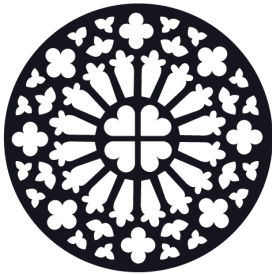


The Messenger  
c/o The Church of the Covenant  
267 East Beau Street  
Washington, PA 15301  
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May 2023

Newsletter of The Church of the Covenant

# The Messenger



from the Pastor. . .

May 2023

“So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” — Galatians 3:26-28

Dear Church of the Covenant,

You are probably familiar with the Waodani people, an indigenous tribe in Amazonian Ecuador, where Jim Elliott and four missionary friends were speared to death. It’s a heroic account that for generations spurred on the modern missions movement. The Waodani were once called the “Adani.” It was a pejorative phrase that wasn’t very complimentary towards them. When Americans looked at the Waodani, they seemed primitive and saw themselves as superior. After the tribe converted to Christianity, churches were constantly sending missions trips. During these trips, Americans would often paint buildings all over the Waodani territory. The Waodani would look at them and ask, “Do the white people think we don’t know how to paint? Why do they come and do these simple things for us that we can totally do for ourselves?”

Several years ago, a film was made of the Waodani and a group of North Americans who had been brought down to live with them. The best part of the film is that you can read the translation of the Waodani speaking to each other. As the Waodani are trying to show the Americans how to shoot monkeys with a blow gun, the Waodani say things like, “these people are the most incompetent people we have ever met. They would not make it three days out here. How do they even live?” When they try to introduce the Americans to climbing trees, the Americans completely fail while the Waodani go right up the tree. At one point one of the Waodani says, “even if they shoot the monkey, they can’t go up and eat it.”

The Americans saw the Waodani as inferior and the Waodani saw the Americans as incompetent. The story illustrates a truth about human nature. We are innately insecure and the way we often try to recapture a sense of value, dignity and worth is to compare ourselves to other people. We do it in all sorts of ways. We do it with our intellect, our appearance, our wealth, our politics, our nationality. We can even use our faith to feel superior.

The Bible has a great illustration of this. In the gospel of Luke 18: 9-14, a religious leader goes up to the temple to pray. You would expect that prayer would be the ultimate expression of humility, right? You’re standing before God bringing all your neediness to Him. But the Bible tells us that this religious man goes into the temple and he sees a tax collector. Tax collectors were the most hated people of the community. They were thieves. So, the religious man says, “God, I thank you that you have not made me like him.” This is the way it goes for us. God gives us gifts. We look down our nose at other people.

This is who we are. And it will take the deepest work of God’s grace to change us. Paul teaches us in the book of Galatians that the gospel has the power to defeat human division, disregard, arrogance, and hatred. The gospel of Jesus Christ teaches us to find our primary identity as a beloved child of God, rather than in your nationality, your geography, your education level, your wealth, or any number of other ways we divide ourselves. Your primary identity is that you are a part of God’s new humanity. You’re part of his family. You are his beloved child. That’s your primary identity. That’s the source of your worth. You belong to Jesus. God loves you.

Grace and peace,

Billy

## STAFF

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Associate Pastor Emeritus

## The Church of the Covenant

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**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. 9:00am - 3:00pm

NEWS FROM THE FAMILY OF FAITH



In Memory Of

W. Milton “Whitie” Grantz

Memorial	Chuck and Nancy Neff
	<b>Dorothy Opfer</b>
Memorial	Chuck and Nancy Neff
	<b>Harold Caesber</b>
Memorial-Hands&Hearts	Dennis and Robynne Myers
	<b>Helen Louise Coen Brooks</b>
Memorial-Choir	Maxine Steiner
	<b>Shirley Howe</b>
Memorial	Martha V. Paul Ch. #404 O.E.S.
Memorial	Perry and Paula Lane
Memorial	Chuck and Nancy Neff
	<b>Kathy Teagarden</b>
Memorial	Robert and Mary Ellen Van Camp
Memorial	Perry and Paula Lane
Memorial	Drake Dowler and Sara Dowler Auman
Memorial	Steve and Lucy Johnson
Memorial	Chuck and Nancy Neff
Memorial-Missions Comm.	Dennis and Robynne Myers

William “Bill” Braun

Memorial	Perry and Paula Lane
Memorial	Rick and Janet Nevin
Memorial	Carol Hissom
Memorial	Chuck and Lynn Sylvis
Memorial	Karen and Kerry Witte
Memorial	Mary Lou Roscoe
Memorial	Chuck and Nancy Neff
Memorial	Jonathan Pachter
Memorial	Chuck and Nancy Neff
Memorial-Missions	Regis and Janet Mucha
Memorial-Mem. Garden Maint.	Caroline Butka ITF
Memorial	Sonna Agnew
Memorial-Missions	Dr. Roberta DiLorenzo
Memorial-Missions	Mark and Janet Cerullo
Memorial	Jessie and Kathy Wallace
	(Wheeling High, Class of ‘52)

General Memorial Gifts

Memorial	Anonymous
Memorial-Youth Education	Anonymous
Memorial-Youth Education	Anonymous
Memorial	Anonymous
Memorial-Greatest Need	Anonymous

United With the Church Triumphant

FUNERALS

Long-time member **William “Bill” Braun** passed away on Friday, April 7, 2023. The funeral service was held at Piatt and Barnhill Funeral Home on Wednesday, April 12th, with the Rev. Dr. William Younger officiating. Interment followed with full military honors at the Cemetery of the Alleghenies.

BAPTISMS

These children were baptized on April 23, 2023, with the Rev. Dr. Younger officiating, assisted by Elder Joan McCrory

**Amelia Anne Trapuzzano**, born January 2, 2023, infant daughter of Patrick Joseph Trapuzzano and Chaleece Marie(McCracken) Trapuzzano.

**Adiah Jean Everly McCarrell**, born March 3, 2023, infant daughter of Andrew Wallace McCarrell and Aubrey Rae (Phillips) McCarrell.

**Lucas Alvin Zito**, born August 29, 2022, infant son of Eric Matthew Zito and Leslie Ann (McCarrell) Zito.

MANY THANKS

Dear Church Family,

Thank you all for the loving prayers during Bill’s illness and passing. Thanks to Hands and Hearts for all of the lovely cards and prayers. Thanks to Linda Grimm, our Parish Nurse, to Southmont and the hospital. It meant so much. Pastor Billy was such a comfort to our whole family.

Love, and God Bless,  
Betty Braun

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.*

*\*-indicates a new book*

***The Long Way Home*** by Louise Penny was donated by **Crystal Domske** in memory of the **late Kathy Teagarden**. Happily retired in the village of Three Pines, Armand Gamache, former Chief Inspector with the Sûreté du Québec has found a peace he’d only imagined possible. On warm summer mornings he sits on a bench holding a small book, *The Balm in Gilead*. While Gamache doesn’t talk about his wounds and his balm, Clara tells him about hers. Peter, her artist husband, has failed to show up on the first anniversary of their separation. She wants Gamache’s help to find him. Having finally found sanctuary, Gamache feels a near revulsion at the thought of leaving Three Pines. Together with his former second in command, Jean-Guy Beauvoir, and Myrna Landers, they journey deeper into Quebec and deeper into the soul of Peter Morrow. A man so desperate to recapture his fame as an artist, he would sell that soul, and may have done so. *(The Library has other books by this author in this excellent Inspector Gamache series.)*

The following four books were donated by Susan Kepler.

***H is for Homicide*** by Sue Grafton, who was an American author of detective novels. She is best known as the author of the “alphabet series” (starting with *“A” is for Alibi*) featuring private investigator Kinsey Millhone in the fictional city of Santa Teresa, California. In *H is for Homicide*, Kinsey can’t believe it when her good friend and colleague Parnell Perkins is found murdered in the parking lot behind California Fidelity Insurance. He didn’t have any enemies. The only clue is one of Parnell’s files on a Bibianna Diaz, who appears to have made a lucrative career out of scamming insurance companies with phony claims. Taking an alias, Kinsey goes undercover to befriend Bibianna, hoping to catch the con artist at her own game. But Bibianna’s very jealous, very dangerous ex-fiancé Raymond Maldonado catches up with them; and he is the one behind Bibianna’s and countless other phony insurance claims. Kinsey will have to be very careful in trying to nab Raymond if he indeed was also responsible for Parnell’s death. *(You can enjoy the “alphabet series” without reading the books in order.)*

***S is for Silence*** by Sue Grafton. Cases don’t get much colder than that of Violet Sullivan, who disappeared from her rural California town in 1953, leaving behind an abusive husband and a seven-year-old named Daisy. But PI Kinsey Millhone has promised Daisy that she’ll try her best to locate Violet, dead or alive. Kinsey tries to pick up a trail by speaking to those who remember Violet, and perhaps were more involved in her life than they let on. But the trail could lead Kinsey somewhere very dangerous. Although the case may have gone cold, some people’s feelings about Violet Sullivan still run as hot as ever.

***T is for Trespass*** by Sue Grafton is her most direct confrontation with the forces of evil. Beginning slowly with the day-to-day life of a private eye, Grafton suddenly shifts from the voice of Kinsey Millhone to that of Solan Rojas, introducing readers to a chilling sociopath. Rojas is not her birth name. It is an identity she cunningly stole, an identity that gives her access to private caregiving jobs. The true horror of this novel builds with excruciating tension as the reader foresees the awfulness that lies ahead. The wrenching suspense lies in whether Kinsey Millhone will realize what is happening in time to intervene

***Hornet’s Nest*** by Patricia Cornwell reveals the heart and soul of a metropolitan police department. Deputy Chief Virginia West likes and respects her boss, Police Chief Judy Hammer. With an increasing number of visiting

businessmen being murdered in her city by a maniac with a penchant for painting his victims bright orange, she finds it hard to accept Hammer’s edict that a rookie reporter should ride on patrol with her to better relations with their citizens. Her worst fears are confirmed when the reporter, Andy Brazil, presses the button to activate the boot-release rather than the siren on their first outing. He’s not the only blight on her life right now: her cat’s angst, her opposite number in the uniformed division is behaving like a jerk, the radio dispatcher is determined to trip her up, the D.A. is in the middle of a hot battle with the trial schedule - and orange-colored corpses keep turning up on her beat.

***Dear Edward*** by Ann Napolitano was donated by **Helen Haines**. One summer morning, twelve-year-old Edward Adler, his beloved older brother, his parents, and 183 other passengers boarded a flight in Newark headed for Los Angeles. Halfway across the country, the plane crashes. Edward is the sole survivor. Edward’s story captures the attention of a nation, but he struggles to find a place in the world without his family. He continues to feel that a part of himself has been left in the sky, forever tied to the plane and his fellow passengers. But then he makes an unexpected discovery – one that will lead him to the answers to some of life’s most profound questions. *Dear Edward* is a coming-of-age story that illustrates all the ways a broken heart learns to love again.

The following two books were donated by Debi Nicolella.

***Hearts of Fire*** by The Voice of the Martyrs. “If you are a Christian, then there is no place for you in this city – you will die here alone.” Tara’s father’s parting words brought only one thought to the mind of the sixteen-year-old girl – she must escape for her life. Beaten to the brink of death, Tara – the daughter of a prominent Pakistani Muslim – was locked in her room as a prisoner without food or medical attention. All because she was caught with a Bible. Tara’s story is not unique among these eight courageous women in *Hearts of Fire*. From the young Vietnamese girl who turns down freedom to evangelize the people of her Communist homeland, to the Australian missionary who spreads the message of forgiveness and healing across India after her husband and sons are burned alive by village zealots, these eight women have overcome adversity to emerge as leaders and ministers to the underground church around the world. This book tells true stories of eight courageous women, heroines of the faith, who are representative of countless women facing similar situations around the world.

***The Secret Supper*** by Javier Sierra is an historical thriller with a unique vision of both Leonardo de Vinci’s genius and his masterpiece - which you will never look at in the same way again. Milan, 1497: Leonardo is completing *The Last Supper*. Pope Alexander VI is determined to execute him after realizing that the painting contains clues to a baffling and blasphemous message that he is driven to decode. The story is told in the words of Agostino Leyre, as mysterious letters come in to Rome. He is a chief Inquisitor, so he decides to investigate who had sent these mysterious letters, hinting at heresy. He goes to Santa Maria delle Grazie, where he meets various monks, priests and nuns. But while he is there, various suspicious deaths and rumors take him into a search for truth - the meaning of *The Last Supper*. Intrigued, he finds yet another mystery - a blue leather-bound book, portrayed in Tarot cards left by the killer of several pilgrims, known as the Soothsayer.

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR MAY



<b>Monday, May 1</b> Jer. 30:1-9 Col. 1:1-14 Luke 6:1-11	<b>Tuesday, May 9</b> Jer. 32:16-25 Rom. 12:1-21 Luke 8:1-15	<b>Wednesday, May 17</b> Deut. 19:1-7 James 5:13-18 Luke 12:22-31	<b>Thursday, May 25</b> Ezek. 18:1-4, 19-32 Heb. 7:18-28 Luke 10:25-37
<b>Tuesday, May 2</b> Jer. 30:10-17 Col. 1:15-23 Luke 6:12-26	<b>Wednesday, May 10</b> Jer. 32:36-44 Rom. 13:1-14 Luke 8:16-25	<b>Thursday, May 18</b> Ezek. 1:1-14, 24-28b Heb. 2:5-18 Matt. 28:16-20	<b>Friday, May 26</b> Ezek. 34:17-31 Heb. 8:1-13 Luke 10:38-42
<b>Wednesday, May 3</b> Jer. 30:18-22 Col. 1:24-2:7 Luke 6:27-38	<b>Thursday, May 11</b> Jer. 33:1-13 Rom. 14:1-12 Luke 8:26-39	<b>Friday, May 19</b> Ezek. 1:28-3:3 Heb. 4:14-5:6 Luke 9:28-36	<b>Saturday, May 27</b> Ezek. 43:1-12 Heb. 9:1-14 Luke 11:14-23
<b>Thursday, May 4</b> Jer. 31:1-14 Col. 2:8-23 Luke 6:39-49	<b>Friday, May 12</b> Deut. 31:30-32:14 Rom. 14:13-23 Luke 8:40-56	<b>Saturday, May 20</b> Ezek. 3:4-17 Heb. 5:7-14 Luke 9:37-50	<b>Sunday, May 28</b> Isa. 11:1-9 1 Cor. 2:1-13 John 14:21-29
<b>Friday, May 5</b> Jer. 31:15-22 Col. 3:1-11 Luke 7:1-17	<b>Saturday, May 13</b> Deut. 32:34-41 (42) 43 Rom. 15:1-13 Luke 9:1-17	<b>Sunday, May 21</b> Ezek. 3:16-27 Eph. 2:1-10 Matt. 10:24-33, 40-42	<b>Monday, May 29</b> Deut. 4:9-14 2 Cor. 1:1-11 Luke 14:25-35
<b>Saturday, May 6</b> Jer. 31:23-25 Col. 3:12-17 Luke 7:18-28 (29-30) 31-35	<b>Sunday, May 14</b> Deut. 15:1-11 1 Tim. 3:14-4:5 Matt. 13:24-34a	<b>Monday, May 22</b> Ezek. 4:1-17 Heb. 6:1-12 Luke 9:51-62	<b>Tuesday, May 30</b> Deut. 4:15-24 2 Cor. 1:12-22 Luke 15:1-10
<b>Sunday, May 7</b> Isa. 32:1-8 2 Thess. 2:13-17 Matt. 7:7-14	<b>Monday, May 15</b> Deut. 8:1-10 or Deut. 18:9-14 James 1:1-15 Luke 9:18-27 2	<b>Tuesday, May 23</b> Ezek. 7:10-15, 23b-27 Heb. 6:13-20 Luke 10:1-17	<b>Wednesday, May 31</b> Deut. 4:25-31 2 Cor. 1:23-2:17 Luke 15:1-2, 11-32
<b>Monday, May 8</b> Jer. 32:1-15 Col. 3:18-4:18 Luke 7:36-50	<b>Tuesday, May 16</b> Deut. 8:11-20 or Deut. 18:15-22 James 1:16-27 Luke 11:1-13	<b>Wednesday, May 24</b> Ezek. 11:14-25 Heb. 7:1-17 Luke 10:17-24	



MAY BIRTHDAYS

Cindy Barnhart	5/1	Paula Lane	5/13	Douglas DiGiovanni	5/20
Chaleece Trapuzzano	5/2	Zachary Conway	5/14	Kelsey Osbourne	5/22
Jeanmarie Harding	5/3	Sheryl Leckie	5/14	Carol Carnes	5/23
Tammy Locy	5/3	Kerri Lacock	5/15	Mary Wichterman	5/23
Paul Leake	5/5	Margaret McCarrell	5/16	Dan Halulko	5/23
Sharon Valentine	5/6	Barbara Weber	5/17	Hilary Burchett	5/23
Kyle Hamilton	5/6	Sydney Bury	5/17	Chuck Neff	5/27
Maggie Warren	5/9	Madison Zajdel	5/18	Christine Crompton	5/27
Matthew Georgalas	5/9	Brian Teagarden	5/19	Connie Hornickel	5/28
David Opfer	5/11	Dennis Myers	5/20	Patrick Grimm	5/29
Shawn Jacobs	5/11	Wallace McCarrell	5/20	Jill McIlvaine	5/30
Margaret Thompson	5/11	Amanda Weaver	5/20	Brittany Hamilton	5/31
				Alexa Holik	5/31



MAY PREACHING AND WORSHIP SCHEDULE



<b>May 7, 2023 (Communion)</b>	
Sermon Title:	<b>The Fruit of the Spirit: Friendship</b>
Preaching:	Rev. Dr. Billy Younger
Scripture:	Galatians 2:13-26

<b>May 14, 2023</b>	
Sermon Title:	<b>Gospel Power</b>
Preaching:	Rev. Dr. Billy Younger
Scripture:	Galatians 6:6-18

<b>May 21, 2023</b>	
Sermon Title:	TBD
Preaching:	Rev. Bob Hedges
Scripture:	TBD

<b>May 28, 2023 (Pentecost)</b>	
Sermon Title:	TBD
Preaching:	Rev. Dr. Billy Younger
Scripture:	TBD

THE CHURCH OF THE COVENANT WEBSITE

Check it out at [www.churchofthecov.org](http://www.churchofthecov.org)

**MISCELLANEOUS NEWS****PINE SPRINGS SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION**

What are you doing this summer? Pine Springs Camp is currently accepting camper registrations for the summer 2023 camping season. Camps are available for a variety of ages and interests, and campers get to experience the Pine Springs mission: every camper experiences a vital encounter with Jesus Christ. For more information and to register visit

<https://www.pinesprings.org/registration-and-forms>

**PINE SPRINGS CAMP SUMMER STAFF**

Pine Springs Camp is looking for student leaders committed to following Jesus and sharing His love with campers. Summer staff have a unique opportunity to encourage campers to challenge themselves physically, mentally, spiritually and emotionally through outdoor adventures, crazy camp games and daily Bible instruction. A variety of positions are available: lifeguard, adventure staff, Timothy Team, and maintenance assistant. If you are looking for a summer job that is meaningful and rewarding, visit <https://www.pinesprings.org/summerstaff>

**PARISH NURSE CORNER**

If you or someone you know is 55 or older and raising a

child, the Southwestern PA Area Agency on Aging has a Caregiver Support Program. The caregiver must be related to the child by blood, marriage or adoption and the biological parents cannot be living in the home. Reimbursement for the following exists: hiring help to provide relief for the caregiver, school supplies, extra-curricular activities, seasonal clothing, counseling and legal/financial assistance. For more information or to make a referral contact the SW PA AAA at 800-734-9603. Any questions contact me at 724-263-7911.

Good Health to all,  
Linda Grimm, RN, Parish Nurse.

**DIABETES PROGRAM ~ MAY 16TH**

Hands and Hearts is hosting a program on **Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 6pm** entitled “*Diabetes and You*” for people with new or chronic diabetes or pre-diabetes. The free program will focus on healthy eating, medications, exercise and monitoring with a Q&A period. It is open to church members, family, friends, neighbors and the community. All ages are welcome.

No preregistration is necessary. Healthy snacks will be available. Last year’s program was well-attended with participants requesting another session.

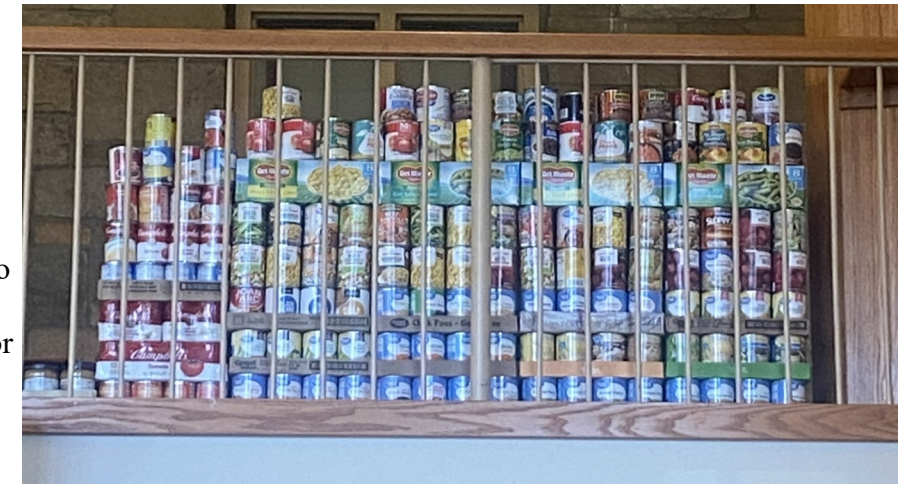
The speaker will be Dana Stainbrook, RN, MSN, CDCES, a Diabetes Educator with The Washington Health System. For questions about the program, contact Linda Grimm, RN at 724-263-7911.

**DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE MESSENGER is MAY 15th.**

**MORE MISCELLANEOUS NEWS****A THANK YOU FROM IMPACT YOUTH**

Impact Youth would like to thank everyone who donated towards our canned food drive. We collected about 1600 cans. They were given to the Washington Outreach and the Food Pantry. Thank you for giving to a good cause.

Yvonne Gayle

**MOTHER-DAUGHTER LUNCHEON**

Women and girls of all ages are invited to the Mother-Daughter Luncheon on **Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 pm in the Covenant Center**. There will be a basket raffle to benefit missions. Adult tickets - \$22, children from ages 5-12- \$10. Children 4 and under are free. Please purchase your tickets by May 7<sup>th</sup>. Look for display and someone selling tickets between church services in The Commons.

**PW ANNUAL BIRTHDAY OFFERING**

The Presbyterian Women Birthday Offering has become an annual tradition. It has funded more than 200 major mission projects to impact people in the United States and around the world. Thank you to all those who have given in the past. Many needs are met through this offering. We ask for your continued support. Please give as you have been blessed, generously, as you are led by the Holy Spirit. Offering Envelopes are available at the Covenant Center and Sanctuary.

**Offerings are due by May 31**, make check out to: Presbyterian Women and mail to c/o Joan McCrory at the Church’s Address, 267 E. Beau St., Washington, PA 15301.

**DITTMAN-LUTES FUND TUITION HELP FOR SEMINARY STUDENTS**

“The Dittman Lutes Fund annually makes available money to help church members meet tuition expenses for seminary education. If you, or a member you know is attending seminary or planning to enroll at a seminary, contact the Endowment Committee to learn more about this opportunity for help with tuition expenses.”

**FX~FAMILY EXPERIENCE**

Yvonne and Yone would like to thank all the kids and their families who participate in FX. They made us the sweetest gift - they were personalized aprons with all of their handprints. It was a perfect gift!

The kids and parents were very sneaky in pulling this off. They were painting handprints while we were in the other room. What a nice surprise!



Ms. Yvonne's apron has a cupcake on it, because she bakes yummy cakes and desserts. "Chef" Yone's apron has kitchen tools, because he cooks delicious food for FX (he also did a lot of the cooking and side-dishes for the Lenten Fish Fries). If you look real close, you can tell that not only are there many handprints on the aprons, but the "owners" of the handprints labeled them with their names, so Ms. Yvonne and Chef Yone will think of the kids every time they look at their aprons...

...And here are the kids whose handprints adorn the new aprons for Ms. Yvonne and Chef Yone. What a great group of families and kids enjoy FX! Look at all the smiles!

How many kids can you find in this picture? (Answer below)



Answer: We counted 14 "little" kids and 2 "big" kids (they're the ones wearing aprons)

The Church of the Covenant is richly blessed, to have so many kids involved in programs for the littlest ones, the school-age kids and the teenagers.

FX, IMPACT Youth and Covenant Connections hour are possible because of creative people who give their talents and time to make Covenant's youth activities something kids look forward to and enjoy.

**PRESCHOOL NEWS**

**Preschool Countdown!!**

The children just finished their Spring unit on Stories of Jesus. We made a take-home book that portrayed these Bible stories. The kids enjoyed learning this unit and were able to talk about it at home with their Moms and Dads. Can't get any better than that. We have such little time left of this crazy school year, but we reflect back on it all and how wonderfully blessed we are. We are still planning our Spring program for the families to enjoy their children. The kids love to "show their singing talents" for their family. The songs they will sing and bells to ring all center around our Stories of Jesus unit and how wonderful God's love can be!

Are we counting down? Yes we are, but with the realization that the children growing and moving on to kindergarten and the 3-yr-olds coming back for their next year and new families joining us is filled with excitement. Our last day of Preschool is May 16th, so we intend to always finish the school year with plenty of energy and looking forward to Summer fun.

**TUESDAY EVENING SPEAKER SERIES**

**DR. MARK SIMPSON, MAY 2-MAY 30th**

Our second speaker series for 2023 will take place each Tuesday from **May 2-May 30, at 7:00PM**. Participation will occur both in-person in the church dining room and virtually **via ZOOM**.

Dr. Mark Simpson will lead this series on ZOOM from his home, focusing on *Biblical Revival*, with emphasis on Haggai and Zechariah.

To sign up, please go to <https://tinyurl.com/cotcspeakerseries> or contact the church office.

**Dr. Mark Simpson's Biography**

If you were to ask those closest to Dr. Mark Simpson what makes him tick, they would say that his heart beats to inspire a legacy of knowing and imitating Christ. Whether it is in his marriage to Holly (29 years), his fathering of Mackenzie (22) and Ethan (16) or in his pastoral ministry (30+ years), this is the common thread that gets him up in the morning and keeps him talking late into the night. Mark currently serves as Associate Pastor at Church United in Staunton, VA and Adjunct Instructor at Liberty University. He holds degrees from Word of Life Bible Institute (Bible), Moody Bible Institute (B.A. Pastoral Studies, B.A. Communications), Liberty University Theological Seminary (M.A. Systematic Theology, M.Div. Systematic Theology, Th.M. Church History), and Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary (D.Min. Revival and Reform).

**ADDITIONAL TUESDAY SPEAKER CLASSES FOR 2023**

August 1-29:  
Rev. Dr. Billy Younger:  
*Wisdom Literature in the Old  
Testament ~ Proverbs,  
Ecclesiastes, Job*

September 29-October 24:  
Dr. John Burgess;  
*Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS****Vacation Bible School****July 17 – 21, 2023****Attention all Superhero Volunteers!****Register today at: [www.churchofthecov.org/post/vbs2023](http://www.churchofthecov.org/post/vbs2023)**

There are so many fun ways that you can help out before, during, and after VBS!

**Can't help out during the week, but want to support VBS?**Check out our Amazon wish list for needed items by scanning the QR code below or email us at [churchofcov.vbs@gmail.com](mailto:churchofcov.vbs@gmail.com).

Monetary donations to help with program and food costs are also greatly appreciated.

The VBS Leadership Team is truly grateful for your continued support!

**CHEER BUCKET UPDATE**

Items still 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!


**PLEASE NOTE:**

May 21 will be the last Covenant Connections Hour before we break for summer. It will resume on September 17th, in conjunction with our annual Rally Day.


**YOUTH AND TEEN NEWS**

**SAVE THE DATES!**


# TEEN EXTREME



**June**  
**8,13,14,**  
**July**  
**5,6,11,12**




**9am to**  
**3pm**



**The Church of the Covenant**  
**an**  
**Impact Youth Ministry**

Contact Yvonne Gayle for  
more information  
[Yvonnegayle20@gmail.com](mailto:Yvonnegayle20@gmail.com)



**THE ACTIVITIES**

Volunteering &  
Service Projects  
Exploration &  
Field Trips

**AGES 13-18**