

**THE SERVICE OF WORSHIP**  
**Sunday, July 6, 2008 – 10 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 – 4<sup>th</sup> grade is also offered  
throughout the service on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month.

Prelude Sandy Benson, Organist  
Jennifer Garretson, Piano

*Praise to the Lord the Almighty* – Stralsund, 1665

\*Call to Worship Psalm 67:1-3

Leader: May God be gracious to us and bless us.  
May his face shine with favor upon us.

People: *May your ways be known throughout the earth,  
your saving power among people everywhere.*

Leader: May the nations praise you, O God.  
Yes, may all the nations praise you.

\*Hymn #730 *God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand*

\*Prayer of Invocation

\*The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Lesson Romans 7:15-26a Bud Clark, Reader

Luther's Explanation of the Apostles' Creed Hymnal #884

**THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM**

The Words of Institution. . . . .Matthew 28:18-20  
Parents' Affirmation of Faith . . . .Ben and Laurel Borter  
Sponsors' Promises . . . . . Dan and Abby Richardson  
Life Verses . . . . . Thomas Garretson  
The Baptism of Benson August Borter . . .Born April 8, 2008  
Special Music . . . . . Jennifer Garretson, Piano  
Prayers of Intercession and Blessing of the Family

Life Together: Announcements and Prayer Requests

Offertory

\*The Doxology Hymn #48

*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn #543

*As Christ the Little Children Blessed*

Sermon Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Hidden from the Wise

REVEALED TO INFANTS

\*Hymn #325

*I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

\*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.

## COMMUNITY COVENANT CHURCH

### Celebrating our 36<sup>th</sup> 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

<b>Today</b>	10:00 AM	Worship Service
	11:00 AM	Coffee Time Celebrating the Baptism
	11:15 AM	Praying for Revitalization: In the Elementary Classroom downstairs

### Today is a “Designated Picnic Sunday”

Share your picnic lunch and some time with church friends after the service. A grill is available below the stairs on the side closest to the new picnic area. You can do this any Sunday, of course, but today, July 20, August 3 and 17 have been designated to encourage your planning and participation.

**Wednesday 7 to 8 PM An Hour of Prayer in the Sanctuary for our Vacation Bible School**  
*- Please join us! -*

**Next Sunday July 13** 10:00 AM Celebration of Holy Communion  
- Bring *canned goods* for outreach to those in need in our area  
- Bring *change* for the change box to fund capital improvements  
11:15 AM Prayer for Revitalization

**Welcome to the Baptism!** Sandy and I are delighted that you are with us today to celebrate the baptism of our 4<sup>th</sup> grandson, Benson August Borter, who lives with his parents, Ben and Laurel, in Kenosha, WI. We are thrilled to have our entire family with us this morning – our daughter Kristen, who live sin Alexandria; Sarah, who lives in Baltimore; and Jennifer, who lives in Warrensburg, MO, with her husband, Tim Garretson, and our other grandsons Markus, Lars, and Thomas. Other cherished family members and friends are also here today. The cut glass bowl which is being used for the baptism is a family heirloom – it belonged to Benson’s maternal great grandparents, Rev. Stanley and Edla Benson, who not only used it on their dinner table, but also for baptisms in the many Covenant churches they served down through the years. Please join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments following the service – Pastor John Benson.

**FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY** – We will have a vacancy on the Church Council this fall in the area of our fellowship ministries. If you are interested in joining the team that helps people make connections and build relationships in our congregation through fellowship activities, then tell Pastor Benson or make a note of it on your Home Page today.

**Men’s Retreat** – “And the Lord sought a man after his own heart...” Are you that man? Plan now to attend the Men’s Retreat at Pilgrim Pines October 10-12. Featured Speaker is Bill Page, a gifted communicator whose appeal is anchored in a depth of life experience, including 20 years of police and detective work in New York. An information card is posted on the bulletin board.

**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!

**The next Covenant Crafters** is scheduled for Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup> beginning at 3:00. The meal is Fried Chicken and Fixings. Please bring your favorite side dish and sign up for the extras. For those who just want to join in the meal, dinner starts at 6:00. Everyone is asked to notate on the sign-up sheet if they are coming so we know how much chicken to get.

**CHANGE FOR CHANGE** – It was our Financial Secretary, Mark Enstrom’s idea. It was Aaron Knowles’ school project that turned it into a reality. It was the Council’s decision to use the gathered funds for capital improvements. And it’s your opportunity to bring your loose change each Sunday and put it in the box on the table by the door into the sanctuary. You can also use the coin envelopes next to the box if you want your contributions (change, bills, or checks) to be tax deductible.

**Robert Hamilton** is earning spending money for college by starting a lawn care business. If you need lawn mowing or other yard work on a one-time or regular basis, he is your man! Feel free to pass this information on to others that you think might be interested. A copy of the flyer is available at the back of the sanctuary.

**The Books and Culture Discussion Group:** The book discussion for August is My Family and Other Animals by Gerald Durrell. We will meet at church at 6 PM on August 23<sup>rd</sup> and may either order pizza or adjourn to a restaurant. Stay tuned for details.

**In the Covenant Companion** – “Come Back to Jesus” – Mark Pattie, pastor of Salem Covenant Church in New Brighton, MN, says that God speaks to us in every encounter. The question is, are we listening? You can subscribe to our award-winning denominational magazine by calling 773-907-3310 or online at [www.covchurch.org/communications](http://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](http://www.covenantchurchva.org).

**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**

**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](http://www.covchurch.org)) and click on the Newswire button.

**Lessons to Read for July 13** - the 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 25:19-34	The struggles of Jacob and Esau
Psalms 119:105-112	Your word is a light to my path
Romans 8:1-11	The law of the Spirit of Life
Matthew 13:1-23	The parable of the sower

## **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. Members of the congregation are welcome to participate.

**How to Contact Pastor Benson** –may contact him at his office at church – 703-455-4150. The church’s e-mail address is [communitycovenant@verizon.net](mailto: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.

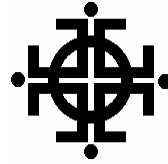
**Remember**, this building is regularly used by other groups. If you are planning an activity, remember to check the complete calendar in the church office. Please speak to Kathy Knowles, our Administrative Assistant, before scheduling any event. (Call 703-455-4150) The deadline for bulletin announcements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

## WATCH CLAIRE'S TREE COME TO LIFE!

Based on our theme verse for the year, Claire Bentley has painted an apple tree on the sanctuary wall. You can make it come to life by participating in our Over and Above Stewardship Campaign for outreach to children and families.

- For every 3 hours of combined volunteer time spent in strengthening our ministry to children since the beginning of the year, Claire will add one leaf to the tree. If you have donated any time (such as renovating and improving our facilities, helping out with our special outreach events like Easter and VBS, praying or doing anything to enhance or expand our regular ministries to children and families), then report your hours, or partial hours, by the H on your Home Page any Sunday. Our congregational goal is to contribute at least 1000 hours (333 1/3 leaves) this year.
- For every personal invitation you have extended to a child or a family in the community to participate in one of our regular children's ministries or special events, Claire will add one smiling flower face to the landscape beneath the tree. We want invitations to go out whether or not children attend. If you have done this, put the number of invitations you have extended by the I on your Home Page any Sunday. Our goal is at least 100 personal contacts and invitations (100 flowers) this year.
- For every \$50 in combined contributions for enabling and improving our outreach and ministry to children and their families, Claire will add one apple to the tree. Funds to provide resources beyond our budget for outreach and special ministries to children, and to purchase new audio-visual equipment for Sunday School and Jr. JAMBoree. Use the special envelopes (with the kids' faces) on the credenza to make a contribution in the offering any Sunday. (Please designate checks for the children's ministry and include your name if you wish your contribution to be tax deductible.) Our goal is at least \$5000 (100 apples) this year.

*Beloved, like an apple tree among the trees of the forest is my God. I delight to sit in his shade and his fruit is sweet to my taste – Song of Solomon 2:3.* Let's trust God to give the growth as we each do our part!



*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](http://www.covchurch.org)*

A Covenant Affirmation - We affirm the Church as a fellowship of believers. Membership in the Covenant Church is by confession of personal faith in Jesus Christ and is open to all believers. Uniformity in creedal details is not expected. We observe baptism and Holy Communion as sacraments commanded by Jesus. We practice both infant and Holy Communion as sacraments commanded by Jesus. We practice both infant and believer baptism and regard the church as a grace-filled fellowship, not an institution.

## **CALLING ALL HEROES: BIBLE ADVENTURE AWAITS!**

Ahoy, Mateys! CCC is about to set sail with The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything: A Veggie Tales VBS! Be a part of our Vacation Bible School July 28 - August 1 from 9 AM to noon. This year, the high seas adventure will be for preschoolers ages 3 - 5, and we hope to reach 24 children with this program! That is 24 children who will grow in their relationship with God. As we plan and prepare for VBS:

Please pray that God would give us wisdom in planning  
Pray for the right staff members to join our team  
Pray that God would begin working in the hearts of  
the children who will come

Please prayerfully consider YOUR role in VBS this summer! Volunteer by contacting Kristin Karlson by email, (kristin.karlson@hotmail.com), phone (703-455-3210), or in person (use the Home Page). Help spread the word!

Join us in prayer on Wednesday July 9<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 8 PM here in the sanctuary. For more information, please speak to Pastor Benson.

**Ahoy, Mateys!** All of you aboard the HMS Steadfast (That's everyone here at CCC!) We are about to set sail this summer with a very fun, activity-based preschool VBS. Our 4 captains have submitted a list of props they need for their activity sites. If you have any of these listed items, and you would be willing to loan them to us for VBS, simply write your name on it, and give it to the site captain. Thank you!

### **Captain Martha Reitman:**

Mr./Mrs. Potato Head	Hero capes
Child-size rolling pins	Fishing games
Fish-themed puzzles	Small paint rollers
Small life jackets	Inflatable row boat
Small oars	Fishing nets
Plastic or stuffed fish	Paper towel tubes
Small plastic shovels/scoops	Water toys
Clean, empty, plastic water bottles with lids	

### **Captain Claire Bentley:**

Artificial bush	Small white Christmas lights
Disposable wipes	Fishing nets
Inflatable boat	Blue sheet or blanket
Balance Beam	Play parachute
Empty film canisters	Empty spools of thread
Rectangular foam or cardboard blocks	
8 floor tiles to use as stepping stones	
Plush robe for King Nebuchadnezzar (adult size)	
Tent (large enough for 10 people to sit in)	

### **Captain Ruth Kendrick:**

Chef's hat	
Small plastic or cloth lobster (to fit in an oven mitt)	

### **Captain Kristin Karlson:**

Paper towel tubes	Koosh balls	2 spray bottles
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### **Other items needed for decorations, costumes or props**

Treasure chests of all sizes	adult size ruffled shirts
Suede vests	Spy glasses
Bandanas	Large ship bell
Rope for rigging	Super Soaker
2 mops	2 buckets
Toy banjo	empty colored glass bottle
Large toothbrush	