

October 2026



EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

The Covenant Chronicle

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As I taught the membership class and met with the nominating committee these last two months, I have thought a lot about the value of church membership. While I know that attending worship and other church activities definitely have benefits, the commitment of membership takes these to a higher level.

In our culture that prioritizes individualism, joining a church affirms a believer's dedication to a community of faith. The author of Hebrews emphasizes this necessity, instructing believers to not neglect "meeting together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near" (Hebrews 10:25). Within a covenant community, Christians are encouraged to practice the biblical "one another" commands—such as loving, serving, and forgiving each other—which serves as the primary environment where spiritual maturity is forged.

In addition, church membership provides essential spiritual protection through mutual accountability and pastoral care. Scripture never envisions a Christian living in isolation; instead, the New Testament uses the metaphor of a human body to describe the church, noting that "we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another" (Romans 12:5). Membership ensures that a believer has a defined group of elders and peers to offer correction, guidance, and support during seasons of trial or temptation.

Church membership also empowers believers to fulfill the global mission of Christ more effectively through stewardship and service. The diverse spiritual gifts given to the church are meant to be deployed collectively to build up the kingdom of God. As the Apostle Peter writes, "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace" (1 Peter 4:10). By officially aligning with a local congregation, a believer pools their time, talents, and resources with others to sustain local ministries, engage in collective worship, and advance the Great Commission. Ultimately, church membership transforms passive spectators into active participants in God's redemptive plan.

Blessings, Pastor Keith

Mission Statement

We, the Evangelical Covenant Church of Paxton, Illinois, will seek to bring the people of our community and throughout the world to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ because God calls us to do so. In all we do we will serve Christ through individual talents working together to nurture each other in the faith and in Christian love.

October Ministry Volunteers

Scripture Readers

4 Hillary Sawyer

11 Willow Jones

18 Ryder Jones

25 Myndie Glazik

Ushers

4 Jesse Balk, Ahlden Harms

11 Matt & Amy Jones, Diane Gustafson

18 Roger Gustafson, Jeff Shaffer

25 Glen Foss, Melanie Harms



Paxton
Betty Lesus

*Remember our
homebound
members*



1	Greg Kingston	7	Frank & Lisa Brocato
	Maisy Johnson	10	Ron & Barb Hilligoss
5	Beau Glazik	19	Tim & Jessica Abrahamson
7	Kathryn Sawyer	22	Andy & Torrie Jones
	Elizabeth Sawyer	28	Gene & Shannon May
	Abby Balk	30	Derek & Holly Busboom
10	Vickie Swan		
11	Matthew Glazik		
	Braden Mutchmore		
14	Harper Toohill		
	Sawyer Toohill		
	Paisley Toohill		
19	Maurie Saldeen		
	Meghan Lottinville		
22	Emily Kief		
23	Dane Elson		
24	Jessica Moline		
26	Devin Waterstradt		
31	Joe Sawyer		



YOUTH EVENTS

2026

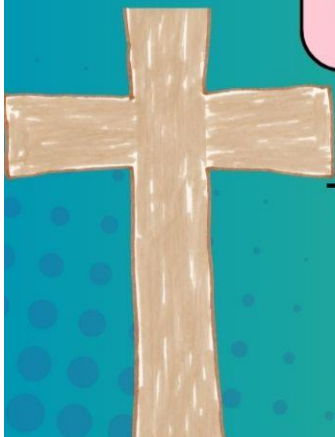


Oct 25: Fall Cookout
at Nelson Farms 4-6pm

Nov 12: Elevation Rhythm

Nov 22: Service Project
TBD

Dec 13: Annual caroling,
cookie and cocoa party!



Times and events may change.
Keep an eye out for updates



October 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4 SS 9:30am Worship 10:45am	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 SS 9:30am Worship 10:45am	12 Trustees 7pm Diaconate 7pm CE Board 7pm Admin Board 8pm	13	14	15	16	17 Food Pantry 9-11am
18 SS 9:30am Worship 10:45am	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 SS 9:30am Worship 10:45am Youth Group 4-6pm	26	27	28	29	30	31 

**EVANGELICAL COVENANT
CHURCH**

260 S. Union St.
Paxton, IL 60957