

CELEBRATION OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR
Sunday, June 8, 2008 – 10 AM

Welcome

Pastor John Benson

*The Doxology

Hymn #48

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.

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn #443

Prelude

Sandy Benson, Organist
Becky Ericson, Pianist

Jesus Loves Me, This I Know

For the Beauty of the Earth – Lowe

Sermon

Song of Solomon 2:3

Opening Prayer

LIKE AN APPLE TREE

*Hymn #56

*Hymn #428

For the Beauty of the Earth

He's Ever Over Me

First Lesson

Genesis 12:1-9

*Benediction

Second Lesson

Romans 4:13-25

*Postlude

Recognition of Our Graduates

*Those who are able, please stand

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 9:9-13; 18-26

Honoring Our Sunday School Teachers

Life Together: Announcements and Prayer Requests

Offertory

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.

COMMUNITY COVENANT CHURCH

Celebrating our 36th Year of Ministry

7018 Sydenstricker Road

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 10:00 AM Worship Service
11:00 AM Sunday School Picnic & Games

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

Race Across America begins
Dough Thorpe and Bill Anderson

Wednesday 7:30 PM Church Council Meeting

Next Sunday 10:00 AM Worship Service
11:15 AM Prayer for Revitalization

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.

A Three Part Over and Above Stewardship Project has been launched. The goal is to revitalize our outreach to children and their families. We are asking the members of our congregation to: 1. Give 1,000 hours of volunteer time above and beyond our regular ministries in service to children by engaging in special ministries (such as VBS), and by enhancing our facilities and strengthening our existing programs; 2. To extend 100 personal invitations to people in our community, inviting them to attend church programs, especially those with an emphasis on children; and 3. To raise \$5,000 in contributions above and beyond our giving to support the budget and mission of the congregation – this will enable us to advertise our children's ministries, purchase play equipment for the picnic area, continue to improve our facilities for children's ministry, and purchase needed AV equipment.

Volunteer by signing up to help with VBS

Invite someone to VBS by using the special postcards

Contribute using the special envelopes on the credenza

V-I-C...TORY – *I can do all things through him who Strengthens me.* Philipians 4:13

CHANGE FOR CHANGE – It was the church's financial officer's idea, and Aaron Knowles has turned it into a reality as a school service project. The new container on the table by the door into the sanctuary is designed to collect YOUR LOOSE CHANGE. The gathered funds will be used for building maintenance projects.

Our Custodian, Tammy Murphy, is on safari in Africa until June 22nd! While we rejoice that Tammy is enjoying her unique experience, we need some volunteers to clean the church for the next two weeks. Please let Kathy know if you are able to take one or both weeks.

KATHY KNOWLES has announced her resignation as our office administrator in order to take a full-time position. The good news is that she will continue to do the bulletin and other tasks on a volunteer basis. This means we need someone to be in the office certain days to answer the phone and do other tasks. If you can help, talk to Kathy.

JOIN US IN PRAYER: On Friday, June 20th from 7 to 8 PM we will join together in prayer for VBS and for Revitalization. Please come and add your prayers. For more information, please speak to Pastor Benson.

Ladies – it is time to start thinking about the Women Ministries’ Fall retreat and to register. As in the past, it will be in Quarryville, PA on September 26-28. Our speaker is Rose Cornelious. She is an ordained minister and has worked with people of all ages in over 25 nations and in over 200 churches throughout the US. Last year we had to turn people away, so register early. Brochures are on the back credenza.

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

Race Across America: Our own Doug Thorpe is part of a bicycle team racing across the country this month. Bill Anderson is one of the drivers in their “Chase RV.” If you would like to follow their progress, the website is www.raceacrossamerica.org. Doug’s 4-man team is called Team2600, and their website is www.team2600.org. Don’t forget to pray for their safety!

From Rob Ericson’s PhD Convocation Program Notes: Robin J. Ericson: I owe a great deal to the unselfish support of my wife, Rebecca J. Ericson, who provided valuable insights throughout this adventure; the encouragement of my youngest son, Robert K. Ericson, my backpacking buddy; the advice of Capt. David A. Ericson, who enlivened my dissertation defense; and the love of other family members: Jonathan, Joy, Joshua, Sarah, Andrew, Douglas, and Carolyn Ericson. None of this would have been possible without the invaluable advice of my committee chair, Rich Rubenstein, who has been a good friend, spending countless hours exchanging ideas, starting while I was completing my MBA and throughout this program. The other committee members, Dean Pruitt and Harold Morowitz, were also exceptionally supportive. I am grateful to my friends, Bud Clark and Mike Coussa, who have met me for breakfast every week for over a decade. I’m also thankful for the prayers and encouragement of the Reverend John S. Benson, and the members of Community Covenant Church in Springfield, Virginia.

YOUTH GROUP

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.



In the Covenant Companion – “Claiming Our Ordinary Story” – Helen H. Cepero, director of spiritual formation at North Park Theological Seminary, writes about how to find our spiritual identity in everyday experiences. 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.

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.

The Books and Culture Discussion Group meets on Saturday, June 14 at 6:00 PM. This month’s book is “A Thousand Splendid Suns” by the author of The Kite Runner. Please speak to Becky for more information.

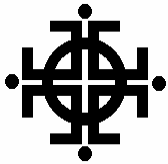
Lessons to Read for June 15 – the 4th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 18:1-15	The Lord Appears to Abraham
Psalms 116:1-19	The cup of salvation
Romans 5:1-8	How God proves his love
Matthew 9:35-10:8	The harvest is plentiful

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

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.



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 affirm the necessity of new birth. New birth in Christ means committing ourselves to him and receiving forgiveness, acceptance and eternal life. It means being alive in Christ, and this life has the qualities of love and righteousness, joy and peace. New birth is only the beginning – growing to maturity in Christ is expected for both individuals and communities of believers.