

A CELEBRATION OF THE RESURRECTION
4th Sunday of Easter - April 13, 2008 – 11:00 AM

Welcome Pastor John Benson

As we welcome families with children to worship,
be aware that nursery care is available
for infants and toddlers downstairs throughout the service.
Jr. JAMBoree for children ages 3-4th grade is also offered
throughout the service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

Prelude Sandy Benson, Organist
Becky Ericson, Pianist

Fairest Lord Jesus – arr. G. Young

Call to Worship 1 Peter 2:19-25

*Hymn #261

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

*Opening Prayer

*The Lord's Prayer

Reading of Psalm 23 with Sung Response 2

Gospel John 10:1-10 Lynda Seguin, Reader

Life Together: Announcements and Prayer Requests

Offertory

*The Doxology

Hymn #48

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

*Prayer of Dedication

Hymn #409

In Shady, Green Pastures

Sermon

Acts 2:42-47

A HEALTHY, MISSIONAL CONGREGATION

*Hymn #607

Change Your Church, O God

*Benediction

*Postlude

*Those who are able, please stand.

Welcome! Whether this is your first time with us, a return visit, or something you do every Sunday, we're happy that you're here. Please fill out the Home Page insert in this bulletin, including your address and prayer requests, and make it part of the offering today. The offering is an opportunity to share financially in the ministries and mission of our congregation. If you're a visitor or a newcomer, please feel no obligation about this.

SERVING TODAY

Greeters: Erik & Anna Karlson
Ushers: Liz Reitman & Beth Badassa
Nursery: Martha Reitman & Meron Berhe
Sound Tech: Robert Hamilton
Snack: The Hastings
Candle Lighter: Lidiya Badassa

SERVING NEXT WEEK: April 20

Greeters: Youth Group
Ushers: Bud Clark & Jim Hamilton
Reader: Kristin Karlson
Nursery: Mary Hamilton
Sound Tech: Tom Connelie
Snack: The Roberts
Candle Lighter: Andrea Hamilton

Birthdays and Anniversaries Celebrated this Coming Week:

Monday Matt Hamilton
Saturday Mark Enstrom
Sunday Sony Mashiana

Lessons to Read for Next Sunday – The 2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60 The martyrdom of Stephen
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 Into your hand I commit my spirit
1 Peter 2:2-10 The cornerstone
John 14:1-14 I go to prepare a place for you

COMMUNITY COVENANT CHURCH

Celebrating our 36th Year of Ministry

7018 Sydenstricker Road; Springfield, VA 22152

703-455-4150 communitycovenant@verizon.net

Our mission as a congregation is calling people from this community and around the world into communion with Christ. Our communion with him and with each other grows as we enter into the promises and challenges that a covenant with Christ includes.

Our Life Together This Week

Today 9:30 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Worship Service
12:15 PM Praying for Revitalization
5:30 PM Youth Group
5:30 PM Congregational Pizza Party
Bring a salad or dessert to share
Visit with Dr. Cindy Hoover
Covenant Missionary to Mexico

Tuesday 9:45 AM Women's Bible Study – Church Kitchen
Using Beth Moore Study on Daniel

Wednesday 7:00 PM FIT Relationships Marriage Education

Saturday **Pray for Jason Rodgers and Katy Thiem**
as they are united in marriage

Next 9:30 AM Sunday School Classes
Sunday Adult Class: Discussion of the Covenant
Resource Paper – “The Evangelical
Covenant Church and the Bible”
(Copies are available on the table by the
door to take home and read)

11:00 AM Worship Service
12:15 PM Praying for Revitalization

The Rose on the Communion Table this morning announces the birth of Benson August Borter to Ben and Laurel Borter of Kenosha, Wisconsin, on Tuesday, April 8, at 11:57 AM. Pastor John and Sandy Benson's newest grandchild (grandson #4) was 20 inches long and weighed 7 lbs. 1 oz. at his arrival.

THE DOCTOR PAYS ANOTHER VISIT. Cindy Hoover, a Covenant Medical Missionary working in Oaxaca, Mexico, was here as part of the East Coast Covenant Missionary Conference a couple years ago. We are delighted that she will be with us again today. Come and meet Cindy at the congregational pizza party at 5:30 PM. (Pizza, beverages and table service will be provided. Please bring a salad or dessert to share.) Learn how to say "Oaxaca" and find out about the community health screening ministry planned for the city of Tehuantepec this summer – the goal is to screen all the children in the pre-schools and primary schools.

How the Covenant Church Reads Scripture is the working title of a resource paper which has been prepared for discussion in our congregations in anticipation of its presentation for adoption at the Covenant Annual Meeting in June. We invite everyone to participate in this timely discussion. Please pick up a copy of the resource paper – The Evangelical Covenant Church and the Bible – on the table by the door of the sanctuary. Take it home and read it carefully this week. Then come to the Adult Sunday School class in the sanctuary at 9:30 AM next Sunday, April 20, to engage with other members of the congregation in a discussion of this important topic.

The last Package from Home for the school year leaves this month in time for final exams. We have received numerous thank you notes from our students and military saying thank you for thinking of them. A sign up is outside the sanctuary for those who would like to contribute. We are up to 13 students and military that we send packages to, so donations for postage are greatly appreciated! Please bring your items in by April 20th.

What if the Veritas 13 became the Veritas 21? Imagine if several more people from our church experienced the truth about congregational revitalization the way some of us did on Saturday, Feb. 9, in Livingston, NJ! Now you can! Dr. John Wenrich, Director of Congregational Vitality for the Evangelical Covenant Church is leading another Veritas Workshop at St. Paul's Wolf's Covenant Church in York, PA, on Saturday, June 7, from 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM. Learn what it takes and join in as we seek to become a healthy missional church. The workshop is free and it's only 2 ½ hours away. Tell Pastor Benson if you would like to attend.



In the Covenant Companion – “A Covenant Miss America” – Stan Friedman tells how Covenanters Kirsten Haglund, from Faith Covenant Church in Farmington Hills, MI, and Ashley Young, from Hope Covenant in Grand Forks, ND, won top spots early this year in the Miss America contest. You can subscribe to our award-winning denominational magazine by calling 773-907-3310 or online at www.covchurch.org/communications. Subscriptions are \$19.95.

The Books and Culture Group will meet at 7 PM on Saturday, April 26th to discuss [A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man](#) by James Joyce. The group discussion is open to anyone who wishes to participate. Contact the church office if you have a book to suggest). Covenant Crafters also gathers that day beginning at 3 and continuing through a shared meal at 6 PM, which those who are attending the book discussion are invited to join.

Did you miss last week's sermon? Hear it and read the bulletin each week on the church website. It is updated weekly. Please visit us at www.covenantchurchva.org.

Get Connected with Covenant Newswire – this free service delivers the latest news from Covenant Churches around the world to your home or office in a single daily email. It's a great way to keep informed about what's happening among the mission friends. To sign up, visit the Covenant Web Page (www.covchurch.org) and click on the Newswire button.

YOUTH GROUP

For the month of April Youth Group will meet on the 13th and 27th. Youth Group starts at 5:00, and friends are always welcome to join in. Snacks are welcome, too!

Don't forget to place your donations for our sponsored child, Yohannes, in the donations box at the back of the sanctuary. The Youth Group has pledged \$40 per month toward his support.



Recycle! We have the bins in the kitchen – 3 of them! Please place your recyclables in the appropriate bin. Thank you!

Life is No Picnic for many, even in a prosperous area like Northern Virginia. Remember what Jesus said about being hungry, and bring some canned goods for the food pantry at ECHO when you come to worship him on Sunday. Put them in the picnic basket by the hymnal rack.

New Guidelines for Labels to save for the Education Program at the Covenant Children's Home in Cromwell have been developed and are in the basket on the coffee tables where labels are gathered. Take a copy home and post it on your refrigerator.

Updates for the Buddy Board: Please check out the Buddy Board at the door to the sanctuary and make sure the information is correct. If you are not on the board and would like to be, please feel free to post your jobs!

Remember, this building is regularly used by other groups. If you are planning an activity, remember to check the complete calendar in the church office. Please speak to Kathy Knowles, our Administrative Assistant, before scheduling any event. (Call 703-455-4150.) The deadline for bulletin announcements is 9 AM Friday.

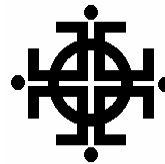
SUMMER CAMPS AT CAMP SQUANTO for children entering Grade 2 through young people entering Grade 12 at the Covenant Camp in Southern New Hampshire. Brochures are on the credenza. Register now – camps fill up FAST.



How to Contact Pastor Benson – You may contact him at his office at church –703-455-4150. The church's e-mail address is communitycovenant@verizon.net. Prayer requests and other matters can also be brought to his attention by using the Home Page insert in the bulletin. Don't hesitate to get in touch when you, or someone in your family, is hospitalized, facing surgery or in need of pastoral care.

Covenant World Mission Prayer Line: 1-800-FON-PRAY

“When we are linked by the power of prayer, we hold each other's hand, as it were, while we walk along a slippery path.” St. Gregory



The character of the Evangelical Covenant Church is expressed by our logo: at the center is the cross. Next is a circle – the symbol of being united in Christ. Then four different people, joined to one another, reach out to the world in love. The Covenant Web Page: www.covchurch.org

A Covenant Affirmation - We are a catholic church. The word *catholic* literally means universal. This means we understand ourselves to be a part of the community of believers that began with Jesus' first followers, is alive today, and will continue until Jesus comes again.