

THE SERVICE OF WORSHIP
CELEBRATING OUR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
THE PIRATES WHO DON'T DO ANYTHING
Sunday, August 3, 2008 – 10:00 AM

VERSE OF THE WEEK:

I can do all things through Christ because he gives me strength
Philippians 4:13

The Ship's Bell / Call to Worship Bud Clark

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.

Song – Come, Now Is the Time to Worship Led by Shelley Connelie

Opening Prayer

Reading from Psalm 105 & Hebrews 11 Thomas Connelie

The 2008 VBS Slide Show

The Kid's Favorite Songs:

Calling All Heroes
My God Is So Big

Comments Kristin Karlson, VBS Director

Life Together: Announcements and Prayer Requests

The Ship's Bell / Offering Time Sing-a-Long:

Jesus Loves Me! This I Know
Jesus Loves the Little Children
This Little Light of Mine

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Song

His Love Endures Forever

Treasure from God's Word

Philippians 4:13

TRUE HEROES

Closing Prayer

Song

God Is So Good

The Ship's Bell / 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.

Parents! Families with children are always welcome at Community Covenant Church, even on Sundays when we celebrate Communion. During the summer we provide nursery care throughout the service for infants and toddlers. We also have Summertime JAM for children ages 3 to 4th grade on selected Sundays. Our full program of family ministries resumes in September with Sunday School Classes for all ages at 9:30 AM and Worship at 11 – including Preschool Praise and Jr. JAMboree!

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 Celebrating VBS
 11:15 AM Christian Formation Committee

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

Thursday 6:00 PM Youth Group Gardening

Next Sunday 10:00 AM Worship Service

- August 10**
- Bring *canned goods* for outreach to those in need in our area
 - Bring *change* for the change box to fund capital improvements

Remember that 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.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated on Labor Day Weekend, Sunday, August 31, at 10 AM. Please include this special time of worship for us all in your plans as we conclude our summer schedule together as a Church Family.

The Apple Tree on the Wall or Why Does My Homepage Say Hi?

The **H** is there to give you a place to list the volunteer hours (or partial hours) you have donated to children’s ministries – our goal is 1,000 hours and they show up as *leaves* on the Apple Tree on the Sanctuary wall. The **I** is for listing the number of invitations you have extended to a child or a family to participate in one of our children’s ministries. Our goal is 100 invitations, and they show up as the smiling *flowers* underneath the tree. Each *apple* on the tree represents \$50 in contributions for our children’s ministries and outreach to families. Our goal is \$5,000 and you can use the special envelopes on the credenza to make a contribution.

Our Fall Program gets underway September 6 and 7 with *The Veggie Tales Pirates Rally Weekend*.

It all begins with food and fellowship, fun and games for everyone at our Annual All Church Family Fish Fry on Saturday Night. Then it’s our Sunday School Year Kick-Off – All Hands on Deck – at 9:30 AM on Sunday Morning and Worship at 11. Invite your family, friends and neighbors to join in the festivities and to be part of our school year ministries. Watch for the details.

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. Please tell Pastor Benson if you're thinking of going. Some interest has already been expressed, and we'd like to form a group to attend together if possible.

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!

The Springfield Women's Connection invites you to get ready for Fall with a NEW LOOK! Omar and Mae of the Jon David Salon & Spa will be there to do a hair and makeup makeover. Then hear speaker Debbie Mills as she relates how she searched for happiness and found JOY. Thursday, August 14th at the Springfield Golf & Country Club from 11:30 to 1:00. The cost is \$17 and includes lunch. Please reserve your place by August 11 by calling Ginny (703-569-4780) or Liz (703-876-4780) or email SpingWmConn@yahoo.com.

Directory Time! Please take a look at the large print directory on the table outside the sanctuary to make sure your information is correct. If you have corrections for any of the “Friends” listed, please make them.

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 – Reviews include the Russian film, The Return, and Dear Frankie, Brian McLaren's book Everything Must Change and Jens Soering's The Convict Christ – a look at what the Gospel says about criminal justice. 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 37:1-28

Psalms 105

Romans 10:5-15

Matthew 14:22-33

Joseph and his brothers

Give thanks to the Lord

The word on your lips and in your heart

Jesus rescues Peter

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. In the last two weeks, \$91 has been raised for Yohannes!

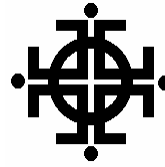
How to Contact Pastor Benson – You may contact him at his office at church – 703-455-4150. The church's e-mail address is communitycovenant@verizon.net. Prayer requests and other matters can also be brought to his attention by using the Home Page insert in the bulletin. Don't hesitate to get in touch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

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 table 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!

Recycle! We now have a RecycleBank, which gives the church points that can be redeemed for products at local stores. Please place your recyclable materials in the bins in the kitchen.



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 centrality of the word of God. We believe the Bible is the only perfect rule for faith, doctrine and conduct. The dynamic, transforming power of the word of God directs the church and the life of every Christian. Not to be shaped by the word is to be shaped by the world.