

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

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

Naperville Covenant Staff:

Pastor of Student Ministries, Josiah Cheng - josiah@napercov.org

Pastor of Children & Family Ministries, Kelly Johnston - kelly@napercov.org

Office Administrator, Daniel Casey - necchurch@napercov.org

Weekly Events

Sunday, March 24th

Worship Service @ 10:30am

Palms at the Pearl @ 1:15pm

Wednesday, March 27th

Choir Rehearsal @ 7:30pm

Thursday, March 28th

Building Rental @ 10am

Friday, March 29th

Fellowship Hour @ 6pm

Good Friday Service @ 7pm

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:

Ohana Resumes Wed, April 3 at 5pm

Fri, April 5 - Sun, April 7: **Confirmation Retreat**

Confirmation Resumes Sun, April 7 at 12pm



Follow

@napercovyouth



Palm Sunday

Naperville Evangelical
Covenant Church

Worship Music

“Holy Holy Holy”

NaperCov Kids Choir

“Hosanna Hurray”

Worship Music

“Hosanna (Praise is Rising)”

Prayer of Confession

Worship Music

“Same God”

Ministry Highlight

Team World Vision

Alex Schorr

NaperCov Kids Choir

“Call Him Messiah”

Scripture Reading

John 12:12-16

Kathy Buettner

Message

“How Did You Come to Follow Christ?”

Minister Tony Pizarro

Giving of Tithes & Offerings

Announcements & Prayer

Closing Worship Song

“I Surrender All”

Benediction

Minister Tony Pizarro

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.

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

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.

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 Jarena Lee.

Palms at the Pearl Today at 1:15pm - At 1:15pm today, come and join the service at the Pearl Nursing Home (200 W. Martin Ave. in Naperville) 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.

Choir Rehearsal on Wed, March 27 at 7:30pm - The NaperCov Choir will be having a rehearsal this week to prepare to sing during our Easter Sunday Service. All singers are welcome. If you have any questions, contact Mark Johnson or Diane Quagliana.

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.

Women’s Bible Study Resumes Tues, April 2 at 9:30am - WBS will be taking a break for Holy Week, but will resume the following week. They are 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

Lenten Discipleship Series Resumes Wed, April 3 at 6:30pm - The Lenten discipleship series will be taking a break for Holy Week, but will resume the following week. They are reading Rev. Dennis Edwards' new book—*Humility Illuminated: The Biblical Path Back to Christian Character*.

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
Giving	\$ 22,873	\$ 32,355	\$ 343,984	\$ 317,936
Expenses	\$ 31,330	\$ 44,533	\$ 334,765	\$ 359,531

Naperville Covenant Church

“How Did You Come to Follow Christ?”

John 12:12-16

Minister Tony Pizarro • March 24th, 2024

Meet Our Guest Preacher

Tony Pizarro serves as the assistant director of the writing center at North Park University, where he is currently pursuing his D.Min. in Preaching. He has previously served as a steering committee member for the Illinois Coalition for Higher Education in Prison. He owns Kintsugi LLC, which seeks to provide spaces of teaching and learning with the goal for everyone to see their brokenness as an asset. Tony is passionate about education, social justice, and creating Christ centered spaces where people are allowed to bring their full humanity.



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

Loving God, you rode a donkey and came in peace, humbled yourself and gave yourself for us.

We confess our lack of humility.

As you entered Jerusalem, the crowds shouted "Hosanna: Save us now!"

On Good Friday they shouted "Crucify!"

We confess our praise is often empty. We sing "Hosanna," but cry "Crucify."

As the crowd laid their palms in front of you, you took no glory for yourself.

We confess that we want to be accepted and take the easy way. We do not stay true to your will. Forgive us, Lord, and help us to follow the way of obedience. Amen.

(from Companion to the Revised Common Lectionary)

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the Word of the Lord from Psalm 118:

Let those who fear the Lord say, "His steadfast love endures forever." Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me free. The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.

In Christ, God answers us and sets us free! In Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

(Based on Psalm 118:4-5, 14, 17)



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

Connect with us!
tinyurl.com
/NaperCovConnect



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Sermon Notes

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