

Covenant Connection

October 15, 2018 | Bi-Weekly Newsletter of Covenant Presbyterian Church

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

10-16

Stewardship & Finance Team

10-17

TOW-Together on Wednesday Bible Study: Storied Women of the OT

10-18

Bell Choir Rehearsal
Covenant Choir Rehearsal

10-19

Fired-Up Friday (2nd-8th graders)

10-21

Worship & Sunday School
Alpha Choir Rehearsal
Omega Choir Rehearsal
CareGivers Group
Wrestling Through Faith (youth)
STATED SESSION MEETING

10-22

Monday Morning Bible Study

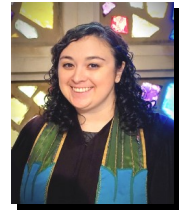
10-24

TOW-Together on Wednesday Bible Study: Storied Women of the OT

Connect with the Associate Pastor ...

Hello, Friends!

The Psalmist tells us, "How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live in unity!" This incredibly short psalm (only 3 verses!) compares loved ones, both friends and family, living together with precious oil and morning dew falling on the mountains of Zion.



While my immediate family lives in Durham, NC, I do feel that I have been finding kindred left and right at Covenant.

This week, I will head up to Ohio to spend some time with six other clergy-type-folk to dwell together in unity for a few days. I meet with this group twice a year. We are ordained and unordained, serving in various calls from large churches in Cleveland to tiny congregations of less than 25 in very rural Wyoming. We are a diverse group.

My favorite part of our time together is that we will spend at least four to five hours on our first day doing what we call a check in. We take turns going around and sharing with each other what makes us smile most days, what makes us cry, and what makes us want to scream. When a person is finished sharing, we ask follow up questions. We don't try to problem solve — that will happen in casual moments while we prepare meals together or go for a walk. Instead, we ask clarifying questions that help us to truly understand the joys and sorrows in each other's lives.

How very good and pleasant these experiences are for me! How rejuvenating and mind-clearing!

Continued on Page 3

A Bible Verse to Think About - Romans 12:8 (NIV)

If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.



There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, October 21, immediately after the 10:30 service for the purpose of hearing a report from the Nominating Committee for the election of seven elders to the Class of 2021 and one elder to fill an unexpired term in the Class of 2020.

Monday Morning Bible Study



Please join us for Bible study on Mondays at 10:30 AM in the Conference Room (near the church offices). We will look at the text for the next Sunday's sermon. Come and dive a little deeper into God's word, share your insights, and get a head start on the next sermon. All are welcome!

Items for the next newsletter are due to Martha by **9:00 AM on Friday, October 26th.**

Please email her at: covenantpcusastaunton@gmail.com



Church Kitchen Use & Rules

Lots of people use the Great Hall Kitchen, so please remember:

- ◆ If you use something, put it back.
- ◆ If you dirty something, clean it.
- ◆ If you bring something, take it with you.
- ◆ If you need to leave something temporarily, label it with your name and phone number.
- ◆ If you are leaving a donation, please label it as such.



Connect with the Associate Pastor...

God created us to live in community, friends. Have you found a community of individuals to care for you in this way? It doesn't have to be a retreat spent elsewhere. It can just be a friend that you walk with some mornings. Or it can be someone you grab coffee with once or twice a month. Or it can be the folks at your table at Together on Wednesday. It could be the Saints and Sinners corner on Sunday morning (I trust that is how they are spending their Sunday school hour!).

In yesterday's sermon, I talked about how God has brought us all together to live in community with one another. Events like TOW and Fired Up Fridays and Dinner Groups are all ways that Covenant brings folks together to check in with one another and to share our joys and concerns. It's our way of living in unity. How very good and pleasant!

Sarah



The Joy of Sharing Christmas

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

*Saturday, December 8th,
come anytime between 6-8pm
Sunday, December 9th,
come anytime between 3-5pm*

This theatrical production sponsored and coordinated by the Christian Education Team

is a re-telling of the story of the birth of Jesus.

Created to hold the attention of all ages, this re-telling is depicted in bite-size stories.

People will journey through the church to see the different scenes of stories leading up to and following Jesus' birth. There will be music, skits and cookies!

We will share the story of Jesus' birth and learn why we celebrate so much at Christmastime.

A message from TOW and the Fellowship Team:

If you have left any dishes, appliances, trays, baskets, etc. in the Great Hall kitchen, please come claim it in the next two weeks. Unclaimed items will be donated to a needy organization.

Thank you.

We Need You!

The Education & Mentoring Task Force is excited about its first call for volunteers to help create and execute a one-hour hands-on educational experience for the Boys & Girls Club of Waynesboro, Staunton, and Augusta County. We need a plethora of skills to come together to make this happen. From planning the activity, volunteering the day of the event, or shopping and collecting supplies, all those willing and able can participate in making this a success. The activity, scheduled for Friday, November 9th from 4:00 to 5:00 pm at the Staunton branch of the Boys & Girls Club located at the Booker T. Community Center, will be geared for children K through 5th grade. Wish to help? Want more information? Please contact Kristin Siegel at kmsiegel@gmail.com, Rebecca Allison at beccaletsplay@gmail.com; or Robyn Sommerfield at robynsommerfield@gmail.com.



Presbyterian Women Recap

Unlikely and reluctant, yet chosen. Did you know Moses, Gideon, and Michelangelo could all be described as such? Carol Jennings led our lesson and taught us, "God's promise is extended to everyone, even those who doubt their abilities or feel inadequate. God doesn't call the equipped; God equips the called."

Our study book is "right on"! We still have copies of **God's Promise: I Am With You** available if you would like one.

A big "Thank You" to all for the Thank Offering . . . \$543 was collected. The money has been sent to Presbytery for missions. Also, thank you to Martha Ware for sending over 60 cards this year to our Covenant members from Presbyterian Women.

At our October 9th meeting, twenty-four Covenant women enjoyed fellowship and delicious treats provided by Charlotte and Jerry Lynn.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR for our next meeting, November 13 at 10:00 AM in the Breezeway. Hope you will join us!

LEARN Tutor Training WORKSHOP

Saturday, October 20th
9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Covenant's Fellowship Hall

Tutors are needed to help people from other countries learn English to improve their lives.

Sign up by October 16th by emailing learnva@gmail.com or calling 540-256-9191. If no one answers, please leave your name, telephone number, and email address.

Fight Local Poverty *with* LEARN

LEARN is the acronym for "Learn English And Reading Now." LEARN is a local Staunton/Augusta County organization dedicated to helping all the people of this area learn to read and write effective English. Thus they'll qualify for better jobs and interact more usefully in their community.

When I first encountered LEARN several years ago, they had only 16 trained teachers to serve local people who need a fairly long-term and intensive learning process. Now they have more than 70 teachers and are still reaching out.

I'm pleased to say I recently completed my LEARN training, and will soon be teaching a young Vietnamese man whose family runs a local shop. He wants to qualify for professional licenses and communicate better with customers and businesses. At the moment, he is back in Vietnam getting married, but when he returns, we'll start the English lessons.

The teaching process is almost simplicity itself. We start by talking about his life, how he came to the U.S., and how he functions with limited language skills. Either he'll write the story himself, and I will help him edit it, or I will write it, and he will edit. Gradually, we will learn more about each other, and he will refine his English reading and writing. The weekly interaction is the key.

I've already met LEARN students who credit the organization with radically improving their skills. LEARN says it is limited only by the number of potential teachers who step forward for an intriguing and rewarding once-a-week-for-two-hours experience. LEARN is supported by the United Way and can accept tax-free donations. It can also show any of us to teach their system, fairly quickly.

For more information, please contact LEARN at 540-245-5063. — Submitted by Dennis Avery



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
21 8:30 AM Blended Worship 9:10 AM Alpha Choir (K-3rd) 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Traditional Worship 11:30 AM Omega Choir (4th-7th) 11:30 AM Congregational Meeting 11:45 AM CareGivers Group 6:00 PM Wrestling Through Faith (Youth) 7:00 PM STATED SESSION MEETING	15 10:30 AM Bible Study Covenant Connection Published	16 7-15 PM Stewardship & Finance Team	17 6:00 PM TOW - Together on Wednesday 7:00 PM Bible Study	18 9:00 AM Verona Food Pantry 5:45 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Covenant Choir	19 5:45 pm Fired-Up Friday (2nd-8th)	20 9:00 AM LEARN Tu- for Training
28 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY 8:30 AM Blended Worship 9:10 AM Alpha Choir (K-3rd) 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Traditional Worship 11:30 AM Omega Choir (4th-7th) 12:00 PM Education & Mentoring Task Force and Food Insecurity Task Force 3:00 PM Open Gym 6:00 PM Wrestling Through Faith (Youth)	29 10:30 AM Bible Study Covenant Connection Published	30	31 Halloween - No TOW!	Nov. 1 9:00 AM Verona Food Pantry 5:45 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Covenant Choir	2	3
21 9:00 AM Items for Newsletter Due	22 10:30 AM Bible Study	23	24 6:00 PM TOW - Together on Wednesday 7:00 PM Bible Study	25 9:00 AM Verona Food Pantry 5:45 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Covenant Choir	26	27

OCT - NOV 2018



WHO: 2nd-8th Grade (w/ High School Leadership) ****bring friends****
WHAT: Games, Bible Lesson & Service Project
WHEN: Friday, October 19, 6:00-8:00 PM
(check-in starts at 5:45)
WHERE: At the Church
COST: \$5 per family

Let us know you plan to come!

This ministry, occurring on the third Fridays of the month, is for our children to get a chance to bring some friends to church, have some fun, and serve together! The Middle School students will be separate from the Elementary School students, so it won't feel like the older kids are too old or the younger kids are too young. It's like youth group fun, for all ages (well, for 2nd-8th graders). We also need High School students to help lead the groups. Email Laura Lawson with questions or to RSVP at lauramayfieldlawson@gmail.com



**CHURCH WOMEN UNITED
of
STAUNTON/AUGUSTA**

Invites you to the
**Annual Community Day Celebration
November 9, 2018**

**Second Presbyterian Church
201 West Frederick Street, Staunton**

Refreshments & Registration @ 9:30 AM

Program "PEACE" @ 10:00 AM
Speaker is Peace Advocate, Krista Powell
from Springdale Mennonite Church

The Fellowship Team has reserved 20 tickets for the November 11th performance at 3:00 PM.

Brent Bussey will play Bill Austin.

Tickets are \$17 for adults, \$14 for seniors, and \$10 for children.

For tickets, contact Melissa Druff,
540-448-1948 or druffm@comcast.net,
by the end of day November 6th
to reserve your seats.



Music & Lyrics by
**BENNY ANDERSSON
BJÖRN ULVAEUS**

And some songs with STIG ANDERSON

**November 11th
@ 3:00 PM**



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER ASSISTANCE
FOR HURRICANE MICHAEL**

GIVE

SHARE YOUR FINANCIAL BLESSINGS TO
HELP DISASTER SURVIVORS

ACT

GET INVOLVED WITH DISASTER
RECOVERY MINISTRY

PRAY

OUR BEST RESPONSE IS PRAYER.
SEEK GOD'S PRESENCE ON BEHALF
OF DISASTER SURVIVORS.

Send gifts designated to
DR000194 to:
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
PO Box 643700
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700



Cooking for One (or two)

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH
5:00 — 6:00 PM (just before TOW)
FELLOWSHIP HALL

During this 45-minute session (plus time for questions), Tech Extension nutritionist Kay Shaner will discuss ways to make the often-onerous task of planning and cooking meals for one or two people into an enjoyable, healthy experience. Although billed as a class for “older adults” (anyone over 45), all are welcome to join us for this fun, informative talk.

What's Happening In the Community

October 13 & 20 — Skeeter's Maze Adventure. Come join Skeeter and his friends on your trip through the corn maze. Find your way through the 5.5 acre maze, then spend time with your friends in our gaga ball pit, playing corn hole, playing 9-square, or one of other fun games! **BUY YOUR PUMPKINS** while you are here—only \$2-\$6 each! There's so much to do at Skeeter's Maze Adventure! **Admission is \$5.00 per person, 2 and under are free!** All proceeds benefit Camp LIGHT! October 13th - Car Show; October 20th - Vendor & Craft Show.

October 20 — Select a Sports Day, noon to 4:00 PM at Gypsy Hill Park. A perfect opportunity to get outside, spend time with the family, and try a sport that you wouldn't have previously. This free event will present a variety of different sports, including soccer, baseball, and basketball. Events will take place at surrounding sports facilities near the Gypsy Hill Park Gym and Lake Tams parking lot. All ages welcome!

October 27 — Halloween Downtown Staunton, 10:00 AM to noon, Wharf Parking Lot. Receive a list of participating shops and businesses that will be providing trick or treat goodies to children in costume. Enter the free Parks and Recreation costume contest at Sunspots Pavilion for your chance to win SDDA gift cards and bragging rights. We will choose the first, second, and third place winners and YOU get to choose the grand prize winner, which is People's Choice. All photos will be posted on the Staunton Parks and Recreation's Facebook page. The costume with the most likes will win the People's Choice award and the costume contest too!

Read the Bible in a Year

Oct 15	Reflect on God's Generosity		
<input type="checkbox"/> 16	Jer. 19-20	Ps. 119:105-112	Rev. 6
<input type="checkbox"/> 17	Jer. 21-22	Ps. 119:113-120	Rev. 7
<input type="checkbox"/> 18	Jer. 23-24	Ps. 119:121-128	Rev. 8
<input type="checkbox"/> 19	Jer. 25-26	Prov. 1	Rev. 9
<input type="checkbox"/> 20	Jer. 27-28	Ps. 119:129-136	Rev. 10
<input type="checkbox"/> 21	Jer. 29-30	Prov. 2	Rev. 11
Oct 22	Reflect on God's Compassion		
<input type="checkbox"/> 23	Jer. 31-32	Ps. 119:137-144	Rev. 12
<input type="checkbox"/> 24	Jer. 33-34	Prov. 3	Rev. 13
<input type="checkbox"/> 25	Jer. 35-36	Ps. 119:145-152	Rev. 14
<input type="checkbox"/> 26	Jer. 37-38	Prov. 4	Rev. 15
<input type="checkbox"/> 27	Jer. 39-40	Ps. 119:153-160	Rev. 16
<input type="checkbox"/> 28	Jer. 41-42	Prov. 5	Rev. 17
Oct 29	Reflect on God's Wisdom		
<input type="checkbox"/> 30	Jer. 43-44	Ps. 119:161-168	Rev. 18
<input type="checkbox"/> 31	Jer. 45-46	Prov. 6	Rev. 19
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Jer. 47-48	Ps. 119:169-176	Rev. 20
<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Jer. 49-50	Prov. 7	Rev. 21
<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Jer. 51-52	Ps. 120-121	Rev. 22
<input type="checkbox"/> 4	Ezekiel 1-3	Prov. 8	Luke 1

Help the Valley Mission

The Outreach Team needs your help by providing items to the Valley Mission. The collection will be conducted from Monday, October 15 through Monday, October 29.

Items needed are:

- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Paper napkins
- 55 gallon trash bags
- 13 gallon trash bags
- Liquid laundry detergent
- Cleaning supplies
- Lysol
- Pinesol



You may leave your items outside the church office.

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2001 N. Coalter Street, Staunton, VA 24401

www.covenantpresstaunton.org

Office 540-885-2138 = Fax 540-885-4399

Office hours: Monday-Thursday 8:15AM-3:15PM,
Friday 8:15AM-12:15PM



MINISTERIAL & PROGRAM STAFF

John C. Peterson

Pastor

Sarah Wolf

Associate Pastor

Laura Lawson

Director of Youth 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
Covenant Presbyterian Church.

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.



2001 North Coalter Street
Staunton, VA 24401

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

We're on the web!
covenantpresstaunton.org

Let Us Know You're Coming to TOW!

In order to prepare the correct quantity of food, we are asking that you **RSVP by noon on the Monday** before the TOW you will be attending. You may do this by:

- Signing the Friendship Register in the pew on Sunday
- Calling the church office at 885-2138

Vegetarian options are available at all meals.

October 17 @ 6:00 PM
"Italian Night"

Baked Ziti with Meatballs on the side,
Chicken Broccoli Alfredo,
Garlic Bread and Salad

October 24 @ 6:00 PM
"Taco Salad Night"

**Join us at 7:00 pm for Bible Study:
Storyed Women of the OT**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
TOGETHER ON
TOW
WEDNESDAY