

# The Messenger

April 2012

April, 2012

## WE NEED EASTER THIS YEAR!

### STAFF

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Dearly beloved:

We NEED Easter this year! I don't know about you, but I need the winds of a fresh Spring to blow through my soul and do a work in me this year. In the power of the resurrection there is that promise for us and for all who believe.

I admit I am sad because I am still very much missing my dear friend, brother and colleague, Randy Boyer. I am particularly feeling his absence this Lent and Easter season. I know he is in heaven and I know I will see him again, but I also know I need the winds of the Spirit to blow through my life right now and remind me of the promise and the power of Easter...of new birth and of eternal life and of a hope that never disappoints us.

This is a very busy time. We are dealing with denominational issues and trying to walk through this time faithfully, lovingly and together. My house is under contract as I write this pastor letter (Praise God, a lot of prayers have been answered!) but now I have to find and buy a house, get a mortgage, pack and move and all by April 12<sup>th</sup>!) I think I need a little Easter miracle of my own this year!

We all bring our stresses and our anxieties, our losses and our sadnesses, our feelings of impossibility to this season this year. It is why we need the stone to be rolled away again. It is why we need to know there is always new life to be had at an open tomb. It is why we can bring all the impossibilities of life to a risen Savior, believing and trusting that if HE can rise from the dead, what else is HE able to do in the power of His resurrection?

Look out your window, dear friends. Watch the daffodils push their life through the dead earth of winter. Hear the robins singing. See the new buds come to life again from what looked only dead and lifeless. Believe in a promise we have from Jesus. Trust that the sun always breaks through the storm clouds of life. It is the Lord's hand at work all around us. Easter is coming!

*"We rejoice in our hope of sharing the glory of God...and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit..." (Romans 5: 1-5)*

Whatever needs a miracle, whatever needs the touch of the resurrection, whatever needs a hope that will never disappoint...come to Easter this year and find new life and new birth for your soul!

He is risen *indeed!* And at Easter, so are we!

Faithfully,  
Dr. Stu Broberg

## The Church of the Covenant

267 East Beau St.  
Washington, PA 15301  
724.222.0190

[churchoftheco@comcast.net](mailto:churchoftheco@comcast.net)  
[www.churchofthecov.org](http://www.churchofthecov.org)

Worship Services  
Sundays: 8:30, 9:43 & 11:00

Adult Sunday School  
9:30 and 11:00 am  
Children's Sunday School  
11:00 am

**Church Office Hours**  
**Monday - Friday**  
**9:00a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**NEWS FROM THE FAMILY OF FAITH**

*Donald M. Porter*

*Music Memorial Fund*

*Anna Belle Jeffries*

*James Zeemer*

*Music Memorial Fund*

*Anna Belle Jeffries*

**MEMORIALS FOR REV. RANDY BOYER**

Memorials made payable to the Church of the Covenant may be directed to the **Boyer Trust Fund**, established to help Randy's daughters defray educational expenses, or to a memorial of your choice. Over 100 memorials have been received to date and will be listed in a subsequent Messenger.

Also there is a Student Scholarship Fund established at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary in honor of Randall V. Boyer. Please mark on the memo line on your check where you would designate the memorial gift to be received, and be aware the checks will not be cashed immediately.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Whitie and Jackie Grantz ~ 55 Years on April 20, 2012! They were married in this church on April 20, 1957 by Dr. William G. Rusch.

**FELLOWSHIP OF CONCERN**

For prayer support or to join this ministry, call the church office. Please contact the Fellowship of Concern to give the names of those who are in need of prayer for health or other reasons. The names will then be called or emailed to the church members who pray daily for others. Prayer request forms are available in each pew. Completed forms may be placed in the offering basket on Sunday

**CD's STILL AVAILABLE**


The CD's containing the windows presentation, entire 50th anniversary church service, & pictures from the event are still available. The price is \$15 donation to a stained glass repair fund.

Contact Jerry or Karen Davison - 724-222-4265.

**USHER TEAM 2 IS ON FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL**

Adam Denmead  
Denny Denmead  
Bryan Dickson  
Eugene Foster

Terri Grantz  
Gary Hamilton  
Andrew McClellan  
David McClellan  
Richard Piatt



**APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup> ~ PALM SUNDAY**  
will have a different schedule  
than the past few years!

**PALM SUNDAY** will have **TWO (2)** worship services! The 9:43 (Contemporary) service will be at **9:00** in the Covenant Center. The Traditional Service will be at **11:00** in the Sanctuary.

The **10:00** hour will **begin** with the **PALM PARADE**, so meet in the Commons @ 10:00 to get a palm to participate. We will follow the donkey around the church waving our palms and shouting HALLELUJAH! What a testimony to the city of Washington!

**After** the **PALM PARADE** the **COVENANT KIDS CHOIR** will sing in the Commons! On that first Palm Sunday, the children led the praises!

**Finally** - enjoy a delicious **CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST** in the Covenant Center.

**50th Anniversary**  
**Congregational Photo Available**

If you are interested in obtaining a reprint of the 50th Anniversary photo (the Stewardship banner photo / the ones on the walls), please contact Joel Braun at 724-554-7743. A variety of sizes at any quantity can be made for you at cost.

**Jeff and Sheri Easter and Family**  
**in concert**

Friday April 13, 2012

Time: 7:00 P.M. Doors open at 6:00 P.M.

Tickets in advance \$20 at door if available \$25

Ticket information 724-222-0190

Purchase tickets at <http://www.itickets.com>

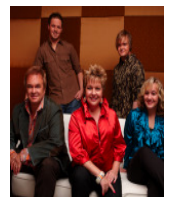
Also at [jeffandsherieaster.com](http://jeffandsherieaster.com)

The Church of the Covenant Presbyterian  
Church

267 E. Beau St.

Washington PA 15301

724-222-0190



**DEADLINE FOR THE May**  
**MESSENGER**  
**IS April 15TH!**

**TO OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

Dear Friends,

How does one begin to say thank you, not just for your loving caring support during the last four difficult months but, for your continued love, support, hugs, kisses, expressions of concern for the past many years. You have embraced us and let us cry, holding us gently in your arms and hearts for many years. We thank you to your unwavering response to Randy and our request for prayers.

We remember the healing service which was a surprise to Randy and how many of you were there; not just for that one but for all of them and how you cried with me at the last one.

We thank you the congregation for allowing Randy the opportunity to pursue his dream and become an ordained minister. I remember that happy joyous occasion as well as his installation. Randy was proud to be a child of the Covenant and loved his church family. You were not just parishioners but loved friends. He pursued his calling to minister to many of you through sadness and sorrow. Randy was proud also of the growth of the Deacons and their increasing ministries. Randy was proud of the many Mission accomplishments: Family Promise, Reach out Weekend and many more. Adult education was near and dear to him and he was proud of its growth.

Randy was happiest when in the pulpit. He loved preaching the Word. His ultimate goal was to lead as many to Christ as he could and give them the blessed assurance of God's ever-loving care and grace.

We thank you for allowing him to continue to minister to you even as his health was declining and draining his strength. We thank you for your continued unwavering support to the end. He wanted to do just one last sermon.

How could I forget and not mention those wonderful caregivers who gave of their time to provide care for Randy and allow Becky a bit of rest. We will forever remember your time so freely and lovingly given

We want to especially thank Stu for his unwavering care, love, and support and also Hugh who loved Randy as a son. He was there for us so many times.

Again, Alex and I want to thank each and every one of you. Words are inadequate for expressing our gratitude. We go forward now remembering Randy and grieving for him but also focusing on all he showed us by his example; to love one another and to remember that as you do to the least you also do to me. He would want the church to continue to show Christian love and reach out embracing many and bringing them to Christ; Blessings to all of you,

With God's love,  
Pat and Alex Boyer

Church of the Covenant Travel Group

**FLIGHT 93 MEMORIAL AND  
QUE CREEK MONUMENT**

**July 18 2012**

Leave parking lot 8:00 am - return 5:00 pm

Price - \$45.00 - Reservations with full payment due May 10, 2012

We will visit the new 9/11 Memorial and Que Creek Mine. Lunch will be at the Coal Miners Café. When making your reservation, please let me know your preference for the lunch entrée.

Our choices are:

Stuffed pork chop - Stuffed chicken - Roast Beef

**SCENIC TRAIN RIDE - TITUSVILLE**

**June 16 2012**

Leave parking lot 7:30 am - return 7:00 pm

Price - \$75.00 - Reservations due May 1, 2012 with full amount.

We will travel to Franklin, Pa and spend a couple hours walking and visiting the shops along Liberty Avenue.

From there we will go to Titusville for a scenic train ride with a guide narrating along the way about the original Pennsylvania oil country. We will have a box lunch on the train. Along the way home we will stop for a light supper, not included in the price.

Tentative schedule:

7:30 am depart - 9:30 arrive Franklin, Pa - Noon depart to Titusville - 1:00 Train ride with lunch - 4:00 Depart for home

Any questions call or email Marge McWreath - 724.225.3226 or [mmcwreath@msn.com](mailto:mmcwreath@msn.com)

Make checks payable to Marge McWreath and mail to 560 Shirks Avenue, Washington, PA 15301

**APRIL PREACHING AND WORSHIP SCHEDULE****April 1, 2012****Palm Sunday****9:00 and 11:00 a.m.**

Dr. Broberg preaching

**THE NON ANXIOUS PRESENCE**

Matthew 21: 1-11

"Who is this?" v. 10

Jesus is amazingly calm in the midst of all the swirling events of Holy Week.

Calm during the triumph of Palm Sunday –calm during his trial, scourging, cross. How does He do this? What is the secret He knows that we also can know?

Two services, one at 9:00 a.m. (contemporary) and one at 11:00 a.m. (traditional) with a special program with a live donkey in between.

**April 5, 2012****Maundy Thursday****Communion****7:00 p.m.**

Dr. Broberg preaching

The Living Cross Tenebrae Service

**WELCOME TO GOOFY-TOWN**

Matthew 26: 59-68 and 27: 11-23 and 27: 27-31

All about Jesus are losing their reason and their calm –but Jesus remains completely calm in the midst of Goofy-town.

The young people stand in the form of a cross with lighted candles and the candles are extinguished and the sanctuary gradually becomes dark in anticipation of the darkness of Good Friday and the death of Jesus.

The service is preceded by a meal in the Covenant Center at 5:30 pm.

**April 6, 2012****Good Friday****Noon****Commons Area**

At the Foot of the Cross

**Guest Preacher: Reverend Jason Hefner from Faith United Presbyterian Church**

Sermon: "O, SACRED SUBSTITUTION"

Scripture: Isaiah 52: 13-53: 12 and John 19: 17-30

**April 8, 2012****Easter Sunday****UNBIND THE GRAVECLOTHES!**

John 11: 25-44

"Unbind him, and let him go." v. 4

**April 15, 2012****Guest Preacher: The Reverend Alice Fisler****Sermon: THE CHURCH WITH THE NOT-SO-SHAKY KNEES****Scripture: John 20: 19-31****April 22, 2012****Guest Preacher: The Reverend Noah McIntee****April 29, 2012****Dr. Broberg preaching****SPIRITUAL, NOT RELIGIOUS**

Matthew 16: 21-28

"If any man would come after me..." v. 24

The false spirituality in our world that thinks it can be spiritual apart  
From the church of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**FROM THE INFORMATION TASK GROUP**

Dear friends,

It has been a few weeks since Session met with you in the Covenant Center to review information with you about some critical issues that our denomination faces this year. These issues include Amendment 10-A and several related overtures that face our Church, the Washington Presbytery and the General Assembly.

Since the meeting in January, Session has formed an Information Task Group that will provide information to you about these issues as the information comes along and becomes credible. The members of this Information Task Group are: Dottie and Charlie Bowers, Donna Carlisle, Debbie Evans, Rachel and Tom Gladden, Joe Jefferys, Jonathan Pachter and Sara Smith. Dr. Broberg will be offering us his advice and guidance as we work through these issues.

New issues keep coming up that this Task Group is monitoring, and the Group is watching various information sources. Recently, some members of the Task Group attended a Presbytery-sponsored meeting to learn more about how some churches and congregations are proposing to address Amendment 10-A and its related offshoot issues. This meeting did not provide any new concrete information about this issue, but we were there listening and to report back to you.

This Task Group will be reporting to Session in April to describe the information that it has learned. Then our plan is to hold another meeting to provide current information to the congregation on these matters. This second open information meeting is planned to be held on Wednesday, April 25, 2012, in the Covenant Center. A light dinner will be provided, followed by the information meeting. Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you will be able to join us for dinner starting at 6:00 p.m. on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks for your considered attention to these critical issues that face PC(USA) and our congregation. Please feel free to contact any of the members of this Task Group with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

The Information Task Group Members

**APRIL SCRIPTURE READINGS****Sunday April 1**

Zech. 9:9–12

1 Tim. 6:12–16 *or* Zech. 12:9–11,

13:1, 7–9

Luke 19:41–48

**Monday April 2**

Lam. 1:1–2, 6–12

2 Cor. 1:1–7

Mark 11:12–25

**Tuesday April 3**

Lam. 1:17–22

2 Cor. 1:8–22

Mark 11:27–33

**Wednesday April 4**

Lam. 2:1–9

2 Cor. 1:23–2:11

Mark 12:1–11

**Thursday April 5**

Maundy Thursday

Lam. 2:10–18

1 Cor. 10:14–17, 11:27–32

Mark 14:12–25

**Friday April 6**

Good Friday

Lam. 3:1–9, 19–33

1 Peter 1:10–20

John 13:36–38 *or* John 19:38–42

**Saturday April 7**

Lam. 3:37–58

Heb. 4:1–16

Rom. 8:1–11

**Sunday April 8 - Easter**

Exod. 12:1–14

John 1:1–18 *or* Isa. 51:9–11

Luke 24:13–35 *or* John 20:19–23

**Monday April 9**

Exod. 12:14–27

1 Cor. 15:1–11

Mark 16:1–8

**Tuesday April 10**

Exod. 12:28–39

1 Cor. 15:12–28

Mark 16:9–20

**Wednesday April 11**

Exod. 12:40–51

1 Cor. 15:(29) 30–41

Matt. 28:1–16

**Thursday April 12**

Exod. 13:3–10

1 Cor. 15:41–50

Matt. 28:16–20

**Friday April 13**

Exod. 13:1–2, 11–16

1 Cor. 15:51–58

Luke 24:1–12

**Saturday April 14**

Exod. 13:17–14:4

2 Cor. 4:16–5:10

Mark 12:18–27

**Sunday April 15**

Exod. 14:5–22

1 John 1:1–7

John 14:1–7

**Monday April 16**

Exod. 14:21–31

1 Peter 1:1–12

John 14:(1–7) 8–17

**Tuesday April 17**

Exod. 15:1–21

1 Peter 1:13–25

John 14:18–31

**Wednesday April 18**

Exod. 15:22–16:10

1 Peter 2:1–10

John 15:1–11

**Thursday April 19**

Exod. 16:10–22

1 Peter 2:11–3:12

John 15:12–27

**Friday April 20**

Exod. 16:23–36

1 Peter 3:13–4:6

John 16:1–15

**Saturday April 21**

Exod. 17:1–16

1 Peter 4:7–19

John 16:16–33

**Sunday April 22**

Exod. 18:1–12

1 John 2:7–17

Mark 16:9–20

**Monday April 23**

Exod. 18:13–27

1 Peter 5:1–14

Matt. (1:1–17) 3:1–6

**Tuesday April 24**

Exod. 19:1–16

Col. 1:1–14

Matt. 3:7–12

**Wednesday April 25**

Exod. 19:16–25

Col. 1:15–23

Matt. 3:13–17

**Thursday April 26**

Exod. 20:1–21

Col. 1:24–2:7

Matt. 4:1–11

**Friday April 27**

Exod. 24:1–18

Col. 2:8–23

Matt. 4:12–17

**Saturday April 28**

Exod. 25:1–22

Col. 3:1–17

Matt. 4:18–25

**Sunday April 29**

Exod. 28:1–4, 30–38

1 John 2:18–29

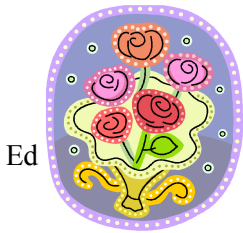
Mark 6:30–44

**Monday April 30**

Exod. 32:1–20

Col. 3:18–4:6 (7–18)

Matt. 5:1–10

**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY****GOD'S GARDEN**

Ed

March 17<sup>th</sup> was St Patrick's Day - but here at The Church of the Covenant, it was **God's Garden Day!** There were about 85 children and their families here enjoying fun activities, each other, and God's world being reborn with the warmth of the spring weather! Wonderful volunteers led the children at each activity—the Petting Zoo from Barnyard Petting Zoo; planting pansies with Stacy and Phillips; making sun-catchers and shamrock magnets with Robynne Moessner, Sonna Agnew, and Alex Miller; doing exercises with Miss Laura of Stretch-n-Grow and Nicole Silbaugh; singing and dancing with Darla Pepper-Miller and Pat Sanders; hunting for eggs in the Sanctuary with Shirley Desmond, Kerri DiGiovanni, Carol McClellan, and Rachel Phillips; listening to stories with Patty

Thompson and Cathie Boni; and finally enjoying delicious snacks with Peg Caesber and her wonderful crew Jackie Grantz, Cookie Namie, and Mary Ann Magnone. Terri Grantz captured the day on film! Cupcakes were donated by Anne Haines, Barb Knight, Jackie Koman, Shelly Armstrong, Ruth Boger, and Linda Marriner. Camille Braun, as always, was a tremendous help with registration and organization. Cyndi Barney and Ralph Farabee and Debi Nicoella of the church staff helped in the days and weeks ahead of the event. What a blessing to watch the children and their families and friends! One little girl told her grandmother—“This is the best church day ever!”

**PINE SPRINGS SUNDAY** is April 15<sup>th</sup> when Greg Davis, Pine Springs Director will be with us! He will be sharing a Moment for Mission during the three worship services, and then he will talk with the children during Sunday School about all the fun activities available at Pine Springs! There are lots of MAJOR FUN opportunities—swimming, climbing walls, canoeing, white water rafting, hiking, the mud pit (check out the picture on the poster)—just to name a few—all while coming closer to God and making life time friends and memories! There are many weeks available during the summer! There is scholarship money available from the church!

Children who are not members are welcome to attend! Find a week! Find a friend!

**ATTEND SUMMER CAMP 2012 @ PINE SPRINGS!**

Brochures are available at the Welcome Center or check out the website @ [www.pinesprings.org](http://www.pinesprings.org). Contact Janet Nevin for information about the scholarship money available to **ALL** Church of the Covenant children/families/youth who are interested in attending!

Never been to Pine Springs? Don't know what is there? Why not attend the **OPEN HOUSE—SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2012 10:00AM-2:00 PM** with your family! The day will include games, the climbing wall, tours, and of course LUNCH!

**SAVE THE DATE!!!****VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - OPERATION OVERBOARD!**

Come and meet OCHO! July 9-13<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00-Noon!

**EASTER DINNER**

Join us for Easter Dinner on **Maundy Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup>**. Ham dinner and all the “fixins” will be served from **5:30-6:00**. Plan to come and enjoy fellowship with your family and your extended church family. Dinner will be \$6.00. Please sign up at the Welcome Center! Stay for the **Maundy Thursday Communion Worship Service @ 7:00 pm** to feed your soul as the Holy Week journey continues to Easter morning!

**MEMORIAL GARDEN CARETAKER  
NEEDED**

Do you like to be outside, plant flowers and care for God's creation? Martha McNutt has been the gracious caretaker of our Spiritual Memorial Garden and is retiring due to health concerns. Maybe there is someone or a group of folks who would enjoy some gardening therapy! Call Debi in the office if you are interested or have any questions - 724-222-0190.

**CONGRATULATIONS!!!**

Congratulations to Linda Grimm who recently completed a course at Mercy Hospital to be certified as a Parish Nurse. The Commissioning Service was held in Holy Family Chapel at the hospital on March 17. In addition to her position in Case Management at Washington Hospital, Linda is even more committed to working with the Health Ministry, helping the Hands and Hearts Committee minister to members of the church and the community



**EXPERIENCING GOD SMALL GROUPS--2012**

Cindy Garlisi with Stacy Phillips—Sunday 8:15 am @ Panera—FULL as of 3/19

Andy Kluczan—Sunday @ 9:30 am @ church

Steve and Lucy Johnson—Sunday @ 9:30 am @ church

Donna Carlisle—Sunday @ 11:00 am @ church –FULL as of 3/19

Shirley Desmond—Sunday @ 11:00 am @ church

Sue Denmead—Sunday @ 11:00 am @ church

Joe and Jill Losko—Sunday @ 12:15 pm @ church

Shelly Armstrong—Monday @ 9:30 am @ church

Bea Bebout—Monday @ 7:00 pm @ church

Debra Evans—Tuesday @ 7:00 am @ Eat N Park

Chuck and Nancy Neff—Tuesday @ 1:00 pm @ 2111 St Andrews DR

Tricia and Steve Warren—Tuesday @ 7:00 pm @ church

Joe Donham—Wednesday @ 2 :00 pm @ church

Abe & Sue Key--Wednesday 7:00 pm @ 110 Wilmont AVE.

Gay Vroble—Thursday @ 10:00 am @ church

Rachel and Tom Gladden—Thursday, 6:30 pm @ church

Joe Jeffreys—Friday @ 7:00 pm @ TBDetermined

If you don't see a time or day that is convenient, please sign up anyway.  
Every effort will be made to make a group available for all who are interested.  
Questions, please contact Joe Jefferys or Donna Carlisle.

**Youth Schedule for APRIL****April 1st APRIL FOOLS DAY Palm Sunday!**

**Contemporary Worship: 9:43-10:50**

**No Momentum, instead join youth as we walk in the Palm march.**

**Kinetic: 6:00-8:00**

A mix of Momentum and Kinetic for an amazing time!

**Velocity: 8:00-8:30**

**April 8th - Easter - He has risen!**

**No Momentum - No Kinetic - No Velocity**

**April 15th**

**Contemporary Worship: 9:43-10:50**

**Momentum: 11:00-12:00**

Experiencing God begins, so HS can go to small groups, and either choose to join us for momentum service or go to main service.

**Kinetic: 6:00-8:00**

“be stones of remembrance”

**Velocity: 8:00-8:30**

**April 22nd**

**Contemporary Worship: 9:43-10:50**

**Momentum: 11:00-12:00**

**Kinetic: 6:00-8:00**

Join us for our second great prayer walk experience! Come and see the power of God –experience prayer, worship and discipleship like you’ve never seen before as we go through an interactive experience that you’ll never forget.....

**Velocity: 8:00-8:30**

**April 29th**

**Contemporary Worship: 9:43-10:50**

**Momentum: 11:00-12:00**

**Kinetic: 6:00-8:30 BRING-A-Friend-Night!!!!!!**

Medieval night! Bring a friend night, live out the Armor of God with a knighthood games tournament.

Come to a Time-travel event as we host our very own medieval festival!

**May 6th**

**Contemporary Worship: 9:43-10:50**

**Momentum: 11:00-12:00**

Experiencing God will be open for all HS (small groups), and either choose to join us for momentum service or go to main service.

**Kinetic: 6:00-8:00**

“Facing Jericho”

**Velocity: 8:00-8:30**

## **Training for New and Seasoned Family Promise Volunteers**

**Monday, April 23, 6 to 7 PM**

Family Promise (IHN) is conducting training for volunteers at all host and support churches to ensure the best possible host weeks for both the guests and the volunteers who open their hearts to homeless children and their families.

Whether you're an "old hand" at or have always wanted to help, please be sure to join us for this "nuts and bolts" training session which will include discussion on updated policies and procedures. RSVP to Debi Nicolella, at 724-222-0190 or [churchoftheco@comcast.net](mailto:churchoftheco@comcast.net).

### **EVENING CIRCLE**

The Evening Circle will meet on **Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup>** at **6:15pm** in the PARLOR. We will study the Beatitudes. We invite first-time participants; you can join us at anytime. Please call Linda at 724-228-5828 if you are interested or have any questions! We meet for one hour and refreshments are served.

### **SPRING VENDOR AND CRAFT SALE**

**~ SAVE THE DATE!! ~**

A spring Vendor and Craft Show will be held on **Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>** at the Church of the Covenant from 9am-1pm. The show will benefit the Menaul Mission Trip this fall. There will be a variety of products available such a Avon, Pampered Chef, Celebrating Home, Thirty-One, crafts and a bake sale. It will be a wonderful opportunity to shop for Mother's Day, spring bridal showers and weddings, and graduation gifts. If anyone is interested in being a vendor, please contact **Patty Mounts** for details at **724-222-7257**.

### **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ANNUAL RETREAT**

The Annual Presbyterian Women's Retreat is coming soon ~ **Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup>** and Saturday the 14<sup>th</sup>. We carpool from the church parking lot at 5:00 PM Friday and return around 2:00 PM Saturday. The cost for a formal dinner, breakfast, lunch plus overnight lodging and program is \$80.00. There are scholarships available. Our retreat leader will be Pastor Linda Mankey and we look forward to a stimulating and exciting weekend under her spiritual direction. Sandscrest, West Virginia, near Wheeling, is a lovely area, complete with the Mansion, dormitory, classroom, and chapel . Please call the church office for reservations or contact Connie Hornickel with any questions. Guests are also welcome!

### **WOMEN OF FAITH CONFERENCE**

Peterson Event Center, University of Pittsburgh

**September 28 & 29, 2012 ~ Friday: 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

Ever think you are running on empty? You can experience an emotional and spiritual renewal through the Women of Faith's nationally-renown inspirational speakers who are both funny and deeply profound. You will laugh and cry as these ordinary women share their extraordinary life stories. Do something for yourself by taking a break from your everyday life and return refreshed, relaxed and renewed.

Sign up in the Commons on April 29, May 6 or May 20, and see how God can change your life!

The total cost of the event is \$149.00, which includes the round-trip deluxe bus transportation both days, (\$139.00 if you have already paid a \$10.00 deposit), due at sign-up. Installment payments can be arranged if necessary.

For more information, contact Donna Carlisle, 724-228-3616 or [dldcarlisle@comcast.net](mailto:dldcarlisle@comcast.net).

### **HELP ON HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WORKDAY!**

The Church of the Covenant sponsors a Habitat for Humanity workday on one Saturday each quarter. The next workday will be **Saturday, May 12**. We work at a site from **9:00am to approximately 2:00pm**. The only thing you need is some work clothes and a few hours of time. The work is light, we are supervised by the Habitat construction officer, and all efforts are greatly appreciated by the person who will ultimately be able to live in the house. If you would like to join our team, please sign up on the sheet at the Welcome Center in the Commons.

For more information call **Steve Johnson at 412-420-7253**.



## THE CARNAHAN LIBRARY

Dedicated on 11/1/09 to the memory of Thomas Dorrington Carnahan II,  
Thomas Dorrington Carnahan III, George Kirk Carnahan and to the glory of God.

Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Sunday 8:30 am – 12:30 pm

*The following gently used book was donated by the family of Nancy Brown.*

The Life of Jesus by Frederick Buechner. Buechner is a very well known Christian writer. In this beautiful book, he writes an essay on the life of Jesus as seen through the eyes of countless painters, sculptors and artisans from early Christian to Modern times. There are six chapters – Annunciation, Nativity, Ministry, Last Supper, Crucifixion and Resurrection. Lee Boltin is the talented photographer of the 150 color illustrations.

*The following gently used book was donated by Connie Hornickel.*

West with the Night by Beryl Markham. The author was born in England in 1902 but was taken to East Africa in 1906 by her father. She spent her childhood playing with the native children. She also apprenticed with her father as a trainer and breeder of racehorses. In the 1930's, she became an African bush pilot and in 1936, she became the first person to fly solo across the Atlantic from east to west. Those who read it think it's a wonderful book.

*The following gently used books were donated anonymously. The Library Committee thanks the donors.*

From Anger to Zion: An Alphabet of Faith by Porter Taylor. The author is an Episcopal priest, teacher and college professor. The series of essays were first used as sermons. The topics are arranged in alphabetical order. They include Anger, Blessed, Cross, Evangelism, Forgiveness, Judgment, Prodigal and Transfiguration, to name a few. Each one teaches something to the reader and provides ample ideas for discussion.

Home to Big Stone Gap by Adriana Trigiani. The main character of this novel is Ave Maria MacChesney who was born and still lives in Big Stone Gap, VA. Ave Maria's life is turned upside down by several unexpected events. She finds that she has to reinvent her world, her life, and herself, whether she wants to or not.

Trouble the Water by Nicole Seitz. This book is considered a faith fiction novel. The main character, Honor, a woman in her mid 40's, arrives at St. Anne's Isle off the SC coast with her life in tatters. A group of local women rescue her and love her back to health. There are 2 other characters that help to tell Honor's compelling story.

The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother by James McBride. The author was raised in Brooklyn's Red Hood Projects. When he was an adult, he finally persuaded his mother to tell her story. She was a rabbi's daughter, born in Poland and raised in the South. She fled to Harlem, married a black man, founded a Baptist church, and put 12 children through college. The New York Times says "The triumph of the book... is that race and religion are transcended in these interwoven histories by family love, the sheer force of a mother's will, and her unshakable insistence that only two things really mattered: school and church." The book was on the bestseller list for over 2 years. (James McBride is also the author of a book about WWII, Miracle at St. Anna, that was made into a major motion picture a few years ago.)

How Far to Bethlehem? by Norah Lofts. Lofts does a remarkable job of weaving together the story of Mary and Joseph and the isolated stories of the three wise men. She also develops a personal story about the innkeeper, one shepherd and Herod. Her writing skills give the story of the coming of the Messiah a color, depth and dimension that will stay with the reader. (Recommended by Barb Knight)

The Gift by Richard Paul Evans. Nathan Hurst is a Tourette's – suffering security chief for a retail chain. When he gets snowed in at an airport, he offers to share his hotel suite with a stranded woman and her two children. The young boy has leukemia. He also possesses a very special gift that the mother wants hidden from the public. The story is a lesson in faith, endurance and healing.

The Christmas Cookie Club by Ann Pearlman. Each year, on the first Monday of December, 12 close friends get together for a cookie exchange. Everyone has to bring a dish, a bottle of wine, and their stories. As with any group, there are stories of struggles and triumphs. The novel celebrates courage and joy in spite of hard times as well as the importance of women's friendships.

A Treasury of Miracles for Women: True Stories of God's Presence Today by Karen Kingsbury. Included in this book are 12 or more true stories about wondrous events in the lives of ordinary women. Each one reminds us that with faith, hope is never lost.

# The Messenger

c/o The Church of the Covenant  
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Jacqueline Brock	April 3	Betty Jean Keir	April 7	Betty Donaldson	April 17	Denny Denmead	April 23
Jean Hanas	April 3	Deborah Knestrick	April 8	Christopher Knight	April 17	Jessica Johnson	April 24
William Proudfit	April 4	Lynn Day	April 9	Scott Meighen	April 17	James Little III	April 24
Nancy Bernett	April 5	Caitlin Scott	April 9	Susan Kepler	April 18	Jack Piatt III	April 24
Sarah Cole	April 5	Rae Dawn Shipley	April 9	Adam Weinstock	April 18	Steven Aloia	April 25
Barbara Piatt	April 5	Jane Barnickel	April 10	Lorrene Bowen	April 19	Brenda Prigg	April 25
Evan Songer	April 5	Scott Armstrong	April 11	Jason Piatt	April 19	Norma Koman	April 26
Barbara Baughman	April 6	Elizabeth Liebert	April 12	Lindsay Smith	April 19	Stephen Spiegel	April 26
Gregory Locy	April 6	Kenneth Watson	April 12	Edward Phillips	April 20	Lucy Brady	April 28
Harold Maleski	April 6	April Batove	April 13	April Betzner	April 21	Joe Jefferys	April 28
Jessica Patton	April 6	Michelle McCarrell	April 13	Brenda Lucas	April 21	Douglas Locy	April 28
Stephanie Silbaugh	April 6	Pat Sanders	April 13	Marian Keisling	April 22	Jane Wagner	April 28
Michael Spiegel	April 6	MaryAnna McNeel	April 14	Donna Sukel	April 22	Dayne Warren	April 28