



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR:  
RALLY DAY SEPTEMBER 12TH  
NEW TIMES!!!**

**8:00 AM - Worship in the Sanctuary  
9:00 AM - Worship in the Covenant Center  
10:00 AM Covenant Connections  
11:00 AM Worship in the Sanctuary**

**NOTICE FOR THOSE WHO LOVE BOOKS**

There's no summer vacation for the Carnahan Library.

It's open for your visit 6 days a week: M – F 9:00 – 3:00 & Sundays 8:30 – 12:30

Plan to stop by to select books for your summer reading. There are best sellers (both fiction and non-fiction), books by well known authors such as C. S. Lewis, Henri Nouwen, John Ortberg, David Baldacci, John Grisham, Karen Kingsbury, Kristin Hannah and David McCullough.

**THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE'S READING TASTES & INTERESTS.**

**SPEAKER SERIES RETURNS WITH  
"ARCHEOLOGY AND THE BIBLE"**

**August 3-31, 2021 – 5 weeks – Dr. Ron Tappy  
*Archeology & the Bible***



The Tuesday Speaker Series will be returning with great speakers and topics. The classes will be held in person in the dining room and virtually on ZOOM. Please RSVP, either way, to Pastor Scott: [pastor.scott.shetter@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.scott.shetter@gmail.com) or 724-222-0190 x 115.

**THE HISTORY OF OLD TESTAMENT ISRAEL:  
A VIEW FROM THE BIBLE AND THE WRITINGS OF ISRAEL'S  
NEIGHBORS**

The reliability of the history of ancient Israel as presented in the pages of the Hebrew Bible is a complicated and sometimes hotly debated subject today. Some scholars believe that we can know very little about ancient Israel or key biblical figures such as King David. These historians sideline the biblical accounts by claiming that they are only theological texts which contain very little reliable historical information. In this course, I will present a series of major inscriptions that recognized and dealt with ancient (Old Testament) Israel but that were written by scribes and rulers in multiple powers *outside* Israel (for example, Egypt, Moab, Aram Damascus, Assyria in Mesopotamia, etc.). The historical information recorded in these monumental inscriptions provides a sweeping view of Israel's history throughout the period of the Hebrew judges and kings and confirms the basic reliability of the biblical narratives.

**PARISH NURSE CORNER SUMMER 2021**



Did you know one in four children of school age have some form of vision problem requiring treatment? August is Children's Eye Health & Safety Month. As children and parents are gearing up for back to school, healthy vision is critical to academic and social success. As a child grows, vision issues are more difficult to correct. Problems with vision affect reading ability, focus, class behavior and social adjustment. Plan to make an appointment for a professional eye exam for your child as a baseline. If a problem is identified, communicate the treatment plan to the child's teachers and school nurse. Remember: 80% of all vision problems are preventable. My office hours are Sundays 9:30am-10:30am in Room 302. I can be reached at 724-263-7911. Have a safe and healthy school year! Linda Grimm, RN.

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c/o The Church of the Covenant  
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# The Summer Messenger

Newsletter of The Church of the Covenant  
August 2021

**GOD'S MINORITIES**

When Noah was building the Ark, he was very much in the minority - yet, he won.

When Joseph was sold into slavery in Egypt by his brothers, he was a decided minority - yet, he won.

When Gideon and his 300 followers, with their broken pitchers and lamps, put the Midianites to flight, they were an insignificant minority - yet, they won.

When Elijah prayed down fire from heaven and put the prophets of Baal to shame, he was a decided minority - yet, he won.

When David, ridiculed by his brothers, went out to meet Goliath, in size he was a notable minority - yet, he won.

When Martin Luther nailed his theses on the door of the Wittenberg castle, he was a lonesome minority - yet, he won.

When Jesus was crucified by the Roman soldiers, he was definitely a minority - yet, He won.

In our efforts to live out our faith, we, too, are often in the minority - but with the help of God, WE SHALL WIN.

On September 12th, **RALLY DAY**, the minority known as the saints of the Church of the Covenant will gather to begin a new and exciting part of our Journey. The possibilities for the future are glorious, endless and exciting.

I am praying that you will make every effort to join us, bringing with you your family and friends as the minority celebrates a new beginning.

Keep the faith!  
Pastor Dan



**The Church of the Covenant**

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

**Worship Services; Sundays: 9:43 & 11:00am**

SUNDAY SCHOOL Will resume on September 12, 2021, "Rally Day"

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



***In Memory Of***

***James Alan Grimm***

Vacation Bible School

Edna Grimm

***Patty Brennen***

Youth Education

Jessica and Ronald Ullom

**BAPTISM**

**Bristol Renee Reihner**, infant daughter of Steven John and Rachelle (Dickson) Reihner, born March 29, 2021, was baptized during the 11:00 service on July 25, 2021. The Rev. Dr. Dan Merry officiated, with Elder Joan McCrory assisting.



**THANK YOU**

Jesus said, “to whom much is given, much will be required” (Luke 12:48). And, the congregation of The Church of the Covenant has demonstrated once again that you take those words to heart and practice what is preached. The Stewardship Committee would like to thank the congregation for your extremely generous response to our request for a special, one-time Stimulus Giving to help with our budget deficit. We suggested between June 1 and June 30, you consider forwarding 10% of the \$1,400 stimulus check the Federal government may have provided you, and you "overachieved" yet again!

**The church received 54 gifts totaling \$28,956.04!**

That is an average gift of \$536 - well above the \$140 average for which we were hoping. And some of you gave considerably more than the average. Thanks to ALL who responded so generously to help us reduce the church's budget deficit. May we all continue to be a blessing and do God's work in whatever way we can.

Thank you, The Stewardship Committee

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Women's One-Day Retreat**  
Saturday, October 2, 2021  
Oglebay Park  
Wheeling, WV  
Cost - \$35



**DEADLINE FOR THE September MESSENGER IS August 15**



**GOD'S PERFECT PUZZLE**

As I have worked with the Mission Committee over the past two years, I have become increasingly aware of how magnificent are the various pieces of mission. As we take up funding decisions and the various acts of mission, we in some ways resemble God's perfect jigsaw puzzle in which every piece, no matter how small, is of essence (and you jigsaw lovers know what it is like when a piece goes missing!). Whether we pray for our dear friends in Haiti, help to fund a week at camp for a disabled young person, or stay up at night trying to organize a mission trip, we are participating in the Gospel. Mere pieces ourselves, we often fail to see the whole, but we trust that it exists! Our efforts matter. We are asking you to help complete the puzzle. Specifically, would you...

- Support a child in Haiti?
- Join The Church of the Covenant's Blessing in a Backpack team?
- Offer everyday talents (cooking, providing transportation, spelling a caregiver) to Hands and Hearts?
- Pack boxes at a food bank?

You will be glad that you did. Many, many people have been blessed through the generosity and the show-up, hands-on efforts of the congregation of The Church of the Covenant. Please call me, Kathy Teagarden, at 724.345.3790, or Rebecca Aizupitis at 724.705.5528 .

**PINE SPRINGS CAMP UPDATE**

Our own **Jack Halulko**, son of Dan and Susan Halulko, is spending his summer lifeguarding at Pine Springs Camp! Kudos to Jack for keeping the kiddos safe at the pool and being a part of the wonderful mission of Pine Springs:

*"To provide all campers with a vital encounter with Jesus Christ that leads to growth in Christian faith and discipleship."*

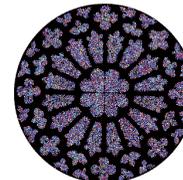


**COME TO THE TABLE: Save the Date**

Mark your calendar for 'Come to the Table's' big return on **Sunday, September 26th, 2021**. Join us **in the Commons at 10 a.m.** for some food, fellowship, and to choose which small dinner group you'd like to be part of this year. Some old favorites will return, such as Dinner and Devotionals, the Brunch Bunch and Parents' Night Out, and new groups have been added, including the Koffee Klatch and Dining with Pastor Dan. Membership & Fellowship can't wait to see you there!

**Let There Be Light: FINAL WRAP-UP NOTICE**

The campaign to Let There Be Light will **end its activities September 30**. The campaign has been a triumph for the Church in every way. The many objectives encompassed have all been met; from Stained Glass renovation, to Mission endowments, to CovConnect for communications and security, and the Church at LaCroix Haiti. The total raised in campaign pledges, gift and other commitments have totaled over \$753,502, far surpassing the goal set in 2018. The Committee remains confident of future gifts despite the changed circumstances many have experienced. The Church Office is available to answer any inquiries as the campaign compiles its final report for the Session and the congregation.



**VBS UPDATE**

From July 19th through the 23rd, Vacation Bible School hosted 70 children and 50 teen and adult volunteers who sang, danced, played games and most importantly, learned about God's love for each of us. The theme this year was "Knights of North Castle", so in the midst of July, there were pine trees draped with snow, icicle doorways and castle walls and towers throughout the church. A huge THANK YOU to Amy Dille, who coordinated the program, and to the many volunteers and group leaders who helped make this a fun experience for so many children.

