

GREETING

This is the day the Lord has made!
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP AND CONGREGATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

MINUTES FOR MISSION

Jerry Nagel
Session

GATHERING IN GOD’S NAME

SOUNDING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness,
Come into God’s presence with singing!
**People: For the Lord is a gracious God,
whose mercy is everlasting;
and whose faithfulness endures to all generations.**

***OPENING PRAYER**

Leader: Lord God,
we have come to worship you
as sinners in need of your forgiveness.
**People: We come tired from our work,
in need of refreshment and re-creation.**
Leader: We come with worries,
in need of your guidance.
**People: But first, please lift us
out of our preoccupation
with our own needs.**
Leader: Allow us to see you with the eyes of faith,
and to hear with the ears of understanding
what you say to us.
**People: Make us thankful for all the good
we have received from you.**
Leader: Awaken in us a longing to do what is right.
**People: And make us aware of the great company,
past, present, and to come,
with whom we join to worship you. Amen.**

***HYMN OF PRAISE # 483** *“Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above”*

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Lord God,
we confess that we are not ready for your kingdom
of love and peace to be established among us.
We still turn away from others’ suffering;
we still postpone caring for your gift of creation;
we still tolerate war and take too lightly the burdens of making peace.**
**Forgive us, God, for our unreadiness.
Waken us once more to your presence among us,
and make of us signs of the coming victory of your mercy.**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 576**

“Gloria, Gloria”

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READING FROM THE PSALMS pg. 548 Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16

ANTHEM *“Let Thy Mercy Be Upon Us”* Elwood Coggin
Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, according as we hope in Thee.
The Lord looketh from Heaven, He beholdeth all the sons of men.
Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord;
and the people whom He hath chosen for His own inheritance.

CHILDREN’S MOMENTS

****Gateway to Worship**

***HYMN OF PREPARATION # 327** *“O Word of God Incarnate”*

GOSPEL READING pg. 79 Luke 16:19-31

SERMON Same Planet, Different Worlds Rev. Sharon Amstutz

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (pg. 14 – traditional version) The Apostles’ Creed

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory

***Doxology # 592** *“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”*

***Prayer of Dedication**

GOING OUT TO SERVE

***HYMN OF CONSECRATION # 367** *“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”*

***BENEDICTION**

***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 following worship
for a time of fellowship and refreshments.*

International Peacemaker at Covenant – Sunday, October 3

Please join us for worship on World Communion Sunday, October 3rd. We will have the privilege of hosting the Reverend Probe Augustin Mukendi Kabongo, an International Peacemaker from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Reverend Kabongo will present a program in the Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School hour and then will preach the sermon during worship.

Peacemaking Offering – Sunday, October 3

Next Sunday, October 3rd, we will celebrate **World Communion** with Christians around the world. We will also receive the **Peacemaking Offering**. Our congregation will retain 25 percent of the Offering to be to be divided equally between Range School in Carter County and the Magill Memorial Presbyterian Church Youth Outreach Program. The other 75 percent will help our partners in the presbytery, synod, and General Assembly as they work on behalf of God’s peacemaking throughout the world.

After Church Lunch – Sunday, October 3rd, 12:30 p.m.

October’s After Church Lunch has been rescheduled for next Sunday, October 3rd. In keeping with the Peacemaking theme, Lynnea Hunter will speak on her experiences as a Young Adult Volunteer in Northern Ireland. The entrée (BBQ Pork) will be provided and prepared by the Congregational Life Committee. Please bring a side dish, salad or dessert that you would like to share with the congregation. If your dish needs to be kept warm or even heated at the last minute, someone will be in the kitchen by 9:30 a.m. to receive your dish and your instructions. We look forward to sharing this fellowship opportunity with you! If you have any questions, please contact Andrea Sutter or Lauri Zembower.

Please Note:

The pastor will be away on continuing education beginning **this afternoon until Tuesday, October 5th**. She will not be reachable by phone or e-mail. If you have an emergency during this time, please contact the church office at 282-5324 or Andrea Sutter at 773-5602.

Communion

The **Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper** will be celebrated next Sunday. Take time this week to prepare yourself in prayer and meditation.

The Newsletter

The **October Courier** can be found on the table in the narthex. **Help us save postage!** **Be sure to pick up your copy!**

Middler Retreat

The **Middler Retreat** will be held at Holston Presbytery Camp & Retreat Center on **November 19-21** beginning at 7 pm on Friday. Get in on the fun – make your plans now! Contact Andy for details.

WNL! Traffic Notice Reminder

Traffic Notice Reminder: As before, to keep the kids safe while they are playing outside, traffic patterns into the parking lot will be changed. **The front entrance from Sunset Drive will be blocked every Wednesday at 4:45 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.** Please enter and exit from the Sundale/Franklin Square entrance. This change will keep traffic out of the crosswalk and our kids safe. Thank you!

PEOPLE IN OUR PRAYERS

The family of Bob Sobol, Jim Crandall, Roger Hecht, Patricia Chafin (former member of Covenant), John Brumit (Betsy Moakler's brother), Max Wilson, Helen Davis, Pat Adams, Vi Block & her family, Bob & Estelle Armistead, Rose Willis, Elva McCartt, Chris Adler Hillhouse, Dana Cheek (the Carr's' niece), Arthur "Bud" & Eileen Kelsey (friends of Butch & Harriette Carr), Marvin Parker (Evelyn Kemp's cousin), Ed & Marie Britt, Corrine Broyles, Julia Trifiletti, Aneita Carr, Agnes Plank

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.

TODAY AT COVENANT:

Morning Greeter: Jim Starr
Liturgist: Marilyn Robertson
Acolytes: Drew Amstutz & Grace Madden
Chimer: Julia Hagelberg
Gateway: Karen/Andrea
Nursery: Linda Dulin
Coffee Fellowship: The Madden Family

CHURCH STAFF:

Pastor: Rev. Sharon H. Amstutz
Director of Youth Ministry: Andy Irvin
Pianist & Interim Choir Director: Jennifer Palmer
Secretary: Tina Simon
Financial Secretary: Anne Webb
Custodian: Marie Britt

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT:

Today, September 26
9:00a Chime Choir Rehearsal
Tuesday, September 28
7:30p Al-Anon Meeting
Wednesday, September 29
5:00p WNL!
7:30p Choir Practice
Thursday, September 30
8:00a Men's Bible Study
9:30a Women in the Bible
Noon Al-Anon Meeting

YOU HAVE MAIL:

Helen Davis
Philip Hagelberg
Erma Hyers

Church Office Hours

Regular office hours are Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Holston Presbytery

If you would like to receive e-mail updates directly from Holston Presbytery, go to www.holstonpresbytery.org and enter your e-mail address under SUBSCRIBE TO THIS WEEK. It's easy and gives you a 'heads up' about what's happening in our Presbytery.

Presbyterian Student Fellowship Calendar

Sunday, September 26th, 5:30 p.m. Planning Meeting. All welcome!

Tuesday, September 28th, 7 p.m. Caitlin Morelock, "The Gospel According to Oz"

Everyone is welcome to all events whether Presbyterian or something else or no affiliation at all. No one is an outsider. Everyone is in the circle.

All Tuesday nights begin with supper at 7 p.m. and the program to follow at 7:45 ish.

Fall News from Camp

(Check www.holstoncamp.org for the latest from Holston Camp & Retreat Center in Banner Elk ☺)

Backpacking Trip – October 1-3

Fall Color in the High Country – October 5

Fall in the high country adds another layer of beauty and a crispness to the air. Take walks, learn the different trees and enjoy fellowship with friends. Begins at 11:00 AM. Total Cost: \$8 (includes lunch and program). To REGISTER yourself or a church group for these programs, call 828-898-6611 or e-mail office@holstoncamp.org

Choose & Cut Holiday Party – December 3-4

Presbyterian Women

September 24-26 – Spiritual Growth Retreat – Holston Camp, Banner Elk – speaker Mary Hammett "Drinking from My Saucer" – begins at 3 pm on Friday and concludes after Farewell Worship at 9:15 am on Sunday.

If you are planning to attend the **Presbyterian Women's Day at Sunset Gap Community Center on October 7** at 10 a.m. you may still be able to register. An RSVP was requested by September 15 so please call 423.623.4313 to check on later registrations. You may mail Karen Hekel at info@sunsetgap.org to register on-line. Enjoy a pleasant drive through the fall countryside to view the facilities and have lunch prepared by the Center (\$7 per person). Usually the children will perform and director, Josh Dunn, will fill you in on the latest happenings. Come, enjoy your day at Sunset Gap!

Ancient Bibles Displayed at Heritage Center in Montreat

The Presbyterian Heritage Center in Montreat, in anticipation of the forthcoming 400th anniversary of the King James Bible in 2011, has opened a display of very early English Bibles, beginning with the 1384 translation by John Wycliffe and continuing through all the major versions of the 16th century English Reformation. Almost 20 Bibles are on display and all are original. Admission is free and the exhibit will be available until the spring of 2011 and is an extraordinary opportunity! There is also an exhibit on Presbyterian missions in China. The Center is an institution for the promotion of the history and heritage of Presbyterianism and is located on Assembly Drive adjacent to Assembly Inn, in the building formerly occupied by the Historical Foundation. It is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 am to 4 pm; on Saturdays from 1-4 pm and Sundays from 1:30-4 pm. Staff members are available to provide historical commentary. Groups are encouraged to contact the Center in advance at 828.669.6556 so that proper arrangements may be made for their visit.

October Lectures Feature Dead Sea Scrolls

Dr. James Charlesworth, a world renowned authority on Biblical Archaeology and the Dead Sea Scrolls, will present two lectures at First, Kingsport on **October 15** and **October 16**. Both lectures will be at 7 p.m. Topics will be: "John the Baptizer, Jesus from Nazareth and the Dead Sea Scrolls" and Nazareth, Migdal, and other Archaeological Sites: Breaking News on Jesus." Dr. Charlesworth, a dynamic and entertaining speaker, is the author or editor of over 65 books with impressive academic credentials. There is no charge for these lectures and time for audience questions will be at the end of his remarks. Join First, Kingsport for what should prove to be a rewarding time learning new developments in the field of Biblical Archaeology. For more details, contact First Presbyterian Church in Kingsport.

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 26, 2010
Sunday, eleven o'clock

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Grant unto us, O God, the fullness of your promises.
Where we have been weak, grant us your strength;
where we have been confused, grant us your guidance;
where we have been distraught, grant us your comfort;
where we have been dead, grant us your life.
Apart from you, O Lord, we are nothing,
in and with you we can do all things. Amen.