

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**

**CHORAL INTROIT** “Eternal Father“ Youth Ensemble

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** from Psalm 19

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect,  
reviving the soul.

**People: The decrees of the Lord are sure,  
making wise the simple of heart.**

Leader: More to be desired are they than gold,  
even much fine gold;

**People: sweeter also than honey,  
and drippings of the honeycomb.**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE # 292** “All Beautiful the March of Days”

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Awesome and compassionate God,  
you have loved us with unfailing, self-giving mercy,  
but we have not loved you.  
You constantly call us, but we do not listen.  
You ask us to love, but we walk away from neighbors in need,  
wrapped in our own concerns.  
We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed.  
God of grace, as you come to us in mercy,  
we repent in spirit and in truth,  
admit our sin, and gratefully receive your forgiveness  
through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.**

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Leader: In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus,  
we are assured that there is no sin so terrible  
that God cannot forgive,  
no hurt so terrible that God cannot heal.  
God accepts, God forgives, and God sets free.  
Receive the forgiving love of God.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 603 (Stanza 2)** “Song of Simeon”

**HEARING THE WORD OF GOD**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** pg. 436 Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

**CHILDREN’S MOMENTS**

\*\*Gateway to Worship

**ANTHEM** “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” arr.: Mark Hayes  
(Text: see Hymn # 376)

**GOSPEL READING** pg. 61 Luke 4:21

**SERMON** The Mission Statement The Rev. Sharon Amstutz

**RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD**

**\*HYMN # 525** “Here I Am, Lord”

**ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ELDERS**

Leader: There are varieties of gifts,  
but it is the same Spirit who gives them.

**People: There are different ways of serving God,  
But it is the same Lord who is served.**

Leader: God works through each person in a unique way,  
but it is God’s purpose that is accomplished.

**People: To each is given a gift of the Spirit  
to be used for the common good.**

Leader: Together we are the body of Christ,  
and individually members of it.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER**

**GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

**Offertory**

**\*Doxology # 309 (Stanza 3)** “Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**GOING OUT TO SERVE**

**\*HYMN OF CONSECRATION # 411** “Arise, Your Light Is Come!”

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*SENDING RESPONSE # 507 (Stanza 5)** “I Come with Joy”

**\*POSTLUDE**

*(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.

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**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.*

*The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and  
in memory of Aaron Michael Amstutz by Jim & Sharon Amstutz.*

This morning Margaret Sullenger, Charles Trifiletti, Max Wilson and Christian Zembower are being ordained and installed as Elders. Thank you to Butch Carr, Karen Mabe, Tony Madden and Phyllis Thompson for their faithful and generous service over the past three years.

The **Annual Meeting of the Congregation** will be held as a **Church Night Potluck Supper tonight at 6:00p.** 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.

**Young Adult Volunteer Update!**

Blake Jones has posted a bulletin board with information on **Lynnea Hunter’s** activities in **Belfast**. It is in the hallway leading to Fellowship Hall. Take a few moments and look at the books and pictures.

This morning we again welcome **Jennifer Palmer** at the piano.

**Haiti Earthquake Information:**

(from the Presbytery)

**GIVE:** Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) rushed \$100,000 from One Great Hour of Sharing and designated funds to provide immediate emergency relief. On January 14<sup>th</sup>, a PDA staff worker from Central America joined an international team to establish sanitary water systems and access initial damage.

Give online through the PDA website ([www.pcusa.org/pda](http://www.pcusa.org/pda)); by phone at 800-872-3283 from 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; or mail checks to PDA at P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15624-3700.

**ACT:** put together baby kits and hygiene kits to be distributed through ecumenical partner, Church World Service.

**PRAY:** for the Haitian people and those assisting them. At PCUSA you can find a prayer adapted from the *Book of Common Worship*.

**Updates: Presbyterian World Mission** has accounted for mission workers in Haiti. The security team reported that Sharyn Babe and husband, Rodney, have been located. Sharyn was injured (leg, back injuries – evacuated to Cuba) and received medical attention. Mark & Jenny Hare are safe. Rob & Donna Martsolf, former mission workers, have been heard from and are safe at a hotel.

**Mission groups from at least three congregations** were in the region during the quake — from First Church in Atlanta, Lawrenceville Church, in Lawrenceville, NJ and Warrenton Church in Warrenton, VA — all accounted for and safe!

**The Hospital Sainte Croix (Holy Cross Hospital)** in Leogane – a major focus of PCUSA mission in Haiti for decades – collapsed in the January 12 quake.

**TODAY AT COVENANT**

|                          |                                 |               |                        |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| Morning Greeter:         | Jim Starr                       | Chimer:       | Carolee Mabe           |
| Liturgist:               |                                 | Gateway:      | Linda Dulin            |
| Pianist:                 | Jennifer Palmer                 | Nursery:      | Andrea Sutter          |
| Youth Ensemble Director: | Anne Smith                      | Coffee Hosts: | Melanie Jones & Family |
| Acolytes:                | Kalli Dulin<br>Linden Hillhouse |               |                        |

**THIS WEEK AT COVENANT**

|                            |   |                              |                    |
|----------------------------|---|------------------------------|--------------------|
| <u>Today, January 24</u>   |   | <u>Wednesday, January 27</u> |                    |
| 9:00a                      | Chime Rehearsal   | 4:45p                        | WNL!               |
| <b>6:00p</b>               | <b>Annual Meeting &amp; Church Night Potluck Supper</b> | 7:30p                        | Choir Practice     |
| <u>Tuesday, January 26</u> |   | <u>Thursday, January 28</u>  |                    |
| 7:30p                      | Al-Anon Meeting   | 8:00a                        | Men's Bible Study  |
|                            |   | 9:30a                        | Women in the Bible |
|                            |   | Noon                         | 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), Elva McCartt, Roger Hecht, Peter Block, Pat Adams, Marvin Parker (Evelyn Kemp's cousin), Bob Hunter (Hal's brother), George Gardner (the Willis' brother-in-law), Lane Johnson (CB Willis' cousin), Ed & Marie Britt, 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.*

**LADIES OF THE CHURCH:** If you would like to be in a Circle beginning in September of 2010, even if you have not been in the **Friendship Circle** in the past, please indicate on the sign-up sheet in the narthex whether a daytime or evening meeting time would suit you. In the meantime, you are welcome to attend the current Friendship Circle group which meets on the second Tuesday evening of each month at 7:30; the place is announced in the bulletin and in the Courier.

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**SAVE THE DATE! Sunday, February 28** for a visit to Belfast, Northern Ireland! We'll chat with Covenant's Missionary, Young Adult Volunteer (YAV) Lynnea Hunter. She'll join us electronically for a SpudFest in Fellowship Hall immediately following worship. (Spudfest is a Covenant tradition. Enjoy a meal of baked potatoes and salad. All donations will benefit the YAV mission.)

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**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.

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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.)



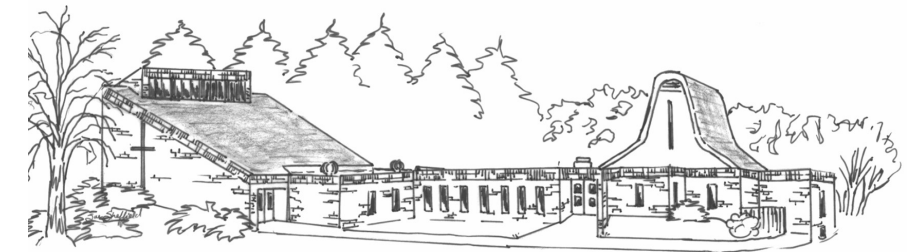
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**Dr. Al Staggs** will give audiences a unique view during the **Theologian-in-Residence** program at Tusculum College into various aspects of theology from the legacy of Dr. Dietrich Bonhoeffer to the role of laughter in life **each Tuesday in February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

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**Please note that we are no longer collecting clothing for Good Samaritan.** If you have clothing you would like to donate, please take it directly to them. Good Samaritan is located downtown at 100 N. Roan Street.

**COVENANT  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**



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

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
January 24, 2010  
Sunday, eleven o'clock

**PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP**

O God,  
you pour out the Spirit  
of grace and love.  
Deliver us from cold hearts  
and wandering thoughts,  
that with steady minds  
and burning zeal  
we may worship you  
in spirit and truth. Amen.