

2009



MAY

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Covenant Courier

## Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser

The youth group will be hosting their second fundraiser for this summer's Mission Trip to Savannah on May 2<sup>nd</sup> at KFC on Roan Street. We'll be washing cars from 11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m., right in the middle of the lunch rush. Come have some fried chicken and get your car washed while you eat! We appreciate your continued support!

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## Presbyterian Women

Friendship Circle will meet on Tuesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Betsy Hagelberg for a Potluck Picnic Supper. Don't forget your potluck dish! 2925 Antioch Road, J.C., 929-7940. To carpool, meet at the church at 5:45 p.m.

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## Christian Education

### WNL! Spring Fling

Please join us Wednesday May 13<sup>th</sup> at 5pm for the WNL! Spring Fling. This is a celebration of another year of fun, fellowship and learning for the young people in our congregation. We will be having a cookout then celebrating and sharing what the program means to everyone involved. You are invited to come and share in the fellowship and listen in on what WNL! is all about. We hope you will come and check out this important ministry to the young people of our congregation.

Please e-mail Melissa Hopkins if you plan to come just so we know how many to cook for. ([melissahopkins@embarqmail.com](mailto:melissahopkins@embarqmail.com))

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## Congregational Life

### Covenant Summer Lake Outings

It's time to look forward to those warm summer days and outdoor activities. Please join your Covenant friends in June for some food and water fun at the annual lake days at the Harts', who have generously offered to host us at their lake home again this year. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be furnished, with your favorite side dishes provided by you. Sign-up sheets will be posted in the Narthex soon. The schedule is as follows:

- ◆ Women's Day—June 2<sup>nd</sup> (rain date June 3<sup>rd</sup>)
- ◆ Men's Day—June 16<sup>th</sup> (rain date June 18<sup>th</sup>)
- ◆ Youth Day—June 10<sup>th</sup>

Please contact any member of the Congregational Life Committee for additional information.

# Graduation Congratulations to Laura Benedict



Many in our congregation remember Laura Benedict from Cameroon who was active at Covenant from the day she stepped off the plane until she and her husband, Bob, and son, Bradley, moved to Auburn, AL, for Bob to get his PhD in mathematics from Auburn University. During his graduate work, their marriage unraveled, and she faced the challenge of preparing herself to be a single mom and a productive citizen.

With the support and love of the Auburn Presbyterian Church and some of us at Covenant, she has managed to complete all the requirements for graduation from nursing school with a 3.6 average, and she will receive her degree on May 7<sup>th</sup>! She has quite a testimony of praise to God for surrounding her with loving people and "not giving up on her!"

If you would like to send her your congratulations, she goes by her Cameroonian name, Eyong Atem, and her address is 560 N. Gay Street, Apt. 226, Auburn, AL 36830. Bradley, who was born in Johnson City, is now 4 years old, and he is a bright, friendly big boy!

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## Lynnea Goes to Belfast!

As many of you now know, I have applied to spend a year with the PC(USA)'s Young Adult Volunteer program (YAV.) I spent a weekend in Louisville at the seminary with the YAV staff at their Placement and Discernment Event, and have now been officially invited to serve for a year at their site in Belfast, Northern Ireland. This was my first choice, so I am REALLY excited! There will be up to 10 other young adults going to the same site, and I'm really looking forward to working with them. I have yet to know what my exact placement will be in Belfast, but I do know that I will be working in some kind of church and/or community outreach, predominately with youth and young adults as part of the reconciliation and peacemaking effort. Also, most of the sites in Belfast utilize the arts—music, drama, visual and dance—in their programs; even more of a fit for me!

Now for some nuts and bolts. It costs anywhere between \$20,000 -30,000 to sponsor one international YAV for one year. The PC(USA) requires the YAV's themselves to raise \$9,000 of that total; the greater church picks up the rest. That \$9,000 goes to pay for my living expenses while in Belfast; the rest goes for things like travel and transportation costs, health insurance, vaccinations, etc. I have been approved by the session to start fundraising, and have already started to receive donations. (Thank you!) The \$9,000 is raised in installments with the first installment of \$2,500 due by July 15. So this is my first goal: raise \$2,500 by July 15, 2009. So many of you have committed to pray for me and keep in touch while I am away, and this means so much to me. After all, if I raise 110% of my goal, but have no prayerful support behind it, then it means nothing. However, finances are also a very real necessity. I know economic times are tough for many, but every little bit helps! If you would like to participate by supporting me financially, first THANK YOU! And second, follow the directions below:

Donate online at [www.pcusa.org/yav](http://www.pcusa.org/yav). Click on "Support a YAV" and follow the directions.

—OR—

Donate through the church. Make checks out to Covenant Presbyterian Church and note "Lynnea Hunter" or "YAV" on the memo line.

Again, thank you so much for your love, prayers, thoughts and donations. If you have any questions feel free to contact me anytime. I will make sure to keep you all up to date with my adventures! God Bless!

Lynnea Hunter

## April Session Highlights...Evelyn Kemp

- ◆ The session approved mission worker fundraising for Lynnea Hunter, who will be spending a year in Belfast. Those who wish to contribute to Lynnea's mission work can make checks payable to Covenant with a notation for that mission fund—Young Adult Volunteer (YAV).
- ◆ "Days at the Lake" at the Harts' cabin have been scheduled as follows:  
June 2<sup>nd</sup> for women (with June 3<sup>rd</sup> as the rain date); June 16<sup>th</sup> for men (with June 18<sup>th</sup> as the rain date); and June 10<sup>th</sup> for youth.
- ◆ Confirmation has been scheduled for Sunday May 10. Examination of the confirmands and a breakfast for the confirmands, mentors, parents, and the Session is planned for Saturday May 9.
- ◆ Jim and Sharon Amstutz hosted a dinner for the young adults on March 22. The group expressed a desire for connection with each other and the entire church, fun and active young adult group events, and giving back to the church community.
- ◆ Matt Sweeney reported that approximately \$650 was raised at the SpudFest fundraiser for the Youth Mission Trip to Savannah, GA in June. Another fundraiser, a car wash, is planned for May. The goal is to raise a total of \$2,000.
- ◆ The Property Committee reported that they have received an estimate of \$1,600 for needed landscaping, including mulch, weed barrier, and trimming low branches.
- ◆ Pastor Amstutz will be out of the office the week of April 19 for continuing education.

**Note from Tina: The full Treasurer's Report for March is not available at this time due to technical difficulties.**

**The 5-cents a Meal Offering for March was \$149.60.**



Good Coffee for a Good Cause!  
Equal Exchange coffee, tea, hot cocoa, chocolate, and more are available in the Narthex!



## Thank you from Covenant!

...to Sue Sheffield for making our Communion bread!

...to Dick & Gloria Lewis for their work (often in the wee hours of the morning) keeping our flower beds free of weeds and looking so nice.

...to the Mowing Team and the Property Committee for keeping the landscape looking good.

...to Melissa Hopkins for her dedication to the Acolyte program and to the youth in Wednesday Night Live.

...to Roger Hecht for the beautiful new cart used in Coffee Fellowship and for being so gracious in sharing his woodworking skills and talent.

...to Tina Simon for the many hours and extra time she puts into keeping all of us on our toes.

...to Sue Sheffield for adding beauty to the sanctuary by taking care of the flowers each Sunday.

For Maundy Thursday:

...to the Tuesday morning Ladies Bible Study group who made the soup,

...to the folks who baked cookies,

...to those who set up, and

...to those who cleaned up!



Another Thank You...

Thank you for the lovely cards and gifts that were left on my desk last week! You all make me feel so special!!!



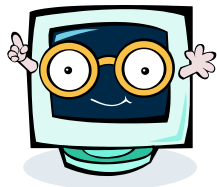
Tina

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Check out Covenant's newly re-designed website:  
[www.covenantpresjc.org](http://www.covenantpresjc.org) !



Did you know...

...some people are highly sensitive to perfumes and colognes and other scents? For their comfort and health, please refrain from using fragrances on Sunday mornings.

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## Property Committee

### Help Needed!!! Housekeeping Chores

On April 4<sup>th</sup> we had a nice turnout of 12 faithful souls for clean-up day. Much was accomplished, but several items still need attention. We are hopeful that you may find time to finish these chores (at your convenience, of course). If you are able to help, please check off and initial the list posted in the Narthex. Cleaning supplies can be found on the shelf of the cart in the Fellowship Hall.

The following items still need attention:

- ◆ Wash curtains – nursery, choir room, Sunday school rooms and library
- ◆ Wash windows of Fellowship Hall – outside only
- ◆ Wash folding chairs and tables in adult classrooms
- ◆ Clean ovens.



**A Special Thanks to All for Your Help!!**  
Property Committee