

DEPARTMENT LEADS

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OTHER STAFF

Michelle Bennett, Communications Coordinator

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AFFIRMATION HIGHLIGHT

Thornapple's denomination, the Evangelical Covenant Church, seeks to form and nurture communities that are deeply committed to Jesus Christ and passionately engaged in Christ's mission in the world. For Covenant people, our essential beliefs are summed up in what we call *Covenant Affirmations*:

- We affirm the centrality of the word of God.
- We affirm the necessity of the new birth.
- We affirm a commitment to the whole mission of the church.
- We affirm the church as a fellowship of believers.
- We affirm a conscious dependence on the Holy Spirit.
- We affirm the reality of freedom in Christ.

Throughout the year we'd like to offer a more in-depth look at each affirmation. Please contact one of our pastoral staff if you have questions about these beliefs.

What does "we affirm the necessity of the new birth" mean?

The Apostle Paul wrote, "If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come" (2 Corinthians 5:17, TNIV). New birth in Christ means committing ourselves to him and receiving forgiveness, acceptance, and eternal life. It means being alive in Christ, and this life has the qualities of love and righteousness, joy and peace. New birth is only the beginning. Growing to maturity in Christ is a lifelong process for both individuals and communities of believers. God forms and transforms us—and it is through people transformed by Christ that God transforms the world.



**Save the Date:
Dedication Sunday**

To celebrate God's provision for our new space, we'll have a single worship service at 10:30am on Sunday, May 5, followed by a Dedication in the new Community Center at 11:30am.

NOTE: Nursery/Children's Worship will be available through first grade during worship only; parents should plan on bringing their children to the Community Center for the Dedication.



THORNAPPLE
COVENANT CHURCH

April 7, 2019 | Fifth Sunday of Lent

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome

Michael Weller

***This Is Amazing Grace**

***Great Are You, Lord**

Greeting

Offering

***Be Thou My Vision**

Scripture

Exodus 12:21-30; 40-42 & Luke 22:14-20

Bob Kingma

Message

The Way of the Cross: Freedom

Pastor Rob Peterson

Holy Communion

***What Wondrous Love**

We practice open communion; all who desire to follow Christ are invited to the Lord's Table.

***Who You Say I Am**

Benediction

**Congregational song*

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The first Sunday of each month all loose cash and donations designated benevolence funds are collected to help those in need in our church family.

The Prayer Team will be under the cross following the service if you would like to pray.

If you are our guest this morning, stop by the Welcome Center and pick up a gift we have for you.

Children's worship resources are available at the back of the Sanctuary by the sound booth.

Room at the Table | On the first Sunday of every month (today!) we encourage you to eat lunch with others after worship to enjoy community together.



CALENDAR

Sunday 4/7

9:00am • Worship/Nursery/Children's
Worship/Men's Bible Study
10:30am • Worship/Nursery/Children's
Worship/Sermon Reflection

Monday 4/8

6:30am • Monday Mornings for Men
9:30am • College & Career Moms in Prayer
7:00pm • Men's Bible Study
7:30pm • Young Adults Small Group (offsite)

Tuesday 4/9

7:00pm • LMDJ Team Meeting

Wednesday 4/10

6:30pm • Prayer Gathering
6:30pm • Choir Rehearsal

Thursday 4/11

9:30am • Moms on a Mission

Friday 4/12

6:30am • Men's Bible Study
9:30am • WholeFit

Saturday 4/13

8:30am • Men's Bible Study

Sunday 4/14 | Palm Sunday

9:00am • Worship/Nursery/Children's
Worship/Men's Bible Study
10:30am • Worship/Nursery/Children's
Worship/Sermon Reflection
11:45am • 12 Below Luncheon

Holy Week Services | April 14-21

- **Sunday, Apr. 14 | Palm Sunday Services at 9:00 and 10:30am**
Normal Sunday morning programming.
- **Thursday, Apr. 18 | Maundy Thursday Communion Service at 7:00pm for all ages**
Childcare will be provided.
- **Friday, Apr. 19 | Good Friday**
 - **Noon** • There will be an ecumenical service at Noon at Ada Congregational Church (6330 Ada Drive SE). Everyone is invited.
 - **8:00pm** • This service will be at Thornapple and will focus on remembering Christ's death on the cross.
Childcare will be provided.
- **Sunday, Apr. 21 | Easter Services at 9:00 and 10:30am**
Childcare is provided. There are no adult, student or children's classes on Easter Sunday.

EVENT INFORMATION

- **Take 5** | Following each service Sunday mornings in March and April, anyone new to Thornapple who is interested in knowing more about the church and ways to connect is invited to come to The Commons, grab coffee and talk with one of our pastors at the cafe tables.
- **Love Mercy Do Justice Team Meeting** | Anyone interested in helping plan or organize future LMDJ initiatives is welcome to join us for a team meeting here at church on Tuesday, Apr. 9 at 7:00pm. Contact Pastor Andrew (avanover@thornapple.org) with questions.
- **Choir** | Singers of all ages are invited to join us in singing during both services on Apr. 14 (Palm Sunday). Final rehearsal is Wednesday, Apr. 10, 6:30-8:00pm. There will be an additional opportunity to sing in the choir in May. For more information, or to RSVP for rehearsal, contact Michael Weller (mweller@thornapple.org).
- **12 Below Luncheon** | For individuals and families who have been attending Thornapple for 12 months or less, we invite you to join us Sunday, Apr. 14 following the 10:30 service for a luncheon with staff and other new attendees. Learn more and register: thornapple.org/12below.
- **College Student Brunch** | All college students are invited to brunch on Sunday, Apr. 14 following the first service in The Commons. The van back to Calvin will wait for those who want to stay and eat.
- **Is your child ready for communion, or would like to learn more?**
We are offering a two-fold class led by Pastor Rob and Lynne McLaughlin on Tuesday, Apr. 23 from 7:00 to 8:00pm. Children will meet in Room 120 with Lynne and parents meet with Pastor Rob in 106/107 to discuss readiness for communion and to ask questions if they are already partaking in communion. Email Lynne (lmclaughlin@thornapple.org) to sign up.
- **Woven** | Thornapple's group for adoptive and foster care families meets Apr. 23, 7:30-9:00pm. Adoptive mom Wendy Docter will be sharing with us. All are welcome from our congregation and community. Contact Kate DeJong (kmdejong@hotmail.com) or Susan Harrell (harrellfam@charter.net) with questions.
- **Prime Timers' Soup & Study** | Anyone 60 and older is invited to join us Friday, April 26 at 10:00am. Come enjoy speaker Dan Jesse, a meal and fellowship.
- **Habitat Work Day** | Saturday, Apr. 27, 8:30am to 4:00pm at Plaza Roosevelt on Grandville Ave. Contact Pastor Andrew (avanover@thornapple.org) or Babs Sharp (bdsharp@yahoo.com) to sign up.
- **Horizons' Game Night** | Join us for Court Whist Game Night on Saturday, Apr. 27 at 7:30pm at Dave and Susan Harrell's home (8097 Cameron Ct. SE, Caledonia). Register and sign up to bring a sweet or savory snack to share: [thornapple.org/horizonsgamenight!](http://thornapple.org/horizonsgamenight)
- **TSM 5K** | Saturday, May 4 at 9:00am at church (note change of location). Runners and cheerleaders of all ages welcome - this event is for everyone and all funds raised go towards students and youth leaders for this summer's Camp Week and missions projects in Chicago and the Twin Cities! Learn more and sign up to race: thornapple.org/tsm5k.
- **Prime Timer, Moms + Preschooler Carnival** | Friday, May 10, 10:30am -12:30pm (seniors arrive at 10:00am for setup) in The Commons. All preschoolers and their parents are welcome!

NEWS

- ♦ **Easter Flowers for Sanctuary** | Easter flowers can be ordered in honor or in memory of someone for \$5; order envelopes are available at the Welcome Center. Flowers can be picked up after the second service on Easter Sunday, April 21.
- ♦ **Community Open House** | Saturday, May 4, 9:00am-3:00pm, our congregation is hosting our community to introduce them to our new space. Plan to attend and help out - volunteers are needed to help with food/keeping things clean, monitoring the bounce house, face painting and more. Contact Lisa Udell (ludell@thornapple.org) to sign up to volunteer!
- ♦ **Worship Resources** | To help you worship throughout the week, we've prepared Worship Resources available online (thornapple.org/media) and at the Welcome Center.
- ♦ **Glenn Van Noord (GVN) Short-Term Urban Missions Program 2019** | College students AND HS juniors and seniors can apply for GVN which gives students the opportunity to work in urban Grand Rapids this summer. Applications are now being accepted until the program is full. Learn more/apply: thornapple.org/glennvan Noord.
- ♦ **Women's Retreat Planning Team** | Thornapple is the host church for the fall 2019 women's retreat at Portage Lake on Oct. 4-6. Women's Ministry needs a team to help with planning hospitality, activities and promotions. If you are interested, please contact Sarah DeBaets (sdebaets@gmail.com) and/or Diane Kunkler (momofspartans@yahoo.com).
- ♦ **New to the Covenant denomination and/or to Thornapple?** We offer a three-part series (May 1, 8, 15; 6:30-8:00pm) called "What is a Covenant Church?" This is a great way to learn about the denomination and church membership (it is also a membership prerequisite). Following the series, we will have a membership class on Sunday, May 19 from 4:00-6:00pm. For more details and to sign up: thornapple.org/covenantchurchclass.

MINISTRY INFORMATION

If you have questions or to learn more about these and other ministries, visit the links listed next to each ministry name or visit our website at thornapple.org.

CHILDREN | thornapple.org/children

- **Nursery** | Birth-3yrs, lower level
- **4s-1st grade** | Children's Worship, both services
- **2nd-5th grade** | 10:30am only [Not 1st Sundays]
- **Summer dates to save** | *Lego Camp* (Fall 1st-6th) June 17-20 (am or pm sessions). *VBS* (Fall K-5th) Aug. 5-9, 9am-Noon. *Registration for both opens Apr. 30.*

STUDENTS | thornapple.org/students

- **MS/HS Huddles** | At 10:30am [Not 1st Sundays]
- **HS Small Group Sunday** | Third Sundays
- **MS Believe Conference** | April 26-27
- **TSM 5K** | Sat., May 4 at 9am at church
- **MS Mission Trip in Chicago** | Aug. 11-16 for current 6th/7th grade. Learn more and register by TODAY at midnight: thornapple.org/chicago

YOUNG ADULTS | thornapple.org/adults

- **Small Group** | Meets Apr. 8 and 22, 7:30-9pm at 6578 Brookhills Ct. SE, Grand Rapids. Questions? Shalini Bennett, shalinibennett@gmail.com or 616-516-9892.

HORIZONS | thornapple.org/adults

- **Game Night** | Sat., Apr. 27 at 7:30pm at the Harrell's. Learn more and sign up: thornapple.org/horizonsgamenight

PRIME TIMERS (60+) | thornapple.org/adults

- **Soup & Study** | Usually 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month at 10am. Program, fellowship and lunch.

WOMEN | thornapple.org/adults

- **WholeFit** | Exercise and worship (childcare provided). Classes meets Fridays, 9:30-10:30am.
- **Women's Bible Studies** | Wednesdays at 9:30am

MEN | thornapple.org/adults

- **Men's Small Group Studies** | Four time/day options: Sunday at 9am, Monday at 7pm, Friday at 6:30am and Saturday at 8:30am (all at Thornapple)