

THE SERVICE OF WORSHIP
Sunday, July 15, 2007 – 10:00 AM

Welcome

Prelude Sandra Benson, Organist

Voluntary in A Minor – Anonymous (18th Century)

Call to Worship Colossians 1:1-14

*Hymn #299

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

*Opening Prayer

*The Lord's Prayer

Gospel: Luke 10:25-37 Amy Ackerberg-Hastings, Reader

Life Together: Announcements and Prayer Requests

Offertory

*Hymn #108, Stanza 4

Sing Praise to the Father

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn #716
Rev. John Benson

They Asked, "Who's My Neighbor?"

Sermon Amos 7:7-17

GETTING IT STRAIGHT

This is what he showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand.

*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. Nursery care for children up to the age of 5 is available downstairs.

COMMUNITY COVENANT CHURCH

Celebrating our 35th Year of Ministry

7018 Sydeenstricker Road; Springfield, VA 22152

703-455-4150 communitycovenant@verizon.net

www.covenantchurchva.org

Our mission as a congregation is calling people from the 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.

This Week

Today 10:00 AM *Worship Service*

Saturday 3:00 PM *Covenant Crafters*
6:30 PM *Salad & Sandwich Supper*
Everyone's invited! Sign up today.

Sunday 10:00 AM *Worship Service*
July 22

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 or 703-425-5633.) The deadline for bulletin announcements is 9 AM Friday.

Scripture Lessons to read as you prepare for next Sunday:

Amos 8:1-12	A basket of summer fruit
<i>Psalms 52</i>	<i>A green olive tree</i>
Colossians 1:15-28	Christ is colossal!
Luke 10:38-52	Chose the better part

Ladies! Our Retreat in Quarryville, PA is coming up fast. The deadline for your registration deposit is July 20th. Please get your registration in to Claire as soon as possible. The balance of the fee is due by August 24th. Ruth Hill, the Executive Minister of Women Ministries will be the speaker. If you would like to help with the planning process, you are welcome to come to a planning meetings on July 17 & 24 at 10:00 in the church kitchen.



Rising Hope Mission Church is running short of certain types of food. There is a concern that these items will be unavailable for distribution by the end of the Summer. Should you wish to help, please bring in boxes of cereal and canned meats, and place them in the box under the table by the hymnal shelf in the sanctuary.

The provision of casseroles to Rising Hope Mission Church will continue through the summer. Instead of a sign up sheet, those who would like to provide a casserole should bring them in ahead of time, and we will keep them in the freezer. If you would like to provide a casserole, please let Mary know, and bring one in sometime in the next couple of weeks. If you have questions, contact Mary (703-912-4705) or Kathy (703-425-5633).

Join in our “Above and Beyond” stewardship campaign for Covenant World Missions. Look over the bulletin boards in the back of the sanctuary, read the brochure “Strong and Crazy for Christ,” and make a contribution or a pledge today, using the envelopes provided on the credenza. You may put the envelope in the basket or in the offering. Our goal is the raise \$6,000 beyond our budget for Covenant World Missions by the end of the year. So far \$2,300 has been raised.

The Youth Group is now on Summer Hiatus. Specially planned activities will be announced as they are scheduled. Youth Group will go to its regular meeting schedule in September.

We now have three picnic tables in the grove of trees south of the church – the product of Alex Kingley’s Boy Scout Troop 1853 Eagle Project. Take advantage of this and our early services this summer. Bring a picnic lunch to church and invite someone to share it with you after the service!



In the Covenant Companion – “Quit Your Gripping” – Doug Bixby, pastor of Salem Covenant Church in Washington, CT, tells how one church has taken a fast from complaining. “Sometimes complaining feels good in the moment, but what feels good in the moment is not always good for us in the long run.” You can subscribe to our award-winning denominational magazine by calling 773-907-3310, or you can subscribe online at www.covchurch.org/communications. Subscriptions are \$19.95 a year.

Covenant Village of Cromwell Benefit Event. Set aside Sunday evening October 7th, for Covenant Village of Cromwell’s “Autumn Gala.” Silent and teacup auctions will offer the opportunity to take home a treasure during the fellowship hour. Rev. Craig Carlson will serve as master of ceremonies. Following dinner, Ken Medema will astonish us with his ability to compose impromptu songs. Ken is a consummate musician with an easy humor and will inspire, motivate and delight you. Proceeds will go toward benevolent care at Covenant Village of Cromwell. The evening starts at 5 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza in Cromwell, CT. Tickets are \$55 each. For tickets or information, call Janet Carlson at Covenant Village (860) 635-2690.



Did you miss last week’s sermon? The Bulletin and it’s announcements are posted each week on the church website. Please visit us at www.covenantchurchva.org.



MUSIC, MUSIC, MUSIC! Springfield Women's Connection Invites you to a luncheon at the Springfield Golf & Country Club on Thursday, August 9 from 11:30 AM to 1 PM. Professional actress and singer, Karen Knight, will sing a selection of songs from Broadway musicals and will also be the speaker. Karen played Noah's wife at the Sight and Sound Millennium Theater in Lancaster, PA, and will tell of a time she faced her own floods of life and learned to sing in the rain. The cost is \$17 and includes the lunch and free child care. Please reserve your place by August 6th by calling Ginny (703-569-4670) or Liz (703-876-4780).

Covenant Crafters is scheduled for Saturday, July 21st. Please join us beginning at 3 PM for fellowship and crafting time. Bring your unfinished craft projects or, if you aren't into crafting, a jigsaw puzzle is available to work on. Dinner is salad and sandwiches – the sign up sheet is outside the sanctuary. If you would rather just come for dinner, please do! Just let Kathy know you are coming so we can get a count. Friends and family are welcome.

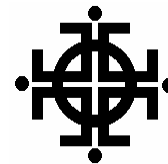
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How to Contact Pastor Benson – You can call him at home, where he maintains an office, at any time – 703-451-6624. His e-mail address is johnsbenson@hotmail.com. Or you may contact him in his office at church – 703-455-4150. The church's e-mail address 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.

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

Have You Forgotten the Buddy Board? There are many people available and willing to do a variety of things for you. Please take a look at the bulletin board above the hymnal shelf to see who's volunteering for what. If you would like to place your name on the board and volunteer, please do!

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.



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 reality of freedom in Christ. Freedom is a gift of God in Christ, and it manifests itself in a right relationship with God and others. It is not a private possession to be used selfishly, but is given to serve the community and the world. In Christ, we are set free from the power of sin, death, Satan, and the bondage to decay. In the Church, this freedom allows us to differ from one another on issues of belief and practice where the biblical and historical record seems to allow for a variety of interpretations of the will and purposes of God. We focus, not on what divides us, but on the Christ who unites us.*