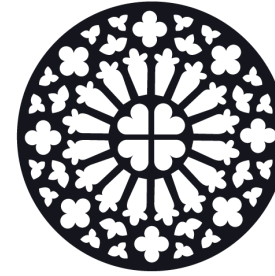


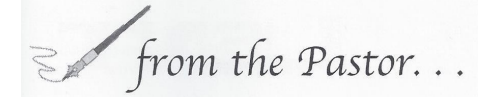
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Newsletter of The Church of the Covenant

The Messenger



September 2023

September 2023

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Associate Pastor Emeritus

**The Church
of the Covenant**
267 East Beau St.
Washington, PA 15301
724.222.0190
churchoftheco@comcast.net
www.churchofthecov.org
Worship Services
Sundays: 9:00 & 11:00am
Spiritual development time for
children and adults 10:00 am
Church Office Hours
Mon.-Fri. 9:00a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Dear Church of the Covenant,

It's been called "the most wonderful time of the year!"

While that phrase was initially coined to reference Christmas, for the last however many years, many have used it to refer to the "Back to School" season. Teachers are renewed and refreshed (at least we hope and pray so!), students look forward to reconnecting with friends they have not seen since school let out for the summer, and parents—moms especially?— are grateful for a return to routine and schedule.

But admittedly, schedule can be a struggle. We have to get children up, dressed, fed, and hopefully in a pleasant mood. After-school activities create new schedule challenges, nighttime dinner routines require adjustment with homework and practice schedules, and on it goes.

It may be the most wonderful time of the year, but let's face it, friends—this is also one of the more stressful times of the year.

If you are out of the school year routine — as I know many of you are — please join me in praying for the moms and dads, the children and youth and college students, teachers and administrators, bus drivers, etc., who are facing the return to the routine.

Fall is coming. It's a new beginning. And YES! — it is the most wonderful time of the year!

With deep gratitude for you all,

Pastor Billy

**DEADLINE FOR THE OCTOBER
MESSENGER IS SEPTEMBER 15th.**

NEWS FROM THE FAMILY OF FAITH**In Memory Of****Connie Hornickel**

To Hands and Hearts	Jayne Wilson
To Presbyterian Women	Jayne Wilson
Memorial	Jayne Wilson

James Alan Grimm

To Vacation Bible School	Edna Grimm
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Barbara Richmond

Memorial	T. Jean Piatt
To 11:00 AM Choir	Maxine Steiner

Bob Johnston

Memorial	Jack Dagg
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Mary Orme

To Youth Education	Russell Orme
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General Memorial Gifts

Memorial	Anonymous
Memorial	Anonymous

THANK YOU

From the family of Barbara Richmond, Barbara enjoyed serving her church family, whether on a committee, visiting members or sharing her baked goods. Thank you for all your prayers and care for her.

Butch Richmond and family

Wedding Bells

Daniel Kephart and Megan Leiter were married in the church sanctuary on Saturday, July 29, 2023, with Rev. Dr. William Younger officiating.

Congratulations Mr. and Mrs. Kephart!

MEMORIAL SERVICE

On August 19, 2023, a memorial service was held for former member **Ann Girdish Leet**, who died on June 25, 2023. The service was held in the Church sanctuary. The Rev. Matt Camlin officiated.

THANK YOU

On behalf of Washington Christian Outreach, I want to thank all the teens for their generous donation of time and effort in cleaning the sorting room, picking up clothing that had fallen to the floor in the store, moving bookbag supplies into the kids' room and carrying chairs outside. You all worked well as a team and I hope you will come back another time. You are one of God's blessings and you have definitely blessed us. Thank you again!

Debbie Boardley
Chief Operations Manager
Washington Christian Outreach

MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

It is always a blessing to accept new members into our family of faith and the next opportunity is scheduled in October. Interested individuals will gather on **October 3, 2023 at 6:30pm** to learn more about our church and what membership means. Those who choose to become official members of The Church of the Covenant will be **received by the Session on Monday, October 9th** just prior to Session's monthly meeting and will then be **received by the congregation on Sunday, October 15, 2023.**

If you, or someone you know, wishes to become a member of the church, please contact Debi Nicoletta at 724-222-0190 x 111 or churchoftheco@comcast.net.

THE CARNAHAN LIBRARY

Dedicated on 11/1/09 to the memory of Thomas Dorrington Carnahan II, Thomas Dorrington Carnahan III, George Kirk Carnahan and to the glory of God.

*The Carnahan Library is in Room 308, the first room on the right as you enter the third-floor hallway from the elevator. The card catalog will help you to locate a book by author, title, or subject. The Library Committee thanks the donors of the books described below. *indicates a new book*

****Demon Copperhead*** by Barbara Kingsolver was purchased with library funds. Set in the mountains of southern Appalachia, this is the story of a boy born to a teenaged single mother in a single-wide trailer, with no assets beyond his dead father's good looks and copper-colored hair, a caustic wit, and a fierce talent for survival. In a plot that never pauses for breath, relayed in his own unsparing voice, he braves the modern perils of foster care, child labor, derelict schools, athletic success, addiction, disastrous loves, and crushing losses. Through all of it, he reckons with his own invisibility in a popular culture where even the superheroes have abandoned rural people in favor of cities. Charles Dickens' novel *Great Expectations* provided the inspiration for this novel, transposing a Victorian novel to the contemporary American South. Barbara Kingsolver enlists Dickens' anger and compassion. *Demon Copperhead* speaks for a new generation of lost boys, and all those born into beautiful, cursed places they can't imagine leaving behind.

Still Life by Louise Penny is the first novel in the Three Pines Mysteries series. The main character of the series is Chief Inspector Armand Gamache of Sûreté du Québec, the provincial police force for Quebec. Gamache and his team of investigators are called to the scene of a suspicious death in a rural village south of Montreal and yet a world away. Jane Neal, a local fixture in the tiny hamlet of Three Pines, has been found dead in the woods on Thanksgiving morning. The locals are certain it's a tragic hunting accident and nothing more, but Gamache smells something foul this holiday season. *(The Library has other novels in this series. Novels 2 through 5 are described below.)*

The following four Inspector Gamache novels by Louise Penny were donated by the late Kathy Teagarden.

A Fatal Grace by Louise Penny is the second novel in the Three Pines Mysteries series and takes place between December 22 and New Year's Day. No one liked Cecelia "CC" de Poitiers, who considers herself a New Age lifestyle coach and has written a book entitled *Be Calm*. Far from the enlightened soul she believes herself to be, CC is thoroughly disliked for her arrogance and mistreatment of her obese daughter, Crie. When Inspector Gamache is called to investigate CC's sudden death on the day after Christmas, it seems like an impossible murder. How could she have been electrocuted during a curling match in Three Pines – and without anyone seeing a thing? Gamache digs for dangerous secrets beneath the surface of village life, while something even more chilling is coming for Gamache himself.

The Cruellest Month by Louise Penny is the third novel in the Three Pines Mysteries series. Welcome to Three Pines where the cruellest month is about to deliver on its threat. It's spring in the tiny, forgotten village; buds are on the trees and the first flowers are struggling through the newly thawed earth. But not everything is meant to return to life. When some villagers decide to celebrate Easter with a séance at the Old Hadley House, they are hoping to rid the town of its evil - until one of their party dies of fright. Was this a natural death, or was the victim somehow helped along? Brilliant, compassionate Chief Inspector Armand Gamache of the Sûreté du Québec is called to investigate, in a case that will force him to face his own ghosts as well as those of a seemingly idyllic town where relationships are far more dangerous than they seem.

A Rule Against Murder by Louise Penny is the fourth novel in the Three Pines Mysteries series. It is the height of summer, and Armand Gamache and his wife are celebrating their wedding anniversary at an isolated, luxurious inn not far from the village of Three Pines. But they are not alone. The Finney Family - rich, cultured, and respectable – has also arrived for a celebration of their own. As the heat rises and the humidity closes in, some surprising guests turn up at the Finney reunion – and a terrible summer storm leaves behind a dead body. Gamache soon learns that the seemingly peaceful lodge is a place where visitors come to escape their past, until that past catches up with them. Now it's up to Chief Inspector Gamache to unearth long-buried secrets and hatreds hidden behind polite smiles. The chase takes him to Three Pines – into the dark corners of his own life, and finally to a harrowing climax.

The Brutal Telling by Louise Penny is the fifth novel in the Three Pines Mysteries series. "Chaos is coming, old son." With those words the peace of Three Pines is shattered. Everybody goes to Olivier's Bistro - including a stranger whose murdered body is found on the floor. When Chief Inspector Gamache is called to investigate, he is dismayed to discover that Olivier's story is full of holes. Why are his fingerprints all over the cabin that is hidden deep in the wilderness, with priceless antiques and the dead man's blood? And what other secrets and layers of lies are buried in the seemingly idyllic village? Gamache follows a trail of clues and treasures - from first editions of *Charlotte's Web* and *Jane Eyre* to a spiderweb with a word mysteriously woven in it - into the woods and across the continent, before returning to Three Pines to confront the truth and the final, brutal telling.

Path Lit by Lightning: The Life of Jim Thorpe by David Maraniss was donated by **Steve Johnson**. Jim Thorpe, a Native American, may have been the greatest athlete the world has ever seen. He rose to fame as a mythic talent who excelled at every sport. He won gold medals in the decathlon and pentathlon at the 1912 Stockholm Olympics, was an All-American football player at the Carlisle Indian School, became the star of the first class of the Pro Football Hall of Fame, and played major league baseball for the New York Giants. But despite his colossal skills, Thorpe's life was a struggle against daunting odds. As a member of the Sac and Fox nation, he encountered duplicitous authorities who did not defend him when his Olympic medals were rescinded because he played minor league baseball. His later life was troubled by alcohol, broken marriages, and financial distress. Despite all his travails, he did not succumb. The man survived, complications and all, and so did the myth.

The Sentence by Louise Erdrich was anonymously donated. *The Sentence* asks what we owe to the living, to the dead, to the reader, and to the book. A small independent bookstore in Minneapolis is haunted from November 2019 to November 2020 by the town's most annoying customer. Flora dies on All Soul's Day, but she simply will not leave the store. Tookie, who has landed a job selling books after years of incarceration that she survived by reading "with murderous attention," must solve the mystery of this haunting while at the same time trying to understand all that occurs in Minneapolis during a year of grief, astonishment, isolation, and furious reckoning. Louise Erdrich has created a funny ghost story: a tale of passion, of a complex marriage, and of a woman's relentless errors.

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER

Friday, September 1
 1 Kings 5:1-6:1, 7
 Acts 28:1-16
 Mark 14:27-42
Saturday, September 2
 1 Kings 7:51-8:21
 Acts 28:17-31
 Mark 14:43-52
Sunday, September 3
 1 Kings 8:22-30 (31-40)
 1 Tim. 4:7b-16
 John 8:47-59
Monday, September 4
 2 Chron. 6:32-7:7
 James 2:1-13
 Mark 14:53-65
Tuesday, September 5
 1 Kings 8:65-9:9
 James 2:14-26
 Mark 14:66-72
Wednesday, September 6
 1 Kings 9:24-10:13
 James 3:1-12
 Mark 15:1-11
Thursday, September 7
 1 Kings 11:1-13
 James 3:13-4:12
 Mark 15:12-21
Friday, September 8
 1 Kings 11:26-43
 James 4:13-5:6
 Mark 15:22-32

Saturday, September 9
 1 Kings 12:1-20
 James 5:7-20
 Mark 15:33-39
Sunday, September 10
 1 Kings 12:21-33
 Acts 4:18-31
 John 10:31-42
Monday, September 11
 1 Kings 13:1-10
 Phil. 1:1-11
 Mark 15:40-47
Tuesday, September 12
 1 Kings 16:23-34
 Phil. 1:12-30
 Mark 16:1-8 (9-20)
Wednesday, September 13
 1 Kings 17:1-24
 Phil. 2:1-11
 Matt. 2:1-12
Thursday, September 14
 1 Kings 18:1-19
 Phil. 2:12-30
 Matt. 2:13-23
Friday, September 15
 1 Kings 18:20-40
 Phil. 3:1-16
 Matt. 3:1-12
Saturday, September 16
 1 Kings 18:41-19:8
 Phil. 3:17-4:7
 Matt. 3:13-17

Sunday, September 17
 1 Kings 19:8-21
 Acts 5:34-42
 John 11:45-57
Monday, September 18
 1 Kings 21:1-16
 1 Cor. 1:1-19
 Matt. 4:1-11
Tuesday, September 19
 1 Kings 21:17-29
 1 Cor. 1:20-31
 Matt. 4:12-17
Wednesday, September 20
 1 Kings 22:1-28
 1 Cor. 2:1-13
 Matt. 4:18-25
Thursday, September 21
 1 Kings 22:29-45
 1 Cor. 2:14-3:15
 Matt. 5:1-10
Friday, September 22
 2 Kings 1:2-17
 1 Cor. 3:16-23
 Matt. 5:11-16
Saturday, September 23
 2 Kings 2:1-18
 1 Cor. 4:1-7
 Matt. 5:17-20
Sunday, September 24
 2 Kings 4:8-37
 Acts 9:10-31
 Luke 3:7-18

Monday, September 25
 2 Kings 5:1-19
 1 Cor. 4:8-21
 Matt. 5:21-26
Tuesday, September 26
 2 Kings 5:19-27
 1 Cor. 5:1-8
 Matt. 5:27-37
Wednesday, September 27
 2 Kings 6:1-23
 1 Cor. 5:9-6:11
 Matt. 5:38-48
Thursday, September 28
 2 Kings 9:1-16
 1 Cor. 6:12-20
 Matt. 6:1-6, 16-18
Friday, September 29
 2 Kings 9:17-37
 1 Cor. 7:1-9
 Matt. 6:7-15
Saturday, September 30
 2 Kings 11:1-20a
 1 Cor. 7:10-24
 Matt. 6:19-24



SEPTEMBER PREACHING AND WORSHIP SCHEDULE

September 3, 2023
 Sermon Title: **“Heart Renovation”**
 Preaching: Rev. Dr. William Younger
 Scripture: Psalm 131
 Special Notes: Communion/ Labor Day Weekend



September 10, 2023
 Sermon Title: **“The Church— Let’s Be About It!”**
 Preaching: Rev. Dr. William Younger
 Scripture: Acts 2:42-47

September 17, 2023
 Sermon Title: **“Church Restoration”**
 Preaching: Rev. Dr. William Younger
 Scripture: Ephesians 5:23-32
 Special Notes: Kick-Off Sunday

September 24, 2023
 Sermon Title: **“The Welcoming Church”**
 Preaching: Rev. Dr. William Younger
 Scripture: I Peter 2:9-10; Romans 15:1,5-7
 Special Notes: Come To The Table Sunday

October 1, 2023
 Sermon Title: **“The Rescue”**
 Preaching: Rev. Dr. William Younger
 Scripture: John 1:6-8; 19-29
 Special Notes: Mission Sunday/World Communion Sunday



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Jason Stolfer 9/1
 Brian Merry 9/2
 Cara Dobbin 9/3
 Gabriel Fraser 9/4
 Bradlee McClay, Sr. 9/5
 Peg Caesber 9/6
 Nancy Phelan 9/7
 Rebecca Knoneberg 9/8
 Andrew McCarrell 9/9
 Jack Dagg 9/11
 Beth Smith 9/11
 A. Lincoln Key, IV 9/12
 Chelsey Carl 9/13

Jean Snider 9/14
 Tim Walsh 9/15
 Stacy Gesky 9/15
 Ryan Leckie 9/15
 John Riddle 9/16
 Forrest Cullings 9/16
 Sarah Hardy 9/16
 Jessica Kanellos 9/18
 Ruthann Karoleski 9/18
 Chris Bury 9/18
 Ryan Bubonovich 9/19
 Paul Jurovcik 9/19
 Gerilee Davison 9/19



Craig Meyers 9/20
 Garrett Nassar 9/21
 Brandi Frazee 9/22
 Erik Densmore 9/22
 Joyce McClay 9/24
 Scott Armstrong 9/25
 Brittany Digon 9/25
 Connie Nassif 9/26
 John Dobbin 9/26
 Cherrie Walsh 9/27
 Maggie Bennewitz 9/28
 Jean Piatt 9/29
 Theresa Berardinelli 9/30
 James Leckie 9/30



COME TO THE TABLE

Come To The Table, the highly popular small group program full of food, fun and fellowship, is back! Join us **Sunday, Sept. 24th at 10 a.m.** to learn all about the small groups you could be joining. Here are some of the highlighted groups that will be returning this year:

- **Brunch Brunch:** This ever-popular group typically has two sessions - one group meets on Sunday after church and the other during the week.
- **Friends' Night Out:** Sometimes you need a little time to hang out with friends, and if that's the case, then this is the group for you.
- **Dinner and Devotions:** There's nothing like having a good, filling meal that feeds both your body and your soul, which is this group's aim.
- **Grub 'n Games:** This popular returning group is for adults of all ages who like getting a little (or a lot) silly as they fellowship together.
- **Out and About:** Check out a new dining experience every month with an array of different restaurants to choose from!

HANDS AND HEARTS OPPORTUNITIES FOR FALL



Save the Date: CPR Class

Hands and Hearts will be hosting an American Heart Association Friends and Family CPR Class on Monday, October 2nd at 6pm. Kathy Hedges will be the instructor. The class will last approximately 2 hours. There is a fee of \$3. Registrations will be taken until September 17th. Please call or text Linda Grimm at 724-263-7911 to register.



Light refreshments will be provided. Anyone of high school age or older is welcome. Church staff, volunteers and ushers are encouraged to participate. Come learn how to save a life!

Veteran Recognition

Hands and Hearts would like to recognize members of our church family who have served or are active-duty military this coming Veteran's Day. If you or someone you know who attends The Church of the Covenant is a veteran or is currently serving in the Armed Forces, please contact Linda Grimm or Mary Wichterman by phone or text at 724-263-7911 or 724-809-5017.

PARISH NURSE CORNER



Over the last few years, members of the church have donated durable medical equipment. Many items have never been used. These pieces of medical equipment are available to anyone in the church or community in need of the following items: wheelchairs, crutches, bedside commodes, over the toilet commodes, walkers, hospital bed tables, canes and tub handrails. Unfortunately, no more items are being accepted as donations until the present inventory has been depleted. A transport wheelchair is available for loan only. Any questions, please contact Linda Grimm, RN at 724-263-7911 or stop by Room 302 on Sunday morning. Reminder: BP screenings each week.

Good health to all!
Linda Grimm, RN

PINE SPRINGS FALL FUSION RETREAT

Fall Fusion is PSC's fall retreat for campers who are in 4th-6th grade! Fall Fusion will take place September 16-17. This retreat aims to continue to provide an amazing environment where campers can grow in their faith and have a "vital encounter with Jesus Christ." For more information and to register, visit pinesprings.org/fall-fusion.



FELLOWSHIP OF CONCERN

For prayer support or to join this ministry, call the church office. Please contact the Fellowship of Concern to give the names of those who are in need of prayer for health or other reasons. The names will then be called or emailed to the church members who pray daily for others. Prayer request forms are available in each pew. Completed forms may be placed in the offering basket.



Lunchtime



You put your right foot in...



There was time to just be together



↑ water balloons on a hot Jamaica Day? Yes, please!!!



and a-one, and a-two

IMPACT YOUTH MISSION TRIP, 2023

This year’s youth mission trip to Jamaica was attended by 10 youth and 7 chaperones. The first day, the team attended a church crusade and experienced a different style of worship. During the week, the team woke up early to travel to the church where they hosted the day camp. Each day was filled with Bible stories, music, fitness, games, crafts and lunch. The camp grew in numbers each day, and on the last day **we fed 72 local children and teens.**

Impact Youth teens went above and beyond despite the scorching temperatures and the non-stop activities at the camp. They not only made new friends but shared the love and hospitality of Christ.

The donations from our Hero Hotline VBS at COTC helped tremendously. **Your donations helped fill 69 backpacks** full of school supplies to be distributed to the Jamaican Students. This is a huge help to these children since they have to pay to go to school and buy all of their supplies.

Many thanks to the Mission Committee for their encouragement and support. We also thank each of you who said prayers on our behalf.

Adult Attendees/Chaperones were: Yvonne Gayle, Yone Gayle, Calvin Blunt, Tenitsha Blunt, Darla Pepper-Miller, Stephanie Staples, Tyrone Staples (Five of our chaperones are church staff).

Youth Attendees: Cruz Miller, August Ralston, Ada Rose Ralston, Kennedy Tracy, James McCarter, Mason Burchett, Peyton Marianna, Trey Blunt, Kylan Blunt and Keltin Blunt.

Yvonne Gayle
Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries



The Impact Youth and Chaperones



There was time for play...



...and time for crafts

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN
PW ONE-DAY RETREAT**

The Presbyterian Women’s Retreat is set for **October 7, 2023** at the Loft Conference Center, 1000 Noble Energy Drive, in Southpointe. Once again, our Speaker will be Pastor Karen Younger. Attendees, please bring your Bible.

Please make your reservations by Saturday, September 23, 2023. (Absolutely NO reservations accepted after that date!)

Sign-in time is 9:00 am at the Loft Conference Center.

The charge for the buffet breakfast and luncheon can be paid by **check, made payable to Presbyterian Women**, in the amount of **\$45.00.**

To register, or to get more information, please call Pat Boyer at 724-225-5374, or Joan McCrory at 724-222-5806.

You may pick up registration forms at the Welcome Center or at the entrances to the Sanctuary and Covenant Center.

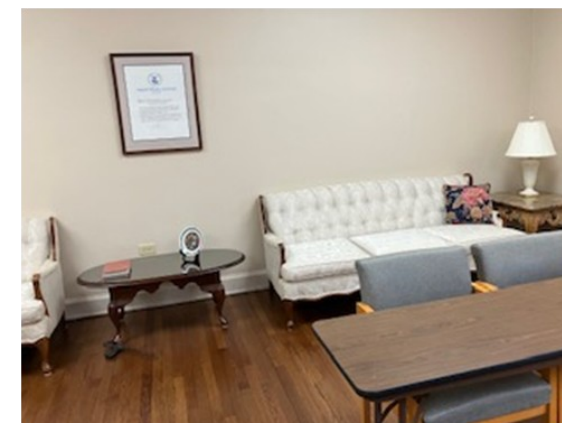


**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN
RENOVATION OF THE CHURCH PARLOR**

The Parlor Renovation Team is pleased to announce that after many months of hard work by Ralph Farabee and his helpers, the parlor renovation is now complete and the parlor is available for use. The walls and ceiling have been painted, new lighting was installed, the valences were removed from the windows and new vertical blinds were installed. Additionally, the floor was restored to its original hardwood finish. The kitchen adjacent to the parlor and the rest room were also updated. The parlor now has up-to-date technology equipment that can be used for classes or Zoom meetings.



The parlor renovation project was funded by the Let There Be Light Campaign.



It is the hope of those involved in the parlor renovation that it will become a multi-purpose room, used not only for meetings and classes, but also for bridal showers, bridal party use, baby showers, funeral gatherings and small social gatherings.

Watch for the announcement of the Parlor Open House and Dedication.

Members of the Parlor Renovation Committee were: Connie Hornickel, Pat Boyer, Connie Simon, Karen Simonini, Ralph Farabee, Cyndi Barney and, prior to his retirement, the Rev. Dr. Stu Broberg.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES

Congratulations and many blessings to those who have graduated, whether from high school, college/university, vocational or trade schools. We wish you success in your next steps along life's journey and discernment and satisfaction in the decisions you will make.

Emelia Hickman is a 2023 Graduate of Mercer Area School District, Mercer, PA and Mercer County Career Center in the collision repair program. She will attend Pennsylvania College of Technology (Williamsport, PA) this fall majoring in Collision Repair and Restoration. "Eme" is the daughter of Keith and Jessica Hickman.

Zachary David Losko, graduated from Trinity Area High School with high honors on June 9, 2023. Zach became an Eagle Scout in Fall of 2022. For his Eagle Scout project, he built and donated a covered bench in the preschool playground that gives our preschool teachers and kids a shaded area. In the fall, Zach plans on attending Slippery Rock University. Zach is the son of Joseph and Jillene and brother of Sarah Losko. His grandparents are Arlene Locy, life-time member of the Church of the Covenant, and Joseph and JoAnn Losko.



ADULT SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

September-October 2023 Tuesday Speaker Series
September 26-October 24

Our 2023 Tuesday Night Speaker Series continues with Dr. John Burgess, Professor of Systematic Theology at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Dr. Burgess has written extensively on the Christian church in Germany and Russia.

Synopsis:

This series will introduce participants to the life and thought of the great Protestant theologian of the twentieth century, Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Bonhoeffer was one of the few theologians in Germany to speak out against the Nazis. Eventually, he was arrested and hanged.

Bonhoeffer saw that Christians in the West were rapidly becoming a minority in a "religionless" society. We will examine how his thinking inspires us and our congregations to be more faithful witnesses to God's presence and work in a secular world.

PARENT GATHERING ~ MEETS EVERY SUNDAY IN ROOM 211 at 10 am

They will be studying Praying Circles Around Your Children by Mark Batterson. Every blessing, every breakthrough, and every miracle can be traced back to the prayers that were prayed by you or for you. Join Mark Batterson, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Circle Maker*, as he equips you to become an extraordinary influence in the lives of your children through one simple practice: praying for them.

Praying Circles around Your Children combines timeless scriptures with stories of parents just like you, which will revolutionize your prayer life and give you a new perspective on the power of prayer. Along the way, Batterson shares five biblically backed prayer circles that will not only help you pray for your kids, but also pray through your kids.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (C.E.) DAY IS SEPTEMBER 17th



C.E. KICK-OFF EVENT

Please join us for **Kick-Off Sunday, September 17th**. After the worship service of your choice, you will be able to meet Bible Characters in the Commons and enjoy treats from past eras in the Dining Room. Covenant Connections Hour will resume at 10am that Sunday, so we invite you back to your groups or gatherings. The Pre-K class and elementary classes will resume along with the Parent Gathering and our other adult groups. We can't wait to see you!

FAMILY CHALLENGE RETURNS OCT. 25th, 5PM

Gather your family or friends and gear up for another night of fun competitions. The evening is filled with goofy games and challenges that will stretch your skills and talents. Last year, The Dille's took home the trophy. Who will take it home this year? We hope to see you there! Refreshments provided.



THE CHURCH OF THE COVENANT PRESCHOOL PRESCHOOL-- HOORAY!

The teachers and myself are so psyched for the start of the school year! We have matched the children's excitement as well. So much we have to share with you. Ready??

We had the opportunity to hire a new lead teacher, Miss Amanda. She has been doing a fantastic job in getting ready for the year and welcoming the children and the families into the preschool world of wonder! We have 146 families that are enrolled into our church Preschool. It is wonderful to have them along with our amazing staff of eight. We continue to reach out to the families to tell them about our church as well. Yvonne supplies us with information about our youth activities and Covenant Hour to welcome the preschool families.

Speaking of fabulous, the school was awarded a grant from Washington County Community Foundation to purchase 5 classroom computers and printers. The update was so needed. So, moving down on our wish list are new entrance doors that will improve our security and new flooring for each classroom. We will also be aiding families who apply to our endowment scholarship funds. It is a blessing that these are available to assist families so their children can attend our Christian Preschool.

So, are we excited for this school year? ABSOLUTELY! We want everyone to feel welcome and be a part of the Preschool. That includes you all--stop down and take a look at what the children are doing and how our church Preschool shines! We are Church of The Covenant Preschool Proud!! Keep us all in your prayers to have a safe and delightful year in learning about God, being kind and loving and enjoying being a child of God. Oh, and if that isn't enough the children will be learning school stuff too!!

AMEN TO ACTION

Join us for a volunteer project that involves the whole family! On November 18 from 8:30am-12pm at Crossroads Church in Oakdale, we'll once again be participating in a food packing event for Amen to Action. As you can see from last year, there are important jobs for all ages! We had a great time doing God's work with each other and serving those in need.

