

COVENANT CONNECTIONS

News of New Covenant Baptist Church

209 N. Prospect Street, Pottstown, PA 19464

Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.

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July/August 2009

Linda Noecker, Editor

COVENANT CONNECTIONS

The July/August issue of *Covenant Connections* is sponsored by **Harry & Doris Weigner** in celebration of their 44th wedding anniversary on August 14.

From the
Pastor's
Pen



Waiting- the mere mention of the word evokes all kinds of images in our minds; long lines at the store, toll booths, the quick 'hold please' of a receptionist, or stacks of ancient magazines in the designated 'waiting area' of a professional office. Scripture has several words for wait, the predominate one being that of those expecting something from God.

Isaiah 40:30, 31 "Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall, but they that wait on the Lord shall renew their strength, they will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not be weary, they will walk and not be faint." I have always loved those verses as much as I have always disliked waiting- for anything. My struggle in coming to grips with my battle with impatience is ongoing but getting a lot better. I wish I could tell you that it has come from a quick sweep of inner peace- but in truth it comes from a deeper reading of scripture and the sometimes slow dose of daily getting a better grasp of God's purposes and love.

The word translated, "wait" comes from a root meaning rope or to tie together. That may sound strange but once more the sense of community and relationship is at the heart of the Word. I get upset because I have to wait- but when the picture of me being tied together, connected to, sharing with other believers and all of us in relationship with God is

able to be seen it changes everything. Even in a long line filled with strangers I sure am not waiting alone- everyone else is in the same predicament. In the doctor's office no one is particularly thrilled to be there, but all of us want to have their full attention once we get into an examining room. In the church our waiting may be for God to answer a personal prayer that has tremendous merit and a proper focus. We may also pray for God's leading in more general ways of life. Once we are a part of God's family as we accept Christ as Savior we are intimately and eternally tied to all things of God and to the rest of the community of faith. My waiting, your waiting, becomes our waiting- in the smallest and largest matters that face us. This waiting becomes an opportunity for us to find strength in God's promises, together. Waiting is not intended to be a 'sit back and see what happens' mode of thinking; it is a moving act of faith that links us together as we work in the service of Jesus Christ. Wait on! The soaring, running and walking is straight ahead.

Pastor Jim

Sermon Series for July and August

July 5	<i>Freedom</i> Galatians 3:26-29
July 12	<i>Guest Speaker</i>
July 19	<i>Guest Speaker</i>
July 26	<i>Guest Speaker</i>
August 2	<i>Read Carefully, Live Joyfully</i> Ephesians 5:21, 6:4
August 9	<i>Jesus Straight Ahead</i> Philippians 3:12-14

August 16 *Dressing for Success*
Colossians 3:12-14

August 23 *Living Step By Step*
Romans 5:1-15

August 30 *Pick A Side*
Romans 1:16-17

WORSHIP MINISTRY AREA

Thank you to all who help sing on the worship team every Sunday. And a special thank you to Sheryl Johnson for picking such great choices each week.

We need more people singed up for Lay Leaders, Greeters, Offering, etc. Please see the sign up sheets on the back table of the sanctuary. If you have any questions on what the positions each consists of please see me.

We celebrated Mother's Day with beautiful flowers given out to all the women of the congregation. We had a great time with the kids during the service for children's day. (Thank you Pastor Jim for your sermon for the kids) And Father's Day we gave out tomato plants to all of the men in the congregation.

This summer we are hoping to continue with singers up front for the worship service, and hope we will not have to use the Cd's as we had to do last summer. I am also working on a Hymn Sing for October in the fall once we all are done with our vacations.

God Bless,
Angela Leh
Worship Ministry Coordinator

DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY AREA

Adult Sunday School Our class meets weekly on Sunday morning at 9:30. Please come out and join our in-depth study of Women in the Bible with Pastor Jim. We will be studying Gomer, Ruth and Naomi, Esther, Jezebel, Delilah and Deborah just to name a few.

Children's Ministry



Bible Champs and Pre-School Class

Bible Champs will be taking a break for the summer and joining the weekly service to

worship with our families. We encourage the kids to participate and experience the service right alongside of the adults who are an example of the disciples that they will become someday. And as adults, we look forward to experiencing the energy, joy and simplicity that comes naturally to our youth.

Coloring pages and crayons will be available for parents to give to young children after the interactive part of the worship service to keep them occupied during the sermon.

Bible Champs will resume in the fall and begin with study of the New Testament.

Toddlers' Class Childcare will still be provided for families of young children this summer. The nursery is now located upstairs as a Parent/Child Worship Room. Parents can sign up for any weeks they are available to take turns caring for the children.

Parent/Child Worship Room There is a room with a separate bathroom upstairs and available for parents to take children and still participate in the service without distracting from the worship of others. It was recently upgraded to include a playpen, changing table and rocking chair in addition to the books and toys. The speaker system is in place so that you can hear the service and participate, while still caring for your children.

A Nursery Childcare Sign-up sheet is located in the back of the church for families to take turns in caring for their little ones. Please see Molly Dixon if you have questions.

Pre-teen Class is meeting on Sundays at 9:30 downstairs in the last classroom on the left. This class is led by Mr. and Mrs. Geiger for the 6Th through 9Th grade and currently studying bible heroes vs. zeros and how it applies to the life of our teens in today's world.

Please consider if your talents and gifts fit these needs: we need nursery care, teachers for the worship hour this fall and babysitters for the Sunday School hour for the toddler class. We need substitutes to cover absences, sometimes at the last minute. If you are blessed with patience and love for God and children, **consider being a teacher**. Our youngsters are always in need of role models to help them grow and develop into adult Christians and the future of our church. Please see Molly Dixon if you can serve in this area.

MY TURN IN THE NURSERY

Last Sunday was my turn in the Nursery to work
My heart wasn't in it; and my feelings were hurt;
A child from its Mother did not want to part,
And it cried at lot with its broken heart

I prayed that soon the hour would end.
Then I could relax - no more children to tend.
Soon the hour was over - felt good to be free
I said, "Once a month is too much for me."

That very next Sunday as I sat in the pew,
A very good sermon, but visitors were few.
But down came a woman and her soul was saved
And she was the Mother of that crying babe.

Then it dawned on me that I had been a part,
Of one being saved - giving God their heart.
From that day on I never would dread,
Working in the Nursery while souls were being fed.
~ Author Unknown

**Thanks to all who take their turn in the nursery
and donate their time to the care and teaching of
our children.**

Neighborhood Jubilee.

Stay tuned for more information. New Covenant Baptist Church is planning another exciting event for later this year. It's still in the planning stages, but so far we have in mind a Saturday evening event for families and community followed by our annual church picnic with the church service to be held on the front lawn under the shady trees. We are planning some games and activities that will be a big hit for everyone. We still need a coordinator - if you are interested, please see Molly Dixon.

Phones and Ink Cartridges Did you know we collect and recycle Cell Phones & Consumer Electronics? We can earn money for every Cell Phone, Ink Jet Cartridge, Laptop, iPod & Digital Cameras that we collect and send in. Even if it is damaged or Non-Listed! The shipping is free and the money goes directly into the Fellowship fund. So add this to your spring cleaning list and drop off your electronics to help the environment and NCBC. Note: they do NOT accept desktops, towers, monitors or accessories at this time. A box is provided at the back of church. Please see Molly Dixon with any questions.

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY AREA

At the last council meeting it was decided to move our "First Sunday Fellowship Lunch" to the second Sunday due to Communion on the first Sunday. Our first "Second Sunday Fellowship Lunch" was a great success. We had lots of pizza and salad, several yummy deserts. And of course lots of good fellowship.



We hope everyone will join us for the second Sunday in July for a POTLUCK lunch. There will be a sign up sheet in the back of the church just so we can have some idea of how many will be attending and what we might have to eat. So plan on joining us even if you forget to sign up - there is always a wonderful assortment of foods and plenty of it.

In August we are planning on everyone bringing their favorite sandwich filling (tuna, egg salad, ham or ???) and making some really great creations. We will also have chips and all the trimmings.

The Fellowship Ministry Area invites everyone to join us.

EVANGELISM MINISTRY AREA

JUST A REMINDER!



Don't forget the food pantry we are currently running here at the church. We are in need of the following food items: Peanut Butter, Tuna, Canned Meats, Pasta, Cereal, and Canned Vegetables. The food pantry is for anyone in need from our congregation, neighborhood and the surrounding area.

You may bring these items in any Sunday before worship and place them in the library and joining the weekly service to worship with our families. We encourage the kids to participate and experience the service right alongside of the adults who are an example of the disciples that they will become someday.

And as adults, we look forward to experiencing the energy, joy and simplicity that comes naturally to our youth.

TREASURER'S REPORT

TREASURER'S REPORT THROUGH June 15, 2009

	<u>Month</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Income	\$3,659.75	\$36,890.79
Expenses	\$3,087.40	\$37,884.06
Difference	\$572.35	(\$993.27)

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering \$280.75

Income needed to meet budget:

\$7899/month; \$1,703.60/week

LETTERS RECEIVED

Dear Sunday School Children and Worshipers,

Thank you for honoring us on Children's Day with a heartfelt card and gift card. Thank you, Molly, for your kind words of appreciation. That makes it all worthwhile.

It has been an honor and privilege to start your little ones on their journey to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Such beautiful children! They make you laugh and stand in wonder at the beautiful souls God has made for Himself. Jesus said, "Let the little children come unto Me." for even the littlest child can feel Jesus' love.

In Christ's Love,
Bonita & Sherry

P.S. Children, the flowers you gave us make our hearts sing and in every little flower we see your faces smiling back at us.

Love always,
Miss Sherry and Miss Bonita



DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS

The following corrections should be made to the church directory:

™ Bill & Kathy Buckner's address is: 674 Woodland Drive, Pottstown, PA 19464

™ Harry & Doris Weigner's phone number is: 610- 367-2099

If you know of any other corrections that should be made, please let Linda know.

CHURCH HUMOR

Sunday after church, a Mom asked her very young daughter what the lesson was about. The daughter answered, "Don't be scared, you'll get your quilt!"

Needless to say, the Mom was perplexed. Later in the day, the pastor stopped by for tea and the Mom asked him what that morning's Sunday School lesson was about. He said, "Be not afraid, thy comforter is coming."

The minister was preoccupied with thoughts of how he was going to ask the congregation to come up with more money than they were expecting for repairs to the church building. Therefore, he was annoyed to find that the regular organist was sick and a substitute had been brought in at the last minute. The substitute wanted to know what to play. "Here's a copy of the service," he said impatiently. "But, you'll have to think of something to play after I make the announcement about the finances." During the service, the minister paused and said, "Brothers and Sisters, we are in great difficulty; the roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected and we need \$4000 more. Any of you who can pledge \$100 or more, please stand up." At that moment, the substitute organist played "The Star Spangled Banner." And that is how the substitute became the regular organist.

Fourth of July

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid. The words may be hidden in any direction.

V N I K S N A F B P R V I P S Y
J P A K B R O A I V I N E R X R
E A L T A F S I L R D C E G B O
M R A X I E Z G T E E M N Q N T
S A K U B O A R P A A W Z I M S
I D K A A Y N E L E R D O O C I
T E L C R R N A R A G B D R X H
O L S F B D Q T L W V E E E K X
I M V N E K S B Y A E I L L I S
R G M N C E K R Y R N X N T E Q
T Q C B U N D I F H O T I R F C
A E P T E D S T E N C Z H L A N
P D E M O C R A C Y Y M A E L C
H O L I D A Y I N B U G R E M N
Q R I W G I S N O O L L A B O O
E U L B E T I H W D E R J P M T

BALLOONS
BARBECUE
BASEBALL
CARNIVAL
CELEBRATION
DEMOCRACY
FIREWORKS

FLAG
FREEDOM
GREAT BRITAIN
HISTORY
HOLIDAY
INDEPENDENCE

NATIONAL ANTHEM
PARADE
PATRIOTISM
PICNIC
RED WHITE BLUE
STREAMERS



News Around the Congregation



July

8 Patrick Wieand
18 Taniah Buckner
19 Joyce Parson
25 Gwen MacNeill
26 Sheryl Johnson

August

2 Anthony Buckner
14 Pam Krepps
17 Maurice Yanney
29 Brianna Loston



Happy Anniversary!

August

14 Harry & Doris Weigner

The shortest distance between a problem and a solution is the distance between your knees and the floor. The one who kneels to the Lord can stand up to anything.



- Our shut-ins: Joan Achenbach, Catherine Blank, Irene Quaglia, Sally Shaner, Bill Buckner, Joyce & Jim Sherman.
- Tracy Williams – personal issues
- Bill Buckner – health concerns
- Sympathy to the family of Mark Stranick who passed away on May 31 (Doris Weigner's cousin)
- Joe & Laura Banasiak – health concerns and that they'll come to know and accept Christ (Jo Ann Quaglia)
- Soltis family (friends of Ruppert's)
- For the safety of overseas missionaries –especially Dale, Flo, Caleb & Joel Johnson in Burkina Faso, Africa
- Leaders of ABC-USA
- People serving in the armed services—at home and abroad
- President Obama and the other leaders of our country
- Dylan Cornell (grandson of Caryl Casey)
- John Collins (friends of the Sutton's)
- Adam Hendricks & Kayla Rainer
- Dennis Keim Jr. (his safety working at Graterford Prison)
- Krista Hughes (that God may open her eyes & heart to her children and family)
- Amy Rozinski
- Dean Keim (Joan Keim's son)
- Joe & Laura Banasiak
- Joyce & Jim Sherman (recovering from surgeries)
- George Brown (cancer)
- Emily Sutton
- Connie Worrall (friend of Weigner's)
- Wendy Duplantis (Tammy Weigner's mother)