

DASSEL COVENANT  
CHURCH  
251 Lake Street  
Dassel, MN 55325

Leading People to a Transforming  
Relationship with Jesus Christ



Weekly Activities & Ministries

Sundays	9:30am	Prayer
	9:00am	Sunday School & Confirmation (Sept-May)
	10:00am	Worship
Mondays	9:00am	Coffee Fellowship
	10:00am	Seated Fitness
	6:30pm	Prayer Meeting
Wednesday	4:00pm	KidsQuest (Sept-April)
	6:00pm	Men’s Group
	6:00pm	Youth Group (Sept-April)
Thursday	9:00am	Seated Fitness
Saturday	7:00am	Men’s Bible Study

\*Visit the Church website & social media for more information and details!

www.dasselcovenant.org



Dassel Covenant Courier  
August 2023

Leading People to a Transforming Relationship with Jesus Christ

Email:  
office@dasselcov.com

Website:  
dasselcovenant.org

Phone:  
320-275-3315

Find us on:  
Facebook  
Instagram  
YouTube

Staff

Transitional Pastors:

Marv & Linda  
Norlein  
Marv:  
mnorlien@reachone.com  
(507-219-9822)  
Linda:  
lnorlien@reachone.com  
(254-338-7912)

Director of Youth:  
Randy Dischinger  
youth@dasselcovenant.com

Secretary:  
Amanda Fusari  
office@dasselcov.com

Bookkeeper:  
Kristin Carlson  
finance@dasselcov.com

Worship Director:  
\*Position Open  
worship@dasselcov.com

Custodial:  
Randy & Marcia  
Dischinger

Thank you for the warm welcome we have received in our first month here. And, thank you for your patience as we learn your names and begin to know you. It is our joy to begin getting to know you and to serve with you as your transitional pastors.

This is a **very important time in the life of Dassel Covenant Church**. It is our goal, in conjunction with the Leadership Team and all of you and under the direction of the Holy Spirit, to assist DCC in a healthy period between long-term pastors. Please be in prayer with us that this will be a time when each of us flourishes both personally and corporately as followers of Jesus.

Please **join us for a presentation and a time of Q & A** on expectations for this time of transition. Come either of the Sundays of August 20 or 27 at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will give a short presentation on the common phases of a time of transition in the life of a church, followed by an opportunity for Q & A. Though every church has its own context, culture and history, there are some **common characteristics to transitions**. Additionally, this information will help explain some of the thoughts and feelings found to be common to members and friends of any church at such a time. If you find yourself wondering, “Why do we need transitional pastors?” or “Why can’t we just select a search team and get on with finding a new long-term pastor?” or “What thoughts and emotions are normal for me to have at a time like this?” please join us. Even if you are just curious about what the aim of the transition period is, please do join us.

Starting in September you may notice a **special feature incorporated into our Communion** service. This is something specifically for parents with young children. In the September service of Communion (on the 10th due to the Community Service on the 3rd at Gethsemane Lutheran) we will be including grapes for young children. The children will be served grapes when their parents and older siblings receive the elements of Communion. Just like the decision of when a child understands enough about Communion to receive the juice and bread, so the decision of whether to take grapes for their your young ones is entirely up to parents. The purpose of the inclusion of grapes for these tiny ones is to remind us that they too are part of our church family, following Jesus. You may have noticed that in both the liturgies of Baby Dedication and Baby Baptism, the congregation pledges to support the parents in praying for, guiding and nurturing the children of our church in knowing, loving and following Jesus. Including a way for our children to participate in this very important sacrament of the church can contribute to their sense that they too can be part of the “vine of Christ.”

As always, if you have any comments or questions please feel free to send us an email or give us a call.

God’s blessings to you,  
Pastor Marv & Pastor Linda

## August Volunteers

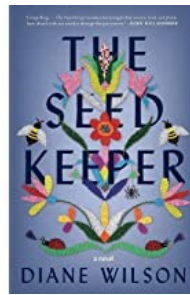
<u>Ushers</u> 6: Diane Anderson 13: Brian & Maria Anderson 20: Leon Nordberg, Marlene Blunt 27: Chad Dischinger, Dan Rinden	<u>Nursery</u> 6: Maddy Pankratz 13: Sonja Olson 20: Kristi M. & Karlie K. 27: Carolee, Rachel & Britton	<u>Fellowship Time</u> 6: Dischinger's 13: Pete & Cleo Family 20: Community Meal 27:
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### Leadership Team Note

- Nursery remodel
- Vitality Taskforce Update
- Transitional Process

### Book Club

Book Club will be meeting  
 Tuesday, August 29th  
 at 6:30pm.  
 The book selection is  
 "The Seed Keeper"  
 by Diane Wilson  
*All are welcome to join book Club!*



### KidsQuest Update!

We are doing something NEW with KidsQuest this year! We will be picking students up after school and beginning at 3:30pm.  
 What will this look like?



Pick up at 3:15pm  
 Snack and homework help at 3:30pm  
 Programming from 4-5:30pm  
 Meal at 5:30pm  
 We will need volunteers again this year!  
 Watch for information!

**A big THANK YOU to everyone who helped send our campers to Lake Beauty Bible Camp this summer!**  
**Your generosity is overwhelming!**



### July Church Attendance

2nd	Sunday: 128	Online: 33	Total: 161
9th	Sunday: 128	Online: 30	Total: 158
16th	Sunday: 113	Online: 34	Total: 147
23rd	Sunday: 111	Online:	Total:
30th	Sunday:	Online:	Total:

The Ecuador Mission Trip is October 14-22!  
 Please be praying for the team!

### Church Family Humor

By Su Asplin  
 -What do you call a weather man with a speech defect? *Wayne*  
 -What do you call a women who is up with the birds? *Dawn*

# August 2023

Events are for those going in to 7th-12th grade unless indicated otherwise.

More info in the monthly newsletter!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 5-8pm National Night Out!	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 MUUUUCE at Buffalo Jr High gathering	11 MUUUUCE at Buffalo Jr High gathering	12 MUUUUCE at Buffalo Jr High gathering
13	14	15	16 MN Largest Candy Store 12:30pm	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



# August Youth Events:



Tuesday, August 1 – National Night Out, 5:00 – 8:00 pm., Come to the lower church parking lot for food and fun. We will have bouncy houses, nukem, nine square, and other games. This is for all ages!

August 10-12 (Thursday-Saturday)  
Students registered for MUUUCE will leave the lower church parking lot at 4:00 pm on Thursday and return to church between 11:30-12:00 pm on Saturday.



Wednesday, August 16  
Trip to Minnesota's Largest Candy Store in Jordan. This is for 7-12 graders. We will leave the lower church parking lot at 12:30 pm and return at approximately 5:00 pm. Students should bring spending money.

Help is needed for the church garage sale on August 31-Sept 2. Contact Glenda or Tonya to sign up to work and earn money toward your student account. Student accounts can be used for registrations to MUUUCE, UNITE and other youth events.



## Community Meal

*All are WELCOME!*



You are invited to a Community Meal

Sunday, August 20th, 2023 at 11:15-12pm

Dassel Covenant Church  
251 Lake Street, Dassel, MN 55325

*Come and enjoy Hot Dogs, Brats, Salad,  
Chips, Dessert,  
and good conversation!*

Freewill donations are accepted, but not necessary.

Questions? Call the church office at 320-275-3315

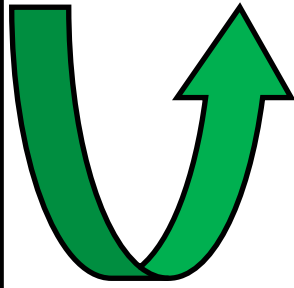
\*The next Community Meal will be Sunday, September 17th at 11:15am

**Tuesday, August 1st, 2023 5-7pm**



**Dassel Covenant Church lower parking lot  
Fun, games, & food for all ages!**





### Transition Presentations and Q &A

Join Pastor Marv and Pastor Linda, as well as the Leadership Team, for either of two presentations, followed by Q & A. These sessions will help us know what to expect during this time of transition between long-term pastors of our church.

Sunday, August 20th at 9:00am and Sunday, August 27th at 9:00am.  
Meet in the Fellowship Hall.

### Plarn Sleeping Mats Ministry

We would like to invite you to help make Plarn (plastic yarn) sleeping mats for the homeless in Minneapolis and Hutchinson. All ages are encouraged to help make these mats. Common Cup in Hutchinson, along with Oak Heights Church are who we will be joining in the mission.



Nancy Marcks will be coming to Dassel Covenant on Tuesday, August 8th at 10am to give a demonstration on how this project works. We hope you will join the mission on Tuesday to learn to make these mats. All are welcome, men, women, & kids!  
Talk to Gwen Hallquist for more information.

#### Dassel Covenant Church Family.

Our church Leadership Team has re-established a Vitality Taskforce to help develop a vision and plan for a positive future for our church congregation. This group of ten well-qualified individuals have been working for several weeks and are now at a point where they need to hear from the congregation.

We are asking each person to take time to complete a survey form. It won't take more than a few minutes. We ask that each individual in the household who is old enough to have good opinions complete the survey. There are two options. You can complete the survey on-line at:

<https://s.surveypal.com/kpqo40d7>

Or, you can use the paper form. Copies will be available in church Sunday morning or at the office door at any time. Paper surveys may be dropped off at the box by the church office door.

We ask that everyone complete and return the survey by Sunday, August 14.

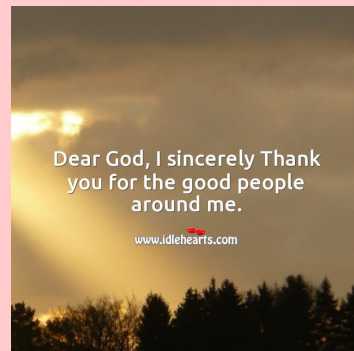
If you have questions or need additional guidance, you can contact me at [bward@charter.net](mailto:bward@charter.net).

Bill Ward, on behalf of the Vitality Taskforce.



*I truly am Thankful for your thoughts, cards, and especially for prayers during my recent surgery and recovery. I'm blessed to be a part of a praying, loving church family.*  
Su Asplin

Many thanks to everyone in our church family for the prayers and support throughout the kidney stone saga. I am humbled and my heart is full. Thank you all so much!  
-Deb Seaberg



### August Birthdays

- |    |                      |
|----|----------------------|
| 2  | Ken McGaw            |
| 4  | Harvey Peterson      |
| 5  | Debbie Nelson        |
|    | Karen Latt           |
|    | Raegan Olson         |
| 6  | Samuel Koehler       |
|    | Lyle Talley          |
| 7  | Leif Jorgenson       |
| 8  | Norah Carlson        |
|    | Tom Effertz          |
|    | Paul Thostenson      |
| 9  | Dennis Hendrickson   |
|    | Ava Flachmeyer       |
| 10 | Dawn Schwalbe        |
| 11 | Emma Koehler         |
| 13 | Trudy Latt           |
| 14 | Maddy Pankratz       |
| 15 | Peter Johnson*       |
| 16 | Cleo Johnson*        |
|    | Leah Kusler          |
| 17 | Alex Darwin          |
| 26 | Duane Wuotila        |
|    | Glenda Peterson      |
|    | Denise Wuotila       |
|    | Avery Darwin         |
| 28 | Brandon Diederich    |
| 31 | Lori Mae Hendrickson |

\*80+ years

#### Pastors Office Hours:

Sunday:	In Office
Monday:	In Office
Tuesday:	In Office

### August Anniversaries

\*John & Clarice Bengtson  
August 2, 1957

Mark & Sue Hammar  
August 5, 1978

Gordy & Deb Nelson  
August 6, 1977

Dennis & Debbie Hendrickson  
August 8, 1987

Jayme & Bekah Kusler  
August 10, 2002

Brock & Adriana Forsman  
August 10, 2019

Al & Nancy Olson  
August 12, 1978

\*Carl & Charlotte Wilkins  
August 16, 1968

Jim & Gwen Hallquist  
August 22, 1987

Rob & Tonya Hastings  
August 28, 2004

Rev. Keith & Sue Carlson  
August 30, 1975

\*50+ years

#### Office Hours

##### General office hours:

Monday:	8:30am-3:00pm
Tuesday:	8:30am-3:00pm
Thursday:	8:30am-3:00pm

# August 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 5-8pm National Night Out	2 6pm Men's Group	3 9am Seated Fitness 6:30pm CE	4	5 7am Men's Bible Study
6 9:30am Take 25 Prayer 10am Worship	7 9am Coffee Fellowship 10am Seated Fitness 6:30pm Prayer	8 10am Plarn Mat Making	9 6pm Men's Group 6:30pm S&F meeting	10 9am Seated Fitness MUUUCE	11 LBBC Family Camp MUUUCE	12 LBBC Family Camp 7am Men's Bible Study MUUUCE
13 9:30am Take 25 Prayer 10am Worship LBBC Family Camp	14 9am Coffee Fellowship 10am Seated Fitness 6:30pm Prayer	15	16 Youth at MN Largest Candy Store 6pm Men's Group	17 9am Seated Fitness	18	19 7am Men's Bible Study
20 9:30am Transition Session 10am Worship 11:15am Community Meal	21 9am Coffee Fellowship 10am Seated Fitness 6:30pm Prayer	22	23 6pm Men's Group	24 9am Seated Fitness	25	26 7am Men's Bible Study
27 9:30am Transition Session 10am Worship	28 9am Coffee Fellowship 10am Seated Fitness 6:30pm Prayer	29 6:30pm Book Club	30 6pm Men's Group	31 9am Seated Fitness		

# YOUTH & MISSIONS



Dassel Covenant Church  
 251 Lake Street. Dassel, MN 55325  
**Thursday, August 31st—8am-5pm**  
**Friday, September 1st—8am-5pm**  
**Saturday, September 2nd—8am-12pm**  
 All proceeds are used to help our youth attend  
 conference, go on trips, and other events, as well as  
 our Ecuador Missions Team!  
**Please drop your donations off in the church basement by  
 August 21st. If you need someone to pick up items, contact the  
 church office.**  
**\*No shoes, clothes, or electronics.**  
**Thank you!**



# Leadership Team meeting , July 24, 2023

On behalf of the Women Ministries Team, Julie Ardoff brought a request to the Leadership Team to update the nursery with new paint, furniture and toys. In the discussion, it was decided to include new carpet as well. Ron reported there is money in the Capital Improvement Fund and the general maintenance line item in the budget to cover the costs. Motion to approve up to \$2,500.00 for the nursery remodel project was made by Wayne, seconded by Ron. Carried unanimously.

Bill Ward gave a brief report on what the Vitality Taskforce has been doing. He highlighted three things:

- Who we are as a church (demographics)
- Wisdom from previous Vitality effort
- Developing a survey to engage the congregation in the process

The results of the survey and recommendations will be presented to the Leadership Team and the Congregation. Pastor Linda stressed the importance of a collaborative effort between the Vitality Taskforce, the Leadership Team and the Call Committee. The NW Conference Vitality materials will be used as a follow-up to the survey.

### Pastor’s Report

Pastor Linda and Pastor Marv are grateful for the welcome they have received. They have met with several people sharing coffee or a meal and have had good conversations. Pastor Keith gave them a tour of the Lakeside Care Center and Apartments, introducing them to members of the church and key staff members. They have attended several ministry team meetings in July.

Pastor Linda will be teaching Confirmation in the fall. She plans to use the Covenant curriculum beginning with the New Testament. They are recommending a small addition to the service of communion. A bowl of grapes will be available for children who come forward with their parents. They will include instruction to help parents in their personal decision for their children.

Pastor Marv shared his thoughts on teaching a Sunday school class this fall on resolving conflicts; preaching a series on the book of James and incorporating “Hymn of the Week” and a story during the service.

Pastor Linda and Pastor Marv presented a video clip from “Ending Well.” This is a product of the ECC they would like to use to facilitate a healthy time of transition for the congregation. This will be offered Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. on August 20 and August 27. Pastor Marv informed us of their upcoming schedule. We briefly discussed the search process, how soon will we be ready to begin and the importance of the transitional process.

### Reports

Wayne made a motion to approve all the reports submitted (Christian Education, Properties and Maintenance, Women Ministry, Worship and Music) except Stewardship and Finance Team by consent agenda, seconded by Diane. Carried unanimously.

Ron highlighted the Stewardship and Finance Team report. The finances look good. The Tentmaker’s refund has been received. Motion made by Marcia to approve the Stewardship and Finance report as presented, seconded by Diane. Carried unanimously.

Old Business- due to the time and upcoming prayer meeting, the following items were tabled. Pastor Linda will meet with Marcia and Diane before the next meeting to discuss the following draft items:

1. Dealing with members who willfully neglect their responsibilities to the church or who err in doctrine or conduct
2. Security Plan / Safety Team Training Procedure
3. Church membership

**Mission Trip Needed:**  
Prescription medicine containers for Ecuador Mission Trip. .The mission team will be bringing the containers to be used in the medical clinic. They must be WASHED and LABELS REMOVED. Please place in the box by the Missions display.

**Home For At Risk Children ( Santiago Partnership)**  
The Home for At Risk Children is in need of new twin size quilts. We brought down quilts for them 2016, but there are now 20 children instead of 10 that were originally in the Home. If you would like to donate a quilt top or money towards the purchase of supplies for the quilts, please mark your check "Ecuador Quilts". It takes about 5 yards of fabric for the top and another 5 yards of fabric for the backing. Fabric costs have risen to almost \$13 / yard.



## CHURCH FINANCIALS

Evangelical Covenant Church of Dassel  
Financial Summary  
6/30/23

	Month Ended	YTD
General Fund		
General Operating Income	20,011	128,961
Actual Expenses	13,921	138,654
Total Income Less Expense	6,090	(9,692)
Giving to General Fund YTD Last Year 2022		131,643

**Building Fund**—Beginning Balance 1/1/2023 9,859

	This Month	YTD
Contributions: Building Fund contributions	1,645	13,145
Designated Memorials	55	55
Transfer from Carry over/under	0	20,000
Payments: Payments to NCP	2,600	35,600

**Current Building Fund Balance 7,459**

Building Loan 1/1/2023		<b>99,836</b>
2023 Principal Payments-Regular Giving	2,309	13,598
Principal Payments-Carry over/under	0	20,000
Principal Payment-Memorials	0	0

**Current Loan Balance 3/31/2023 66,238**

**Women Ministries Fund Balance (3/31/2023): \$8,677.91**

The 1st Sunday of each month, we will be taking a special offering for the Benevolent Fund. The money collected for the Benevolent Fund helps support those from our Church family in a time of need.

**Don’t forget about the online giving option!**  
[http://www.dasselcovenant.org/store/c1/Featured\\_Products.html](http://www.dasselcovenant.org/store/c1/Featured_Products.html)