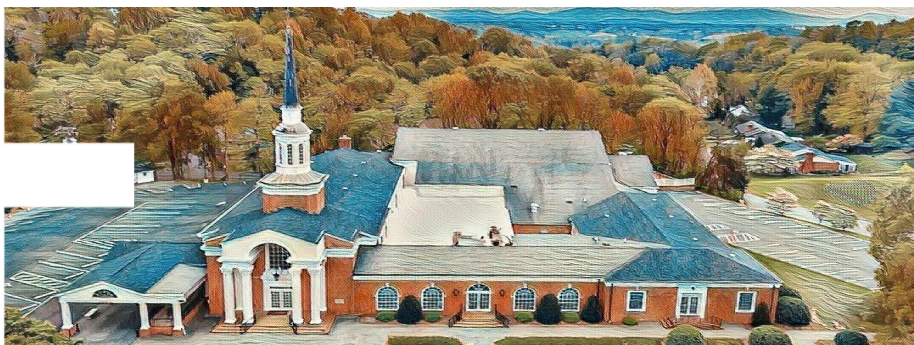


JUNE 20, 2022
STAUNTON, VA



COVENANT CONNECTION

A PUBLICATION OF COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

From the Pastor's Desk

"If you don't know where you're going, you might not get there." Those wise words attributed to baseball great Yogi Berra have inspired us here at Covenant to work through a long-range planning process every five years to provide a road map for where we plan to go in the future. On Sunday, Bob Stripling (chair of the Long-Range Planning Committee) presented the plan for 2022-2026 that was approved by Session this spring. The plan is entitled: *A Church Alive in Spirit and Service*. It is available on the church website; hard copies are available in the church office. The plan identifies five themes for our focus; they are as follows:

OUTREACH: *Intentionally expand outreach to those living on the margins of society while supporting societal and institutional change. Celebrate and publicize those efforts with periodic reports and personal testimonials.* Outreach is a significant part of our Covenant life; as we look to the future, we hope to explore new opportunities, to address needs of our neighbors. The plan also identifies the need to address structural and systemic issues that perpetuate poverty and inequality, consistent with our commitment as a Matthew 25 congregation to address issues of systemic poverty and structural racism.

ENGAGEMENT: *Identify, educate, and empower lay leaders to enrich the spiritual development of the church community. Create special interest groups to develop a deeper sense of belonging and cohesion amongst church participants.*

(continued on page 3)

Commit your work
to the
LORD,
and your plans
will be established.
PROVERBS 16:3, ESV

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VISIT US ONLINE AT
WWW.COVENANTPRESSTAUNTON.ORG

TO OUR VISITORS

If you have been visiting and are interested in learning more about Covenant, our ministries, or membership, please give John or Sarah a call (540-885-2138).

Serving
GOD
Together



GREETERS

JUNE 26 -

8:30 AM....John & Joan Sayers

10:30 AM....Dan & Claire Drumheller

JULY 3 -

8:30 AM....Chris & Becky Earhart

10:30 AM....Craig Whitacre &
Carter Lawson

FLOWER COORDINATORS -

Susan Polly and Christy Davis

CHURCH OPENING and CLOSING

JUNE - Tom Compton

JULY - TBD



The Grief Support Group will be meeting on Sunday, June 26th at 11:45 am in Room 5. If you have a precious memory, a special memento, or a photograph recalling your loved one that you would like to share, we would love to hear your stories. Whether your loss is recent or happened some time ago, all are welcome to share feelings and experiences in a caring and supportive environment.

THANKS
from the
HEART

Dear Covenant Members & Friends:

Thank you for supporting the Church World Service Blanket Offering this year. Due to your generosity, we donated funds to purchase 320 blankets for persons affected by disaster, homelessness, and adversity. The theme of this offering is "They are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity." (2 Corinthians 8:2) We wish you all the abundant joy of Christ Jesus.

From the Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team: Linda, Emma, Frances, Dee, Jane, and Lynn.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK (cont'd)

We all are called to ministry. Our goal is to share leadership and provide resources for growth to become better leaders for the church, and to reconnect with one another as we enter a post-pandemic world. This goal supports our commitment to congregational vitality as a Matthew 25 congregation.

DIVERSITY: Break down societal barriers using intentional outreach and select programming (educational, social, spiritual) to promote understanding and a welcoming environment for people of different ethnic groups, races, orientations/ genders, ages, and social/economic/ educational backgrounds. We strive to be welcoming to all, something our confirmands affirmed was especially important to them! In this PRIDE month and coming off the Juneteenth celebration, we are reminded that we have not always been so welcoming as a nation or Church. We strive to do better together! This goal dovetails with our commitment as a Matthew 25 congregation to address issues of structural racism.

STEWARDSHIP: Develop new communication and reporting structures whereby people can know where to give their time, talent, and treasures so that individually and collectively we can better support each other and our community. This goal embraces stewardship in its broad sense of using all our gifts faithfully to God's glory. We hope to grow opportunities for gifts to be shared and then share the stories!

TECHNOLOGY: Assess and implement a plan for use of technology in order to enhance virtual worship and expand opportunities for outreach and spiritual vitality

across the life of the Covenant Community. COVID has forced us to develop new technological capabilities as we live -stream worship and use Zoom for Bible Studies, book studies, and team meetings. There are more possibilities to be explored to enhance ministry! In living into these themes, we hope to become the church God calls us to be in these coming years. Some things will be new; some will stay the same; some will demand inspired imagination. But we trust that God will guide us along the way – each and every step of the way!

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

At its stated meeting on June 19, the Session took the following actions:

- Received a report on the May 24 meeting of Presbytery
- Approved replacement of an HVAC unit for the preschool
- Approved two facilities requests subject to COVID restrictions
- Elected Louise Scott as commissioner to the August meeting of Presbytery
- Appointed the Executive Team to make decisions with regard to the Fellowship Hall kitchen project and asbestos removal

With Sympathy

Please keep in your prayers David and Janet Surratt and their family on the death of David's brother, Danny Surratt, on June 13th. May God grant them comfort and peace.

Items for the next newsletter are due by **9:00 AM on Friday, July 1st.**

Please email Martha at: covenantpcusastaunton@gmail.com



OUTREACH



Peanut Butter Sunday

First Sunday of Each Month

You can drop off your jar of peanut butter in the vestibule area just outside the church office.

Fun Fact: On average you donate over 80 lbs. of food per week. That's a lot of peanut butter!

FILL THE BUCKET - HELP RESTOCK THE VERONA FOOD BANK



Help feed our neighbors in need! Donations can be dropped off in the **RED BUCKET** located in the vestibule area just outside the church office.

BAGS TO BENCHES

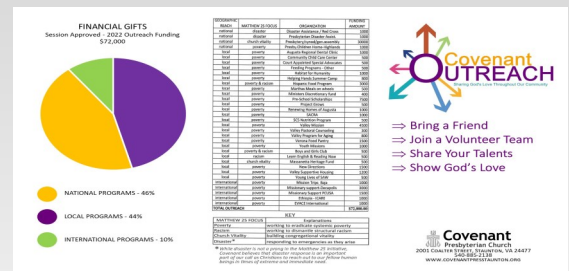
Turn your plastic bags into benches
for the Boys & Girls Club.



THE 3RD BENCH IS ON THE WAY!

See your benches in action on the playground at the Waynesboro Boys & Girls Club. Thank you! Bring your plastic bags to the church and drop in a designated receptacle located in the office vestibule.

WANT TO HELP? Volunteers are needed to help take the bags collected at the church to Food Lion. Contact Robyn Sommerfield or sign up at [**https://bit.ly/3CzoJTW**](https://bit.ly/3CzoJTW)



Check out the new Covenant
Outreach Brochure at:
<https://bit.ly/3tvreDI>

[illegible]



Old-Fashioned HYMN SING & ICE CREAM

Sunday, June 26
@ 4:00 pm

All ages are
welcome!



Singing in the sanctuary;
ice cream served outside.

WORSHIP with us

BLENDDED WORSHIP

Sundays @ 8:30 am

The Blended Service is a less formal service with communion by intinction each week.

Masks are optional.

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Sundays @ 10:30 am

At our Traditional Service, music plays a central role in worship. Communion is served the first Sunday of every month. This service includes a Children's Moment with the pastor. **Masks are required** to help protect our unvaccinated children.

VIRTUAL WORSHIP

Sundays @ 10:30 am




via Facebook

This is a live-stream of the Traditional Worship Service. Worship with us wherever you access Facebook!

The link is:

www.facebook.com/Covenant-Presbyterian-Church-163891301309/videos/

JUNE 2022 JULY

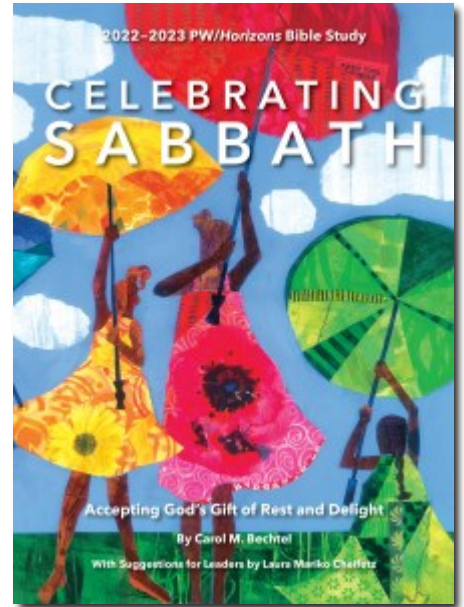
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	20 COVENANT CONNECTION PUBLISHED	21 	22	23	24	25
26 4 Cents a Meal 8:30 AM Worship Service in Sanctuary 9:30 AM Youth Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service in Sanctuary 10:30 AM Worship Service via Live Stream on Facebook 11:45 AM Grief Support Group in Room 5 4:00 PM Old-Fashioned Hymn Sing & Ice Cream	27	28	29	30	JULY 1 9:00 AM Newsletter Deadline	2
3 Peanut Butter Sunday Presbyterian Coffee Project 8:30 AM Worship Service in Sanctuary 9:15 AM Happy Half Hour by the Memorial Garden 10:30 AM Worship Service in Sanctuary 10:30 AM Worship Service via Live Stream on Facebook	4 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED COVENANT CONNECTION PUBLISHED 	5	6	7	8	9

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



Presbyterian Women are on summer break. The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 13 at 10:30 AM. Watch for more details in August. "Celebrating Sabbath" by Carol Bechtel is our study book for next year and a sneak prevue, presented at a recent PW Synod meeting, promises a very exciting study headed our way.

Books will be available at the September meeting for a cost of \$10 each. Should you want a book sooner, contact Frances Craig at 540-414-8170.



The courtyard is open for guests, lunch breaks, and small meetings. Be sure to schedule use with Martha at 540-885-2138.





Decapolis Community Development Center, founded by Raphael and Crystal John, is establishing a community-based development center in Ika Village, Kogi State, Nigeria to empower local students and improve their communities. Students gain the skills, and knowledge sets for self-reliance and gainful employment. Decapolis partners with others to provide scholarships, apprenticeships and job opportunities. The center will also offer adult literacy and continuing education classes.

The center has completed phase one acquiring and clearing land. Phase two includes installing a security fence to protect the property from squatters, secure construction equipment and provide a safe environment for the students. *The total cost for the fencing is \$40,000.*

The well installation is a necessity as water is needed to make concrete blocks for the fence. The long-term plan for the well is to provide all water needs for the center and a source for secure clean water for six local villages. *The well project is estimated to cost \$16,000.*

These projects provide an infrastructure to create sustainable growth and stability for the village and its residents. It also brings the organization one step closer to fulfilling its mission.



Learn more about this project here:
<https://bit.ly/3IP5HRP>

FENCE PROJECT



— \$30

1 week's wage local labor
 (5 workers for 40 weeks)

— \$40

1 meter of fencing
 (1000 meters needed)

— \$24

1 length of iron security bar
 (200 lengths needed)

WELL PROJECT



— \$30

1 meter of drilling
 (180 meters needed)

— \$150

1 solar panel to power the pump
 (6 pumps needed)

— \$250

15,000L capacity overhead tank

I WANT TO JOIN THE CONSTRUCTION TEAM

It's easy - put the number of items you want to build.

Give online at:

www.covenantpresstaunton.org/online-giving/
 or write a check to Covenant Presbyterian Church
 (note Decapolis in the memo line)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____



THANK YOU!!!!



ON-CALL NURSERY WORKERS NEEDED

The Nursery Team is looking for adults who would enjoy playing with our youngest members during the 10:30 AM service. Volunteers are needed to help one Sunday a month. Volunteers are also needed to be on an on-call list to fill in when needed. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Sarah Wolf.



HELPING HANDS DAY CAMP 2022

is a cooperative ministry of
Trinity Episcopal, Emmanuel Episcopal,
Central United Methodist,
First Presbyterian & Covenant Presbyterian.

HELPING HANDS DAY CAMP

is for children who have completed
grades K through 5 and
youth who completed grades 6 to 12
during the 2021 - 2022 school year.

CAMP DATES:

Monday, **August 1** through Friday, **August 5**
9:00 am to 1:30 pm

LOCATION:

Covenant Presbyterian Church

COST:

\$15.00 per camper

Scholarships are available and contributions to sponsor a camper in need of financial assistance are welcome.

**Registration forms are available on the church website
homepage (covenantpresstaunton.org).**

The deadline for registration is Friday, June 24, 2022

**For more information,
email helpinghandsstaunton@gmail.com**

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2001 N. Coalter Street,
Staunton, VA 24401

Office — 540-885-2138

Fax — 540-885-4399

Office Hours:

Mon - Thurs, 8:15AM - 3:15PM

FRI, 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:
Worshipping 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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**Pray for
the World**

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

