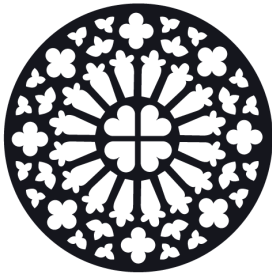


The Messenger  
c/o The Church of the Covenant  
267 East Beau Street  
Washington, PA 15301  
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April 2022

Newsletter of The Church of the Covenant

# The Messenger

April 2022

*I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his suffering, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.*  
Philippians 3:10,11

Dear People of the Resurrection,

It's almost Easter and we will soon join Christians all over the world in a great shout, "He is risen. He is risen indeed!" Powerful hymns of the church along with contemporary songs of joy will join one another in a thousand different languages to proclaim the central truth of the Christian faith, "On the third day, he rose from the dead..." Sermons join this chorus explaining, proclaiming, declaring, and applying the reality of the resurrection to millions of congregations. Preachers like me will come at the ancient texts from a variety of directions. And out of the blizzard of words we will attempt to speak it in fresh, relevant ways that touch lives and transform hearts.

Common to all, of course, is the astounding and transforming truth, God raised Jesus from the dead and nothing will ever be the same again. It can't be the same. The risen Christ enters the lives of all who trust in him and through his men and women, his church, he invades the world. But behind our witness stands another reality. This truth is part of the apostle's witness from beginning to end. "We have seen him," the people cried with joy. Then their worlds turned upside down.

We see the risen Christ too. Not like they did, of course. But we see him in Scripture. We behold him with eyes of faith. And once-in-a-while, thank God, we see the Risen One in each other as well. I know. You dear people of Church of the Covenant have been the Word made flesh for Karen and I over the past three months. Simple acts of love, kindness and hospitality have been, in fact, the touch of God for us. And I know that by a miracle beyond my understanding, I have been God's touch for many of you. We shouldn't be surprised. After all, we live and breathe in a community of faith energized by the presence of the Risen One who promises to be with always.

I believe if our eyes were wide open we would see him much more often. And the church would become what G.K. Chesterton once described it, "A winged thunderbolt of enthusiasm."

He is risen indeed. Do you see Him?

In Resurrection Power,

Pastor Billy

**STAFF**  
**Rev. Dr. Billy Younger**  
Senior Pastor/Head of Staff  
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724-263-7911  
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[derbalee@gmail.com](mailto:derbalee@gmail.com)  
**Amy Dille**  
Part time Custodian  
724-222-0190 x 119  
**Rev. Randall V. Boyer**  
Associate Pastor Emeritus

## 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 10th;** make checks payable  
"The Church of the Covenant" with "**Lily**" in the memo please



to

**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 Church  
of the Covenant**  
267 East Beau St.  
Washington, PA 15301  
724.222.0190  
[churchoftheco@comcast.net](mailto:churchoftheco@comcast.net)  
[www.churchofthecov.org](http://www.churchofthecov.org)  
**Worship Services**  
Sundays: 8:00, 9:00 & 11:00am  
10:00 am  
Spiritual development time for  
children and adults  
Church Office Hours  
Mon.-Fri. 9:00a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

### THE CHURCH OF THE COVENANT REDESIGNED WEBSITE

Many thanks to Lindsay Wall who spent countless hours creating a brand  
new website for The Church of the Covenant!  
Check out the fantastic new look at [www.churchofthecov.org](http://www.churchofthecov.org)

NEWS FROM THE FAMILY OF FAITH



In Memory Of

Ellen “Jane” Barnickel

Memorial David and Deborah Borck Chapman

Jane Goddard

Memorial Jeffrey and Crisden Simpson  
Memorial Connie Hornickel  
Memorial Fort Cherry Memorial Flower Fund  
Memorial Jack D. King  
Memorial Eric and April Betzner  
Memorial Bob and Harriett Johnson  
Memorial Donna Romanko  
Memorial Butch and Barbara Richmond  
Memorial Bob and Sharon Aloia  
Missions William and Marta Jo Pletz  
Missions Kimberly A. Cook  
Memorial Frank and Barbara Wudkwyh  
Memorial Kathy K. Martin  
Memorial Rachel Gladden

Sara Smith

Library Bob and Mary Wichterman  
Memorial Patsy M. George  
Memorial Nancy Ann Gorman  
Memorial T. Jean Piatt  
Memorial Connie Hornickel  
Memorial Carol S. Banal  
Memorial Rick and Janet Nevin  
Memorial Julia A. McAvoy  
Memorial Roger and Lyn Ann Goodwin  
Memorial Rachel Gladden  
Preschool Ed and Mary Lou Roscoe  
Memorial Kirk and Jeanne Spiegel

NEW MEMBER CLASS

We are offering a class for New Members on **Tuesday, April 5, 2022, at 6:30pm** in the Dining Room. If you are interested in membership, or know someone who is, please contact Debi Nicolella at 724-222-0190 x 111 or [churchoftheco@comcast.net](mailto:churchoftheco@comcast.net).



United With the Church Triumphant

FUNERALS

On March 13, 2022, long-time member Sara Smith passed away. Pastor Scott Shetter officiated for Sara’s funeral and Celebration of Life on Friday, March 18, 2022. Interment followed at Washington Cemetery.

On April 2, 2022,a memorial service was held for former member Marta Bugaile Rock, who passed away on April 5, 2020. The service was postponed due to the COVID pandemic. Pastor Billy Younger officiated.

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Our 2022 church phone directory has arrived and with it the need to correct some of the contact information within. As fate would have it, some members information is incorrect or was somehow omitted. The office has been made aware of the necessary changes below:

Crystal Domske – omitted – information is:  
63 Seik Rd., Washington, PA 15301  
724-225-1614 (h) 330-604-3299 ©

Rachel Gladden – incorrect phone number.  
Correct number is 725-225-8769

Connie Hornickle - would prefer cell number  
724-747-0581

Justice, Peyton and Carrie (# not in service)

Kelley, Ryan and Julie (# not in service)

If your listing in the directory needs to be corrected or updated at any time during the year please provide that information to the office and we will continue to use the newsletter as a way of informing others.

DEADLINE FOR THE MAY  
MESSENGER IS APRIL 15th.

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 following books were donated to the library. The Library Committee thanks the donors. All have been cataloged and are ready to be checked out. The 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 following books were newly purchased for the library: (6 books)*

When The Wind Is Against You, by Stephen D. McConnell. Life isn’t fair. This is a truth we’ve come to know in varying degrees along the course of life. We don’t always get what we expect or what we think we deserve. We think we’ve been dealt a bad hand, that the universe is not acting in our favor. *When the Wind is Against You* is a collection of inspirational messages to help you rise from discouragement, face challenges, and get the most out of life. *(The author is the son of the COTC’s former pastor, Harold H. McConnell, Jr.)*

Safe at Home, Finding What You Never Lost, by Stephen D. McConnell. A collection of inspirational and devotional messages, *Safe at Home* focuses on the constant grace of God—a loving presence who never abandons us. We may falter. We may metaphorically strike out, but God is always there, seeing us safely home. We will experience risk and even danger as we play at life, but his presence is with us always, encouraging us to take our turn at bat without fear. *(The author is the son of the COTC’s former pastor, Harold H. McConnell, Jr.)*

Holy Envy, Finding God in the Faith of Others, by Barbara Brown Taylor. This book is a small window on a large subject. Set at a private liberal arts college in the foothills of the Appalachians, it is the story of a Christian minister who lost her way in the church and found a new home in the classroom, where the course she taught most often was not Introduction to the New Testament but Religions of the World. She fell for every religion she taught. When she taught Judaism, she wanted to be a rabbi. When she taught Buddhism, she wanted to be a monk. It was only when she taught Christianity that the fire sputtered, because her religion looked so different once she saw it lined up with the others. She always promised her students that studying other faiths would not make them lose their own. Then she lost hers, or at least the one she started out with. This is the story of how that happened and what happened next.

Jesus>Religion, Why He Is So Much Better Than Trying Harder, Doing More, and Being Good Enough, by Jefferson Bethke. Abandon dead, dry rule-keeping and embrace the promise of being truly known and deeply loved. You will find yourself challenged to look past prejudices, habits, and traditions and rediscover the person you fell in love with in the first place: Jesus. Thinkers and seekers and questioners—start here. Wrestle it out. You can’t walk away from these provocative pages unmoved.

Prisoner, My 544 days in an Iranian prison—solitary confinement, a sham trial, high-stakes diplomacy, and the extraordinary efforts it took to get me out, by Jason Rezaian. The dramatic memoir of the journalist who was held hostage in a high-security prison in Tehran for eighteen months and whose release—which almost didn’t happen—became a part of the Iran Nuclear Deal. While in prison, Rezaian had tireless advocates working on his behalf, all while the courts used Rezaian as a bargaining chip in negotiations for the Iran nuclear deal. Written with wit, humor and grace, Prisoner brings to life a fascinating, maddening culture in all its complexity.

The Moment of Lift: How Empowering Women Changes the World by Melinda Gates. Melinda has traveled the world for the past 20 years on a mission to find solutions for people with the most urgent needs, wherever they live. As a result of these travels, she has found that if you want to lift a society up, you need to stop keeping women down. She presents the issues that most need attention such as gender inequality in the workplace. She introduces us to remarkable women who demonstrate the power of connecting with one another. *(Melinda is the former wife of Microsoft founder and philanthropist, Bill Gates.)*

*The following gently-used book was donated by Sara Smith.*

Black Cross, by Greg Iles. It is January 1944—and as Allied troops prepare for D-day, Nazi scientists develop a toxic nerve gas that will repel and wipe out any invasion force. To salvage the planned assault, two vastly different but equally determined men are sent to infiltrate the secret concentration camp where the poison gas is being perfected on human subjects. Their only objective: Destroy all traces of the gas and the men who created it—no matter how many lives may be lost . . .including their own.

*The following gently-used books were donated anonymously.*

Coming Home, by Rosamunde Pilcher. One of the most beloved storytellers of our time, Mrs. Pilcher believes *Coming Home* to be the capstone of a lifetime of writing. It is her most ambitious and most compelling novel yet, a vast canvas and a vividly drawn portrait of an era close to us in time but now disappeared. It is an intensely personal story. This is a totally involving story of coming of age, coming to terms with both love and sadness, and in every sense of the words.

Winter Solstice, by Rosamunde Pilcher. The December solstice is a turning point. For some it represents a time of darkness, the shortest day of the year. But for others this event—just days before Christmas—is about hope, renewal, and rebirth. In a story both deceptively simple and effortlessly complex, Rosamunde Pilcher brings together five very different people, ranging in age from the teens to the mid-sixties, each of whom must confront very different challenges or losses.



DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR APRIL



Friday, April 1

Exodus 2:1–22  
1 Corinthians 12:27–13:3  
Mark 9:2–13

Saturday, April 2

Exodus 2:23–3:15  
1 Corinthians 13:1–13  
Mark 9:14–29

Sunday, April 3

Exodus 3:16–4:12  
Romans 12:1–21  
John 8:46–59

Monday, April 4

Exodus 4:10–20 (21–26)  
27–31  
1 Corinthians 14:1–19  
Mark 9:30–41

Tuesday, April 5

Exodus 5:1–6:1  
1 Corinthians 14:20–33a,  
39–40  
Mark 9:42–50

Wednesday, April 6

Exodus 7:8–24  
2 Corinthians 2:14–3:6  
Mark 10:1–16

Thursday, April 7

Exodus 7:25–8:19  
2 Corinthians 3:7–18  
Mark 10:17–31

Friday, April 8

Exodus 9:13–35  
2 Corinthians 4:1–12  
Mark 10:32–45

Saturday, April 9

Exodus 10:21–11:8  
2 Corinthians 4:13–18  
Mark 10:46–52

Sunday, April 10

Zechariah 9:9–12  
1 Timothy 6:12–16 *or*  
Zechariah  
12:9–11; 13:1, 7–9

Monday, April 11

Lamentations 1:1–2,  
6–12  
2 Corinthians 1:1–7  
Mark 11:12–25

Tuesday, April 12

Lamentations 1:17–22  
2 Corinthians 1:8–22  
Mark 11:27–33

Wednesday, April 13

Lamentations 2:1–9  
2 Corinthians 1:23–2:11  
Mark 12:1–11

Thursday, April 14

Lamentations 2:10–18  
1 Corinthians 10:14–17;  
11:27–32  
Mark 14:12–25

Friday, April 15

Lamentations 3:1–9,  
19–33  
1 Peter 1:10–20  
John 13:36–38

*or* John 19:38–42

Saturday, April 16

Lamentations 3:37–58  
Hebrews 4:1–16  
Romans 8:1–11

Sunday, April 17

Exodus 12:1–14  
John 1:1–18 *or* Isaiah  
51:9–11  
Luke 24:13–35

Monday, April 18

Exodus 12:14–27  
1 Corinthians 15:1–11  
Mark 16:1–8

Tuesday, April 19

Exodus 12:28–39  
1 Corinthians 15:12–28  
Mark 16:9–20

Wednesday, April 20

Exodus 12:40–51  
1 Corinthians 15: (29)  
30–41  
Matthew 28:1–16

Thursday, April 21

Exodus 13:3–10  
1 Corinthians 15:41–50  
Matthew 28:16–20

Friday, April 22

Exodus 13:1–2, 11–16  
1 Corinthians 15:51–58  
Luke 24:1–12

Saturday, April 23

Exodus 13:17–14:4  
2 Corinthians 4:16–5:10  
Mark 12:18–27

Sunday, April 24

Exodus 14:5–22  
1 John 1:1–7  
John 14:1–7

Monday, April 25

Exodus 14:21–31  
1 Peter 1:1–12  
John 14: (1–7) 8–17

Tuesday, April 26

Exodus 15:1–21  
1 Peter 1:13–25  
John 14:18–31

Wednesday, April 27

Exodus 15:22–16:10  
1 Peter 2:1–10  
John 15:1–11

Thursday, April 28

Exodus 16:10–22  
1 Peter 2:11–3:12  
John 15:12–27

Friday, April 29

Exodus 16:23–36  
1 Peter 3:13–4:6  
John 16:1–15

Saturday, April 30

Exodus 17:1–16  
1 Peter 4:7–19  
John 16:16–33



APRIL BIRTHDAYS



Jean Hanas	4/03	Rae Dawn Guyton	4/09	Christopher Knight	4/17	April Devenney	4/22
Megan Sutton	4/03	Niki Ewing-Davis	4/09	Susan Kepler	4/18	Denny Denmead	4/23
Nicholas Wall	4/03	Caitlin Scott	4/09	Colton Clingermanstang	4/18	Rachel Phillips	4/23
Billy Proudfit	4/04	Emily Yukish	4/11	Jennifer Rakoczy	4/18	James Little	4/24
Nancy Bernett	4/05	Jim Curry	4/12	Jason Piatt	4/19	Jack Piatt, III	4/24
Joseph Di Pietro	4/05	Kenneth Watson	4/12	Lindsay Wall	4/19	Jessica Gunjak	4/24
Sarah Cole	4/05	Dominic Clutter	4/12	Betsy Gaul	4/20	Travis Nassar	4/24
Barbara Baughman	4/06	Pat Sanders	4/13	Edward Phillips	4/20	Norma Koman	4/26
Evi Mecalf	4/06	John Pankopf	4/13	April Betzner	4/21	Stephen Spiegel	4/26
Stephanie Silbaugh	4/06	April Batove	4/13	Karen Suzanne Orr	4/21	Joseph Jefferys	4/28
Michael Spiegel	4/06	Michelle McCarrell	4/13	Brenda Griffith	4/21	Doug Locy	4/28
Jessica Kosco	4/06	MaryAnna McNeel	4/14	Marian Keisling	4/22	Dayne Warren	4/28
Ben Baker	4/07	Joyce Hough	4/14	Donna Sukel	4/22	Sarina Jones	4/29
Debbie Knestrick	4/08	Tara Knight	4/15	Brooke Roupe	4/22	Noah Johnson	4/30

APRIL PREACHING AND WORSHIP SCHEDULE



April 3, 2022 (Communion) (Fifth Sunday, Lent)

Sermon Title: **THE GOSPEL FEAST**

Preaching: Pastor Billy

Scripture: Luke 22:1-23

Focal Verse: *“When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. And he said to them, ‘I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.’” vv. 22 & 23.*

Synopsis: The gospel feast is a meal both for the foul and the found.

April 10, 2022 (Palm Sunday)

Sermon Title: **ENTER THE KING!**

Preaching: Pastor Billy

Scripture: Luke 19:28-44

Focal Verse: *“As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, ‘Why are you untying the colt?’ They replied, ‘The Lord needs it.’” vv. 33 & 34.*

Synopsis: Christianity uniquely features an unusual king who not only sacrificially serves his people, but he then asks his loyal subjects to do the same.

April 14, 2022; This service will be held at 7:00 PM. (Communion) (Maundy Thursday)

Sermon Title: **THE GLORIOUS LIFE**

Preaching: Pastor Billy

Scripture: John 12: 20-33

Focal Verse: *“Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.” vv. 32.*

Synopsis: The glorious life is a life of washing feet and dying to oneself daily.

April 15, 2022; This service will be held at noon. (Good Friday)

Meditation Title: **THE SHADOW OF THE CROSS**

Preaching: Pastor Billy

Scripture: I Corinthians 1:18-25

Focal Verse: *“For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.” vv. 18.*

Synopsis: The shadow of the cross falls across all of life. Therefore, God defined love once and for all in the shape of a cross.

April 17, 2022 (Easter Sunday)

Sermon Title: **THE RESURRECTION REVERSE**

Preaching: Pastor Billy

Scripture: I Corinthians 15:1-5, 12-22

Focal Verse: *“Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.” vv. 1 & 2.*

Synopsis: The resurrection of Jesus Christ has the power to reverse the great pain and the problems of our life and this world.

April 24, 2022

Sermon Title: **DEVELOPING SPIRITUAL MUSCLE: GRATITUDE**

Preaching: Pastor Scott

Scripture: Hebrews 12:18-29

Focal Verse: *“Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.” vv. 28-29.*

Synopsis: Alongside love, gratitude is a hallmark of a believer in Christ Jesus. We grow toward spiritual maturity when we live a life of gratitude marked by our awe at what God has done for us through His Son and what He has given us.



### **PASTOR SCOTT'S MUSINGS**

April is one of my favorite times of the year. It is a season of new life and beginnings. It is also the month in which we celebrate the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. This is really new life! Paul says in Romans 6:3-5, *"Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His."*

All of creation joins us in celebration of the Resurrection. The new life that is ours through Christ Jesus is made evident through the new life that reappears around us. This brings me great joy! It reminds me that even though the world is in a constant state of decay, God is always busy restoring in and breathing new life into it.

We too find that in the dying state we were in, dead in our sins, God, through the sacrifice of His Son, offered us new life. He is always in the process of restoring us and breathing new life into us. Just as I will spend time this spring breathing in the fresh air and the smell of all those beautiful blossoms, so I want to breathe deeply of the new life and fresh spirit God is placing in me through Christ. I hope and pray that you will breathe deeply and enjoy the new life God has in store for you too! Have a very blessed Easter.

In Christ's service,  
Pastor Scott

### **SCHEDULE FOR LENTEN SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Sunday, April 3** - Fifth Sunday of Lent

Regular Worship Services at 8:00, 9:00 and 11:00 ~ Communion

**Tuesday, April 5** - New Members' Class, 7:00 PM, Dining Room.

New members will be received on Easter Sunday

#### **Holy Week**

**Sunday, April 10** - Palm Sunday

Regular Worship Services at 8:00, 9:00 and 11:00 – Palms will be available at the door

**Thursday, April 14** - Maundy Thursday - Service at 7:00 PM with Communion....Sanctuary

**Friday April 15** - Good Friday - Service at 12:00 Noon in the Commons at the foot of the Cross

**Sunday, April 17** - Easter Sunday - Regular Worship Services at 8:00, 9:00 and 11:00

10:00 AM - New Members received by the Session.....Dining Room

11:00 AM - New Members received by the Congregation.....Sanctuary

**Monday, April 18** - Church is closed to observe Easter

### **PW SPRING GATHERING**

The PW Spring Gathering is set for Thursday, May 19, 2022, here at the church, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

Lunch will be served at a cost of \$10. Please make your reservations by Monday, May 9th, to

Nancy Hillberry 724-796-0505, [nhillberry@yahoo.com](mailto:nhillberry@yahoo.com), or

Jan Demnyan, 724-579-2969, [jdemnyan@windstream.net](mailto:jdemnyan@windstream.net).

The Mission emphasis will be on Resurrection Power,

Washington City Mission and Mission from Mars (Urban Outreach based in Mars, PA).

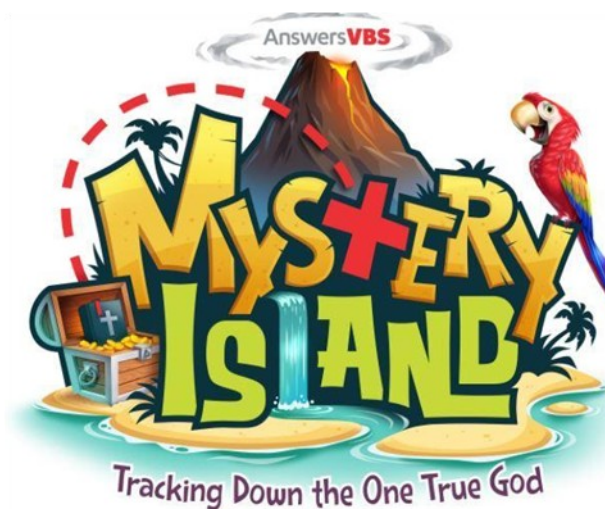
### **PRESCHOOL NEWS**

#### **Preschool Countdown!!**

The children just finished their Spring unit on Bible Adventure stories. We made a take-home version of a mural 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 to have been in-person to teach our little ones once again due to COVID. We are still planning our Spring program for the families with them in-person to watch and 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 Bible Adventures 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 17th, so we intend to always finish the school year with plenty of energy and looking forward to Summer fun.

### **Vacation Bible School ~ July 18 – 22, 2022!**



#### **VBS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! JULY 18-22, 2022**

There are many fun ways to get involved both prior to and during VBS week. Opportunities for youth (grade 6 and up) and adult volunteers. Please consider sharing your time and talents with us.

Learn more and register today at

[www.churchofthecov.org/post/vbs2022](http://www.churchofthecov.org/post/vbs2022)

or contact Amy Dille at [churchofcov.vbs@gmail.com](mailto:churchofcov.vbs@gmail.com) with questions.

**\*\*Child registration for VBS is now full!**

Please email [churchofcov.vbs@gmail.com](mailto:churchofcov.vbs@gmail.com) if you'd like to be placed on our wait list.

### **YOUTH AND TEEN NEWS**

#### **TEEN EXTREME!!!**

Mark your calendars for Teen Extreme! Our adventures start June 7th and ends July 7th. Our five week program will meet every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 7:30 to 5pm. Our time together will be packed with service projects, helping out around the church, fun activities, Bible discussions and field trips.

More details coming soon!

Contact Yvonne Gayle [yvonnegayle20@gmail.com](mailto:yvonnegayle20@gmail.com) for more information.





ADULT SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Tuesday Evening Speaker Series

Dr. Mark Simpson, MAY 3-31



*The Believer's Identity in Christ* In the gospel of John Jesus contrasts His purpose with that of humanity's adversary when He states, 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. John 10:10(ESV). Our adversary is not creative but he is consistent, incessantly whispering lies to us about God and ourselves that take root in our minds and distort our perception of reality stealing, killing, and destroying all that is good in us and for us. For followers of Jesus, the realization of the abundant life Jesus promises here and now is foundationally rooted in becoming increasingly aware of the specific lies that masquerade as truth and replacing them with the truths of who God really is and who we are as uniquely created in His image. In this class you will learn how to identify the lies that the enemy uses to keep you held captive, destroy them, and replace them with the biblical truths that will set you free (John 8:32) to know life as Jesus intends for you

**Bio:** 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).

July - August 2022 Tuesday Speaker Series July 26 - August 23

Bio: Dr. Jim Platt ~ Synopsis: TBD

**This class will be hybrid**, so you can attend in person in the dining room, or by ZOOM. If you choose to attend by ZOOM, please email Pastor Scott for the link, at [pastor.scott.shetter@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.scott.shetter@gmail.com).

YOUTH AND TEEN NEWS

A NEW YOUTH PROJECT ~ CHEER BUCKETS

Impact Youth have taken on a new service project. They will be providing Cheer Buckets to kids who are in Washington Hospital during the holidays. The plan is to deliver the buckets before each holiday. Our holidays will include Easter, Memorial Day, July 4th, Thanksgiving, Christmas and Valentines Day. They need your help in collecting items such as coloring books, crayons, drawing pads, markers, pencils, glow sticks, small stuffed animals, small toys, card games, small puzzles etc. Please no food or candy. Please have items to the church by April 2nd. Contact [yvonnegayle20@gmail.com](mailto:yvonnegayle20@gmail.com) for more info.



Bearing in mind that only our Savior, Jesus Christ, was perfect and that all Christians are a "work in progress," the **Nominating Committee requests your assistance in identifying candidates for Church Office with the following qualities:**

Candidate shall:

Profess Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Savior.

Acknowledge that the Bible is God's written word and is the ultimate authority in matters of faith and daily living.

Be a member of and regularly worship at The Church of the Covenant.

Be striving to deepen his/her relationship to Christ through personal study, adult education, and other ministry opportunities.

Be a responsible steward of his/her time, talent and treasure; willingly and joyfully returning a portion of all three gifts of God, our provider.

Commit to **faithfully** serving a three-year term. This involves a monthly meeting and assignment to at least one sub-committee.

Each Church Officer will actively participate in ministry using his/her time, talents, gifts, and skills. All Church Officers should have the desire to stretch and grow in their spiritual lives. Church Officers will seek the Lord's Will, relying on His guidance, as they complete this wonderful opportunity of service.

Points of Information

All offices are for a three-year term.

Elders are expected to attend the **monthly** Session meeting plus a monthly committee meeting to which they are assigned.

Deacons also have a regular **monthly** meeting.

Auditors and Trust Fund Management Committee members meet **Quarterly**.

It is assumed that all nominees are **members** in good standing at the Church of the Covenant.

Nominations for Church Officers

*You are the Light of the world. A city on the hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. Matthew 5: 14 - 16*

In order that your recommendations may be considered as we prepare the nominations for church officers, we would appreciate your suggestions. The space below is for Elders; Deacons, and Auditors.

Any person currently serving on the Board of Deacons and/or Session is ineligible. Both men and women are eligible to serve as officers provided they are confirmed members actively serving the life and ministry of this church.

OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES:

**ELDERS:** Ruling body of the church. Responsibilities are: 1. Direct the activities and promote the spiritual interest of the church. 2. Be a faithful participant in worship. 3. Attend all Session meetings and assigned standing committee meetings. **DEACONS:** They are to be the instruments of the church's ministry of compassion, helping the poor, visiting the sick and the lonely, following the example of Jesus Christ. Duties: Attend all Deacon Meetings, be a faithful participant in worship and participate actively in the Deacons' ministry.

**Candidate's name and office: (You may volunteer yourself)**  
**NOMINATIONS ARE DUE BY May 1, 2022**

Name	Office

Please pray about your choice(s) and then drop this form in the offering plate; bring this form to the church office; or e-mail your nominations to Donna Carlisle, committee chair, at: [dlcarlisle@comcast.net](mailto:dlcarlisle@comcast.net). All transactions will be handled with complete confidentiality. If you have any questions, please contact any of the members of the Nominating Committee: Donna Carlisle, Chair; April Betzner, Crystal Domske, George Camlin, Lucy Johnson, Kim Lemons, Joan McCrory and Laura Phillips.

*We thank you for your prayerful consideration.*

**A LABOR OF LOVE**

With sadness, The Church of the Covenant accepted the retirement notice of Barb Knight from her duties overseeing The Carnahan Library. While the volunteer position lacked both an official title and job description it would be quite accurate to refer to the duty as a labor of love.

When Barb retired from teaching a number of years ago she stepped right into volunteering at The Church of the Covenant. She began serving on the Preschool Board, a perfect fit for the former teacher. Shortly after that, her involvement with the library began. What started as helping another church member (Diane Edwards) “organize the old library” grew into selecting and ordering the books, which were then processed.

Other early committee members included Marilyn Crawford and Jane Goddard “delightful to know and willing workers”, and later the committee expanded. All who have been involved in the library work have been appreciated and Barb takes many fond memories with her.

The Carnahan Library and The Church of the Covenant have been fortunate beneficiaries of her organizational gifts and love of books/reading. Many thanks for all you’ve done, Barb. You are a blessing (and then some) to The Church of the Covenant!

**MISSION MATTERS**

The Missions Committee will be having their annual flower sale on Saturday, May 7th. More information to follow.

Ladies mark your calendars for a Mother - Daughter Luncheon on Saturday, May 14th at noon. Please look for signs and information next month to purchase your tickets.

**DO YOU KNIT, CROCHET, OR SEW?**  
**HAVE MATERIAL LEFT OVER FROM MAKING MASKS?**  
**HERE’S AN OPPORTUNITY TO HELP OTHERS IN OUR AREA**

The Activity Director at Southmont, Presbyterian Senior Care Washington Campus, reached out to Hands and Hearts. They are in need of muffs to keep the elderly residents’ hands warm when sitting up in a chair not only in colder weather but also in the summer air conditioning. The muffs can be knitted, crocheted or sewn. There are free patterns on-line and tutorials on YouTube. Please spread the word to anyone who would like to share their talent. Hands and Hearts can reimburse for yarn or material. Any questions or to drop off, please contact Linda Grimm at 724-263-7911.



**COMMUNITY CIRCLE FOOD PANTRY EASTER FOOD DRIVE**

Easter is fast approaching. Once again this year, The Church of the Covenant is partnering with The Community Circle Food Pantry to help local families put Easter dinner on their tables, and to make Easter more special. You can make a difference for our neighbors in need by giving food items or financial support for the Easter Food Drive 2022. Food items can be dropped off in the gray bin in the Commons by March 28<sup>th</sup> (Easter is April 17<sup>th</sup> this year). For any questions, please call Melanie Wolfe at Community Circle Food Pantry, 724-225-1540, or email [mwolfe15301@outlook.com](mailto:mwolfe15301@outlook.com).

**Easter Dinner food items needed:**

- |                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Boxed scalloped potatoes | cake mix                  |
| Boxed au gratin potatoes | icing                     |
| Canned green beans       | Jell-O                    |
| Canned corn              | Easter Egg dye            |
| Canned beets             | Bag of jelly beans        |
| Canned fruit             | small bottles of vinegar. |



**MENAU MISSION TRIP NEWS!**  
**MISSION TRIP INFORMATIONAL MEETING**

**APRIL 5TH, 6:00 PM**



We will be having an informational meeting on April 5th at 6 pm at the church. Please come to find out more about this trip.

We've traveled to the Menaul School in Albuquerque, NM for 8 years, skipping the past two years because of COVID. The trip this year will be September 10-17.

So come to the meeting and learn more about this mission to prayerfully determine if this is for you. Any questions please contact Deb Evans @ [gonga1121@gmail.com](mailto:gonga1121@gmail.com) or 724-986-0816.

Menaul School is a faith-based, college preparatory day and boarding school for students in grades 6–12, rooted in developing excellence, confidence, and integrity and providing the foundation for life-long learning and ethical leadership.

**DITMAN LUTES FUND**

“The Ditman Lutes Fund was established by the generous vision of Vilesca Ditman and Sylvia Lutes to encourage education at a seminary by financially supporting church members in seminary studies. The Fund is a part of the Church’s endowment, annually generating income for this purpose. Each year income from the Fund is available to help seminary students.

If you, or a church 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 their tuition expenses.”

**Prayer Chain**  
**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**

April is Parkinson’s Disease Awareness Month. Raising public awareness about Parkinson’s is very important. It is thought to affect over 1 million people in the United States. It is a neurodegenerative condition and symptoms can vary widely among people in terms of type and severity. Symptoms of Parkinson’s Disease include: difficulties in balance, swallowing, chewing and speaking; tremor; slowness; constipation; sleep disruption; anxiety and issues with cognition. The cause is unknown and there are no known successful treatments to delay or stop progression. The symptoms are often mistaken for other conditions. Please talk with your PCP if you notice a tremor which is often the first noticeable sign of Parkinson’s; a referral to a neurologist will be the first step to a diagnosis. Any questions? Please contact me at 724-263-7911 or stop by Room 302 on Sunday mornings. Good Health to all!-Linda Grimm, RN

