

THE SERVICE OF WORSHIP
Sunday, July 20, 2008 – 10 AM

*“God has great things in store for his people
They ought to have large expectations.”*

- C. H. Spurgeon -

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 Becky Ericson, Pianist

Call to Worship

*Hymn #57

This Is My Father’s World

*Prayer of Invocation

*The Lord’s Prayer

First Lesson Genesis 28:10-19a Mark Enstrom, Reader

Gospel Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Life Together: Announcements and Prayer Requests

Offertory

*The Doxology Hymn #48

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn #430

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine

Sermon Romans 8:12-25

GLIMPSES OF GLORY

*Hymn #271

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

*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 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 10:00 AM Worship Service

Thursday 6:00 PM Youth Group Gardening

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 July 20, August 3 and 17 have been designated to encourage your planning and participation

This Saturday – July 26 – 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM "PIRATE BASH"

Ahoy Mateys! All Hands on Deck! Join us for a Pirate Bash Set-Up Party! Everyone in the congregation is invited to help decorate our ministry spaces here at Church for our Veggie Tales VBS, which starts on Monday, July 28. Come join in the fun and the fellowship for any or all of the time. There's a job for everyone!

Also Saturday 3:00 PM Covenant Crafters--See Below.
6:00 PM Fried Chicken & Fixings Meal
All are invited! See Below

Next Sunday 10:00 AM - Bring *canned goods* for outreach to those in need in our area
July 20 - Bring *change* for the change box to fund capital improvements
11:15 AM **ALL VBS STAFF MEETING**

The Next Christian Formation meeting is scheduled for August 3rd after the church service. Everyone is always welcome to join in the meeting. We are in need of 3 more volunteers for the Children's Sunday School program this Fall. So please keep this prayerfully in your hearts.

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.

Ladies –

Join us for a garden stroll and breakfast tea at historic Green Spring Gardens in Alexandria on Thursday, August 7th from 9 to 11 AM. The cost is \$25.00. Please tell Claire by July 18th, as reservations need to be made.

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.

Rip 'n' Roll is coming up on August 30th. Save that date!

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.

Covenant Crafters – bring a project to work on, a game to play, a book to read whole you hand out with your church friends – beginning at 3:00 this Saturday. The Fried Chicken and Fixings meal begins at 6:00. Bring your favorite side dish and sign up in the hallway for the extras. Everyone who is planning to attend needs to sign up so we know how much chicken to get.



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 23rd and may either order pizza or adjourn to a restaurant. Stay tuned for details.

In the Covenant Companion – “Decoding the Parables” – Stan Friedman reviews North Park Professor Klyne Snodgrass’s acclaimed new book, Stories with Intent. 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.

Lessons to Read for July 20 - the 10th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 29:15-28	Laban’s two daughters
Psalms 105	Children of Jacob
Romans 8:26-39	All things work together
Matthew 13:44-52	The parable of the mustard seed

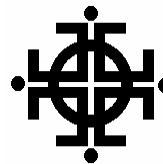
YOUTH GROUP

The Youth Group meets each Thursday evening at 6:30 to work in the garden. All proceeds from the sale of the produce go toward the support for our sponsored child, Yohannes. Money toward Yohannes’ support can also be placed in the donations box at the back of the sanctuary. The Youth Group has pledged \$40 per month toward his support, but members of the congregation are welcome to participate.

See the Latest Eagle Project! Troop 1853 Scout Matt Mitchell completed his project this week – a path between the church property and the pool next door. This project was suggested by Pastor Benson and was approved by the managing Board of the Hunt Valley Pool. Now those using the pool will not need to walk out on the street. We currently have five Eagle projects underway benefiting the church and our community.



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 reality of freedom in Christ, a gift which manifests itself in a right relationship with God and others. It is not a private gift to be used selfishly, but is given to serve the community and Christ’s mission in the world.

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!

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

All Hands on Deck! Join us for a Pirate Bash Set-Up Party, Saturday, July 26, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.! Everyone in our congregation is invited to help decorate our ministry space here at CCC for our Veggie Tales VBS. Come join the fun and fellowship for any or all of this time. There's a job for everyone!

In other VBS news, there will be a brief "All VBS Staff Meeting" immediately following the service July 27.

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

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	