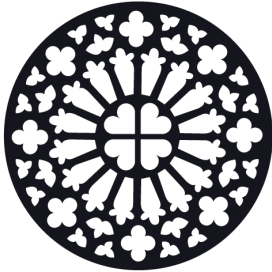


The Messenger
c/o The Church of the Covenant
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Washington, PA 15301
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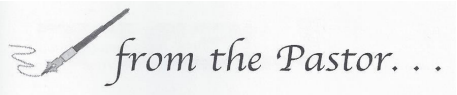
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Newsletter of The Church of the Covenant

The Messenger

March 2023



Lent: Repentance and Grace Revisited: A Lenten Meditation

By the time you get this issue of The Messenger the season of Lent will officially be upon us. Lent was officially established by the church in the 4th century as the 40 days before Easter, the *original* the day of resurrection. Of course, every Lord’s Day is a day of resurrection. Therefore, Sundays are not included in the official counting of the forty days. These forty days, as understood by the church down through out the ages, are to be a time of preparation--- heightened devotion to the Word, prayer, repentance and fasting. This to me seems healthy and necessary. Lent is a time where we seek to remove obstacles that frustrate God’s sanctifying presence in our lives, whether they be sinful attitudes and thoughts, behaviors and habits, or principalities and powers. Wherever sin is present in the Christian, repentance is obligatory.

Indeed, repentance is the necessary starting point from which God renews and revitalizes his people. Repentance is God’s tool for breaking up the fallow ground of a hard heart, making it alive and one of flesh. God has always used repentance as the means to break the cycle of apostasy and spiritual stagnation in order to bring renewal to his people. Repentance understood in this way then, is not seasonal; it is a way of life. Repentance is the practical means by which God breaks through and initiates the process of renewal, individually and corporately. Without real and sincere repentance God will always refuse the blessing of his manifest presence.

The life-giving dynamic of repentance is captured in the single word, *metanoia*. In the Greek language it means to simply “turn around.” This kind of repentance involves a life-long journey of surrendering the self to God. As Jim Eliot writes, “one does not surrender a life in an instant. That which is life-long can only be surrendered in a lifetime. Maturity is the accomplishment of years, and I can only surrender to the will of God as I know what that will is.” Similarly, Chuck Colson writes: “Repentance is the process by which we see ourselves, day by day, as we really are: sinful needy, dependent people. It is the essential manifestation of regeneration that set us straight in our relationship to God. Repentance is the ultimate surrender of self.” So repentance is not merely soteriology (salvation), it is our sanctification (growth in Christ-likeness) as well. Repentance is the vital spiritual key that breaks the cycle of sin and rebellion and ushers in a whole new day of God’s blessing and presence.

If repentance is vital and urgently needed for our church today, how then will we the family of God here at Church of the Covenant practice it? First, I would challenge you to daily, aggressively, and relentlessly seek repentance for yourself and establish it as a value in your family. Because repentance creates a “posture” in the believer that nurtures God-given humility and receptivity to God’s Spirit, I ask you to seek to change the whole environment of your life wherever it is within your influence to do so. But, I say, start with yourself and your own family. So, seek repentance daily— and seek repentance many times a day!

Second, along with challenging you to a life of repentance I would just as strongly challenge you to pursue a life of grace. The story of the Bible is a story of God breaking up humanity’s sinful will and then breaking through to shower his blessing upon his people. The Christian who seeks this blessing will not only pursue a life of repentance, but also one of grace. In other words, repentance can only be genuine and lasting when the sinner sees that God’s mercy is available to him. Put grace in an unreachable realm and you simply deepen the convicted sinner’s despair and opposition to God. But John’s Gospel banners forth the absolute finished character of Jesus’ work (John 4:34; 17:4, 19:30). There is enough love, and more accessible to any sinner who wants it. One drop of Jesus’ blood will, as it were, atone for the worst of humanity’s sins. How then can we fail to respond when we are assured that cleansing love flows in superabundance from Calvary?

In conclusion, Lent is upon us. There is no better time to get prepared. Prepare yourself by vigorously pursuing a life of repentance and a life of grace. After all, what other life is there but a life steeped in the gospel of Jesus Christ? This, indeed, is life of superabundance!

Your servant in Christ,

Billy

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Associate Pastor Emeritus

The Church of the Covenant

267 East Beau St.
Washington, PA 15301
724.222.0190

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www.churchofthecov.org

Worship Services
Sundays: 9:00 & 11:00 am
10:00 - 11:00 am

**Spiritual development time
for children and adults**
Church Office Hours
Mon.-Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 3:00

NEWS FROM THE FAMILY OF FAITH



United With the Church Triumphant

FUNERALS

Long-time member **Shirley M. Howe** passed away on Thursday, February 9, 2023. The funeral service was held at Hummell and Jones Funeral Home on Tuesday, February 14th. with the Rev. Dr. William Younger officiating. Entombment followed at Washington Cemetery.

On February 15, 2023, **Peggy L. Day** joined the Church Triumphant. Her funeral service was held at William G. Neal Funeral Home on Sunday, February 19, 2023. Interment followed, at the North Ten Mile Church Cemetery.

Kathryn Dowler Teagarden, passed away on Thursday, February 23, 2023. Piatt and Barnhill Funeral Home handled the arrangements. A Memorial service was held on Saturday, March 4th at noon, with Rev. Dr. William Younger presiding. A time of sharing and refreshments in the Commons followed the service.

NEW OFFICE HOURS

Many are aware that my office hours are changing. I anticipate being in the office during these times. As always, please don't hesitate to reach out to me if I can be of help in any way!
Monday - 7:30 - 11:30am
Tuesday - 7:30am - 3:30pm
Wednesday - 7:30am - 3:30pm
Thursday - 7:30 - 11:30am
Friday - off
Blessed to serve in His name,
Debi

MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

It is always a blessing to accept new members into our family of faith and the next opportunity is scheduled in March. Interested individuals will gather on **Wednesday, March 8 at 6:30 pm in the dining room** to learn more about our church and what membership means. Those who choose to become official members of The Church of the Covenant will be **received by the Session on Monday, March 13th at 6:15** just prior to their monthly meeting and **then received by the congregation on Sunday, March 19th at the 11:00 am** Celebration of Worship.

If you, or someone you know, wishes to become a member of the church please contact Debi Nicolella – 724-222-0190 x 111 or churchoftheco@comcast.net.

SCHEDULE OF LENTEN EVENTS

3/5/2023 Second Sunday of Lent ~ Communion

3/12/2023 Third Sunday of Lent

3/19/2023 Fourth Sunday of Lent

3/24/2023 Deacon's Fish Fry, 5-7 PM

3/26/2023 Fifth Sunday of Lent

3/31/2023 Deacon's Fish Fry, 5-7 PM

4/6/2023 Maundy Thursday, service at 7:00 PM

4/7/2023 Good Friday, service at the foot of the cross, 12:00 Noon in the Commons

4/9/2023 Easter Sunday, services at 9:00 and 11:00 AM

LILIES TO ADORN THE SANCTUARY

It's time to order gorgeous White Easter Lilies to decorate the sanctuary for Easter.

Only \$10 each! Orders due to Church Office by April 2nd; make checks payable to "The Church of the Covenant" **with "Lily" in the memo please**

In Memory / Honor of (please circle one): Last Name: _____

First name: _____ Relationship _____

Number Ordered _____ Amount Enclosed (\$10 each) _____

Ordered by _____

Phone # _____

☐ I will pick mine up after Easter ☐ I would like mine delivered to a shut-in

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.

The Carnahan Library is in Room 308, the first room on the right as you enter the third-floor hallway from the elevator. The card catalog will help you to locate a book by author, title, or subject. The Library Committee thanks the donors of the Library books.

We would like to thank Barb Driscoll Knight, who donated two books by Kate Quinn, The Huntress and The Diamond Eye, in honor of her sister, Meg Driscoll. The donor information was omitted in the January-February Newsletter.

From the Ashes: Berlin Fractured, Book 1 by Marion Kummerow was donated by Barb Knight. Inspired by true historical events after World War II. Marlene has no love lost for the Soviet occupying forces, who turn out to be as cruel as the Nazis were. Living in constant fear of the Russian soldiers, she works in a hospital to make ends meet, where she meets Werner, a cold-hearted career politician. Werner, a German émigré to Moscow, returns to his hometown of Berlin with the highest hopes for a better future. Sent by the Communist Party, he’s soon caught in a moral conflict between loyalty to the party and his conscience. When Marlene criticizes the communist regime, she becomes the target of powerful men. Werner wishes to protect her, but will he be able to shed decades of indoctrination, and will he be willing to put his own future at risk?

The following four novels were donated by Helen Haines. Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus was given in memory of Harriett Johnson. Chemist Elizabeth is not your average woman. In fact, Elizabeth Zott would be the first to point out that there is no such thing as an average woman. But it’s the early 1960s and her all-male team at Hastings Research Institute takes a very unscientific view of equality. Except for one: Calvin Evans, the lonely, brilliant Nobel Prize-nominated grudge holder falls in love with the brilliant Elizabeth. Like science, though, life is unpredictable. Which is why a few years later Elizabeth finds herself not only a single mother but also the reluctant star of America’s most beloved cooking show, Supper at Six. Her unusual approach to cooking (“combine one tablespoon acetic acid with a pinch of sodium chloride”) proves revolutionary. As it turns out, Elizabeth isn’t just teaching women to cook, she’s daring them to change the status quo. Lessons in Chemistry is laugh-out-loud funny, shrewdly observant, studded with a dazzling cast of supporting characters.

The Book Woman’s Daughter by Kim Michele Richardson was donated in memory of Harriet Johnson. As the daughter of the famed, blue-skinned Troublesome Creek pack horse librarian, Honey Lovett and her family have been hiding from the law all her life. When her mother and father are imprisoned, Honey realizes that she must fight to stay free or risk being sent away for good. Honey picks up her mother’s old Pack Horse Library route and delivers books to the remote hollers of Appalachia. If Honey wants to bring freedom books to the families who need it most, she’s going to have to fight for her place and eventually learn that the extraordinary women of the hollers can make a difference. (The library also has “The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek” - precedes “The Book Woman’s Daughter.”)

The Girl with the Louding Voice by Abi Dare. Adunni is a fourteen-year-old girl who knows what she wants: an education. As the only daughter of a broke father, she is removed from school and sold as a third wife to an old man. When unspeakable tragedy swiftly strikes in her new home, she is secretly sold as a servant to a household in the wealthy enclaves of Lagos, where no one will talk about the strange disappearance of Rebecca. No one but Adunni...she has been told all her life that she is nothing, but Adunni won’t be silenced.

The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett weaves together multiple strands and generations from the Deep South to California and from the 1950s to the 1990s. The identical twin Vignes sisters grew up together in a small southern black community and ran away at age sixteen. Many years later, one sister lives with her black daughter in the same southern town she once tried to escape. Across the country, the other sister secretly passes for white, and her white husband knows nothing of her past. Although separated by many miles and many lies, the fates of the twins remain intertwined. What will happen when their own daughters’ storylines intersect?

The following four books were anonymously donated. The Midnight Library by Matt Haig. What would you do if you could fix your “regrets” and choose another direction for your life? Up until now, Nora Seed’s life has been full of misery and regret. But between life and death in Nora’s life, there is a library. When she finds herself in the Midnight Library, she has a chance to make things right. The books enable Nora to live as if she had done things differently. Each book contains a different life that affects her life story and everyone around her. But things aren’t always what she imagined they would be. Before time runs out, she must answer the ultimate question: What is the best way to live?

The Last Thing He Told Me by Laura Dave. Before Owen Michaels disappears, he manages to smuggle a note to his beloved wife of one year, Hannah: “Protect her.” Hannah knows to whom the note refers – Owen’s 16-year-old daughter, Bailey. As phone calls to Owen go unanswered, as the FBI arrests Owen’s boss, and as a US Marshall shows up, Hannah realizes that her husband isn’t who he said he was. And that Bailey may hold the key to figuring out Owen’s true identity - and why he really disappeared.

The Boys from Biloxi by James Grisham. For the past 100 years, Biloxi was known for its beaches, resorts, and seafood industry. Biloxi also had a darker side and was notorious for gambling, prostitution, bootleg liquor, drugs, and contract killings. Keith Rudy and Hugh Malco grew up in Biloxi in the 1960s and were childhood friends as well as Little League all-stars. But as teenagers, their lives went in different directions. Keith’s father became a legendary prosecutor, determined to “clean up the Coast.” Hugh’s father became the “Boss” of Biloxi’s criminal underground. Keith went to law school and followed in his father’s footsteps. Hugh preferred the nightlife and worked in his father’s clubs. The two families were headed for a showdown, one that would ultimately happen in a courtroom. (The Library has other novels by this author.)

Always a Guest by Barbara Brown Taylor. From beloved writer and renowned preacher Barbara Taylor Brown comes a new collection of stories and sermons of faith, grace, and hope. Taylor finds that when you are the invited guest speaking of faith to people you don’t know, one must seek common ground: exploring the central human experience. Full of Taylor’s astute observations on the Spirit and the state of the world along with her gentle wit, this collection will inspire Taylor’s fans and preachers alike as she explores faith in all its beauty and complexity. (The Library has other books by this author.)

MARCH PREACHING AND WORSHIP SCHEDULE

March 5, 2023 (Communion) (Second Sunday, Lent)

Sermon Title: The Righteousness of the Gospel
Preaching: Billy
Scripture: Galatians 2:15-21
Synopsis: The righteousness of the gospel gives us a whole new identity and motivation for following Christ.



March 12, 2023 (Third Sunday, Lent)

Sermon Title: The Power of the Gospel
Preaching: Billy
Scripture: Galatians 3:1-5
Synopsis: The gospel has both the power to convert us and to conform us into the image of Christ.

March 19, 2023 (Fourth Sunday, Lent)

Sermon Title: The Sons of God
Preaching: Billy
Scripture: Galatians 3:26-4:7
Synopsis: The gospel invites us to the greatest reconciliation of all – to be reconciled with our Heavenly Father.

March 26, 2023 (Fifth Sunday, Lent)

Sermon Title: The Law and the Gospel
Preaching: Billy
Scripture: Galatians 3:15-25
Synopsis: The gospel provides for us what the law fails to accomplish.



HIGHLIGHTS OF ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

The Presbyterian Women held their annual Ash Wednesday Communion Service on February 22nd. The service was held in the Rusch Chapel, with 25 people in attendance. The PW invited the Rev. Dr. Colleen Molinaro (daughter of the late Peg and Bill Flynn) to give the Ash Wednesday Meditation. Her topic was “Hope in the Lord”. Communion was served by four of the PW members. Following the service, there was a continental breakfast served in the church Dining Room. Most of the people who attended the service took advantage of the opportunity to stay and visit with church friends. A huge “Thank You” to the PW for coordinating this service, and to the Rev. Dr. Molinaro for delivering the message.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

HANDS AND HEARTS OPEN HOUSE

Hands and Hearts is hosting an Open House on **Sunday, March 12th from 10-10:45am and 12-12:30pm in Room 302.** Please attend the Open House to see behind the scenes of the many ministries offered by Hands and Hearts: Love in a Basket, the card ministry, Teddy Bears, prayer shawls, the Red Bucket, shut-in gifts, assistance with completion of living wills, blood pressure screenings, collection of pill bottles and providing medical equipment needs. New members to H&H are always welcome. Refreshments will be served. Hands and Hearts may be tucked away in a corner of the third floor but our “Hands” are never far from the “Heart” of the congregation.

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.



PARISH NURSE CORNER

Our cell phones are seldom far from where we are at any given moment. They can be a source of important medical information if you become unresponsive, are in an accident and cannot speak, or in an otherwise medical emergency. For instance, on an Apple iPhone, there is an app already installed on your phone called Health. You can open the app and enter your medical information (any medical conditions, medications, allergies, etc) and emergency contacts. Your medical ID can be viewed by emergency personnel even when your phone is locked by tapping Emergency then Medical ID. If you call 911, the iPhone can share your Medical ID. An important note, Apple cannot read your Medical ID information. Please read the privacy information on your iPhone for more information. Any questions contact me at 724-263-7911. Good Health to all, Linda Grimm, RN, Parish Nurse.

SAVE THE DATES! THE FISH FRY IS BACK!

The Deacons are excited to announce that we will be hosting our annual fish fry this year! We look forward to serving you on **March 24th and March 31st from 5 pm – 7 pm.** We will be offering fish sandwiches, fish on a dish, French fries, mac and cheese, and several other side dishes, as well as dessert. Fish will be \$10 and sides \$3. Desserts will be \$2 and beverages \$1. This is a cash only event. We utilize any profit from this Fish Fry to support the needs of our church and surrounding community. So, bring your appetite and come ready to enjoy the company of fellow brothers and sisters in Christ!



DEADLINE FOR THE APRIL MESSENGER is MARCH 15th.

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR MARCH

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Wednesday, March 1 Deut. 9:13–21 Heb. 3:12–19 John 2:23–3:15 | Thursday, March 9 Jer. 4:9–10, 19–28 Rom. 2:12–24 John 5:19–29 | Friday, March 17 Jer. 11:1–8, 14–17 Rom. 6:1–11 John 8:33–47 | Saturday, March 25 Jer. 23:9–15 Rom. 9:1–18 John 6:60–71 |
| Thursday, March 2 Deut. 9:23–10:5 Heb. 4:1–10 John 3:16–21 | Friday, March 10 Jer. 5:1–9 Rom. 2:25–3:18 John 5:30–47 | Saturday, March 18 Jer. 13:1–11 Rom. 6:12–23 John 8:47–59 | Sunday, March 26 Jer. 23:16–32 1 Cor. 9:19–27 Mark 8:31–9:1 |
| Friday, March 3 Deut. 10:12–22 Heb. 4:11–16 John 3:22–36 | Saturday, March 11 Jer. 5:20–31 Rom. 3:19–31 John 7:1–13 | Sunday, March 19 Jer. 14:1–9 (10–16) 17–22 Gal. 4:21–5:1 Mark 8:11–21 | Monday, March 27 Jer. 24:1–10 Rom. 9:19–33 John 9:1–17 |
| Saturday, March 4 Deut. 11:18–28 Heb. 5:1–10 John 4:1–26 | Sunday, March 12 Jer. 6:9–15 1 Cor. 6:12–20 Mark 5:1–20 | Monday, March 20 Jer. 16:(1–9) 10–21 Rom. 7:1–12 John 6:1–15 | Tuesday, March 28 Jer. 25:8–17 Rom. 10:1–13 John 9:18–41 |
| Sunday, March 5 Jer. 1:1–10 1 Cor. 3:11–23 Mark 3:31–4:9 | Monday, March 13 Jer. 7:1–15 Rom. 4:1–12 John 7:14–36 | Tuesday, March 21 Jer. 17:19–27 Rom. 7:13–25 John 6:16–27 | Wednesday, March 29 Jer. 25:30–38 Rom. 10:14–21 John 10:1–18 |
| Monday, March 6 Jer. 1:11–19 Rom. 1:1–15 John 4:27–42 | Tuesday, March 14 Jer. 7:21–34 Rom. 4:13–25 John 7:37–52 | Wednesday, March 22 Jer. 18:1–11 Rom. 8:1–11 John 6:27–40 | Thursday, March 30 Jer. 26:1–16 (17–24) Rom. 11:1–12 John 10:19–42 |
| Tuesday, March 7 Jer. 2:1–13, 29–32 Rom. 1:16–25 John 4:43–54 | Wednesday, March 15 Jer. 8:4–7, 18–9:6 Rom. 5:1–11 John 8:12–20 | Thursday, March 23 Jer. 22:13–23 Rom. 8:12–27 John 6:41–51 | Friday, March 31 Jer. 29:1 (2–3) 4–14 Rom. 11:13–24 John 11:1–27 or John 12:1–10 |
| Wednesday, March 8 Jer. 3:6–18 Rom. 1:(26–27) 28–2:11 John 5:1–18 | Thursday, March 16 Jer. 10:11–24 Rom. 5:12–21 John 8:21–32 | Friday, March 24 Jer. 23:1–8 Rom. 8:28–39 John 6:52–59 | |



| | |
|----------------|------|
| Renee Dickson | 3/3 |
| Ryan Kepler | 3/3 |
| Doug Hodinko | 3/4 |
| Alec Osbourne | 3/4 |
| Barry Blose | 3/5 |
| Craig Myers | 3/5 |
| Travion Blunt | 3/6 |
| Janet Nevin | 3/6 |
| Linda Weaver | 3/6 |
| Thomas Day III | 3/7 |
| Carrie Justice | 3/7 |
| Terrie Myers | 3/10 |
| Clarissa Lucas | 3/10 |
| Colleen Benard | 3/11 |

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| Gloria Lesnock | 3/11 |
| David McCabe | 3/11 |
| Maureen Breitigan | 3/14 |
| Joyce Hough | 3/14 |
| Kelly Proudfit | 3/14 |
| Dr. Will Sharpnack | 3/14 |
| Clint Watson | 3/14 |
| Allison Ewbank | 3/15 |
| Fred Simpson | 3/15 |
| Gay Vroble | 3/16 |
| Jeffrey Goddard | 3/17 |
| Kay Thompson | 3/18 |
| Jennifer King | 3/19 |
| Kirk Spiegel | 3/19 |



| | |
|---------------------|------|
| Brian Dessart | 3/20 |
| Harry Johnston | 3/21 |
| George Linck | 3/21 |
| Bonnie Densmore | 3/22 |
| Aaron Kojundic | 3/22 |
| Morgan Namie | 3/22 |
| Casey Key | 3/23 |
| Mary Alice Wilson | 3/24 |
| Bonnie Saffell | 3/25 |
| Amy Wagner | 3/26 |
| Christopher Edwards | 3/27 |
| Margaret McIlvaine | 3/27 |
| Barbara Richmond | 3/29 |
| Joan McCrory | 3/31 |

MISSION MATTERS**PANCAKE SUPPER FUNDRAISER**

The Mission Committee held a Shrove Tuesday, All-You-Can-Eat Pancake and Sausage dinner on February 21st. The Covenant Center tables were set up and ready for people to bring their appetites. IMPACT Youth took orders and delivered plates to the tables. They buzzed around efficiently with smiles on their faces. The food was delicious; pancakes and a choice of turkey or pork sausage, fruit cup, with extras like chocolate chips/sprinkles and fruit topping for the pancakes. They thought of everything to make the event special.

The company and the fellowship were uplifting for folks who had missed getting out of the house for a church dinner for the past 3 years. There were many comments like, “We should do this more often” and “It’s wonderful to have a meal that was prepared here, instead of having it catered.”

Now, it’s on to the Fish Fry!

See page 4 for Fish Fry dates, times and menu.

**A THANK YOU FROM THE MISSION COMMITTEE**

The Mission Committee and the Fundraising subcommittee want to take this opportunity to say “Thank You” to those members of the congregation, staff and friends who supported us with your purchase of tickets for, and attendance at the Shrove Tuesday All-You-Can-Eat Pancake Supper. It achieved our goals both financially and in seeing our friends gathered together in Christian fellowship. It was a joy to hear loud talking and laughter. Your support will enable the Mission Team to continue our work. Thank you also to those who volunteered to help. The Supper would not have been possible with you.

Thank you to our chefs, Karl Knoneberg, Mary Smith, Yone Gayle and Rebecca Aizupitis. Many thanks to Yvonne Gayle and the teens from IMPACT Youth, who took orders, served plates of food and made sure everyone had refills or seconds. A special thank you to the members of the subcommittee, who gave of themselves in making this happen; Kathy Nassar, Lynn Sylvis, Kim Lemons, Deb Evans and Chairperson Pat Boyer.

Stay tuned for next year!

**PINE SPRINGS
WOMEN IN THE WOODS
RETREAT**

The PSC “Women in the Woods” retreat will take place from Friday, March 31st, 2023 to Saturday April 1st, 2023. This retreat is an opportunity to celebrate God’s faithfulness through a variety of creative, active, and contemplative seminars and will feature speaker Rev. Dr. Jennifer Haddox, co-pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Waynesburg.

For registration details, visit:

<https://www.pinesprings.org/women-in-the-woods-spring>.

**TUESDAY EVENING SPEAKER SERIES RESUMES**

PLEASE NOTICE CHANGE IN DATE
MARCH 7 - 28th and last class April 11th

The Tuesday Speaker Series is back, with our own Renny Domske!

Renny grew up outside Washington and was ordained by Washington Presbytery at Chartiers Cross Roads UP Church. He was one of the first Washington Presbytery Scholarship winners. After majoring in Psychology at Duke University and earning his doctorate at Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, VA, Renny went on to serve Presbyterian churches in Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Washington, Iowa, and Jamestown, PA. His last point of serving God was for 10 years as a Disciples of Christ/Christian church pastor at 1st Christian Church in Greensburg, PA.

Renny’s specialties in teaching are in counseling and especially the Bible. He loves teaching about Christ through the beauty of the Gospels. Come and see Jesus come alive to you more deeply through Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

The Life of Christ in Quadraphonic Sound

Synopsis: *The Life of Christ in Quadraphonic Sound* - A good quartet produces beautiful music. The four parts blend together to make the perfect sound. Yet each of the four singers has a distinctively different set of notes. As Christians we discover the ultimate understanding of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, in the four Gospels. The Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John blend together to give us, as close to complete as possible, a perfect picture of Jesus. And yet each of the four Gospels has a different perspective or presentation of Jesus. Each Gospel sings different notes about Jesus, the Son of Man.

We will spend this class looking deeply at each of the four gospels, studying their different stories and perspectives - focusing on where they are synonymous and where they differ. Our understanding of Jesus our Christ will be deepened by this close scrutiny of each Gospel and its unique message about the Son of God.

To sign up to participate in the Tuesday speaker series, please go to

<https://tinyurl.com/cotcspeakerseries> or contact the church office.

ADDITIONAL TUESDAY SPEAKER CLASSES FOR 2023

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| May 2-30: Dr. Mark Simpson: | August 1-29: Dr. Billy | September 29-October 24: |
| <i>Biblical Revival ~</i> | Younger: | Dr. John Burgess; |
| Haggai and Zechariah | <i>Wisdom Literature in the Old</i> | <i>Dietrich Bonhoeffer</i> |
| | <i>Testament ~ Proverbs,</i> | |
| | Ecclesiastes, Job | |

THE CHURCH OF THE COVENANT WEBSITE

Check it out at www.churchofthecov.org

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS**PINE SPRINGS SUNDAY**

Greg Davis, Executive Director of Pine Springs Camp, will be joining us for Covenant Connections Hour next Sunday, **March 5th, from 10:00-11:00**. Plan to join us in the Covenant Center for Pine Springs Sunday to learn more about the wonderful ministry of Pine Springs Camp.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Our Pre-School covenant connections class is looking for a classroom helper. If you are interested in assisting Mrs. Rebecca with this outstanding children's ministry program, please contact Yvonne Gayle at yvonnegayle20@gmail.com

IT'S TIME TO START THINKING ABOUT VBS 2023!!!

Hello, VBS Volunteers! We are so excited to share our 2023 VBS dates and theme with all of our dedicated volunteers! Get ready for Vacation Bible School beginning on July 17, 2023 through July 21, 2023. Volunteer registration will launch in early spring. Each of us has been blessed with our own unique 'superhero powers' and we hope that you are able to share yours with us this summer!

*Race to Serve*

During Lent, Impact Youth will be doing several service projects. They would like to ask for your help with a canned food drive. Please drop off canned food in the Commons before Easter. The goal is 5000 cans! Let's feed 5000 like Jesus did!

Service Projects During Lent

Canned food drive

Painting bowls for Empty Bowls

Serving at the Pancake Dinner

Visiting a nursing home

Easter Egg Hunt for Neighbor to Neighbor

Packing Blessing Bags for the homeless

March FX

Join us on March 19th at 5:00 in the church dining room for our March Family Experience (FX). It will be a night full of good food, fun, and a chance to spend time as a family digging into faith topics. Please contact Yvonne Gayle ; yvonnegayle20@gmail.com to RSVP.

IMPACT YOUTH RETREAT

In mid-January, ten teens from Impact Youth went on a retreat to Jumonville. The purpose of the retreat was to study (they did a study on The Armor of God), and to grow in their faith. The teens achieved those goals, and also went to Ohio Pyle, played games, had a lot of fun and were sad to leave.

Thank you to all who support our youth!

**CHEER BUCKET UPDATE**

Items needed for Cheer Buckets!

If you would like to spread some love and provide a bit of Joy to kids who are admitted to Washington Hospital, please consider donating items. We are in need of colored pencils, markers, crayons, coloring books, small toys or craft projects. Basically anything a child can do sitting down. We have received texts and letters from Washington Hospital expressing their appreciation and how helpful the items have been. You may give items to Yvonne Gayle or leave in the office. Thank you for your continued support!

CANNED FOOD DRIVE

Impact Youth are doing a canned food drive during Lent. If you would like to donate please drop it off in the Commons before Easter. All food will be donated to local food banks. The youth appreciate your donations.

