

**THE SERVICE OF WORSHIP**  
**Sunday, August 24, 2008 – 10 AM**

Families with children are welcome in worship. Nursery care is also available for infants and toddlers downstairs through the service. On selected Sundays, Summertime JAM for children age 3 to 4<sup>th</sup> grade is provided. Watch and listen for the announcement.

Prelude Sandra Benson, Organist  
Becky Ericson, Pianist

\*Reading of Psalm 124 with Sung Response Hymnal #848

\*Hymn #35

*Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*

\*Prayer of Invocation

\*The Lord's Prayer

First Lesson Exodus 1:8-2:10 Amy Ackerberg-Hastings, Reader

Gospel Matthew 16:13-20

\*Affirmation of Faith Hymnal #874

Life Together: Announcements and Prayer Requests

Offertory

\*The Doxology #48

*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn #319

*Praise Him! Praise Him!*

Sermon

Romans 12:1-8

**AN APPEALING APPEAL FROM PAUL**

\*Hymn #585

*God, Creator of Your People*

\*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 4<sup>th</sup> grade on selected Sundays. Our full program of family ministries resumes on September 7 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 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
Wednesday	7:30 PM	Church Council Meeting
Thursday	6:00 PM	Youth Group Gardening
Saturday	9:00 AM	Rip 'n' Roll with Bowie here
<b>Next Sunday</b> <b>August 31</b>	10:00 AM	Celebration of Holy Communion  -Guidelines for preparing yourself for Communion are on the credenza  - Bring <i>canned goods</i> for outreach to those in need in our area  - Bring <i>change</i> 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 or 703-425-5633.) 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.

**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 at 5 PM 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.

**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.

**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.

**Volunteers Needed!** Community Covenant Church relies on its volunteers to run smoothly. If you would like to be one of our vital volunteers, please sign up at the table outside the sanctuary. Thank you to all of our current volunteers for your selfless and much needed service!



**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 –**

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 30<sup>th</sup>. Everyone should meet here at church at 9 AM. Our friends from Bowie will be joining us, and lunch will be provided.

## **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. Thank you for your donations!

**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 featuring “My Family and Other Animals” by Gerald Durrell is tentatively rescheduled for Friday, September 12. Please call Becky if you have any questions.

**In the Covenant Companion** – “In the Beginning” – R. Boaz Johnson, from the Dept. of Biblical and Theological Studies at North Park University, takes a look at the revolutionary significance of the creation stories in Genesis. 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).

**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 20 - the 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Exodus 3:1-15	Moses and the burning bush
Psalms 105	Seek his presence continually
Romans 12:9-21	Let love be genuine
Matthew 16:21-28	Take up your cross

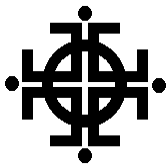
**What Happened to the Cookbook?** It's still in a holding pattern but, meanwhile, that means you can still donate recipes. Hand your recipes to Kathy, leave them in her mailbox or on her desk, or just email them to the church email address!

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**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](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.

**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**



*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 a commitment to the whole mission of the Church. The early Covenanters were known as “Mission Friends” – people of shared faith who came to carry out God's mission both far and near. Mission for them and for us includes evangelism, Christian formation, and ministries of compassion, mercy, and justice.

## LET'S CLEAN UP THE PLACE BEFORE SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS!

On the table in the hallway this morning, you will find a list of cleaning projects inside and outside the building that need to be done if we want the property to be “ship shape” before our “Pirates Rally Weekend” when we launch our fall program on September 6 and 7.

It includes things like:

- cleaning the window blinds
- scrubbing the kitchen floor
- cleaning the refrigerator and freezer
- edging the sidewalks
- weeding around the building & signs
- trimming the bushes
- weeding and trimming the picnic area
- cleaning up pine needles in the parking lot
- picking up branches in the amphitheater
- washing nursery toys

If you or your family can take responsibility for doing one or more of these and other projects, put your name on the sign up sheet on the table in the hallway, or make a note about it on the Home Page today.

Remember, a visitor to the church often notices things you may be used to and don't even notice! If you have any questions about what needs to be done, talk to Pastor Benson.