

2010



MARCH

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Covenant Courier

Holy Week

Palm Sunday

March 28, Sanctuary

Maundy Thursday

April 1, 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

As Jesus' disciples today, we will gather for a light supper together, worship and the sacrament of communion.

Good Friday

April 2

Stations of the Cross

Noon to 6:00 p.m.

(enter church through courtyard)

Trace the last steps of Jesus and be profoundly touched by his experience of humiliation, loneliness, betrayal and suffering. Nine "stations" are laid out throughout the church to allow you to journey at your own pace from the garden of Gethsemane to the cross.

Tenebrae

6:00 p.m., Sanctuary

A dramatic service of readings, silence and music recounting the Passion of Jesus. As the light of Jesus' life is extinguished, the light in the sanctuary is slowly extinguished as well.

Easter

April 4

Sunrise Service

7:00 a.m., courtyard & Sanctuary
(dress warmly)

Pancake Breakfast

7:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Traditional Worship Service

11:00 a.m., Sanctuary

A nursery will be available for all events.

Church Spring Clean-Up Day-March 20

The Property Committee has planned for another "Church Spring Clean Up" to be conducted Saturday, March 20, 2010, from 7:00 AM until everyone gets tired. The Committee will have some cleaning materials available, but everyone is encouraged to bring cleaning-type supplies and materials, such as cleaning cloths/buckets/brooms/step ladders etc. The work tasks will be split into groups such as window cleaning group, floor cleaning group, landscape bed cleaning, etc., so come prepared to work on a particular task, or several. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact a Property Committee member prior to "Church Spring Clean Up". It will be great to have the Church building and grounds looking their best before the Easter Sunday service. So please find the time and volunteer for this important Church activity.

Youth Fundraiser Church Yard Sale

Saturday, March 27, 2010, 7:00 a.m.—noon

This summer our youth will be traveling to Charleston, West Virginia, for our summer Mission Trip. To help raise money, we are asking all church members to bring in items from home that you would be willing to donate to the church yard-sale. Donations may be dropped off in Andy's office. If you are unable to bring in your donations for any reason, the youth will have scheduled pick-up days during the week preceding the sale.

This is a wonderful, easy, and effective way to both clear space at your house and help a worthy cause. Thank you in advance for all of your help.

(Notice to Mission Trip Participants: Payment of \$150 dollars for the Mission Trip this summer will be due on **Sunday, March 21st**. You are encouraged to turn in money any time between now and March 21st. The remainder of the cost will be covered by our Church Yard Sale. Thanks.)

WELCOME TO COVENANT!

Welcome to Covenant's new Pianist, Jennifer Palmer. 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. She holds numerous prizes and awards in piano performance, but her real passion is found in teaching. While in New York, she was a member of the faculty of the Pre-College Division of the Department of Music, where she served as the vocal coach and accompanist, and worked with chamber pianists. Jennifer is an adjunct faculty member of the Department of Music at ETSU.

Mission and Outreach Committee

The Annual Meeting has come and gone, Annual Reports have been distributed, briefly glanced at, and then set aside or recycled by many of us. Here is a question for you that is answered in our annual report: How much charitable/mission-oriented giving above and beyond our formal budget did members of the Covenant congregation give in 2009?

We had five special offerings this past year: Living Waters for the World, Easter One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost, Peacemaking, and Christmas Joy Gift. A total of \$3,833 was received from these offerings. Of this total, \$698 was retained for local distribution in our support of the Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN), Magill Presbyterian's youth outreach in Roan Mountain, and Range Elementary School.

Our annual Alternative Gift Fair in 2009 had representatives present from Grandfather Home for Children, Holston Presbytery Camp, Living Waters for the World, The Heifer Project, IHN, The River, and Youth & Young Adult Ministries at the ETSU Campus House. This event received \$2,785 of which \$1,880 was for local mission and outreach projects.

Additional donations for local missions through Covenant to Good Samaritan Ministries, Five-Cents a Meal, The River, and the Pastor's Mission Fund totaled \$8,109. At the international level we committed \$4,369 to support Lynnea Hunter's Young Adult Volunteer mission trip to Northern Ireland.

The bottom line is that Covenant members have contributed \$19,096 above and beyond their pledge support of our budgeted funds. Of this total, local distribution was \$10,687. This is a record we can be proud of. And remember, we have not even mentioned donations of time, food, clothing, children's gifts, etc. to Good Samaritan, IHN, Melling Pot, Prison Ministry Angel Tree Project, and the Mitten Tree Project. Covenant Gives!

The Homework Club

The Homework Club is an after-school program directed by Bonnie White. The children this program serves are at risk and homeless. A few months ago Sharon mentioned the number of homeless children in the Johnson City schools in one of her sermons and some of us took that as a challenge. After some research we have some concrete ways to help these children.

One way to help is as a volunteer in the after school program for elementary students, The Homework Club. The following schedule will help you find the time and place you fit best.

All meetings are after school from 3:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

South Side Elementary School	Monday and Wednesday
Mountain View Elementary School	Monday thru Friday
Woodlands Elementary School	Monday thru Thursday
Fairmont Elementary School	Monday thru Thursday

Another way to help is to put your name on "the" list as a tutor or resource person for special projects. Helping this group of children would be at any grade level and the projects might include a history report, or science fair project, or to help bring an individual up to grade level in a particular subject.

Please, consider where you might help these children succeed and maybe even break the cycle of poverty for one child!

Contact Bonnie White, Homework Director, whiteb1@jcschools.org.

Thank You,
Bobbie Carroll

"Come , let us worship..." the Worship Committee would love for anyone who is interested to visit our meeting on any 1st Tuesday at 7:00 PM at the church, and to think about joining our committee in the joyful work of making each worship service as meaningful as it can be. Sue Sheffield, Chair.

New Member / Inquirer's Class

An Inquirer's class will begin on April 18th for new members or anyone considering membership at Covenant. The course will be held in the Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School hour for five weeks, and will explore what it means to be distinctively Presbyterian and how you can live out your Christian discipleship in the worship, service and study at Covenant. If you have questions or would like to sign up, please call the church office.

Church Night Potluck Supper

Church night supper will be held on Sunday, March 14th at 6 p.m.—we hope to see everyone there! We will be going green for St. Paddy's Day, so bring your favorite green food (if you're feeling creative!), and we'll find out who truly has the "luck 'o the Irish" after dinner!

Presbyterian Women

Friendship Circle will meet on Tuesday, March 9th at 7:30 p.m.

Hostess: Betty Maletich,

Co-Hostess: Estelle Armistead

3303 Honeywood Drive, J.C., 282-6684

To carpool, meet at the church at 7:10 p.m.

Bible Study: Lesson 7

Senior High Retreat

The Holston Presbytery Youth Council will be holding a Senior High Retreat at Camp on March 19th-21st. Any High School Youth that are interested should see Andy for a flyer ASAP. The cost is \$60 dollars, and the theme is "What Does God Have That Wal-Mart Doesn't?"

FYI:

Our Church Secretary, Tina Simon, will be on medical leave for the next several weeks. We are making arrangements for someone to answer phones and e-mails Monday—Thursday mornings at least from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Thank you in advance for your patience!

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering

"One of our strengths as Presbyterians lies in sharing what we have with others, a discipline that for more than six decades Presbyterians have exercised through One Great Hour of Sharing. This year's offering theme, drawn from Jesus' last encounter with his disciples, highlights the message he leaves them – to focus not on one's own needs but on those of others. "Do you love me?" he asks three times. Three times he repeats a variation of the instruction, "Feed my sheep."

"Through your gifts and the gifts of other congregations across the church, the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering will continue to be a reminder that through the simple act of sharing, we are blessed and experience God's abundance in surprising ways."

Sara P. Lisherness, Director
Compassion, Peace, and Justice

This year One Great Hour of Sharing Offering will be received April 4th, Easter Sunday.

What's happening at Holston Camp!

There are several programs this spring that are coming up soon.

Beginning Woodcarving and Beyond	April 12-16
Dulcimer Making	April 12-16
Shaker Box Construction	April 19-23
Introduction to Watercolor	May 10-14
Spring Wildflower 2010	April 20

Holston Camp is also getting ready for the summer. Programs are listed on the NEW website and fees have been reduced for summer programs. Details and registration for all camps and programs may be viewed and completed at the NEW website. Check it out.

If you are a college student, or know a college student, who is looking for an opportunity to live in the beauty of God's world and contribute to the growth and development of God's kingdom, consider a position as a counselor. Several positions are still available. Details and applications are available on the camp website.

To access the web, go to www.covenantpresjc.org and select the link for Holston Camp.

Senior Travelers

We apologize for the late notice, but the next Senior Travelers' Program will be a General Band and Wind Ensemble Concert to be held on Tuesday, March 2, at 7:30 PM, at the D.P. Culp Auditorium, under the direction of Dr. Christian Zembower. The venue site lies at the SE corner of the ETSU campus, at the corner of Lake St. and J.L. Seehorn Rd. There is no charge, and no meal is planned. Parking is available directly across from the Culp University Center on Seehorn and we will gather at 6:45 PM in the lobby, immediately inside the Seehorn St. entrance. Because of the lateness of this notice, there will be no sign-up sheet -- however, an E-mail return would be appreciated. Any questions? Call 282-6684, or E-mail robema@earthlink.net.

SENIOR TRAVELER'S 2010 PROPOSED SCHEDULE...by CB Willis

April April 29th. Wildflower at Holston Camp, just as last year. All Presbytery Churches included. Lunch provided, nominal costs. Various hikes to view spring flowers. Also van tour for those not desiring to walk. Jerry and Sally Nagel, leaders.

AND (?)

ETSU Jazz program- no details yet, but call Carol 439-4270. Leaders decide regarding dinner plans. Gary and Ann Smith.

May Barter Theater, Abingdon. To enjoy the classic Annie, begins May 28th. Costs and timing not available to writer just now. Call Barter, 276-628-3991 for all info. Leaders, Alan and Debbie Lewis.

June June 18th, ETSU band concert, Dr. Christian Zembower, Director. Details not known. Call Carol, 439-4270. Leader, Charles Trifiletti. Dinner out, leader's choice. Maybe his house?

July Penland School of Crafts, Penland, NC, 50-mile drive over Iron Mountain, through Buledine, Red Hill, Loafer's Glory and Toecane. How wonderful. Tour of school led by CB's cousin, Bill Ford. Poke (brown bag for you Yankees) on porch of CB's grandparent's home. (I hope).

August Story Teller in Residence, Jonesborough. Lunch at local period restaurant. Leaders, Bob and Betty Maletich. Details later.

September Chimney Rock Park, few miles east of Asheville near I-40. Details later,. Picnic from brown bags. Leader, Glay Hood. I have info, Glay.

October Trip on the BRP to view the fall leaves, maybe Grandfather, Mt. Mitchell. Leaders, Rose and CB. More later.

AND

At ETSU, on Oct 10th, the 100 year celebration band concert, I think led by Dr. Zembower. Details later. Leader, Rose and CB.

November Visit Saltville, VA, 60-miles up I-81, beautiful little town with complete museum of early times in our area, also very nice restaurant, or picnic along the Salt Trail, which our hikers have walked. 8-miles or so, through and around the old salt mines which gave the town it's name. More later. Leaders, Rose and CB Willis.

December Shadricks with Alan and Debbie Lewis. This is a Christmas display near but separate from the BMS. With dinner somewhere, leader's choice.

February Session Highlights...Evelyn Kemp

- Income in January was \$23,387 while expenditures were \$28,528 for a deficit of \$5,411. The deficit is due to 3 payrolls instead of the usual 2 and one-time lump sum payment of about \$4,300 for our annual payment for insurance on the building and van.
- Jerry Nagel is the new Chair of the Mission and Outreach Committee.
- Campus Ministries is in need of volunteers to paint the inside of the building on campus.
- Jennifer Palmer has been selected to fill the musician position.
- Sue Sheffield is the new Chair of the Worship Committee.
- Plans are being made for Worship in the Park.
- Two opportunities are currently open: Coordinator of WNL and someone to take charge of preparing bags for the little ones to use during Worship. If you are interested in either of these positions, let Fred Dulin know as soon as possible.
- A Safety and Security Committee is working on plans to ensure the safety of our children while they are in our building. A meeting is scheduled for 11th at 6:00 p.m.
- The youth are planning a yard sale which will be held on Saturday, March 27th. Start gathering items you have to contribute.
- Our Administrative Assistant, Tina Simon, will be out of the office for approximately two months for surgery beginning in a few weeks.
- The Fund of Choice will be divided between the Pastor's Mission Fund (25%) and the Outreach Default Fund (75%).

Memorial Gifts:

Given to the Landscape Fund
in Memory of:
Charles L. Wiley
By
Pat Wiley

Treasurer's Report January

Income to General Fund January	
Actual	\$23,387.24
vs. Budgeted	\$20,734.58
Expenses from General Fund January	
Actual	\$28,528.47
vs. Budgeted	\$20,734.58
Year to Date Income General Fund	
Actual	\$23,387.24
vs. Budgeted	\$20,734.58
Year to Date Expenses from General Fund	
Actual	\$28,528.47
vs. Budgeted	\$20,734.58
The 5-cents a Meal Offering for January was \$128.00.	
Mortgage stands at \$91,589.06	

Help Wanted

Position: Director of Covenant's Wednesday night children's program.
Hours: Wednesday evenings 4:45 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Responsibilities: Recruit leaders of children's activities, develop schedule for the year, recruit meal teams and or meal team leader, monitor Wednesday night activities.
Experience: No experience necessary. On-the-job training will be provided if position is filled by April 10th.
Compensation: Fulfillment of knowing you help to provide Christian education to the children of our church. Fellowship with church leaders and members of all ages. Lots of smiles and occasional hugs.

Please call the church office if you are interested in this important volunteer opportunity!

Got Work?

Marie Britt, Covenant's custodian, lost a regular customer at the beginning of the year and is looking for additional work. If you know anyone who could use her services for residential or commercial cleaning, please let her know. Marie's number is 913-2366. Thanks, and keep her and Ed in your prayers.

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

603 Sunset Drive
Johnson City, TN 37604

Phone: 423-282-5324
Fax: 423-282-5346

[Http://www.covenantpresjc.org](http://www.covenantpresjc.org)

Email: cpcjctn@mounet.com

We need pictures! We are in need of CURRENT pictures for the church's website. If you have, or would be willing to take pictures (digital) of groups, activities, classes, etc...around the church, we would love to have them. Just email them to Tina. cpcjctn@mounet.com

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EASTER LILY ORDER FORM

If you would like to place an Easter Lily in the Sanctuary for Easter please complete this form and place it, along with your payment, in the offering plate. Note "Easter Lily" on your check made to Covenant Presbyterian Church. Easter lilies are \$12.00 each. The deadline for orders is March 28th, 2010.

Name of person ordering: _____

Given in Honor of: _____

Given in Memory of: _____

Given By: _____

Total Lilies Ordered: _____ Amount Paid: \$_____ Cash_____ Check_____

