

## The Celebration of Holy Communion

Sunday, August 31, 2008 – 10:00 AM

Welcome

Pastor John Benson

Families with children are welcome in worship. Nursery care is also available for infants and toddlers downstairs throughout 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

*There Is a Fountain* – arr. Young

*“E’er since by faith I saw the stream thy flowing wounds supply,  
redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die.”*

William Cowper, 1771

Unison Call to Worship

We know that if we are not careful, the rush of the world and the crush of time which borders us every minute could very soon make worship more an intrusion than a welcome, deliberate relief and change. For us, this worship centering at the Lord’s Table is for the recovery of joy and the renewal of our spirits. We sing in praise of the One whose grace springs eternal, and whose good meal of salvation is just what the Great Physician ordered for busy, hungry people!

\*Hymn #568

*Come, Share the Lord*

\*Opening Prayer

First Lesson

Exodus 3:1-15

Bud Clark, Reader

Gospel

Matthew 16:21-28

Silent Prayer and Reflection

Unison Prayer of Confession

We confess our sins, Almighty God, and our need for you. In the forgiveness available to all through the cross of your Son, grant us your Holy Spirit as we worship you today. Amen.

Life Together: Announcements and Prayer Requests

Offertory

\*The Doxology

#48

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn #510

*Holy Ground*

Sermon

Hebrews 12:18-24

### WHAT ARE WE COMING TO?

Invitation to the Lord’s Supper

The Apostles’ Creed

Hymnal #878

\*Words of Institution

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

\*Hymn #569

*How Wonderful It Is!*

\*Benediction

\*Postlude

\*Those who are able, please stand

## SERVING TODAY

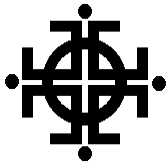
Greeters: Youth Group  
Ushers: Gordon Sloat & Aaron Knowles  
Communion Prep: Mary Hamilton  
Nursery: Kathy Knowles  
Sound Tech: Jim Hamilton  
Candle Lighter: Thomas Connelie

## SERVING NEXT WEEK: September 7

Greeter: Ruth Kendrick  
Ushers: Paul Seguin & Jared Connelie  
Reader: Julie Fann  
Nursery: Kathy Knowles  
Sound Tech: Tom Connelie  
Candle Lighter: Jenny Connelie

## Birthdays and Anniversaries Celebrated this coming week:

Thursday Jerry Butler, Grace Redding  
Saturday Sharon Anderson Torres  
Sunday Mikayla Redding  
David & Martha Reitman



*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. We observe baptism and Holy Communion as sacraments commanded by Jesus.

## COMMUNITY COVENANT CHURCH

**Celebrating our 36<sup>th</sup> Year of Ministry**

7018 Sydenstricker Road; Springfield, VA 22152  
703-455-4150 [communitycovenant@verizon.net](mailto: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

Monday Labor Day

Thursday 6:00 PM Youth Group Gardening

**VEGGIE TALES PIRATES RALLY WEEKEND – SEPT. 6 & 7**

**Saturday 5:00 PM 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual All Church Family Fish Fry  
Food Fellowship & Pirate Games for Everyone**

*PLEASE SIGN UP at the table in the hallway to bring something for the meal. We have invited all our VBS families. Your guests are also welcome. We will need some grills. See Shelley Connelie for details.*

**Sunday 9:30 AM ALL HANDS ON DECK FOR  
SUNDAY SCHOOL!**

*Exciting classes for every age group in the family*

*Nursery care and a new preschool class*

*Growth opportunities for children, young people and adults*

*Meet our excellent teaching staff*

*Sign up in the hallway to bring snacks some Sunday*

**11:00 AM LAUNCHING OUT IN WORSHIP!**

*Celebrating what God is doing in our lives*

*Introducing our theme for this school year*

*Message: “Why are there so many Rs in Arrrrgh?”*

**We're celebrating the Lord's Supper today.** If you *confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead*, you are welcome to join us – even if you're not a member of this congregation. Everyone will be invited to come forward to receive the bread and the cup. If for any reason you do not wish to participate, please feel free to remain in your seat. Children are welcomed at the Lord's Table – the youngest are given grapes. Older children may receive the bread and the cup if, in the opinion of their parents, they understand the significance of the celebration and have put their faith in Christ. Our custom is waiting until everyone has been served in order to eat and drink together.

**When you come to Church on Sunday, remember to . . .**

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

**The Change For Change Box** has been emptied and tallied. There were 2,116 pennies, 394 nickels, 671 dimes, 247 quarters, 1 dollar coin, 4 Canadian pennies, 1 Canadian nickel, and 1 Canadian dime. The total in dollars is \$170.71 which will be put toward a new riding mower. Thank you for your generosity – keep the change coming!

**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.

**Prayer Requests** will be placed on the list for one month and removed, unless we are asked to keep them on the list longer. Please check the prayer corner regularly, and give us updates on your Home Page.

**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. 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!



**Cross Training** notebooks are available on the coffee table. Use this program to guide your daily Bible reading and memorization, prayer and witnessing. (If you picked up a notebook last week, I have added a Bible memorization guide which is also on the table. JB)

**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.

**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!

## Lessons to Read for September 7 - the 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 12:1-14	Passover instructions
Psalms 149	Sing to the Lord a new song
Romans 13:8-14	What we owe each other
Matthew 18:15-20	When someone sins against you

???

**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.

**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.

**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**

## **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.

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