

Covenant Connection

April 15, 2019 | Bi-Weekly Newsletter of Covenant Presbyterian Church

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

4-15

Monday Morning Bible Study

4-17

Bell Choir Rehearsal
Covenant Choir Rehearsal

4-18

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Communion Service

4-21

EASTER SUNDAY

Blended Worship
Easter Brunch
Traditional Worship

4-24

60th Anniversary Committee

4-25

Bell Choir Rehearsal
Covenant Choir Rehearsal

4-28

Blended Worship
Alpha Choir (K-3rd)
Sunday School
Traditional Worship
Omega Choir (4th-7th)
Joint Task Force

4-29

Monday Morning Bible Study

May 2

Bell Choir Rehearsal
Covenant Choir Rehearsal

Connect with the Pastor ...



*A*s I write this on the eve of Holy Week it dawns on me that Jesus was roughly the age of our son Daniel at the time of his crucifixion and resurrection. That seems awfully young – young to suffer so, young to die, young to have such an impact on history and upon our lives! We sometimes think of Jesus as timeless – a man of indeterminate age who spoke with the wisdom of an ancient sage while garnering the love, respect, and hate of people of all ages long ago in a land far away. But the reality is that Jesus was born, lived, and died within our time and space. He walked the dusty roads of Palestine for only 33 years. He celebrated birthdays, stopped to eat lunch, and laid down his head to rest at night. He stubbed his toes on stones, mourned the death of friends, and got the flu. His incarnation affirms that Jesus fully experienced what it is to be human and so understands what our lives are like day to day. But it also affirms that in his betrayal and gruesome death he understands human suffering – suffering on a scale that we hope never to experience!

It has been said that Christians emphasize Jesus' humanity too much at his birth and his divinity too much at his resurrection. The two are entwined on those days and across all the days in between. So, before you rush from Palm Sunday's hosannas to Easter's alleluias, from the man riding on the donkey to the savior rising from the tomb, take time to reflect on the reality of the events of this week. Remember the crucifixion and Jesus' cry from the cross, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me!"

Continued on Page 3

A Bible Verse to Think About Isaiah 41:10

Fear not,
for I am with you;
be not dismayed,
for I am your God;
I will strengthen you,
I will help you,
I will uphold you
with my righteous
right hand.

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. 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, April 26th.**

Please email her at:
Covenantpcusastaunton@gmail.com



MAUNDY THURSDAY

Communion Service

**April 18, 2019 @
7:00 PM**

Do this in remembrance of me.
Luke 22:19

Note to the Church:

My family and I deeply appreciate your prayers and expressions of sympathy during our difficult time. I am blessed to have you as my church family.

— Karen Hanna

Please keep in your prayers:

Janie Ballurio and her family
on the death of Janie's aunt,
Janet Martin,
in New Holland, PA.

Condolences

Connect the Pastor ... Cont'd

Remember too his promise, "Today you will be with me in paradise." Remember it all! For, the good news of the empty tomb at Easter's dawn is inseparably tied to the agony of Good Friday and his mixed reception on Palm Sunday. As the psalmist says, "Weeping may linger in the night, but joy comes with the morning." This is a week in which there is weeping and rejoicing, humanity and divinity, death and new life, Good Friday and Easter!

As I head out on my sabbatical following our celebration on Easter, know that you all will be in my thoughts and prayers. Thank you for this opportunity to rest, relax, reflect, and rejuvenate. I look forward to the time away, but also to returning to you all in August! Blessings!



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

Covenant Presbyterian Women's
Birthday Offering Dinner
Tuesday, May 14, 2019
5:30 PM
Covenant Great Hall

"GOD IS FAITHFUL"
Salad Dinner with Birthday Cake
Discussion of Our Birthday Offering
Presentation of an
Honorary Life Membership
Musical Performance by
Members of St. Paul's "Celebration"

Celebration is an Outreach Ministry of St. Paul's United Methodist Church and has presented programs for a number of churches and locations around our area and in neighboring states.

The Birthday Offering launched in 1922 by Presbyterian Women in the USA has funded more than 200 mission projects that touch the lives of women and children. This year our offering will support four USA ministries.

SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX ON MAY 5 & 12




Photo from the wedding
of Crystal Gosnell
and Rafael John



Nursing Nook with Kathy Henderson, RN



Finally, forsythia and daffodils are blooming, and the sun is shining warmly (some days, at least). It's time for spring cleaning: Shine up those windows, shake out the rugs and . . . clear out old medicines. Check your medicine cabinets, bedside tables, travel bags and other odd spots where you've stashed those last four tablets of Augmentin or the leftovers from the muscle relaxer prescribed several years ago. Check the label: Somewhere in small print is a "discard by" date. That date is sometimes an edict, occasionally a suggestion. Although some medicines and vitamins are "good" beyond their expiration dates, most aren't – and not only become less effective over time, but can cause adverse reactions when used with others. Ask your pharmacist for the "real" expiration date – and use a bold marker to note it on the pill bottle. While you're at it, make sure your personal medication list is current – and make a copy to carry with you.

Next, check to insure all your medicines — prescribed *and* over-the-counter — work well together: I have occasionally discovered some unintended (and potentially ugly) side effects caused by using two or more seemingly helpful medications at the same time. Ask your pharmacist for interaction details, or try one of the following easy-to-use charts at www.drugs.com or www.webmd.com.

To make your drug cleanup job easier, Greater Augusta Prevention Partners is sponsoring **"Drug Take Back Day," 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM, Saturday, April 27**. Toss your old meds and vitamins into a bag and take them to one of the following locations: Parking lots at Fisher Auto Parts (across from Staunton Kroger); Neighborhood Market on Broad Street, Waynesboro; Augusta County Sheriff's Office, Verona. Happy cleaning!



Easter Services

8:30 & 10:30 AM
SUNDAY, APRIL 21

Easter Brunch

Join us on Sunday, April 21st at 9:30 AM in the Great Hall as the YOUth serve Easter Brunch.

All are welcome!

(There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday.)

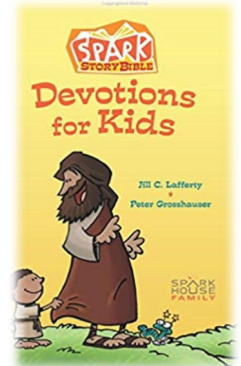


New in our
Children's
Library

SPARK STORY BIBLE DEVOTIONS FOR KIDS

Edited by Jill C. Lafferty; Illustrated by Peter Grosshauser

This devotional will take kids on a journey through 100 of the most beloved Bible stories. Each devotion is accompanied by delightful illustrations from the Spark Story Bible. These devotions about God's people and prophets, miracles and teachings of Jesus, and the early church will help kids and families grow closer to God and to each other. Apply the stories and wisdom of scripture to daily life with discussion questions, prayers, key verses, and activities to do together as a family. — taken from the back cover



NURSERY WORKERS NEEDED

The Nursery Team is looking for adults and families who would enjoy playing with our youngest members during the 10:30 AM church service. Our new plan is to have volunteers come the first Sunday of the month, every month. If you would like to come join the fun, please contact Susie Oberg, 885-6832. We promise you will leave with a smile on your face!










COVENANT MEAL MINISTRY

helps care for members of our church family during demanding and/or difficult times.

We use a simple online tool to coordinate and schedule meals. If you would like to be on the list of those willing to provide meals, please contact

Karen Peterson at
petersonkarenc@gmail.com



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	15 10:30 AM Morning Bible Study Covenant Connection Published	16	17 5:45 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Covenant Choir	18 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service 	19	20
21 8:30 AM Blended Worship 9:30 AM Easter Brunch 10:30 AM Traditional Worship	22 Church Office Closed	23	24 4:00 PM 60th Anniversary Committee	25 5:45 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Covenant Choir	26 9:00 AM Items due for News-letter	27
						
28 4 Cents a Meal 8:30 AM Blended Worship 9:10 AM Alpha Choir (K-3rd) 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Traditional Worship 11:45 AM Omega Choir (4th-7th) 11:45 AM Joint Task Force	29 10:30 AM Morning Bible Study Covenant Connection Published	30	May 1	2 5:45 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Covenant Choir 	3	4
5 Peanut Butter Sunday Presbyterian Coffee Project 8:30 AM Blended Worship 9:10 AM Alpha Choir (K-3rd) 9:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Traditional Worship 11:45 AM Omega Choir (4th-7th) 11:45 AM Fellowship Team 11:45 AM Outreach Team 6:30 PM Youth Group	6 10:30 AM Morning Bible Study 7:00 PM Facilities Team 7:15 PM Worship Team 	7	8	9 5:45 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Covenant Choir	10 9:00 AM Items due for News-letter 10:00 AM Novels & Needles Book Group 	11

APRIL-MAY 2019



Massanetta Springs



Help Massanetta Springs Fan the Future!

The Great Community Give Day is back, and Massanetta will hold its, "**Fanning the Future Fundraiser**" on **Wednesday, April 17th from 6:30 AM to 8:00 PM.**

The four main funding goals are:

1. Installation of two industrial sized fans for the front of Hudson Auditorium.
2. Purchase new sound equipment.
3. Support for the 2019 Middle School, Bible, and Church Music Conferences.
4. Surpass last year's total of 272 individual donors by reaching our goal of 400 donors in one day.

A generous couple has come forward to match the first \$8,000 donated to the fundraiser, and the Friends of Massanetta will match the next \$1,000. This means when we raise our first \$9,000, we will actually have raised \$18,000!

To take advantage of the matching gift:

- Your gift must be given on April 17th between 6:30 AM to 8:00 PM.
- Your gift must come through the Great Community Give online giving platform. We will post that link on our website (www.massanettasprings.org) early on the morning of April 17th.

For more information visit:

<https://massanettasprings.org/blogarchive/fanthefuture>

Thank you for helping Massanetta fan the future!



Join us for the

1st Annual

Baja Benefit Gala

*To support the 2019 Shenandoah
Presbytery Baja Mission Trip*

Saturday, May 18, 2019

6:00 to 9:30 PM

Frontier Culture Museum

\$50 per person

**Included: Beer/wine, appetizers,
Cinco de Mayo Dinner & Dessert,
Silent Auction, Great Music**

**For tickets, contact
Robyn Sommerfield at
robynsommerfield@gmail.com**



Thank You's

The Facilities Team gives a big thumbs up to all who helped during the recent Spring Clean Up. Thank you for giving up your Saturday morning to help beautify the church in preparation for our Easter services. Also, the team wants to remind us all to be good stewards of our church and resources by keeping our church tidy.

The Outreach Team would like to thank those who contributed recently to the special drive for the Valley Mission.

Thank you for
providing paper
products, trash
bags and cleaning supplies
that were so needed.

Thank You!

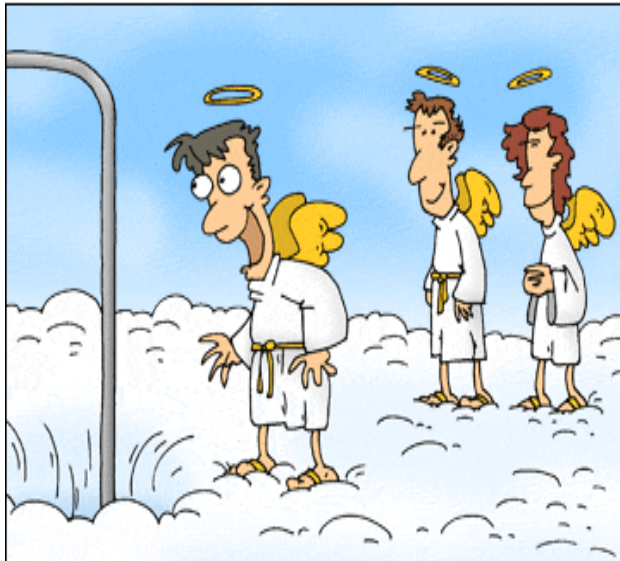


Where were
you in 1959?

Where will
you be on
August 25, 2019?

We hope you'll
be celebrating
Covenant's
60th Anniversary
with us!

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I JUST KNEW YOU WOULD HAVE FIREMAN
POLES UP HERE

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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.



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

We're on the web!
covenantpresstaunton.org



It's time for
new pictures!

It's been almost four (4) years since our last major church directory update! The directory serves as a useful tool for members to put names to faces. We currently use Instant Church Directory as our online application. The directory is kept up to date in terms of new contact information and new members weekly. ***However, for most of us, the pictures are becoming out of date, especially for our families with children who change so fast.*** We have again chosen to go with an in-house approach to preparing the directory rather than utilizing a more formal photographer approach.

We have chosen this based on the ease for members to get pictures taken and not have a hard sell to purchase photographs. We are fortunate at Covenant to have talented photographers in our midst who are willing to take pictures. Our goal is to have the entire Church family, current, and future members, in the new Directory.

We will have photographers available on the following Sundays, after each service: May 5 & 19 and June 2 & 9. Sign-ups will be available two (2) weeks before, but not required. Just plan on having your picture taken on one of those Sundays and show up. Easy as that! There will be plenty of volunteers giving directions. At the same time, we will be confirming/updating your contact information. Please talk to your families and pick a date for your photograph. ***It will be fun!***