

Ritual of Friendship and Congregational Opportunities

(Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Please sign the attendance pads at the end of the pew and turn off cell phones.)

GATHERING IN GOD’S NAME

SOUNDING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE “Holy, Holy, Holy” arr.: M. Sherrill Kelsey

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: God anointed Christ to console the afflicted.
People: Come, let us worship the Lord our Comforter!
Leader: God anointed Christ to emancipate the enslaved.
People: Come, let us worship the Lord our liberator!
Leader: God anointed Christ to bind up the wounded.
People: Come, let us worship the Lord our healer!
Leader: God anointed Christ to deliver the troubled.
People: Come, let us worship the Lord our Savior!

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

***HYMN OF PRAISE # 481** “Praise the Lord, God’s Glories Show”

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God,
in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life,
making us part of the body of Christ.
We confess that we remain preoccupied with ourselves,
separated from sisters and brothers in Christ.
We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges,
and show reluctance to welcome one another;
we allow the past to hold us hostage.

In your loving-kindness
have mercy on us and free us from sin.
Remind us of the promises you make in baptism
so that we may rise to new life
and live together in grace.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 603 (Stanza 2)** “Song of Simeon”
This is the Savior of the world, the Gentiles’ promised light,
God’s glory dwelling in our midst, the joy of Israel.
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HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING pg. 672 Isaiah 43:1-7

ANTHEM “Christ the Way of Life Possess Me” K. Lee Scott
Christ the way of life possess me, lift my heart to love and praise;
guide and keep, sustain and bless me, all my days.
Well of life, forever flowing, make my barren soul and bare
like a watered garden growing fresh and fair.
May the Tree of life in splendor from its leafy boughs impart grace divine
and healing tender, strength of heart.
Path of life before me shining, let me come when earth is past,
sorrow, self and sin resigning, home at last.
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CHILDREN’S MOMENTS
****Gateway to Worship**

***HYMN OF PREPARATION # 71** “Lord, When You Came to Jordan”

GOSPEL READING pg. 60 Luke 3:15-22

SERMON Child of Adam, The Rev. Sharon Amstutz
Child of God

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory “Great is Thy Faithfulness” arr.: Rolin Mains
***Doxology # 309 (Stanza 3)** “Of the Father’s Love Begotten”
Christ, to Thee with God the Father, and O Holy Ghost, to Thee,
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be:
Honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory, evermore and evermore! Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

GOING OUT TO SERVE

***HYMN OF CONSECRATION # 409** “Wild and Lone the Prophet’s Voice”

***BENEDICTION**

***SENDING RESPONSE # 315 (refrain)** “Every Time I Feel the Spirit”
Every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray.
Yes, every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray.

***POSTLUDE** “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” arr.: M. Sherrill Kelsey
(For some, the Postlude serves as festive music to accompany their going back out into the world. Others prefer to remain seated and listen. Those departing can help those who listen by holding their joyful greeting of others until they reach the narthex.)

*For those who are able, please stand.

****Gateway to Worship** is our worship program for 4-year olds through first graders. The Gateway leader will take the children to their classroom in the Fellowship Hall after the Children’s Moments.



WELCOME VISITORS! We are glad you are here. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to join with us in service to Christ.

Please join us in the library immediately after worship for a time of fellowship and refreshments.

This morning we again welcome **Jennifer Palmer** at the piano. Jennifer is a graduate of ETSU with a Bachelor’s degree in Piano Performance and, most recently, the State University of New York at Stony Brook with a Master of Arts degree in Music History and Theory. Most recently, Jennifer has been named as an adjunct faculty member of the Department of Music at ETSU, where she will begin in January. She is happy to have this opportunity to worship with you this morning.

The **Tuesday morning Ladies’ Bible Study** will resume on January 12th. We meet in the church library at 10:00 a.m. Please join us!

Friendship Circle will meet on **Tuesday, January 12th at 7:30p.** Hostess: Rose Willis. 2734 E. Oakland Ave., #C-24, J.C., 282-3325. To carpool, meet at the church at 7:10p.

Please join us for the **2010 Annual Senior Travelers’ Brunch** in the Fellowship Hall on **Friday, January 15th at 9:00 a.m.** Only \$3/each. Great breakfast, Christian fellowship, fun time. Sign up in the Narthex. Be there, please!

The **Annual Meeting of the Congregation** will be held as a **Church Night Potluck Supper at 6:00p on Sunday, January 24th.** Highlights of 2009 will be reviewed, the 2010 budget will be presented, and we will elect members of the church Nominating Committee as well as officers of the corporation. Please plan to attend! It will be a wonderful opportunity to learn more about what’s happening at Covenant.

Start the New Year off right with **ConneX! Join us on Sunday, January 31st at 6:00 p.m.** for a more creative-style of worship service. The topic for January is, of course, the new year ahead of us and thinking about what that means for us as disciples of a creative, Creator God. A light supper will follow. See you then!

With the new year comes the need for ushers and for elders to volunteer to serve communion. New calendars for the coming year are posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Please use them to let us know when you will be available to help out. Many thanks.

The **2010 Flower Chart** is on the bulletin board in the hall outside the sanctuary. Please sign up if you would like to place flowers in the sanctuary to honor or remember someone or a special occasion. (Ordering instructions are posted next to the calendar.)

Stewardship envelopes for 2010 are on the table in the Narthex. Please take yours. If you do not find a box of envelopes, but wish to have one, please leave a note in the Church office or send Tina an e-mail.

Reminder to Committee Chairs: 2009 Committee Reports for the Annual Report need to be e-mailed to Tina before January 11th, 2010. Thank you!

Next Sunday, January 17th, the **Good Samaritan Food Offering** will be received. This month they need: small (single-serving size) canned vegetables, fruits, meats and soups with pop-top lids, packs of pudding and Jell-o cups, small jars of instant coffee, creamer and sugar packets, crackers, small jars of peanut butter and jelly, and packs of raisins.

TODAY AT COVENANT

Morning Greeter:	Jim Starr	Chimer:	Drew Amstutz
Liturgist:	Max Wilson	Gateway:	Cornelia Shelnut
Pianist:	Jennifer Palmer	Nursery:	Sally Nagel
Acolytes:	Philip Hagelberg	Coffee Hosts:	Hart, Thompson & Trifiletti
	Mark Jones		

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

<u>Today, January 10</u>	<u>Wednesday, January 13</u>
9:00a Chime Rehearsal	4:45p WNL!
4:00p Session Meeting	7:30p Choir Practice
<u>Monday, January 11</u>	<u>Thursday, January 14</u>
Deadline for Committee Reports	Deadline -Youth Mission Trip Sign-up
<u>Tuesday, January 12</u>	8:00a Men's Bible Study
10:00a Ladies' Bible Study	9:30a Women in the Bible
7:00p Cong. Life Comm. Mtg.	Noon Al-Anon Meeting
7:00p Outreach Comm. Mtg.	<u>Friday, January 15</u>
7:00p Worship Comm. Mtg.	9:00a Sr. Travelers' Brunch
7:30p Friendship Circle	
7:30p Al-Anon Meeting	

CHURCH STAFF:

Pastor:	Rev. Sharon H. Amstutz	Secretary:	Tina Simon
Director of Youth Ministry:	Andy Irvin	Custodian:	Marie Britt
Choir Director:	Randy Adams		

PEOPLE IN OUR PRAYERS

Steve Bader, John Merriss, Rod Irvin (Andy's father), the Dulin family, Elva McCartt, Roger Hecht, Peter Block, Pat Adams, Paige Clanton (friend of the Carr's), Will Favre (friend of David Wood & Phyllis Thompson) and family in the death of Will's dad, Marvin Parker (Evelyn Kemp's cousin), Bob Hunter (Hal's brother), Christian James Ward (baby of friend of Sue Crandall), George Gardner (the Willis' brother-in-law), Lane Johnson (CB Willis' cousin), Ed & Marie Britt, Bill Bader (Steve's brother), Stephanie Muncie (friend of Hines family), Shelly Thornton (Gwen Hunter's cousin's 4-year old granddaughter), Corrine Broyles, Julia Trifiletti, Aneita Carr, Agnes Plank, Helene Herbert

If you know of other reasons for rejoicing or concerns you would like to share with others please complete a prayer card with your requests.

Dr. Al Staggs will give audiences a unique view during the **Theologian-in-Residence** program at Tusculum College into various aspects of theology from the legacy of Dr. Dietrich Bonhoeffer to the role of laughter in life **each Tuesday in February from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.** Lunch is included.

Dr. Staggs served 24 years as a Baptist minister before turning his energies full-time to his real passions related to performing and working for peace and justice. As a performance artist he enjoys bringing joy through laughter in his programs which will include:

- Ø *A View from the Underside: The Legacy of Dietrich Bonhoeffer* – a one-person play taking you inside the prison cell where Bonhoeffer awaits execution and shares his struggles with evil, injustice and God.
- Ø *Clarence Jordan and the God Movement* – Jordan's life and theology were a radical embodiment of Jesus' teachings especially using the Sermon on the Mount.
- Ø *Laughter for Life* – Staggs as 30 or more characters demonstrating the importance of humor in aiding spiritual, emotion and physical health.
- Ø *William Sloane Coffin: A Priestly Prophet* – Coffin was a social activist who became a leader in the Civil Rights and peace movements of the 60's & 70's.

Contact **Angie Dean** at **1.800.729.0256** or **423.636.7319** for more information and circle **February 2, 9, 16 & 23** on your calendars to be at Tusculum College.

COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH



603 Sunset Drive, Johnson City, TN 37604
Phone: (423) 282-5324

Baptism of the Lord
January 10, 2010
Sunday, eleven o'clock

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Great and good God,
give us pure hearts that we may see you,
humble hearts that we may hear you,
hearts of love that we may serve you,
hearts of faith that we may live in you,
reverent hearts that we may worship you,
here and in the world out there,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.