

THE SERVICE OF WORSHIP
Sunday, September 23, 2007 – 11:00 AM

*I have found the paradox that if I love until it hurts,
then there is no more hurt, but only more love.*
- Mother Teresa

Welcome Rev. John Benson

Prelude Sandra Benson, Organist
Becky Ericson, Piano

*Call to Worship

Leader: Lord, you have called us
from a world of distracting noise;

People: *Teach us to be silent before you.*

Leader: From a week of stressful competition;

People: *Help us to experience your acceptance.*

Leader: From our reliance on human resources;

People: *Bring us back to depending on you.*

Leader: From the daily pursuit of temporary things;

People: *Remind us again of things eternal.*

Leader: From the insecurities of earthly loves;

People: *To the security of knowing you.*

*Hymn #439

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

*Prayer of Invocation

*The Lord's Prayer

*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

Second Lesson: 1 Timothy 2:1-7 Amy Ackerberg-Hastings, Reader

Gospel Luke 16:1-13

Life Together: Announcements and Prayer Requests

+Children ages 3 – Grade 4 are dismissed for Junior JAMBoree+

Offertory

*Hymn #108, Stanza 4

Sing Praise to the Father

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn #340

In the Springtime Fair

Sermon

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

HURTING FOR OTHERS

For the hurt of my poor people I am hurt

*Hymn - Insert

There Is a Balm in Gilead

*Benediction

*Postlude

*Those who are able please stand.

COMMUNITY COVENANT CHURCH
Celebrating our 35th Year of Ministry
 7018 Sydenstricker Road; Springfield, VA 22152
 703-455-4150 communitycovenant@verizon.net
 www.covenantchurchva.org

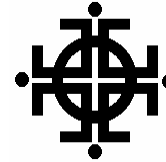
Our mission as a congregation is calling people from the community and around the world into communion with Christ. Our communion with him and with each other grows as we enter into the promises and challenges that a covenant with Christ includes.

This Week

Today	9:30 AM	Sunday School
	11:00 AM	Worship Service
	12:15 PM	Christian Formation Committee
Tuesday	9:45 AM	Women's Bible Study
Wednesday		Worship Service and Lunch at Rising Hope Mission Church Casseroles are needed – see Mary!
Friday-Saturday		Women's Retreat in Pennsylvania
Saturday	9:00 AM	Church Work Day with Troop 1853
Sunday	9:30 AM	Sunday School Classes for all ages
Sept. 30	11:00 AM	Worship Service
	3:00-5:30 PM	A Community Dialogue on Homelessness at Annandale United Methodist Church See the information on the bulletin board, & tell Pastor John if you plan to attend.

Scripture Lessons to read as you prepare for next Sunday:

Jeremiah 32:1-15	Jeremiah buys a condominium
Psalms 91	God's love and protection
1 Timothy 6:6-19	Resisting the temptations of wealth
Luke 16:19-31	Rich man, poor man



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

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 *evangelical* means that our focus is on the good news of what God has done for us in Christ.



Apparently it was a bad year for fish! But not to worry, instead of a fish fry this year we are having a Seafood Fest! Join us on Saturday, October 3rd beginning at 4:30 PM. The cooking will commence by 5:30, and the feeding frenzy will begin shortly thereafter. A sign up sheet is available outside the sanctuary.



Ladies! The Women’s Bible study has begun. Please join them in the kitchen at 9:45 each Tuesday morning. For more information, please call Betty.

Covenant World Missions Prayer Line: 1-800-FON-PRAY

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Church Workday for Troop 1853 is this coming Saturday, September 29th 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.

Directory Time – please take a look at the latest edition of the directory and make sure your information is correct.



We will be providing casseroles for lunch for the homeless at Rising Hope Mission Church on Wednesday, September 26th. Five casseroles are needed. If you would like to donate a casserole, please make it in a disposable pan and bring it to the church before the 26th.

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.

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.



In the Covenant Companion – “You Can’t Pay Me to Do This” – a pastor discovers the spiritual discipline of setting up chairs. And “Bradley’s Bunch” – how a group of volunteers and an autistic boy found God together. You can subscribe to our award-winning denominational magazine by calling 773-907-3310, or you can subscribe online at 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. 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.



Getting Away From It All The Springfield Women's Connection's next luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, October 11th at the Springfield Golf & Country Club from 11:30 AM to 1 PM. Deb Goldsmith from YTB Travel Network reveals the latest hot travel spots and secrets to traveling cheap. Actress and former TV talk show host Karin Williams shares how she learned to say goodbye to painful losses and hello to a bright tomorrow. The price of \$17 is all-inclusive. Please reserve your place by October 8th by calling Ginny (703-569-4670) or Liz (703-876-4780). Free childcare is available, but must be reserved.



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.

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Group meets on Sunday evening, September 30, from 5:00 to 6:45 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.

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.

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 or 703-425-5633.) The deadline for bulletin announcements is 9 AM Friday.

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.