

**THE SERVICE OF WORSHIP**  
Sunday, September 9, 2007 – 11:00 AM

Welcome Gordon Sloat

Prelude Becky Ericson, Piano

\*Call to Worship Daniel 2:20-22

Leader: Praise the name of God forever.

*People: Wisdom and power are his.*

Leader: God changes times and seasons;

*People: He sets up kings and deposes them.*

Leader: God gives wisdom to the wise;

*People: He gives knowledge to the discerning.*

Leader: He reveals deep and hidden things.

*People: God knows what lies in darkness;*

Leader: Light dwells with him.

\*Hymn #10

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

\*Prayer of Invocation

\*The Lord's Prayer

Scripture Readings Mary Hamilton, Reader

Genesis 3:1-7, 22-24

John 11:17-27

Life Together: Announcements and Prayer Requests

+Children ages 3 – Grade 4 are dismissed for Summertime JAM+

Offertory

\*Hymn #108, Stanza 4

*Sing Praise to the Father*

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn #620

*Lord, Speak to Me*

Sermon Eric Kleppinger

**THE CRATES OF COD**

\*Hymn #603

*Christ Be My Leader*

\*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 35<sup>th</sup> Year of Ministry

7018 Sydenstricker 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

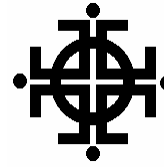
9:00 AM Sunday School Rally Day Festivities  
11:00 AM Worship Service

**Sunday** 9:30 AM Sunday School Classes for all ages  
**Sept. 16** 11:00 AM Worship Service  
Dr. Dough Thorpe preaching

**Remember**, other groups regularly use this building. 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.

### Scripture Lessons to read as you prepare for next Sunday:

Jeremiah 4:11-12,22-28 A hot wind and stupid children  
Psalm 14 Fools say "there is no God"  
1 Timothy 1:12-17 A violent blasphemer meets Jesus  
Luke 15:1-10 God wants lost people to be found



*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.covechurch.org](http://www.covechurch.org)

**A Covenant Affirmation:** We are a Catholic, Apostolic, Reformed and Evangelical Church. (Easy to recall if you remember that we C.A.R.E) The word catholic literally means universal. This means we understand ourselves to be a part of the community of believers that began with Jesus' first followers, is alive today, and will continue until Christ comes again.



**Our Guest Speaker** today is Eric Kleppinger, who is a member of Sydenstricker United Methodist Church and a trained lay preacher. We are delighted to have Eric with us and pray for God's blessing upon him as we open the Word of God today.

**Pastor John and Sandy Benson** are away in New England on a family vacation on the coast of Maine for a week to celebrate Sandy's parents' 65<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. The Bensons will return to Springfield on Monday, September 17. If you need to contact the Pastor while he is away, you may do so through the church office.

**Hey, You Young People in Summertime JAM!** You are invited to stay after church for a pizza picnic fellowship gathering in our church picnic grove on Sunday, Sept 16. We'll make this an opportunity to get to know each other a bit better and make plans for future events. Bring your favorite lawn game and "after church beverage." Contact the church office, if you have questions.

**Ladies!** The Women's Bible study is beginning this Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup> in the kitchen at 9:45 AM. Please join in this session where we will be making the decision as to what we will study this year. For more information, please call the church office.



**A Last, Impassioned Plea!** We need your recipes if we are to get this cookbook off the ground. Have you ever had someone come up to you at a church event and ask for your recipe? Do you have a great recipe that you wouldn't mind sharing? Don't limit yourself to one. We are also asking for your family's favorite table graces. Men – we know you have recipes, too! Recipes can be placed in the folder on the sign-up table or on Kathy's desk.



**Rising Hope Mission Church** is in need of food donations. Items most needed are boxes of cereal and canned meats. Should you wish to help, please bring your food donations and place them in the box under the table by the hymnal shelf in the sanctuary.

**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 to raise \$6,000 beyond our budget for Covenant World Missions by the end of the year. So far \$3,200 has been raised.

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**'Tis That Time of Year Again!** Yup, sign-ups are out on the table for snacks for the coffee time between Sunday School and Worship. Also, we are always in need of volunteers (particularly Ushers!), so if you'd like to be one of those wonderful people who helps keep us going, sign up on the volunteer sign-up sheet. You can volunteer for more than one position!

**Church Work Day** for Troop 1853 is Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9 AM. Please come out and help as the grounds and the church building get a thorough sprucing up. We are providing a light lunch and snacks for the workers, so if you are interested, please sign up at the table outside the sanctuary.



**Did you miss last week's sermon?** Hear it and read the bulletin each week on the church website which is updated weekly. Please visit us at [www.covenantchurchva.org](http://www.covenantchurchva.org).

## YOUTH NEWS

**Youth Group** will meet on two Sunday evenings this month – September 16 and 30, from 5:30 to 7:00 PM at the church. The group is led by Jim Hamilton and is open to all Middle and Senior High students. For more information, contact Kathy Knowles in the Church Office or listen to the “Youth Ministry Hotline” at 703-455-4150, mailbox 7.

**The Youth Group is sponsoring a Child** through Compassion International. His name is Yohannes, and he lives in Indonesia. \$40 per month has been pledged by the Youth to help support this five-year-old boy. The donations box has been placed on the credenza with information on Yohanes in the information holder. Members of the Youth Group should place their donations in the box as they have them. Donations received above the \$40 target will be kept in the account until Yohanes’ birthday in October and for Christmas.



**In the Covenant Companion** – “A Great Joy in Serving” – whether serving as a doctor in a remote village on Alaska’s Nushagak Bay or as a U.S. Diplomat in Geneva, Switzerland, Covenanter Robert Fortune has tried to live his life as a witness to God’s love and care. You can subscribe to our award-winning denominational magazine by calling 773-907-3310, or you can subscribe online at [www.covechurch.org/communications](http://www.covechurch.org/communications). Subscriptions are \$19.95 a year.



**How to Contact Pastor Benson** – You may contact him in 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.



**Heirloom Memories.** The Springfield Alexandria Women’s Connection’s next luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at the Springfield Golf & Country Club from 11:30 AM to 1 PM. Anne Littleton, a quilt artist, will show how to incorporate handkerchiefs and vintage liners into quilts, pillows and other decorative items. Bring a Hankie to play with. The speaker has not yet been announced. The cost is \$17 and includes the lunch and free childcare. Please reserve your place by September 9<sup>th</sup> by calling Ginny (703-569-4670) or Liz (703-876-4780).

**Covenant Village of Cromwell Benefit Event.** Set aside Sunday evening October 7<sup>th</sup>, 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.



**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!

**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.