

AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER PREACHING & WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- August 2, 2015**
Communion
[Pastor Stu preaches](#)
- THE SOIL OF THE HUMAN HEART**
Sermon Series: The Parable of the Sower
Luke 8: 4-15
"some fell along the path";
"some fell on the rock";
"some fell among thorns". V. 5, 6, 7
- August 9, 2015**
[Pastor Stu preaches](#)
- SOW ABUNDANTLY**
Sermon Series: The Parable of the Sower
2 Corinthians 9: 6
"he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully..." v. 6
- August 16, 2015
[Pastor Emily Preaches](#)
Musical accompaniment
Macy Miller
- AT LAST**
1 John 4: 16a-21
"There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear" v. 18
- August 23, 2015**
[Rev. Craig Kephart preaches](#)
- THE SWAY OF A SOVEREIGN**
Psalm 2
"Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling." v.11
- August 30, 2015**
[Pastor Stu preaches](#)
- SPEAKING A FOREIGN LANGUAGE**
Galatians 5: 16-26
"If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit." v. 25
- September 6, 2015 THE WASTELAND**
Labor Day Weekend
[Pastor Stu preaches](#)
- Deuteronomy 11: 18-21**
"and He shut up the heavens so that there be no rain..." v. 17
- September 13, 2015**
[Rally Day](#)
[Pastor Stu preaches](#)
- CHRISTIANITY ANONYMOUS**
How small group ministry deepens our faith and discipleship.

Connect Join us Tuesday, August 25 at 7:00pm in the Rusch Chapel to allow us some quality time with God. The service contains short, Taize type hymns, led prayer and silent prayer, guided scripture readings with time for silent meditation, and a time for people to come forward for private, one-on-one prayer.

HEY GUYS! There will be a **MEN'S COOKOUT, FELLOWSHIP** and challenge time on **Wednesday, September 2** at the home of **Joel and Camille Braun**. They live at 3061 Investors Rd. Washington PA 15301. The time is 6:00 to 9:00 pm. Come for a great evening of food, fun and digging into God's Word with a timely message. See Don Nixon to reserve your spot.

DEADLINE FOR THE September MESSENGER IS August 15.

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The Summer Messenger

Newsletter of The Church of the Covenant - August 2015

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A SUMMER OF FAITH AND TRUST

Dear friends:

I remember last year worrying about the divisive outcomes from the General Assembly, and worrying about whether or not we would be able to fund a full time Christian Education Director, and worrying about whether people would withhold giving and we would have budget problems, and worrying...

Last summer for me was the summer of worry. What a difference a year makes. The congregation has come together in good ways, the budget was fully funded for this year and we have Stacy Phillips in place as our full time Christian Educator. Last Sunday we celebrated what God has done on Vacation Bible School Sunday, with tons of people, visitors, young families and children filling the church and "picnicking" on the lawn in an Old Fashioned Church Picnic.

Thank you to *Stacy Phillips* for her outstanding work on VBS. Thank you to *Don Nixon* for his outstanding work through OAR on the church picnic. Thank you, Lord, for blessing The Church of the Covenant.

Why do we worry? Why don't we worry less and trust more? I wish I had spent more time praying and less time worrying. I wish I had trusted more and been less anxious. I wish I had been able to "let go and let God". Be Blessed, but not Stressed, by the Best.

Psalm 37:3 is my new watchword for this summer: "*Trust God and do good.*" If we set aside our worry and choose to *trust God* then we can *do good* in Jesus' name.

Have a great summer of faith and trust!

Faithfully,
Dr. Stu Broberg

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.



Dorothy "Dottie" Louise Bowers

Memorial Garden	Mary Ann Magnone
Memorial Garden	Ruth Boger
Memorial Garden	Margaret McWreath
Memorial Garden	John & Donna Carlisle
Memorial Garden	Presbyterian Women of COC
Memorial Garden	John & Emma Lee McMurtry
Memorial Garden	Thomas & Barbara Knight

James Alan Grimm

Vacation Bible School	Jim and Edna A. Grimm
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E&P Johnston Memorial Fund

Mission and Adoption Fund	Sally Johnston Terrill
Mission and Adoption Fund	Carol Johnston

Jean Sprowls Stout

Memorial Fund	Jim & Denise Smith & Family
Memorial Fund	T. Jean Piatt
Memorial Fund	Anthony & Jennifer Mauro
Memorial Fund	Evano & Cecelia Lenzi
Memorial Fund	Earl Mounts
Memorial Fund	Melvin Mounts
Memorial Fund	William & Sandra Stout
Memorial Fund	Charles Crouse & Sharon Russell
Memorial Fund	Foundation for California University of Pennsylvania

FUNERALS

Jean Sprowls Stout died on Tuesday, June 30, 2015. The funeral service was held on Friday, July 3rd at Warco-Falvo Funeral Home with Rev. Dr. Stuart D. Broberg officiating.

Robert L. Densmore died on Tuesday, July 14, 2015. The funeral service was held on Saturday, July 18th at Beinhauer Funeral Home with Rev. Dr. Stuart D. Broberg officiating.

CONGRATULATIONS & WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

On **Sunday, June 28, 2015** at the 11:00 a.m. worship service in the sanctuary, the congregation of The Church of the Covenant received our New Members! Those new blessings to our church family include: Judy Garcia, Marilou Gault, Natalie and Ryan Hoglund, Kimberly and Jim Hyland, Mary Lou and Ed Roscoe, Lou Snodgrass, Bill Wilson and Emily Yukish. We are delighted to welcome you to our church family and look forward to sharing God's blessings with you!

IN HOME COMMUNION: The ministry team will be serving communion to our homebound members on **Sunday, August 9 between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m.** If you know of someone who would like to receive communion, please call the church office at 724-222-0190.

A LABOR OF LOVE

From the administrative office there is unique opportunity to observe or be a part of most happenings at The Church of the Covenant. How fortunate to have a front row seat for many events, including Preschool playtime and programs in the Covenant Center, Vacation Bible School in all its glory, and the many wonderful ministries that make use of our kitchen just to mention a few. The most recent blessing, however, was a labor of love that warmed hearts and filled eyes. The renovation/beautification of the Memorial Garden in memory of Dottie Bowers and in preparation for her Memorial Service on Saturday, June 27, 2015.

The first phase of the project took a great deal of time as old fencing was removed, overgrown plants and shrubs cut back and a general "clean-up" of the area which had not been maintained for some time. (We miss our dear friend Martha McNutt who lovingly cared for the garden before she

fencing and concrete were Benches were cleaned and and hauled away. Retaining rock placed to prevent erosion aesthetically pleasing. The bished. The second phase



pressure washed and painted. reset. Debris was loaded up walls were constructed and river and make the lower area more beautiful fountain was refurbished. The second phase really showed some progress!

As with most projects, it really started to come together toward the end when gorgeous flowers were planted, hung and positioned strategically to glorify God and remember a lovely lady who loves Him.

All of this, as viewed from the office, was not only exciting but heartwarming as well. Dottie's dream of making this a special place was coming true! There was something, however, that can only be described as a "labor of love", and that description still may not be adequate. Her loving husband, Charles, removed each and every brick in the entire sidewalk, leveled, reset, and patiently tapped each one back into place with a rubber mallet. All of this being accomplished despite the heat, the rain, the mugginess, and most of it requiring him to be crouching down, lying on his side, or in some equally uncomfortable position.

Thanks and appreciation to all who helped ~ George Camlin, Ralph Farabee and Fred Boni who all shared their incredible gifts. What a blessing to see sons Charlie and Kevin rejoice in their mother's vision come to reality! What a privilege to see the grandchildren remember their "Mimi" and place flowers in the ground and in the fountain as expressions of love.

From the desk across the hall it was an honor to watch the garden, the lovely memorial service and supper all come together in an amazing way to celebrate the life of a wonderful woman. A job well done, Mr. Bowers!

CommuniTea ~ Attention all ladies! You are invited to a new season of *Communittea*. Communittea is a nondenominational Bible study held once a month from September to May. This year it will be held the **3rd Wednesday** of each month with a variety of speakers. The theme this season is "Favor". The first **CommuniTea** will be held **September 16th at 9:15-11:15 a.m.** Rev. Sue Willis will be our first speaker. Come join us for fellowship, worship and a powerful message to grow in God's word. Refreshments and childcare provided. For information or to volunteer to help, contact Kathy Nassar - 724-350-5000.

ADULT ED. FOR FALL ~ Start your fall season the right way by joining the adult education team for an evening of dinner and conversation with the Rev. Dr. Andrew Purves from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Dr. Purves will join us on Saturday, Sept. 12 for dinner and conversation, as he talks with us about his most treasured scripture passage, Galatians 2:20 **"I, yet not I, but Christ: getting in on what the Lord is up to!"** (Purves translation!) Dr. Purves is a wonderful teacher, author, speaker and preacher who will help us focus ourselves on Christ and what it means to follow Him. Save the date! Questions: Ask Pastor Emily.

A VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SUNDAY TO REMEMBER!

Pack 275 people into the Covenant Center on July 19 for a service featuring our worship team and VBS songs by the kids, have Pastor Emily deliver a great sermon recapping the week, and follow that with a picnic on our front lawn that most attended. The result? A Sunday to remember! What a great way to celebrate the planning and execution of a quality VBS program led by Stacy Phillips and her team of nearly eighty volunteers. Our members plus many visitors had the opportunity to see their kids perform several songs that they learned the previous week.

The VBS theme was G-Force: God's Love in Action with daily action words of Move, Act, Care, Follow and Share. The theme verse was "In God we live, move and exist." (Act 17:28). During Vacation Bible School we certainly did see God's Love in Action as children received the Gospel message in fun and creative ways throughout the week! A huge thank you to all of the volunteers, prayer partners, and financial supporters of our Vacation Bible School, you are a blessing!! An additional thanks to the OAR committee, some deacons, and others folks who helped with the VBS picnic. We couldn't have asked for a better way to end a fantastic week! Thank you to the OAR Committee for organizing the picnic and [Albert's Meats for donating hot dogs!](#)

OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR YOUTH IN AUGUST:

- Weekly Bible studies continue for alumni on Tuesdays at 6:30 pm and youth group at 7:30 pm in the Youth Lounge.
- Faith Night at the Pirates game will be Thursday August 20. Several players and Manager Clint Hurdle will share their faith after the game.
- We will be swimming at the Artuso pool on Saturday August 30. Club 56 will be at 4:30 pm and youth going into grades 7 to 12 at 6:00 pm. We welcome incoming 5th graders to join us with Club 56 at that time. We are looking for parents or any adults willing to cook breakfast on a rotating basis for Breakfast Club starting with Rally Day on September 13. Let Don Nixon know of your availability.

MISSION: WASHINGTON SERVES THE LOCAL COMMUNITY!

Seventy teenagers were hosted by The Church of the Covenant June 21-25 as they fanned out into a nearby neighborhood for four days. They painted, cleaned, repaired, cleared empty lots and other jobs while interacting with local residents. We all worked closely with Fred and Karen Fleet and their Mending Fences program. Each day the kids were challenged by a different one of the youth leaders with a morning devotional and an evening message. The week ended with a block party at the LeMoyné Center that invited local residents to celebrate all that was done. Besides our church, there were teenagers from Central Assembly in Houston, Friendship Community, LifeChurch and Washington Alliance....all part of the Washington County Youth Network.

IT'S A GEM! ~ Did you know that we have a real gem right under our noses? The Carnahan Library, on the third floor of the church, is a true gem! I use our library for many things. First, it is a quiet place to read or study. Second, I use it to prepare for sermons. The New Interpreter's Bible commentary series is quite valuable to me as I prepare for my sermons – thank you to the Boyer family for donating those in memory of Randy. As I was taught in seminary, a good sermon always includes a study of Bible commentaries as part of the preparation process. Thanks to the Carnahan Library, I just have to walk down the hall to use a good commentary! Finally, I use the library when I want to take home a good book. You would be surprised at how many wonderful reads are found in our library. Some of them are best sellers! I would encourage any church member to come up to the third floor and check out the Carnahan Library. You can use the elevator or take the stairs, but when you come up, be sure to stick your head in my office and say hello! -- Reading every day, Pastor Emily

~ I like the library because it is a quiet place set apart where I can curl up with a great current book, and in peace and quiet, read great literature in a great space. I think more people should take time to enjoy it and find rest and refreshment in our wonderful Carnahan Library. --Stu Broberg

USHER TEAM 1 on duty for the month of AUGUST

Brant Barletta	Brian Edwards	Donald Faust
Louis Barletta	Christopher Edwards	John Riddle
Joel Braun	James Edwards	