball HS & older 7pm	13 Covenant Quilters II 5-9pm 7020 Durham, WH AWANA—6:30-8pm Preschool—6th grade	14 Junior High @ ECC 6:30-8pm Hi-League @ ECC 7:30-9pm	15	16	17
18 9:00 & 10:45am Worship Discover ECC 12:30pm	19 Covenant Quilters I 1-4pm @ Lifehouse Men's Basketball HS & older 7pm	20 AWANA—6:30-8pm Preschool—6th grade	21 Junior High @ ECC 6:30-8pm Hi-League @ ECC 7:30-9pm	22	23	24
25 9:00 & 10:45am Worship Soup Sunday! 12:15 downstairs	26 Men's Basketball HS & older 7pm	27 Covenant Quilters II 5-9pm 7020 Durham, WH AWANA FAIR—6:30-8pm Parents please attend with your child!	28 Junior High @ ECC 6:30-8pm Hi-League @ ECC 7:30-9pm	29	30  Good Friday Communion Service—7pm	31

Discover ECC Luncheon

Discover ECC Luncheon

At ECC we believe in creating an environment where people are encouraged to meet and follow Jesus. Yet, the reality is it can often be difficult to navigate a new church family and discover where you fit in.



EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH
Whitehall, Michigan

Discover ECC is a free, casual, after-service lunch for those new to ECC and desiring to learn a little more about the church and how to connect and grow. The event will be a fun yet relaxed opportunity to meet the Staff and others exploring the church while also discovering what makes ECC tick. Bring your appetite and your questions and we'll handle the rest!

The Details:

Who can come? If you have been attending ECC for less than a year and are interested in learning more, we invite you to RSVP!

When is it? Sunday, MARCH 18, right after 2nd service.

Where is it? Here at ECC in the Don Erickson Room.

How do I sign up? You can reserve your spot in a variety of ways. Simply indicate on your communication card, sign up at the Guest Services Desk, e-mail Amy at alove@eccwhitehall.org or by phone at (231) 894-4271.

What about childcare? Free childcare will be provided! Just let us know how many and what ages and we'll have you covered!

Looking Ahead...



GOOD FRIDAY COMMUNION SERVICE

FRIDAY March 30, 2018—7pm

Join us for this time of remembrance and reflection of the meaning of this Easter season. Invite a friend!

Volunteers are needed for our Easter Worship services on April 1!

How can you help?

We will need Greeters, Refreshment Servers & Treat Makers! A sign up sheet will be at Guest Services soon, or contact Jodi Stratton at jodistratton@yahoo.com. Stay tuned for more information!



Life Groups

Interested in one of our Life Groups? Use the contact information provided below, or If you would like more information, please contact Pastor Justin @ 894-4271.

DAY / TIME	LEADER(S)	CONTACT	LOCATION	STUDY TYPE
Sunday (every other) 1:00 PM	Craig & Michelle Smith	Craig: (231) 215-7075	Rotating / TBD	Sermon Study
Sunday 5:00 PM	Tom & Kristine Beeghly	Tom: (231) 215-3802	6486 Terravita Drive, Whitehall	Sermon Study
Sunday 6:00 PM	Nate Baker & Scott Breuker	Nate: (231) 670-1829 Scott: (231) 893-1749	1540 Anchor Court, Whitehall	Sermon Study
Sunday 6:30 PM	Paul & Darci Christensen	Paul: (616) 607-6986	Rotating / TBD	Topical
Sunday 7:00 PM	Carol & Brian Rood <i>Post High School College</i>	Carol: (231) 766-9137	615 E. Lewis St <i>(Lifehouse next door to church)</i>	Sermon/Topical
Sunday 5:00 PM	Stephanie Schmiedeknecht	Stephanie: (231) 465-1488	4838 Nestrom, Whitehall	Sermon/Topical
Monday 9:30 AM	Molly Morin <i>Ladies Study</i>	Molly: (231) 893-1463	900 S. Warner Street, Whitehall <i>(Church)</i>	Book Study
Monday 7:00 PM	Justin & Lacy Porath	Justin: (773) 888-3730 Lacy: (269) 251-8703	9180 Dicey St. Montague, MI	Bible Study
Tuesday 1:00 PM	Carol Rood <i>Ladies' Study</i>	Carol: (231) 766-9137	5337 W. McMillan, Muskegon, 49445	Sermon Study
Tuesday 7:00 PM	Steve Green <i>Men's Study</i>	Steve: (231) 286-6280	Rotating / 540 West Holton Whitehall Rd.	Sermon Study
Tuesday 6:30 PM	Bobbi Friend	Bobbi: (231) 830-5899	615 E. Lewis St <i>(Lifehouse next door to church)</i>	Topical
Tuesday 7:00 PM	Lee Dickinson	Lee: (231) 894-2572	123 Livingston St., Whitehall	Gospel of Mark (Spanish) Speaking)

Life Groups

DAY / TIME	LEADER(S)	CONTACT	LOCATION	STUDY TYPE
Wednesday 7:00 PM	Dick & Cheryl Smith	Cheryl: (231) 894-9363	6076 W. Skeels, Montague	Sermon Study
Wednesday 7:00 PM	Matt & Kristy Roberge	Kristy: (906) 869-4278 Matt: (231) 894-0638	Rotating / TBD	Topical Sermon
Wednesday 7:00 PM	Charley Hogleund Steve Clark	Charley: (231) 894-6402 Steve Clark: (231) 894-4374	615 E. Lewis St <i>(Lifehouse next door to church)</i>	Topical Sermon
Wednesday 7:00 PM	Matt & SueEllen Bendelow Brent & Melissa Brower	Matt: (231) 920-0613	900 S. Warner Street, Whitehall <i>(Church)</i>	Topical / Book Study
Wednesday 8:00 AM	Linda Wood	Linda: (231) 292-1143	7020 Durham Road, Whitehall	Book of Ephesians
Wednesday 7:00 PM	Todd & Jennifer Jensen	Jennifer: (312) 218-4997	Rotating / TBD	Sermon Study
Thursday 3:30 PM	Barb Pulaski	Barb: (231) 894-8022	900 S. Warner Street, Whitehall <i>(Church)</i>	Sermon Study
Thursday 7:00 PM	Bruce & Jan Potter	Jan: (231) 893-6820	900 S. Warner Street, Whitehall <i>(Church)</i>	Topical
Thursday 7:00 PM	Linda Wood	Linda: (231) 292-1143	615 E. Lewis Street <i>(Lifehouse next door to church)</i>	Book of Ruth

Connect—Life Group Serving

	1ST SERVICE	2ND SERVICE
MARCH 4	BENDELOW	FRIEND
MARCH 11	WOOD	ROOD
MARCH 18	Volunteers Needed!	BAKER/BREUKER
MARCH 25	Volunteers Needed!	CONNECT TEAM

RightNow Media—Now Available!



RIGHTNOW MEDIA IS HERE!

We are excited to share that ECC now has access to an extensive, new video library called RightNow Media! It's like the "Netflix of Video Bible Studies" and has a **huge** library of faith-based videos that you can access whenever and wherever you want—on your phone, iPad, computer, or at home on your TV.

As your Adult Ministries Team, we're always looking for ways to help you develop and strengthen your faith. We believe that RightNow Media will be a tool to serve you as you live out your faith at home, at work and across the White Lake community.

RightNow Media has videos for everyone—kids, youth, parents, married couples, college students, single adults, working professionals—all aimed at helping you grow.

Stop by the RightNow Media information table in the Don Erickson Room to find out how you can sign up! Questions? Contact Pastor Justin!

ECC Leadership Contact Information

2018 LEADERSHIP TEAM

Paul Christensen, Chairman—616-607-6986
Dick Smith, Vice Chairman—894-9363
Brent Brower, Secretary—616-607-6084
John Rupert, Treasurer—557-4025
Pastor Tom Beeghly, Member—215-3802
David Holly, Member—329-9911
Todd Jensen, Member—312-203-9247
Nate Baker, Member—670-1829
Dean Schmiedeknecht—231-338-6046

Questions? Please don't hesitate to contact one of our Leadership Team members.

2018 MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

Adult Ministries—Justin Porath—894-4271
Bldg. & Grounds—Ray Morse—670-0165
Children's Ministries—Terri Means—894-6531
Care—Justin Porath—894-4271
Connect—Justin Porath—894-4271
Finance & Stewardship—John Rupert—893-4071
Missions—Lee Dickinson—894-2572
Ministry Care Team—Dick Smith—894-9363
Technology—Breck Adkins—557-6565
Worship—Craig Smith—215-7075
Youth — Craig Smith— 215-7075

Monthly Prayer Opportunity

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Our next Monthly **OPEN HOUSE Prayer Night** will be held **Thursday, March 1, 7-8pm.**

PRAYER
changes things

- ◆ **ARE YOU IN NEED OF PRAYER?**
- ◆ **SEEKING A QUIET PLACE TO BE ALONE WITH GOD AND PRAY SILENTLY?**
- ◆ **DESIRE TO PRAY FOR AND WITH OTHERS?**

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Matthew 18:20

Come for the hour or a few minutes, come to be heard and hear from the Lord. Questions? Contact Sonia Gilbert [231-206-0261](tel:231-206-0261) or Laura Sikkenga [231-730-0455](tel:231-730-0455).

Helping Others.....

RECYCLE FOR SIGHT! DO YOU HAVE GENTLY USED EYEGLASSES THAT YOU ARE ABLE TO DONATE?

The Lions Club has a program to recycle eyeglasses for the needy! Volunteers prepare the glasses for their new owner. Please drop off your donated glasses to the bin under the Guest Services cabinet.

Thank you for making a difference!



WHITE LAKE FOOD PANTRY

We continue to collect non-perishable food

items for the Lebanon Lutheran Food Pantry. Please drop your donations off at Guest Services, marked "food pantry", or you can drop them off right at Lebanon Lutheran Church.

Thank you for giving to others!



Benevolence

BENEVOLENCE FUND

If you would like to contribute to this fund, please place your donation in the envelope marked "Benevolence" and place it in the offering plate. Envelopes are located in the pew. This fund assists people from our church body and the community who are in need.

Thank you for giving to others!

You Should Know.....



Looking for a place to serve here at ECC?

We have a lot of opportunities available through our 9 ministry teams:

Adult Ministries
Building & Grounds
Care
Children's Ministries
Finance & Stewardship

Connect
Missions
Worship Ministry
Youth Ministries

Let us know on your communication card or call the office for more information about any of these teams!



If you would like to receive the newsletter via e-mail, please contact Amy Love at alove@eccwhitehall.org.

If you are interested in being on our confidential e-mail prayer chain, please contact Amy Love at alove@eccwhitehall.org.



Lost and Found

We have a LARGE collection of lost & found items around the church. Check the kitchen for your "left behind" platters and storage containers from your snack donations.

The lower right cabinet in the wall unit in the Don Erickson Room and the coat rack inside the west doors are also holding many clothing items, water bottles, Tervis, and more! Unclaimed items will be donated soon.

Covenant Quilters

COVENANT QUILTERS upcoming meeting dates:

- ◆ CQI meets March 5 & 19 at the LifeHouse 1 - 4:00 PM. Contact Lee Dickinson, 231-894-2572, jerlee68@gmail.com or Barb Pulaski, 231-894-8022.
- ◆ CQII meets March 13 & 27 at Linda's Lab, 7020 Durham, 5-9 PM. Contact Linda Wood, 231-292-1143, linbobwood@aol.com

