

**This week's white rose commemorates the life of: Steve McQuin, business partner of Jason Potter.**

**New this week: Cori Olson, friend of Karen Julian; Dennis Joosse, Covenant member.**

**Covenant members:** Susan Wood; Fern Lawrence; Paula Swansonrasanen; Jan Minardi.

**Covenant friends & extended family:** Roxy Riessen, mother of Carrie Riessen; Gene Swanson, Paula Swansonrasanen's father; Rick Bartz; Robert Hill, father of Melissa Hardy; Roy and Stephanie Elkins, friends of Lorie and John Raihala; Lynda Southwick, spouse of Lloyd Southwick; Ellie, friend of Carrie Riessen; Morgan Olson, friend of Bailey Green; Patricia O'Donoghue, sister of Peg O'Donoghue and Steve Veazie; Avery and Carolyn, daughters of Wendy McCallum and cousins of Arlene Kennedy; Alice Kirby, daughter-in-law of Peter and Jane Kolakowski; Eunice Bartz, mother of Rick Bartz.

**Covenant family & friends mourning the death of:** Carol Carper, sister-in-law of Jan Swartz; Kim Whitted, cousin of Brend Moten; Dora Ngo-Nguidjol, sister of Emilie Songolo; Marie Mascitti, grandmother of Marco Mascitti; Linda Scott, co-worker of Ann Larget; Howard Hinkel, brother-in-law of Lloyd and Lynda Southwick.

**Your continuing prayers are appreciated for:** Dennis Eft, brother of Lori Voss; Carolyn Van Dyke, cousin of Pastor Charlie; Robert N. Mayer, friend of Marcy Carlson & Tim Smeeding; Nella Sessa, mother of Lina Pudelwitts; Noel Pearson; Margaret Hickman; Joann Pivotto; Lee Narans; Cindy Blewett; Stephen Resan; Marion Peterson; Helen Madsen; Jack & Joannie Carter; Jan & Tom Schuster; Sandi Thompson-Royer, Covenant friend; Troy Griswold, nephew of Lori Voss; Mark Middleton; Sally Nesser; Bill Wood; Brenda Moten; John Wedberg; Nancy McCulley; Larry & Barb Larsen; Russ & Evelyn McMillan; Virgil Landry; Joseph Hack; Eve Casta; Dick & Jan Schaefer, family of Bob & Nan Schaefer; Tim Wade, father of Janna Doney; Jorge Asencion, Covenant friend; Gary Van Ess & John Van Ess, brothers of Vicki Alexander.

**World Mission:** People of Guatemala and congregations of Monte Hebron Presbyterian Church in Santo Domingo and Monte Horeb Presbyterian Church in Coyolate. Jed and Jenny Koball PC(USA) in Peru; Medical Benevolence Foundation in Haiti; Eric Miller in Kenya.

**Our elected leaders:** President Trump, Rep. Pocan, Sen. Johnson, Sen. Baldwin, Gov. Evers, and Mayor Rhodes-Conway.

### **Birthdays**

**Joan Colburn, Gianna Fussell, Mary Harkness (12/22); Amelia Brigham, Noel Pearson, Ken Koeritzer (12/24); Bob Aune, Janet Cresson (12/25); Honner Cooper (12/27).**

*Names will ordinarily stay on the prayer list for five weeks. If you would like to remain on the list longer, please contact the church office at 608-233-6297, Pastor Charlie Berthoud, Pastor Megan Berry, Pastor Jess Scholten, or Melissa Hinz, Minister of Music and Pastoral Care.*

*You may also email us at [info@covenantmadison.org](mailto:info@covenantmadison.org).*

“Let the Star of Morning Rise”

A Christmas Prayer from Ted Loder’s, *Guerrillas of Grace*

Lord God,  
in the deepest night  
there rises the star of the morning,  
    of birth,  
        the herald of a new day you are making,  
a day of great joy dawning  
    in yet faint shafts  
        of light and love.

I hear whispers of peace in the stillness,  
fresh breezes of promise  
    stirring,  
winter sparrows  
    chirping of life,  
a baby’s cry  
    of need  
and hope –  
    Christmas!

In the darkness I see the light  
and find in it comfort,  
    confidence,  
        cause for celebration,  
for the darkness cannot overcome it;  
and I rejoice to nourish it  
    in myself,  
        in other people,  
            in the world  
for the sake of him  
    in whom it was born  
        and shines forever,  
            even Jesus the Christ.

“The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness did not overcome it.”  
Thanks be to God. Merry Christmas!