

GOING TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Dear Friends,

Beginning on June 13th I will travel to Detroit, Michigan to represent you at the General Assembly meeting, the biennial top meeting of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Please be in prayer for me that I may well represent you all, as well as the Lord Jesus Christ and His truth.

It is a funny thing, but this is the first time in 30+ years that I have been chosen to attend. Often, presbyteries use seniority as the way commissioners are chosen, and it seemed even as I was often most senior that there was some reason why someone else was chosen and not I. This time, I feel the weight and burden of it, feeling that the reason I was not chosen in the past was to choose me for this particular time and place. And then a couple of weeks ago I received my committee assignment! I gasped when I opened the Email. Randomly, the computer had assigned me to the GA committee that will be debating marriage issues and the possibility of changing the Directory of Worship in the Form of Government (the church constitution). Thank you so much, Lord, for putting me on the "hot seat".

The Session, Pastor Emily and I have put together a four part Adult Education class on General Assembly matters to have us discuss together the important issues being addressed at this assembly. There are two classes on a Tuesday evening prior to the Assembly and two classes following the Assembly. We are blessed that Rev. Craig Kephart, the Executive Presbyter of Washington Presbytery, as well as Vera White, the director of the 1001 new worshipping congregations, will be part of this series.

For me, the most important issues are these....

- * How do we learn to discuss together important issues where people disagree and in ways that are helpful?
- * How do we foster the unity of the church around the person of the Lord Jesus Christ? How do we keep the church together and headed in the same direction?
- * How do we understand the Word of God and what it speaks into the midst of our conversations?
- * How do we understand spiritual discernment?
Please review the schedule of the classes in Pastor Emily's article and join us for an important discussion. See you in church!

Faithfully, Dr. Stu Broberg

SUMMER NEW MEMBER CLASS: --"Rapid Class"!! Been thinking about making a commitment to follow Jesus? Then sign up at the Welcome Center or call Debi at the church office to register. Attend one rapid class on either **Wednesday, June 11th** OR **Wednesday, June 25th** at 7:00 p.m. in the dining room and also attend the Called Session Meeting on Sunday, June 29th at 10:30 a.m. and join on that day at the 11:00 worship service. Questions? Please call Debi in the church office - 724-222-0190 or email her at churchoftheco@comcast.net.

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The Summer Messenger

Newsletter of The Church of the Covenant - June 2014

JUNE PREACHING and WORSHIP SCHEDULE

June 1, 2014

WHY IT IS IMPORTANT TO FAIL

Communion I Corinthians 1: 18-30

Dr. Broberg "God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong..." v. 27

The Confirmation Class is received.

June 8, 2014

WHICH WAY DOES THE WIND BLOW?

Pastor Emily Preaching Acts 2:1-21

Pentecost Celebrating our Graduates

June 15, 2014 UNEXPECTED BLESSINGS

Pastor Emily Preaching Exodus 16:2-15

(Stu away at General Assembly)

June 22, 2014 HERE AM I, SEND ME

Don Nixon Preaching Isaiah 6: 1-8

(Stu away at General Assembly)

June 29, 2014 NO EASY BUTTON

New Members Matthew 7: 7-14

Special music by the Mt Anthems

(A Cappella group sings Gospel music)

"For the gate is narrow and the way is hard, that leads to life, and those who find it are few." v. 14

The Church of the Covenant

267 East Beau St., Washington, PA 15301 - 724.222.0190

churchoftheco@comcast.net ~ www.churchofthecov.org

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

Adult and Children's Sunday School will resume in September.

Church Office Hours - Mon. - Fri. 9:00a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



Helen Virginia Samson

Memorial Fund

Peg C. Flynn

Gordon A. Wilson Jr.

Pine Springs Camp Scholarship Fund

Ellen Wilson, and daughters
Anne, Jan, and Joan

Baptisms

Baptized on Sunday, May 18, 2014 at the 11:00 a.m. worship service, **Carson Taylor Bashioum**, son of Scott and Ashley Bashioum, born June 21, 2009, **Olivia Rose King**, infant daughter of William and Jennifer Andy King, born November 11, 2013 and **Thor Anthony Kojundic**, son of Aaron and Courtney Broberg Kojundic, born November 6, 2013. Dr. Stuart D. Broberg officiated.

Congratulations and Welcome!

Our church family wants to extend a warm welcome to our newest members who were received at the 11:00 a.m. service on **Sunday, April 20, 2014**. Harry and Johnnie Broberg, Eileen Caldwell, Steve and Peggy Day, Jayme Ewing, Aaron and Courtney Kojundic, Edward L. Miller, Audrey Moss, Donna Myers Slezak and John C. Williamson. Blessings to you as you continue your faith journey!

SUMMER READING SUGGESTIONS

Summer will soon be here and The Carnahan Library welcomes anyone who likes to read. Please plan to browse to find both fiction and non-fiction books to sign out. The library is open on Mon. - Fri. from 9 - 3 and on Sunday from 8:30 - 12:30.

Some new additions to the library shelves include the following best - sellers:
Nurturing Healing Love: A Mother's Journey of Hope and Forgiveness by Scarlett Lewis

I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and was Shot by the Taliban by Malala Yousafzai

Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

THE NEXT WORK DAY - SATURDAY, August 2nd @ 9:00-1:00

IF INTERESTED IN WORKING PLEASE SIGN UP AT THE WELCOME CENTER OR CONTACT STEVE JOHNSON 412 420-7253.
ALL ARE WELCOME. NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY.

MENAU MISSION TRIP TO ALBUQUERQUE, NM

We are having an informational meeting on **Thursday, June 19th at 7 pm** at The Church of the Covenant for those interested in participating in this life changing experience. If you've never been or if you are a frequent participant please come as we discuss the upcoming mission trip slated for the week of **September 15th**.

USHER TEAM 7 ON DUTY FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE

Kim Carter	Tom Kearns	Robin Myers
Sandra Cincinnati	Eric Meyers	Chuck Neff
Harriet Johnson	Del Mounts	George Thompson

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATES

Every two years, representatives from each presbytery in the United States meet at a General Assembly of the PC(USA) to worship together, fellowship with one another, discuss important matters of faith, and vote upon various issues concerning the denomination. This year, the **GA meets** in Detroit, MI from **June 15 - June 20**. Our very own Pastor Stu Broberg will be a delegate from the Washington Presbytery!

In order to keep you all up to date and in order to ensure that the information that circulates around the church is correct and not just gossip, Pastor Stu & Pastor Emily will be leading a four part Tuesday Night Speaker Series about GA and the PC(USA) in general. This class will occur on four Tuesday nights, having begun on May 27th at 7:00pm in the small dining room. Executive Presbyter Rev. Craig Kephart was present for the first class and Ruling Elder Vera White from the PC(USA) will be present on another night.

The speaker series will continue on **June 3rd**. We will break for two weeks during which the GA will meet, and then we will reconvene on **June 24th and July 1**. Among the topics discussed will be proposed changes in the directory of worship, issues surrounding the middle east, the future of synods, the growth of new church communities within the PC(USA), missional efforts including Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and much more. There are many challenging things going on and there are many things to celebrate as well. Hope to see you there! Pastor Emily

MUSIC NOTES

The Jubilate Ringers will join The Covenant Kids' Choir on **Pentecost Sunday, June 8**, when they perform "Siyahamba" at the 11:00 service. This promises to be a very moving anthem! You won't want to miss it!

On **Sunday, June 29, during the 11:00 service, The Mountain Anthems** will present a concert. This group, from western Maryland, is composed of 30 men and women, under the direction of Mike Yoder. This A Cappella group sings Gospel music. Their ages range from 15 to 50. Please plan to attend this very special service!

SUMMER YOUTH SCHEDULE

The following schedule is incomplete and only lists some special events, not the regular weekly gatherings. Still to be decided are things like a Pirates game, rafting at Ohiopyle and some others.

Sun June 1: Confirmands received into church membership
 Wed June 4: Senior Sermon for Trinity High School
 Sun June 8: Graduate Recognition
 Sun-Wed June 15-18: 24--Serve Another Day home mission trip
 Sun June 22: Club 56
 Sun July 20: Club 56
 Wed-Sat July 30 to Aug 2: Camp at Pine Springs
 Sun Aug 3: Club 56 and youth group swim party at Artuso
 Fri-Sun Aug 15-17: Festival of Hope at Consol Energy Center

FAITH & FITNESS

Looking for a new summer class to get you invigorated and in shape? Come to the new Faith and Fitness Class at the church this summer! Here are the details:
Title: Faith & Fitness Class, sponsored by the Adult Education Committee
When: **Thursdays at 7 pm starting June 12** in the Covenant Center. The class will run through the end of July, with no class the week of July 4th.

Here's what we will do: 7 - 7:10 - warm-up - 7:10 - 7:30 - class - 7:30 - 7:40 - cool down
7:40 - 8 - Fellowship/devotional time with fresh fruits and veggies.

All members and friends of the church are invited! Let's get fit together! Questions? Ask Kerri Lacock (kerrilacock@gmail.com or Pastor Emily 724.222.0190x113).

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL IS ON HIATUS FOR THE

SUMMER. Many thanks to the talented, dedicated, and caring Sunday school teachers who share the love of Jesus with our children each Sunday. Thanks to Janet Nevin for teaching children's Sacrament Training and to the following Sunday School teachers: Jessica Hickman, Brandi Frazee, Jill Losko, Julie Kelly, Jayme Ewing- Stickovich, Nikki Davis, Laura Smith, Crystal Miles, Jeremy Zajdel, Paul Phillips, and Jordan Wright, you are a blessing!!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL July 14th thru 18th!

Please spread the word to parents, children, grandchildren, neighbors and friends! Children ages 4 through 5th grade are invited to participate in an action packed week of fun and learning about Jesus' one of a kind love! There are registration forms available in the commons, and on our website. **Also, please consider volunteering** to help share the Good News with all of the children who attend VBS! Call Stacy Phillips, Des. Director of Christian Ed. for information: 724-222-0190 x115.

CLUB 56 ~ OFF TO A GREAT START!

A special program designed for youth heading into 5th and 6th grade. It's full of fun, food, faith, and just the right amount of zaniness! Our first gathering was on May 18th and included food, fake mustaches, kickball, and some awesome Jesus talk J. If you are going to 5th or 6th grade this fall you won't want to miss the fun. Our **next Club 56 meeting is on Sunday June 22nd from 4:30 to 6pm**. Bring a friend! Let's have fun exploring the path that Jesus sets before us! Parents: we are here to support you and we have a special prayer guide for you to help you with the turbulent pre-teen years. So please contact Don Nixon or Stacy Phillips, co-leaders to find out more! 724-222-0190.



CONFIRMATION CLASS OFFICIALLY JOINS THE CHURCH!

On **Sunday, June 1, the 2014 Confirmation Class** was confirmed and received by the congregation at the 943 worship service and introduced at the 11:00 service. Congratulations to: Ben Artuso, John Day, Sam Day, Abby Dessart, Amanda Gibson, Sarina Jones, Malcolm Miller, Murphy Miller, Quentin McIlvaine, Alexa Weaver and Baylee Weaver. They were received into full adult membership and discipleship that morning. And thank you to adult mentors: Joe Donham, John Artuso, Linda Marriner, Audrey Hawker, Chick Carlisle, Stu Broberg and Kerri Lacock.

24--Serve Another Day

The **home mission trip** to be held **here** at our own **Church of the Covenant** will take place **June 15-18**. Teenagers in grades 6 to 12 will be housed here for three nights and heading daily up to Locust Ave. for several work projects. They will be painting, clearing empty lots and just making the neighborhood a better place to live! So far we have several students signed up and there is room for more. The cost is only \$50 (\$25 for church members). Come out and make a difference in your

FESTIVAL OF HOPE

Stay tuned for more info about the Three Rivers Festival of Hope **August 15-17** at the Consol Energy Center. We are mobilizing the church to invite friends to fill the buses and vans that will be traveling there each day. Please be thinking and praying about who you could invite to the Festival that is not from the church. We want all vehicles filled with only half of our church members and half of unchurched people that you invite to attend. Please don't allow this to be merely a time of fellowship for only church members to attend. It's so much more than that and we dare not let this opportunity pass by without bringing our unchurched friends to hear the gospel. There's a lot at stake here!

DEADLINE FOR THE July MESSENGER IS June 15TH!