

## Who we are at Naperville Covenant Church

We desire to be an increasingly diverse, compassionate community committed to knowing, loving, and serving Jesus Christ in our neighborhoods and world.

1150 Hobson Road • Naperville, IL 60540-8130 • (630) 369-2741

Emergency After Office Hours Phone: (630) 720-6344

Email: [necchurch@napercov.org](mailto:necchurch@napercov.org)

Web: <http://www.napercov.org>

### Naperville Covenant Staff:

Pastor of Student Ministries, Josiah Cheng - [josiah@napercov.org](mailto:josiah@napercov.org)

Pastor of Children & Family Ministries, Kelly Johnston - [kelly@napercov.org](mailto:kelly@napercov.org)

Office Administrator, Daniel Casey - [necchurch@napercov.org](mailto:necchurch@napercov.org)

## Weekly Events

### Sunday, March 17th

Worship Service @ 10:30am  
Confirmation @ 12pm  
Service at the Pearl @ 1:15pm

### Monday, March 18th

Monday Crew @ 2:30pm  
BSL Meeting @ 7pm

### Tuesday, March 19th

Building Rental @ 5am  
Women's Bible Study @ 9:30am

### Wednesday, March 20th

Ohana @ 5pm  
Kids Choir Rehearsal @ 6:30pm  
Discipleship Series @ 6:30pm  
Choir Rehearsal @ 7:30pm

### Thursday, March 21st

Building Rental @ 10am

### Friday, March 22nd

Youth Baking Event @ 6pm

### Saturday, March 23rd

Easter Egg Hunt @ 10am

Sign up for our **Weekly All-Church Email** and our **Parent Connection Email Newsletters**: <https://tinyurl.com/NECCNews>

Find us **@NaperCov** on Social Media

## NaperCov Youth

While engaging with peers and community, NaperCov Youth Ministry will be a place where students find acceptance for who they are and challenged to grow deeper in faith with Christ.

### *Upcoming Youth Events:*

Sun, March 17: **Confirmation** at 12pm

Wed, March 20: **Ohana** at 5pm

Fri, March 22: **Baking for Egg Hunt** at 6pm



Follow

@napercovyouth



*Lent 2024* Naperville Covenant Church



**Worship Music**

“Take My Life”  
 “Make Room”

**Prayer of Confession**

**Worship Music**

“You Are My King (Amazing Love)”

**Mission’s Highlight**

Hearts for Honduras  
*Dr. Luis Bolanos*

**Scripture Reading**

Deuteronomy 10:17-20; Acts 6:1-4  
*Bob Diller*

**Message**

“The Missio Dei and Mercy Ministries”  
*Dr. Stephen Offutt*

**Giving of Tithes & Offerings**

**Announcements & Prayer**

**Closing Worship Song**

“Come Thou Fount, Come Thou King”

**Benediction**

*Dr. Stephen Offutt*

**A warm welcome to Naperville Covenant!** Thank you for joining us today. If it’s your first time visiting us, please fill out the Connection Card in the pew and place it in the offering bag or follow the QR code on the insert.

**Prayer After Service** - Stephen Ministry has a rotating team who are ready to pray for anyone who would like it today. Head out of the sanctuary to the library after service in order to receive prayer.

**Children 1st-5th Grade** are welcome to come to Sunday Squad after the opening set of worship songs. We will return to the sanctuary during the closing song.

**Preschool/Kinder Room** is open and staffed during our entire service. Children ages 2.5 - 5 are invited at any time to come explore the Bible together through story and play.

**The Nursery** is open and staffed by volunteers today. Infants and children up through age 3 are welcome at any time.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Women’s History Month Spotlight** - Be sure to check NaperCov’s weekly announcement email each week this month to learn about influential women from throughout church history. This past week’s spotlight was Hildegard of Bingen.

**Women’s Bible Study Continues This Tues, March 19 at 9:30am** - WBS is currently studying Lisa Harper’s *How Much More: Discovering God’s Extravagant Love in Unexpected Places*. Contact Kathy Buettner for more information at [kathy\\_buettner@comcast.net](mailto:kathy_buettner@comcast.net)

**Lenten Discipleship Series Continues This Wed, March 20 at 6:30pm** - Greg Johnston is leading a series on Rev. Dennis Edwards’ new book—*Humility Illuminated: The Biblical Path Back to Christian Character*. They meet on Wednesdays from 6:30pm-7:30pm in the library. This week, they will be discussing Chapters 6 and 7.

**Palm Sunday Kid’s Choir Rehearses on Wed, March 20 at 6:30pm** - We are organizing a Kids Choir for Palm Sunday! Our next rehearsal is this Wednesday, March 20 at 6:30pm. The Kids Choir will sing during the service on Sunday, March 24. If your child is interested in participating, please contact Melinda Alberty or Pastor Kelly.

**Easter Egg Hunt on Sat, March 23** - We are still in need of additional volunteers for filling eggs, setting up, hosting our coffee station, overseeing outside activities, and clean-up. You can sign up in the narthex or visit the SignUp Genius page in the weekly email to see how you can help out. Please contact Pastor Kelly with any questions.

**Palms at the Pearl on Sun, March 24** - On Palm Sunday this year, you’re invited to join the service at the Pearl nursing home and share our church’s palm branches with the residents! This is a simple but significant way to bless folks in our community with the presence of God. Please RSVP to Pastor Kelly.

**Good Friday Service on Fri, March 29 at 7pm** - We will be hosting a collaborative Good Friday Service with Christ Covenant Church, Church of the Good Shepherd, and Batavia Covenant. There will be a fellowship hour before the service at 6pm.

**Easter Service on Sun, March 31 at 10:30am** - Join us as we celebrate Easter! Our service will include a special message and Easter gift for the children in attendance and time for fellowship afterwards.

**March UNITE Fundraiser Basket** - This month’s basket is pizza themed! Place your bids by the start of service on Sunday, March 31. The basket and a full list of its contents is viewable in the church’s narthex. All proceeds will go towards sending NaperCov’s high school students to the UNITE Youth Conference this summer.

**Monthly Financial Report** - Below are the financials for February of 2024. Thank you for your continued generosity in supporting the mission and ministry of Naperville Evangelical Covenant Church.

NECC Financials – Month of February 2024				
	Month		YTD	
	Actual	Plan	Actual	Plan
<b>Giving</b>	\$ 22,873	\$ 32,355	\$ 343,984	\$ 317,936
<b>Expenses</b>	\$ 31,330	\$ 44,533	\$ 334,765	\$ 359,531

# Naperville Covenant Church

## “The Missio Dei and Mercy Ministries”

Deuteronomy 10:17-20 and Acts 6:1-4

Dr. Stephen Offutt • March 17th, 2024

### Meet Our Guest Preacher

Steve Offutt teaches and writes about issues related to Christian responses to poverty. He and his wife, Amy Reynolds, have lived and worked in Central America. Steve and Amy currently serve as Naperville Covenant's Ministry Group Directors for Outreach and—along with their three daughters, Addy, Emily, and Gabi—call NECC their church home.



*Our journey with Christ is one that calls us to honest confession, expressing all the facts of our life: hopes, fears, sins, desires, thanksgiving, and praise. In this season of Lent we are practicing praying our confessions together. We are prompted by God's gracious invitation to confess our sin, and then we are reminded and assured of God's forgiveness in Christ. May this shared practice strengthen our shared faith.*

### Prayer of Confession

Holy One, we confess that we have failed to live into the covenants You have made with us. We have turned aside from Your ways and sought our own gain. We have ignored those in need among us and fought with our neighbors. We have abandoned our love for You and failed to love one another, loving instead the things of this world: wealth, power, security, notoriety. Forgive us for not living the life You have assured us. Guide us away from the empty promises of the world we have made and into the promise of eternal life in You, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Assurance of Pardon

In his great mercy and love, God has made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in our sins. It is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is God's great gift to us. Thanks be to God!

-Ephesians 2:4-8

*Written by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell, Rev-o-lution Worship Resources*



Support our shared mission!  
<https://napercov.org/give>

Connect with us!  
tinyurl.com  
/NaperCovConnect



# Naperville Covenant Church

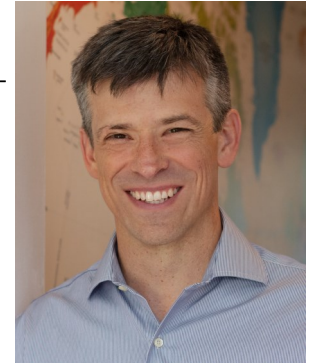
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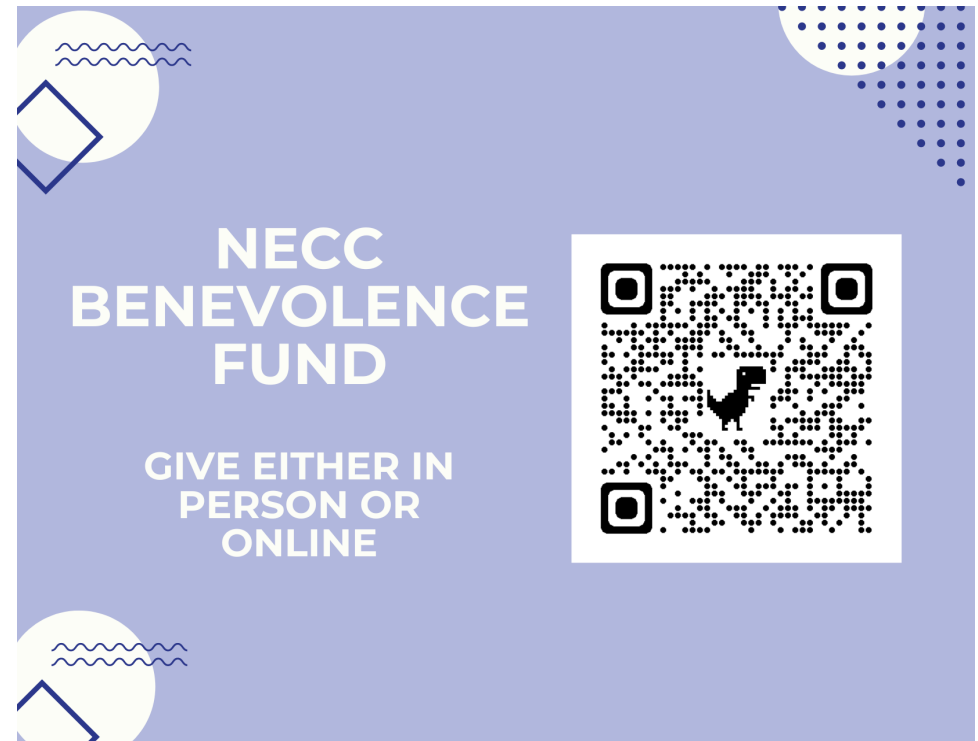
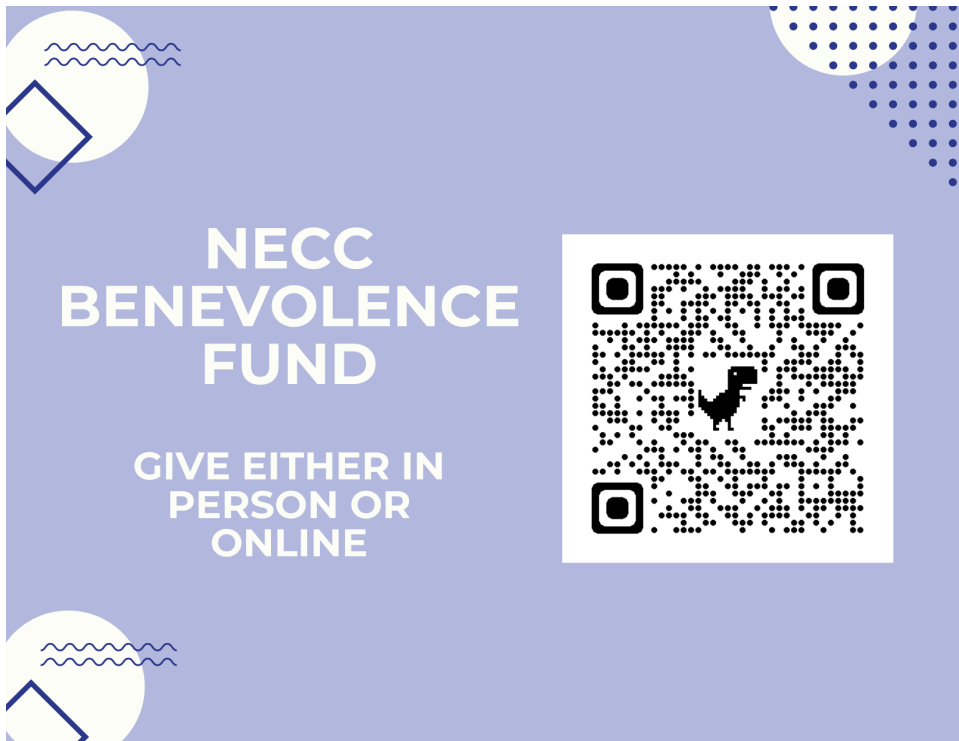
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**Sermon Notes**

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