

Covenant Connection

May 13, 2019 | Bi-Weekly Newsletter of Covenant Presbyterian Church

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

5-13

Monday Morning Bible Study
Congregational Care Team
Christian Education Team

5-14

Preschool Team
PW Birthday Dinner
Stewardship & Finance Team

5-16

Executive Team
Bell Choir Rehearsal

5-17

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

5-19

Blended Worship
Alpha Choir (K-3rd)
Sunday School
Traditional Worship
Omega Choir (4th-7th)
CareGivers Group
Joint Task Force on Children
in Poverty

STATED SESSION MEETING

5-20

Monday Morning Bible Study
Children's Education Sub-Committee

5-21

Stated Presbytery @
Massanetta Springs
University Singers

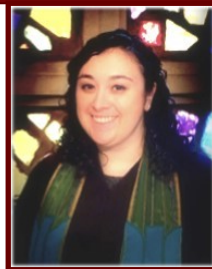
Connect with the Associate Pastor ...

As we wind down another year of Sunday school, Bible studies, and formal Christian education programming at Covenant, I have been reflecting upon the wealth of educational opportunities that I have witnessed this church school year. We began our year with a spectacular Rally Day celebration in which we sang songs, danced, checked out Christian education opportunities, and then cheered our youngest friends on as they went to their Sunday school classrooms for the first time.

Each Monday, a devoted group of individuals has met with John or me to look over the Scripture passage for the following Sunday -- often offering insights that were very new and very helpful for us! We also offered two different Bible studies after TOW this year about women in the Bible as well as different titles for Jesus.

The adult Sunday school classes continued to provide a variety of opportunities to fit spiritual needs through book studies, formal Bible studies, and discussions on current events and social justice issues. Even our unofficial class, the "Saints and Sinners" group, met each week, checking in with one another and spending time in Christian fellowship.

Every third Friday of the month, children from 2nd through 8th grade ran through the halls of our church, playing games, participating in service projects, and studying the Bible. They ended each evening by weaving their prayers through our prayer loom, watching as the loom grew more full each and every month as their prayers increased.



Continued on Page 3

A Bible Verse to Think About Deuteronomy 8:17-18a

You may say to yourself,
"My power and the
strength of my hands have
produced this wealth for
me." But remember the
LORD your God, for it
is God who gives you the
ability to produce wealth.

Please keep in your prayers:

Diane Harrington and her family
on the death of Diane's father,
Shelby (Skip) Harrington,
in Buffalo on April 26th.

Joan Sayers and her family on
the passing of her mother,
Sue Thompson, on May 4th
in Harrisonburg.

Condolences

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 news-
letter are due to Martha
by **9:00 AM on Friday,
May 24th.**

Please email her at:
Covenantpcusastaunton@gmail.com



Thank You!

The children in the Alpha Choir and the Omega Choir practice each Sunday to learn the songs they will perform during select 10:30 AM services. The gift of their voices adds an extra measure to our praise to God.



Many thanks to all of them for sharing music with the Covenant congregation throughout this past year. Also, thanks to their parents for the extra effort of either getting them here early or staying after worship so they can practice.

Thank you to Chris Wszalek for going the extra mile to play for the Omega choir. A special thank you to Mike Riddell for helping us with our singing by playing his guitar and finding just the right musical key for us. We are so grateful for his service and good humor.

— Joan Swift
Director of Children's Music

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

In March, our children led us in worship in one of the most meaningful services I have ever attended. Watching the seriousness with which the Sunday school classes took their tasks of leading worship is a joy I will not soon forget!

The great cartoonist Charles Schulz once said, "Try not to have a good time...this is supposed to be educational." At Covenant, we seem to do a great job of blending the two. It was a rare Sunday that I didn't see children and adults laughing and sharing the love of Christ with one another.

But none of this would have been possible without the hard work of our Christian educators. THANK YOU to our Sunday school teachers, Bible study leaders, Fired Up Friday leaders, Godly Play leaders, and everyone who has helped make Christian Education the joyful, thoughtful experience that it is!

Sarah

LADIES' LUNCH OUT

All Covenant ladies are invited!

Date: Tuesday, May 21st

Time: 11:30 AM

Location: The Hometown Grill
30 Sangers Lane
Staunton

For addition information,
contact Sherry Woodland.



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.

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.



Nursing Nook with Kathy Henderson, RN



Oh, summer: That time when we turn (our carefully sun-blocked) faces and less-heavily clothed bodies to the sun, basking in warmth; dive happily into pools, dig our hands into the dirt of our gardens; fire up the grill for outdoor picnics. It's also a not-so-favorite time for many: A time of sneezing, complaining about humidity-induced rashes, swatting at mosquitoes, hunting feverishly for ticks, rushing off to Urgi-Care hoping our children's big dive into the shallows at Goshen didn't cause any breaks.

So how do we stay happy and healthy during the hot months? You know the drill. Wear sunblock. Carry reusable water bottles (and remember to use them). Look before we leap into pools and rivers. Wear sunglasses and hats. Stop to smell those wonderful flowers and herbs (even if they make us sneeze). Spend some cool hours at church, remembering to be grateful for our glorious Valley summers.



But for more detailed hints about how to have a healthy summer, wander through the church breezeway between services next month. We'll have displays and pamphlets about healthy summer living, and perhaps even healthy snacks! Even better, some of our healthy-living experts have agreed to spend time answering questions we might have about how to be our best selves during the hot months ahead. I hope to see you there!

Middle and High School youth
come together the first Sunday
of the month from 5:30 to 8:30 PM
in the YOUTH Room for
games, snacks, and
some Bible studying.

Our next
meeting is
Sunday,
June 2

YOUTH Group

PLEASE NOTE EXTENDED TIME!
WE WILL BE DOING KNOCKERBALL!



Helping Hands Day Camp

Sponsored by Emmanuel Episcopal, Trinity Episcopal, Central United Methodist, Covenant Presbyterian, and First Presbyterian Churches



Registration Due?

Friday, June 28, 2019

Please email:

helpinghandsstaunton@gmail.com

Who?

Children: Completed grades K - 5

Youth: Completed grades 6 - 12

Where?

Covenant Presbyterian Church
2001 N. Coalter Street, Staunton

When?

Monday, July 29 - Thursday, August 1 from 9:00am - 3:00pm

Friday, August 2 from 9:00am - 12:00pm



Cost?

\$15 per child; includes lunch, snacks, t-shirt, and more!

Scholarships available

Please consider sponsoring a camper in need of financial assistance.



<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
 19 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 CareGivers Group 11:45 AM Joint Task Force on Children in Poverty 7:00 PM STATED SESSION	13 10:30 AM Morning Bible Study 5:30 PM Congregational Care Team 7:00 PM Christian Education Team Covenant Connection Published	14 5:30 PM Preschool Team 5:30 PM PW Birthday Dinner 7:15 PM Stewardship & Finance Team 		16 8:30 AM Executive Team 5:45 PM Bell Choir	17 5:45 PM Fired-Up Friday	18
19 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 CareGivers Group 11:45 AM Joint Task Force on Children in Poverty 7:00 PM STATED SESSION	20 10:30 AM Morning Bible Study 6:00 PM Children's Education Sub-Committee	21 9:30 AM STATED PRESBYTERY MEETING @ Massanetta Springs 11:30 AM Ladies' Lunch @ Home-town Grill 7:00 PM University Singers Concert	22	23	24 9:00 AM Items due for News-letter	25
26 4 CENTS A MEAL 8:30 AM Blended Worship 9:10 AM Alpha Choir (K-3rd) 9:30 AM Fellowship in the Breezeway 10:30 AM Traditional Worship 11:45 AM Omega Choir (4th-7th)	27 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED  Covenant Connection Published	28	29	30	31	June 1
2 COMMUNION 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 Christian Education Team 11:45 AM Fellowship Team	3 4:30 PM Covenant Community Nursing Steering Committee 5:30 PM Congregational Care Team 7:00 PM Facilities Team 7:15 PM Worship Team	4	5	6	7 9:00 AM Items due for News-letter	8

MAY-JUNE 2019



WHAT IS CSA?

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is a subscription program that enables consumers in our local community to both take part in, as well as help support, our growing season. Beginning in the spring, we compile shares of the veggies from the Project GROWS farm for weekly pick-up for all our CSA members. We continue to harvest for CSA pick-ups each week until the end of our season in mid-October. Being a CSA member allows you to enjoy the freshest produce while investing in your local community and supporting local agriculture.

WHAT IS THE COST?

A 20-week share of vegetables from Project GROWS is \$25/week or \$500 for the season. As a non-profit educational farm, we consider \$150 of that cost as a tax deductible donation to our educational programming.

WHEN AND WHERE DO I PICK-UP VEGGIES?

CSA members may choose to sign up for one of two pick-up locations: Project GROWS Farm (608 Berry Farm Road, Verona, VA 24482 - about 4.5 miles outside of Staunton) OR Waynesboro Boys & Girls Club (302 East Main Street, Waynesboro, VA 22980—near downtown Waynesboro). Shares are picked up by members weekly on Tuesdays between 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, visit the website at www.projectgrows.org

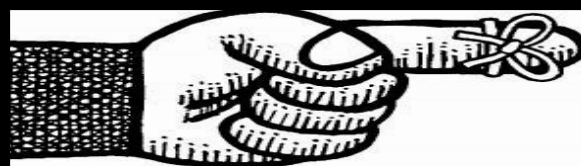
What's Happening In the Community

May 18 — Lil' Country at Staunton Jams, 1:00 to 5:00 PM, on Beverly Street, Free Event! Staunton Parks and Recreation will be offering a "Lil' bit of Country" for the "Lil' critters," while the adults enjoy a "Lil' bit of Rock-n-Roll" in downtown Staunton on Beverly Street. At Lil' Country, you'll find mini tractors, arts & crafts activities, farm activities, and more. **Staunton Jams will be rockin' from noon to 10:00 PM.**

May 18 — 15th Annual Senior Fishing Derby, 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM at Lake Tams in Gypsy Hill Park. Open to all adults 50+ years of age. FREE on-site registration begins at 7:30 AM.

May 24 — BritishMania - Beatles Tribute Band, 7:00 PM to 11:30 PM at Augusta Expo. With mind blowing performances, and true to era-attire, Britishmania recreates the Beatles revolution that changed the world. **Tickets \$35/\$45. Visit www.augustaexpo.com/britishmania to purchase tickets.**

Answer to trivia question: Alaska (49th state) and Hawaii (50th state)



REMINDER:

Last day of Sunday School and Godly Play is May 19th. Both will start up again in the Fall. Watch the newsletter for the exact date.

University Singers



Tuesday, May 21st, 7:00 pm
Covenant's Sanctuary

The University of Virginia's premier choral ensemble, led by UVA faculty conductor Michael Sion, will present a program of a cappella and accompanied works featuring Eriks Esenvalds' "Only in Sleep," Chesnokov's "Spaseniye sodelal," Eric Whitacre's "Water Night" and "Little Man in a Hurry," music by Canadian composers, and traditional songs arranged by Stephen Paulus, Nathaniel Dett, and Moses Hogan. The Chamber Singers will also appear, singing selections including Ben Folds' "The Luckiest."

HOUSE A UVA SINGER

We have been asked to provide host families who will allow two (2) or more students to sleep overnight at their homes on Tuesday, May 21st, provide them with breakfast the next morning, and transport them back to meet their bus. **We have 63 students housed but still need to house 12 more.** They don't require luxury accommodations . . . air mattresses, couches, and of course, beds will do. If you would be willing to accommodate two (2) or more students, please contact Martha Pierce at 885-2138. Thank

**Martha's
Meals
on
Wheels**



Food Booth & Bake Sale

**Friday, May 24th &
Saturday, May 25th**

8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

**The Meeting Place on
Middlebrook Road**

**All proceeds will support Martha's
Meals on Wheels to provide
assistance to those in need.**



Little GROWers Summer Camp

An outdoor opportunity for children, this camp combines fun and education throughout a week-long gardening experience on the farm. Learn the plant life cycle, harvest vegetables, meet our pollinator friends, learn the benefits of chickens, go on scavenger hunts and much more!

July 8-12 | 9am-12pm | Ages 5-8 | \$100

To register go to: BlueRidgeChildrensMuseum.org

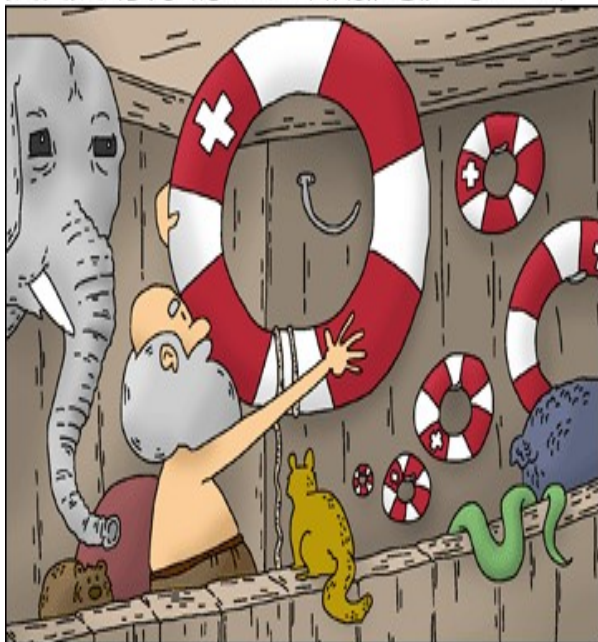


What states
joined the union
in 1959?

(look through the newsletter
to find the answer.)

Remember
Covenant's
60th Anniversary
on August 25th

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



(See Genesis 6-8)

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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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Staunton, VA 24401

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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!***