



Covenant Connection

May 28, 2018 | Bi-Weekly Newsletter of Covenant Presbyterian Church

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

5-28

MEMORIAL DAY
(Church Office Closed)

6-3

Covenant Choir Practice
Fellowship Team

6-4

Community Nursing Steering
Committee
Congregational Care Team
Facilities Team
Worship Team

6-10

Covenant Choir Practice
Outreach Team

6-11

Christian Education Team

6-12

PW Executive Board
PW Circle Meeting
Preschool Ream
Stewardship & Finance Team

6-14

Executive Team

Connect with the Pastor ...



Memorial Day weekend marks the beginning of summer, especially with temperatures climbing and local school years ending just before the weekend's arrival. At risk of being lost in the race to embrace summer is Memorial Day itself and its

intended purpose: to honor those who died while serving in our nation's armed forces. For about 150 years in various parts of the country and in various forms, Memorial Day (or Decoration Day as it was known because of the decorating of soldiers' graves) has been observed. "No one has greater love than this – to lay down one's life for one's friends," says Jesus. In I John we hear that sentiment echoed: "We know love by this, that Jesus laid down his life for us – and we ought to lay down our lives for one another." On Memorial Day we recognize those who laid down their lives for us in service to the nation and thus showed great love for their friends, those they knew and those they never knew, except as fellow citizens. We may fairly debate the merits of the causes for which they were sent to fight, but on this weekend we

"No one has greater love than this – to lay down one's life for one's friends."

John 15:13

(Continued on page 3)

Help Keep the Church Clean

Recognizing that many folks are now taking beverages (water, coffee, tea) with them into the sanctuary during worship, Session is asking for your help in saving the carpet from stains and keeping our sanctuary clean. Please use a container with a lid to protect against spills (lids for paper coffee cups are now available in the breezeway) and remember to take your container with you after worship (along with any tissues, candy wrappers, or other miscellaneous items that may have been stuffed in a pew rack). The Facilities Team and church mice who so generously give of their time to tidy up the sanctuary each week will be most grateful!

*The LORD is close to
the brokenhearted and
saves those who are
crushed in spirit.*

Psalm 34:18 (NIV)



*Serve the Lord with
gladness: come before his
presence with singing.*

Psalm 100:2

The Covenant Choir will be rehearsing at 9:45 AM on Sunday mornings during the month of June. If you are interested in sharing your voice, please join them in the Choir Room during this time.



Can you smile? Can you say "Welcome?" Can you shake hands? Can you get to church 20 minutes early? If your answer is yes, yes, yes, and yes, then you can be a Covenant Greeter! This summer Thom and Peggy Jennings are helping Bobbye D'Orsi with the planning for greeters at the 10:30 AM worship services. They would love to hear from you if you are willing to be one of those first smiling faces at either the Library or Narthex doors prior to the service. You don't even have to be a church member to volunteer. So, put on your smiley face and send Thom and Peggy an email at jenningsthom@gmail.com or text them at 540-290-3791 to let them know you're ready to be a Covenant Greeter.

Connect with the Pastor... *Cont'd*

honor all those who went and served and died because they placed their lives at risk on our behalf.

Last Sunday evening the Session revised a policy with regard to funerals at Covenant for those who have served in the armed forces. If the casket is to be in the sanctuary a pall of white silk is usually used to cover the casket during the service or the casket is left uncovered; a national flag for someone who has served his/her nation will now be permitted to serve as the pall covering the casket, if that is the family's desire. In life and in death we all belong to God regardless of nationality; the flag simply recognizes service to the nation as we gather to celebrate the life of a loved one who has died and to affirm God's promises in Christ for him or her and for us all!



Helping Hands Day Camp 2018,
is for children who have completed
grades K through 5 and
youth who completed grades 6 to 12
during the 2017 - 2018 school year.

Camp Dates are:

Monday, **July 30** to Friday, **August 3**

Location: Covenant Presbyterian Church

The **cost** is **\$15.00** which pays for lunch, snacks & all other costs as well as a T-shirt. Scholarships are available and contributions to sponsor a camper in need of financial assistance are welcome.

Registration deadline is
Friday, June 29, 2018

For more information,
email helpinghandsstaunton@gmail.com

From Faith's Heart

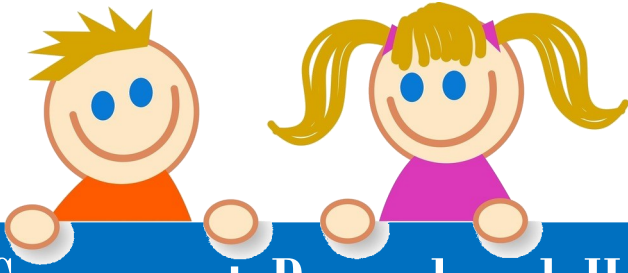
During the third week of April, we held our third annual Christian Girls' Camp at Otutulu. Once again, I had the privilege of being asked to share with the girls during one of their Bible sessions. The topic that I've been studying recently is marriage. Using Genesis 2:24 and Ephesians 5:32-33 as our main verses, we talked about God's purpose for marriage, how to prepare for marriage (including how to find "the right one"), and what to do if you're prepared but



never get married. Needless to say, there were many surprises tucked into my message.

When I asked my interpreter how it went, since these topics are tricky to do cross-culturally, she said, "You spoke from scripture. We need to hear this." I have since been asked to write out my lesson so that it can be translated and printed! "Our girls need to hear this, and no one is talking about it!" Please keep this new project in prayer!

— Crystal Gosnell, missionary in Nigeria



Covenant Preschool Happenings!

WOW! It is hard to believe we have finished another year of Preschool. We had a very busy first half of 2018 as we visited Blue Ridge Community College and saw the many fun opportunities there, visited a working dairy barn, toured our local Food Lion, and had a great field day at Montgomery Hall Park on the new Natural Playground.

We want to thank the Outreach Team for its continued support to help our families in need with tuition assistance and the amazing Preschool Team that helps with hiring, setting up for programs, and talking through policy updates and changes.

We have two scheduled weeks of Camp Covenant this summer that are chocked full with many friendly faces and excited friends to explore the jungle and the sea. As we move to August and the start of a new year, we still have openings in our Preschool 2 class (3-year-olds), so please let friends and family know if they are looking for a great place to send their children!

We are also sad to say "Goodbye" to our friend and loyal Office Assistant of ten (10) years, Jennifer Cook.

She will be taking a new position this summer with Verona United Methodist Church as their Office Administrator. We wish her many blessings in her new endeavor.

We look forward to letting you know in the fall what fun we have been up to as we start another school year. Please feel free to stop in and play if the spirit moves you!

Blessings!

Mitzi White, Preschool Director



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 4 Cents a Meal 8:30 AM Blended Worship 9:45 AM Covenant Choir Practice 10:30 AM Traditional Worship 3:00 PM Open Gym	28 MEMORIAL DAY Church Office Closed Covenant Connection Published	29	30	31 9:00 AM Verona Food Pantry	June 1	2
3 Presbyterian Coffee Project Peanut Butter Sunday 8:30 AM Blended Worship 9:30 AM Fellowship - Breezeway 10:30 AM Traditional Worship 12:00 PM Fellowship Team	4 4:30 PM Community Nursing Steering Committee 5:30 PM Congregational Care Team 7:00 PM Facilities Team 7:15 PM Worship Team	5	6	7 9:00 AM Verona Food Pantry	8 9:00 AM Newsletter Items Due	9
10 8:30 AM Blended Worship 9:30 AM Fellowship - Breezeway 10:30 AM Traditional Worship 12:00 PM Outreach Team	11 Covenant Connection Published 5:30 PM Christian Education Team	12 9:30 AM PW Execu- tive Board 10:00 AM PW Circle Meeting 5:30 PM Preschool Team 7:15 PM Stewardship & Finance Team	13	14 8:30 AM Executive Team 9:00 AM Verona Food Pantry	15 5:45 PM Fired Up Friday for Families	16
17 Father's Day 8:30 AM Blended Worship 9:30 AM Fellowship - Breezeway 10:30 AM Traditional Worship 11:45 AM Caregivers Group 7:00 PM STATED SESSION	18 8:30 AM Camp Covenant 10:30 AM Morning Bible Study	19 8:30 AM Camp Covenant	20 8:30 AM Camp Covenant	21 8:30 AM Camp Covenant 9:00 AM Verona Food Pantry	22 9:00 AM Newsletter Items Due	23
24 4 Cents a Meal 8:30 AM Blended Worship 9:30 AM Fellowship - Breezeway 10:30 AM Traditional Worship 6:00 PM Wrestling Through Faith (youth)	25 Covenant Connection Published	26	27	28 9:00 AM Verona Food Pantry	29	30

JUNE 2018

BIBLE CROSSWORD I

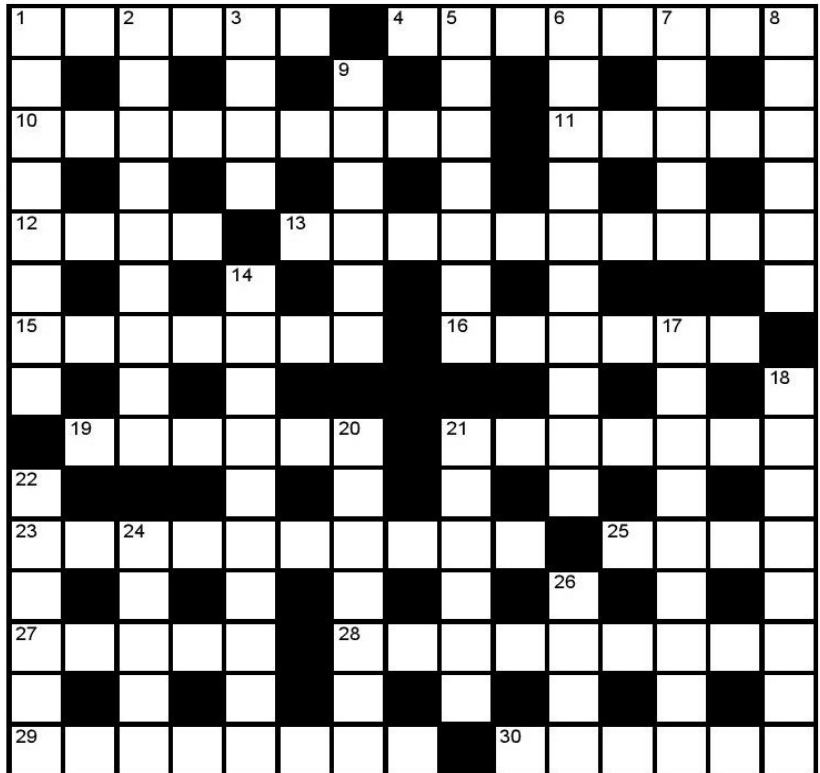
STAY TUNED – THE SOLUTION WILL BE POSTED IN THE JUNE 11TH NEWSLETTER.

Across

- 1 An ancient weight (6)
 4 Seemed (8)
 10 New Testament book (9)
 11 Unit of length (5)
 12 '...it is a ____ thing the king requireth' (Dan 2:11) (4)
 13 Contemplation (10)
 15 Abigail supplied David with one hundred clusters of these (7)
 16 A son of King David (6)
 19 Concurred (6)
 21 Light sources (7)
 23 Propitiations (10)
 25 A false god (4)
 27 Gather (5)
 28 Abimelech was hit by this (9)
 29 Instructors (8)
 30 Hastily (6)

Down

- 1 Skilled animal workers (8)
 2 Inspiring (9)
 3 Compass point (4)
 5 Intense emotion (7)



by *Philologus*

© BiblePuzzles.org.uk

6 The words of Jeremiah said not to listen to these (10)

7 Jewish leader (5)

8 'He is proud, knowing nothing, but _____ about questions and strifes of words...' (1 Tim 6:4) (6)

9 Bread makers (6)

14 In this year of King Nebuchadrezzar's reign, Nebuzaradan arrived in Jerusalem (10)

17 Ancient city of Og, King of Bashan (9)

18 Stringed instrument (8)

20 Joseph, perhaps? (7)

21 Tiny amount (6)

22 Jesus did this with authority (6)

24 Last letter of the Greek alphabet (5)

26 Province of the Roman Empire (4)



Shenandoah Presbytery and
Bethel Presbyterian Church
invite you to a
Service of Ordination of
Kelly-Ann Rayle
as Minister of the
Word and Sacrament of
Bethel Presbyterian Church
on June 10, 2018 at 2:00pm
Bethel Presbyterian Church
563 Bethel Green Road
Staunton, VA
Reception to follow
the service.

Session Highlights

At its stated meeting on May 20th, the Session took the following actions:

- ◆ Approved a recycling program at the church led by the youth
- ◆ Approved changes to the service of ordination/installation of elders to move the welcoming of new elders to a reception following worship
- ◆ Approved changes to the guidelines/rules with regard to funerals and memorial services to permit placement of a flag on the casket as a pall in the sanctuary during the service
- ◆ Approved appointment of a task force to review safety measures in the church



WHO: Kids, parents, families
(no age restrictions) **bring your friends**
WHAT: Games, Bible Lesson, and
Service Project
WHEN: Friday, June 15, 5:45 PM to 8:15 PM
WHERE: At the Church
COST: \$5 per family

This is a family event!
Let us know you plan to come!

Kline's BBQ for dinner from 5:45 to 6:15 PM.
Then families will gather into larger groups
to go through the rotations together.

RSVP to Laura Lawson at
lauramayfieldlawson@gmail.com

Connect *with* Others

Presbyterian Women



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

The Presbyterian Women will gather for the last circle meeting until Fall on Tuesday, June 12th at 10:00 am in the Breezeway. Mary Ann Stripling will be leading our discussion entitled "In Community with All the Saints." After our general business meeting, we will all go out to lunch at a favorite restaurant. There are no circle meetings in July and August. We look forward to seeing everyone back on September 11th for our Fall Luncheon as we begin our 2018-2019 session. Please plan to join us on June 12th and September 11th!

Thank You

Dear Covenant Family:
During Mary's recent hospitalization, and now recovery journey, you have been the Lord's faithful disciples blessing us daily. We have appreciated beyond measure your calls, visits, cards, meals, and prayers. They have lifted us up and brought light to our path. John Peterson's uplifting and reassuring presence and prayers were with us from day one. We thank all of you for your loving support. May God grant you love, joy, and peace.

— Charlie and Mary Huppuch

Thank You!



*Judy Campbell,
a long-time member of Covenant,
died on May 14th, at age 96.
Please keep her son Doug, their
family and friends in your prayers.*

Condolences

Items for the next newsletter are due to Martha by **9:00 AM on Friday, June 8th.**

Please email her at:
covenantpcusastaunton@gmail.com



Stay Connected on Facebook



If you've used Facebook for any length of time you may have noticed that you have very little control over which posts of friends or pages you like will show up in your news feed. It really depends on how Facebook's algorithm interprets your actions and uses that information to select content to show you. So, if you aren't seeing Covenant's posts on a daily basis, there is something you can do. **Like, comment on, or share our posts.** Facebook will read these actions and determine that the Covenant's posts are important to you. **Do this often to make sure you stay connected with us on Facebook.**

What's Happening In the Community

June 2 — **Sweet Dreams** is a family friendly event from **9:00 AM to 4:00 PM** at the **Stuarts Draft Park**. **FREE** to all who attend! There are fun contests for everyone including a Fudge Round Eating Contest and Photo Contest. Families will also enjoy the wide range of activities in the Children's Area that include a craft tent, rock climbing wall, laser tag, inflatables, entertainment and so much more. Other activities include: live musical entertainment, bingo, local artisans, crafters, businesses and community agencies, homemade pancake breakfast, delicious festival foods, co-ed softball tournament, 5K race and corn hole tournaments. The Sweet Dreams Festival is a day for celebrating our community and a definite "must attend event!"

June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 — The **Staunton Augusta Farmers' Market** is a "producer-only" market featuring homegrown and homemade from local producers. The Saturday morning market operates from **7:00 AM until noon at the Wharf Parking Lot** on Johnson Street in historic downtown Staunton. The market averages 30 to 40 vendors each week. A festive, outdoor marketplace with special events, music and plenty of free parking.

June 5, 12, 19, 26 — **Stonewall Brigade Band Summer Series in Gypsy Hill Park, 8:00 pm** each Monday, June - August.

June 7, 14, 21, 28 — Come on down to **Groovin' at the Greenway, Thursday evenings from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM** and relax by the river, where good music comes naturally. This **FREE music series** is sure to have you tapping your toes. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. June 7—Righteous Friendz (World); June 14—Bryan Elijah Smith (Alt Americana); June 21—The Judy Chops (Alt Everything!); and June 28—Hard Swimmin' Fish (Ol'-Timey/Vintage Roots)

June 9 — **Gypsy Food Truck Roundup at Gypsy Hill Park from 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM**, featuring local food trucks, music, games and activities for children. Admission is free and open to the public, simply pay for your own food. Please bring a blanket or a lawn chair to each event, rain or shine.

June 9 — **A Victorian Evening in the Queen City** — Celebrating Staunton's incorporation in 1871! Showcasing the Historic Architecture and Marvelous Downtown Community. **Event begins 2:00 PM at the Depot** with the arrival of the vintage Arvonian Club Car provided by Buckingham Branch Railroad. A welcome speech is scheduled by the Ambassadors of the Evening with a processional to Downtown to follow. **Entertainment and activities scheduled throughout Downtown from 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM:** Victorian Crazy Quilts and Paper Piercing, Feather Painting, Etiquette Lessons, Cane Dueling, Fortune Teller, Musicians, Feline Menagerie, Victorian Cooking Demonstration, High Tea and Low Tea, Language of the Fan, Gentlemen's Beard and Mustache Contests, Ladies and Children Clothing Contests, Historic Building Tours, Ghost Tours and so much more!

June 16 — The **24th Harrisonburg-Rockingham African-American Festival** celebrates the rich heritage and diversity of our community. It is our wish to create unity, promote family and celebrate the accomplishments of African-Americans through our events and programs. Join us on **Saturday from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM** at **Harrisonburg's Ralph Sampson Park**. Enjoy a day of entertainment, fellowship, family fun, crafts, art, music, food, exhibitors and more!

June 23 & 24 — JMU Children's Theatre presents Roanoke Children's Theatre performing, **Charlotte's Web**. The best-selling children's paperback of all time tells the story of Wilbur, the irresistible young pig that desperately wants to avoid the butcher, and Charlotte, the extraordinary spider on a campaign to save him. Watch this timeless tale of friendship and loyalty come to life in a thrilling theatrical presentation! Features 2015 JMU musical theatre alum and Harrisonburg native Caitlin McAvooy as Charlotte. **Shows at 2:00 PM and 4:00 PM at Forbes Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets: Adults—\$14, Children—\$11.**

Read the Bible in a Year

May 28	Reflect on God as Rest		
<input type="checkbox"/> 29	1 Kings 19-20	Ps. 68	Rom. 7
<input type="checkbox"/> 30	1 Kings 21-22	Job 9	Rom. 8
<input type="checkbox"/> 31	2 Kings 1-3	Ps. 69	Rom. 9
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	2 Kings 4-5	Job 10	Rom. 10
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	2 Kings 6-8	Ps. 70	Rom. 11
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	2 Kings 9-10	Job 11	Rom. 12
June 4	Reflect on God as Restorer		
<input type="checkbox"/> 5	2 Kings 11-13	Ps. 71	Rom. 13
<input type="checkbox"/> 6	2 Kings 14-15	Job 12	Rom. 14
<input type="checkbox"/> 7	2Kings 16-18	Ps. 72	Rom. 15
<input type="checkbox"/> 8	2 Kings 19-20	Job 13	Rom. 16
<input type="checkbox"/> 9	2 Kings 21-23	Ps. 73	1 Cor. 1
<input type="checkbox"/> 10	2 Kings 24-25	Job 14	1 Cor. 2
June 11	Reflect on God as Center		
<input type="checkbox"/> 12	1 Chron. 1-3	Ps. 74	1 Cor. 3
<input type="checkbox"/> 13	1 Chron. 4-6	Job 15	1 Cor. 4
<input type="checkbox"/> 14	1 Chron. 7-9	Ps. 75	1 Cor. 5
<input type="checkbox"/> 15	1 Chron. 10-12	Job 16	1 Cor. 6
<input type="checkbox"/> 16	1 Chron. 13-15	Ps. 76	1 Cor. 7
<input type="checkbox"/> 17	1 Chron. 16-18	Job 17	1 Cor. 8

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I'VE REALLY ENJOYED OUR TIME TOGETHER TODAY ... WANNA MAKE THIS A REGULAR WEEKLY THING?

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COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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www.covenantpresstaunton.org

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MINISTERIAL & PROGRAM STAFF

John C. Peterson

Pastor

Kate Rascoe

Parish Associate

Laura Lawson

Director of Youth Ministries

Betty Richmond

Interim Director of Children's Ministries

Jeffrey Ryman

Minister of Music

Christopher Wszalek

Organist

Lou Dolive

Handbell Director

Joan Swift

Director of Children's Music

Mitzi White

Developmental Preschool Director

Martha Pierce

Administrative Assistant

Paul Sorrell

Treasurer

Kathy Henderson

Covenant Nurse

Cleo Holly

Custodian

The Mission of Covenant Presbyterian Church is Striving to be Faithful Disciples of Christ: Worshiping with Joy, Growing in Faith, Serving in Love.

Covenant Connection is a publication of
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2001 N. Coalter Street, Staunton, VA 24401.

The newsletter is published bi-weekly to inform members and friends of church programs, news and events. The Connection newsletter is online at www.covenantpresstaunton.org.



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*Striving to be Faithful Disciples of Christ:
Worshiping with Joy, Growing in Faith, Serving in Love*



The Outreach Team
reminds you
"PEANUT BUTTER SUNDAY"
is the first Sunday of
every month!
Please bring a jar of
peanut butter.

Fill the  bucket

FOR THOSE IN NEED