

**THE SERVICE OF WORSHIP**  
**Bread for the World Sunday,**  
**October 21, 2007 – 11:00 AM**

*“70% of the children who come to the Covenant assisted hospitals in Congo are malnourished.” Covenant Missionary Keith Gustafson*

*“Improving the status of women around the world is urgent. The education of women and girls is the most powerful way to slow population growth. It decreases child malnutrition and raises family and national incomes.” Bread for the World*

*“Corine Kikwiti, an ordained pastor in the Covenant Church of Congo, and president of the CEUM Women Ministries, shared about the success of the Educate the Girls program. Sponsored by Women Ministries, the program seeks to create educational opportunities for girls in Congo. So far, more than 500 girls have graduated from high school because of the program.”*  
*Covenant Companion: Report on Triennial XII*

Welcome Rev. John Benson  
Prelude Sandy Benson, Organist  
Becky Ericson, Pianist

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: We gather to worship the God who speaks a good word,

People: *who tells the story of our beginnings and opens up the promise of never-endings.*

Leader: *We gather to worship the God who embodies a good Word,*

People: *who shows us through Jesus Christ what impact a faithful, bold, and loving life can make.*

Leader: We gather to worship the God who spreads the good word,

People: *who enables us through the Spirit's power to go forth in mission.*

Leader: We join voices in praise of our great and gracious God.

\*Hymn #536 *Thanks to God Whose Word Was Spoken*

\*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*

First Lesson Jeremiah 31:27-34 Mark Enstrom, Reader

A Word to the Children: “Sour Grapes”

Second Lesson 2 Timothy 3:14-4:7

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 #525 *Wonderful Words of Life*

Sermon Luke 18:1-8

**A WIDOW'S FAITH**

\*Hymn #619 *Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service*

\*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

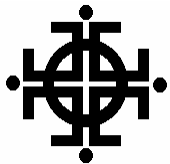
*Our mission as a congregation is calling people from the community and around the world into communion with Christ. Our communion with him and with each other grows as we enter into the promises and challenges that a covenant with Christ includes.*

### This Week

<b>Today</b>	9:30 AM	Sunday School
	11:00 AM	Worship Service
		No Youth Group
<b>Tuesday</b>	9:45 AM	Women's Bible Study
		"Living Passionately for Christ"
<b>Thursday</b>	7:30 PM	Church Council Meeting

### October 28 is Reformation Sunday

9:30 AM	Sunday School Classes for all ages
11:00 AM	A Celebration of the Solas
5:00 PM	Youth Group



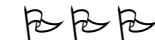
*The character of the Evangelical Covenant Church is expressed by our logo: at the center is the cross. Next is a circle – the symbol of being united in Christ. Then four different people, joined to one another, reach out to the world in love.*

The Covenant Web Page: [www.covechurch.org](http://www.covechurch.org)

**A Covenant Affirmation:** We 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 each Christian. Not to be shaped by the Word is to be shaped by the world. (A leaflet with all six Covenant Affirmations is available on the credenza.)

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

Joel 2:23-32	The early and later rain
Psalms 65	The river of God is full of water
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-19	I have kept the faith
Luke 17:5-10	Two men went up to pray...



**It's Cider Time!** Boy Scout Troop 1853 is now selling cider. Along with Fresh Apple Cider in full and half gallon jugs, Sparkling cider is also available in a variety of flavors. Please place your orders on the forms on the table outside the sanctuary. You may pay now or when your order is filled.

**Covenant Crafters** – will meet on Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup> beginning at 3:00 pm. This month's dinner is the ever-popular Hobo Soup. Bring something to throw into the pot, plus sign up for something extra. A sign-up sheet is outside the sanctuary. Guests are always welcome, and as usual, if you just want to come for the meal that's fine with us!

### YOUTH NEWS

**Youth Group** - Youth Group tonight from 5:00 to 6:45. 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. Guests are always welcome to join in. Our next meeting is October 28<sup>th</sup>.

**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 Yohannes 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 Yohannes' birthday in October and for Christmas.

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



**OOPS! The Pie social is November 3<sup>rd</sup>!** Bring a pie or an appetite for pie. For more information, please speak to Shelley.



**It's Casserole Time again.** We need five casseroles to bring to Rising Hope Mission Church this month. A sign-up sheet is on the table outside the sanctuary. Please bring in your casserole as soon as possible and place it in the freezer.

**CROP WALK!** It's scheduled for Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, right after church. Please see Mary for the forms, if you are interested in this relaxing, wonderful fellowship time.

**The World Relief Banks** are on the table in the rear of the sanctuary. Put one on your kitchen table as a reminder to share what we have with those who are in need. The World Relief Theme this year is "You Can Make a Difference – We Can Make a Change."

**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 two food pantries we support – ECHO (in the basket on the table by the sanctuary door) and RISING HOPE (in the plastic container under the table).

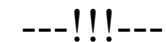
**The Women's Bible Study** has chosen their study for this year: Living Passionately for Christ by Cas Monaco - A Bible study on the book of Philippians. Join them in the kitchen each Tuesday morning at 9:45.



**In the Covenant Companion** – "Loving God with our Minds: Science as a Christian Calling." Chuck Thorpe (Doug's brother and dean of the Qatar campus of Carnegie Mellon University and former director of the CM Robotics Institute) shares a good word. 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.



**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.



**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).