

# Alexandria Covenant Church

**October 1, 2023**

Text **ACCNEWS** to **77222** to receive the bulletin Saturdays



## Shotgun Fellowship

**October 3 | 5:30 pm | \$15**

**Alexandria Shooting Park**

**6533 County Rd 87, Alexandria**

Attention, men! You are invited to the first "Shotgun Fellowship" event Tuesday, October 3rd at the Alexandria Shooting Park. Food, fun, and fellowship kicks off at 5:30 pm with food and open trap shooting and games for all skill levels beginning at 6:00 pm. Cost is \$15.00 per person plus ammo. You can either bring your own ammo or it will be available for purchase at the shooting park. Questions? Eric Peterson, 320.219.9678.



[Click to sign up!](#)

## Sunday Evening Prayer

**October 8 | 6:30 pm | Great Room**

Begin your week refreshed with prayer! Submit a prayer request by filling out a yellow prayer card and dropping it into the offering plate, or submit one online and we will pray over your requests.



## Women's Worship Night

**October 9 | 6:00 pm | Patio**

Ladies, come join us for a night of praise and worship! We'll have a social afterwards with desserts and coffee.



## Wednesday Night Meals

**October 11 | 5:00 pm | Hall**

Please join us for a meal and fellowship before Wednesday night activities! Meals are monthly on the 2nd Wednesday from 5:00-6:00 pm in the Hall. The gym will be available for kids to play. This month we are serving hot dogs! Sign up to help us plan for you and your family.



[Click to sign up!](#)

**LOVING JESUS. BECOMING LIKE JESUS. SHARING JESUS.**

# Exploring Membership

October 15 | Noon | Patio

Are you interested in becoming a member? Got some questions for our pastors? Come learn about what we believe, get to know our pastors, and hear from Pastor Trinity about what membership looks like at Alexandria Covenant. Food and childcare available.



## Couples Study: Love & Respect

Starts October 22 (16-week study)  
6:30 - 8:30 pm | \$100

Limited signup to 6 couples

Deepen and enhance your relationship with your dating, engaged, or married partner. Based on biblical principles and facilitated by John and Marie Johnson, this group will help you grow a solid foundation to navigate the many aspects of your relationship. We will use materials from the Love & Respect workbook and Timothy Keller's marriage series.



Click to sign up!

## Nursery Staff Needed

We are seeking someone who loves God and kids to join our nursery team. The position is part-time (5-10 hours/week). Shifts include some Sundays, weeknights, and potential for weekdays, depending on availability. Interested? Contact Paula Pallas at 218.301.4597 or stop by the church office to pick up an application.



Click to sign up!

*"The Bible. Know it in your head. Stow it in your heart.  
Show it in your life. Sow it in the world."*

- J. Vernon McGee (Bible Study Series)

Check out this book and many others downstairs in our church library!

## Weekly Attendance & Giving

Sunday, September 24, 2023

Total  
In-person  
691

Total  
Online  
280

Weekly Giving  
(General Fund)  
\$26,117.14

Weekly  
Need  
\$38,000.00

Campaign  
Giving YTD  
\$204,246.48

Staff

**Trinity Opp**  
Senior Pastor

**Dave Mergens**  
Pastor of  
Adult Formation

**Gregg Donnelly**  
Pastor of  
Connection & Care

**Brian Farka**  
Pastor of  
Student Ministry

**Sarah Erickson**  
Director of Middle  
School Ministry

**Naomi Sands**  
Director of  
Worship Ministry

**David LeVahn**  
Director of  
Technical Ministry

**Linda LeVahn**  
Director of Design  
& Communications

**Chanda Winkels**  
Pastor of Children  
& Family Ministry

**Kristi Ferguson**  
Director of Preschool  
Ministry

**Paula Pallas**  
Director of Nursery  
Ministry

**David Englund**  
Facility Specialist

**Mike Fugleberg**  
Facility Caretaker

**Cheri Timm**  
Administrative Assistant

**Jamie DeBoer**  
Office Assistant/First  
Impressions Coordinator

**Michelle Heem**  
Financial Secretary

**Craig Hornberger**  
Sound Technician

Leadership Team

**Chad Molden** (Chair)  
320.760.0207

**Bruce Evink**  
320.491.8569

**Karen Hurlbut**  
320.815.3137

**Andrew Langager**  
320.808.7158

**Dan Miller**  
320.460.0388

**Trinity Opp**  
320.763.5659

**Terryl Pearson**  
320.766.5151

**Ryan Rooney**  
320.760.0260

**Scott Stumpf**  
320.491.1956

Children & Youth Programs

<b>Sundays</b>	<b>9:30 am</b>
Pre-K-5th Grade.....	Lower Level
Middle School.....	Great Room
High School Boys .....	H101
High School Girls .....	Boathouse

<b>Wednesdays</b>	<b>6:30 pm</b>
Pre-K-5th Grade.....	Lower Level
Middle School.....	Great Room
High School .....	Patio

Groups & Studies

**Sunday, Oct. 1**  
**Adult Sunday School**  
9:30 am | S100

**Young Adult Bible Study**  
11:00 am | S100

**Monday, Oct. 2**  
**Men's Inductive Bible Study**  
Noon | GR200

**Tuesday, Oct. 3**  
**Sew to Share**  
9:00 am | H102  
**Men's Bible Study Fellowship**  
7:00 pm | Great Room

**Wednesday, Oct. 4**  
**Koffee & Kare**  
9:00 am | Family Room  
**MOMS**  
9:15 am | Patio

**Thursday, Oct. 5**  
**Women's Bible Study Fellowship**  
9:30 am | Great Room  
**Seniors Bible Study**  
1:30 pm | Patio

**Alpha**  
6:00 pm | Hall

**Friday, Oct. 6**  
**Men's Friday Bible Study**  
6:15 am | GR200

**Veterans Bible Study**  
6:30 am | GR204

**Saturday, Oct. 7**  
**Men of Mighty Prayer**  
8:00 am | GR200



# *Growing God's Kingdom* **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

<b>WHEN</b>	June 25, 2023 through April 30, 2026
<b>WHY</b>	To free up financial resources to maximize our ministry impact
<b>HOW</b>	Eliminate debt of \$1.152 million and raise money for large capital needs
<b>GOAL</b>	\$1.75 million, after applying \$300,000 from cash reserves
<b>TIMELINE</b>	3 years: Year 1 goal \$900,000; Years 2 & 3 \$425,000/year
<b>WHY NOW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Balloon payment due May 10, 2026</li><li>• Monthly payments of \$6,100 @ 2.34% interest</li><li>• The sooner we pay off our debt, the quicker we can do more to Grow God's Kingdom</li></ul>
<b>FUTURE FOCUS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rural Ministry Development</li><li>• Strengthen Mission Partnerships</li><li>• Expand Technology Ministry</li></ul>

## **Suggested Ways to Give**

1. Submit your pledge card indicating commitments to the church office or in the offering plate. Your giving will be confidential, and can be given weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annually. It is not a bill and you will not be invoiced, and it should not replace your regular giving to Alexandria Covenant Church.
2. Gifts to the Property fund, either one-time or recurring.
3. If you are at least 70 and a half years old, you can give via a Qualified Charitable Donation (QCD) from your IRA, which satisfies the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) requirements of the IRS. The maximum you can give without incurring additional income tax liability is \$100,000. Everybody's tax situation is different, depending on the amount of funds in your IRA account. By reducing your income, it could reduce the amount of taxable Social Security or require less tax on capital gains.
4. Donated stock, which allows you to deduct the fair market value of the stock and pay no tax on the unrealized gain, if held for more than a year.
5. Donated crops. The crop must be transferred to the Church, and sold by the Church. This is also a tax advantaged method of giving.
6. Matching gifts are a great way to increase your gift! Many companies offer a charitable benefit option. It is worth exploring if you or your spouse have a corporate matching program through your employers.

Please consult with your personal financial and tax advisors to advise you on the best way for you to give, based on your personal circumstances.

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## Frequently Asked Questions

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### **How should I determine whether or not to give to the capital campaign?**

This is an individual decision. We ask that you seek the Lord through prayer, a study of relevant scripture, and discern with your spouse/family your level of financial commitment to the capital campaign.

### **How much of a commitment is my pledge to give?**

Your pledge is a commitment before God, but will not be pursued by the Church. Changed financial circumstances could also enter into your ability to fulfill or exceed your pledge.

### **Should we give if we have personal debt we are paying off?**

Many, if not most, people have a home mortgage that they pay off over a long period of time. That should not interfere with your giving to the Church or other religious and charitable organizations. If you have other debts you are paying off, we encourage you to seek the Lord for discernment on whether you should focus on paying those debts off before contributing to the capital campaign.

### **Which has priority for spending, between paying down our debt, and paying for capital improvements like roof repairs and resurfacing the parking lot?**

Capital improvements will be paid for when they become necessary. In both cases of the major capital improvements needed, neither one appears critical at this time. So, the Leadership Team needs to balance the relative priorities for applying campaign funds to avoid the need to borrow more for capital improvements, and reduce interest payments on our debt. We hope that we'll be able to generate enough funding to both pay off our debt by the end of April 2026, and to pay for the capital improvements, as and when they become necessary.

### **Who is on the Capital Campaign Team?**

Currently, the Capital Campaign Team consists of staff members Michelle Heem and Linda LeVahn. Finance Team members Ryan Rooney, Chad Silbernack, Brent Smith, Lee Hein, and Kevin Jones, and at large members Roger Rosengren, Mark Malingen, and Lance Bailey.

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Please feel free to address any other questions you may have to Kevin Jones, current Chair of the Capital Campaign, or to other team members.

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# *Growing God's Kingdom* **COMMITMENT**

PLEASE RETURN THIS  
CARD TO ALEXANDRIA  
COVENANT CHURCH

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

**It is my/our intent to commit \$\_\_\_\_\_ in total to the  
Growing God's Kingdom campaign over the next 3 years as follows:**

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Initial gift between now and December 31, 2023

\$\_\_\_\_\_ 2024 Calendar Year

\$\_\_\_\_\_ 2025 Calendar Year

\$\_\_\_\_\_ January 1, 2026 - April 30, 2026

**With this commitment I/we fully understand:**

- that this commitment is made before God and is not to be entered into lightly.
- that this commitment covers the next 3 years and can be given weekly, monthly, quarterly or yearly.
- that this is not a bill and I/we will not be invoiced.
- that our commitment will remain confidential.
- that this gift does not replace my/our regular giving to Alexandria Covenant Church.

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## *Growing God's Kingdom* **COMMITMENT**

KEEP THIS REMINDER CARD

**It is my/our intent to commit \$\_\_\_\_\_ in total to the  
Growing God's Kingdom campaign over the next 3 years as follows:**

\$\_\_\_\_\_ Initial gift between now and December 31, 2023

\$\_\_\_\_\_ 2024 Calendar Year

\$\_\_\_\_\_ 2025 Calendar Year

\$\_\_\_\_\_ January 1, 2026 - April 30, 2026

**4005 Dakota Street • Alexandria, MN 56308**



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## Connect with Us

We have many areas for you and your family to get plugged in! Between Sunday school classes, Wednesday night youth activities, small groups, care groups, and prayer nights, there is something for everyone no matter who you are.

Listen to past sermons, check out upcoming events, sign up for small groups and studies, and look at what all our ministries have to offer on our website at [alexandriacovenant.org](http://alexandriacovenant.org) or on our church app available for free on both the Google Play Store and App Store.

Get connected into the life of the church and join us in our walk with God. Life is better together.



## Give

Support the ongoing ministry of Alexandria Covenant Church by giving at the end of the service or through our website or app.

## Prayer Requests

Do you have a prayer request or something you would like prayer over? After the service our Prayer Team will come up and be there to pray with you over any requests.

We also have prayer request cards in the pew that you can fill out and drop in the offering plate to be prayed over on our Sunday Evening Prayer services. You can also submit requests online on our website or church app.

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## New to Alexandria Covenant Church?

**Welcome!** It's our sincere desire that you are welcome and at home here at Alexandria Covenant Church. Stop by the Welcome Center for a **Visitor Bag** to help you become familiar with our church family.

Let us know who you are! Fill out a Connect Card in the pew or online and drop it in the offering plate.



320.763.5659 | [alexandriacovenant.org](http://alexandriacovenant.org) | 4005 Dakota Street  
Office open Mon-Thu 8:00 am - 4:30 pm & Fri 8:00 am - Noon  
Find us on social media [f](#) [i](#) [v](#) @alexandriacovenantchurch