CPC

Covenant Presbyterian Church

OCTOBER

2016

REACHING OUT WITH CHRIST TO AN EVER-CHANGING WORLD

DON'T MISS THIS!

Pastor's Letter -see page 1-2

CPC Community News -see page 6

October Calendar

FROM THE PASTOR FOR OCTOBER 2016

During the During message on the 15th anniversary of the Spetember 11 attacks, I told a story from NPR abut the town of Gander, Newfoundland. As the 9/11 attacks became known. America's airspace was closed and 38 planes were rerouted to Gander. More than 6,000 passengers and crew were taken in by families there. For five days, Gander hosted thousands of uninvited visitors - fed, them, bathed them and clothes them - while their luggage stayed on the planes. The new musical, "Come From Away, which opened in September in Washington, D.C., is based on the events in Gander, Newfoundland. (*Care From Away* is the phrase Ganderites use for people who aren't local.)

After hearing the story, the church family was invited to write down an act of kindness they could remember from the previous week. The youth handed out paper and markers to everyone. Rather than focusing on feelings of hatred and revenge, it was our intent to honor the memory of those who died or lost loved ones on 9/11 with remembrances of kindnesses. Bringing the papers up to the table, or passing them to the youth who collected them, was an act worship, of turning our hearts to God's light.

The following evening, the church elders gathered around the communion table at our session meeting and took turns reading the slips of paper. We found ourselves inspired and uplifted by what people wrote. I wanted to share the notes with you, so that all of us can be blessed by the reminder of the many ways God's kindness graces our days…

(see page 2)

Marks of Discipleship: *strive* to PRAY daily, WORSHIP Weekly,
Read *the* BIBLE, SERVE *at Covenant and beyond,*
be in RELATIONSHIPS *to encourage* SPIRITUAL GROWTH *in others,*
GIVE freely of my time, talents and resources.

Continued from Page 1

Written responses from our congregation to the question "Where did you see kindness this week?"

Someone held an elevator door for me at work* *My dad bought me dinner* *A neighbor picks up our paper and puts it on our porch* *I went to a funeral this week for a very kind lady. When we passed the Fire Dept. on the sign out front it said, Thank you Barbara Goodrich* *A coworker helped me with home visits when he realized I was too overwhelmed* *I found kindness from Mr. Dwight on Saturday I was given a cupcake from a co-worker and was told how much I am appreciated* *Covenant Presbyterian Church for welcoming me while I'm away from home. Thank you* *When my grandpa gave a poor man 50$* *At Colonial Heights vet, a person taking time to spay-neuter animals* *A special pet dog in a wedding* *I saw kindness yesterday at the Women's Bible Study here at Covenant* *My son was moving and his sister and niece helped him with the moving. I love to see that family together* *On my first football game Mr. Dwight came to my game and showed a lot of support* *Use of neighbor's car* *On Friday while we were BBQ some hotdogs and playing Frisbee at church, I could tell by the happiness of the little ones that they had so much kindness in their hearts* *Recently, a lady employee of Country Club of Petersburg developed cancer. More than $30,000 was raised from members to help defray expenses* *Door was held for me as I walked with my cane. A heavy bag was carried for me. There are so many kind people* *Dwight offered a man with an injured hand to come roast a hotdog with us* *I found kindness at my office-it was a new person in the building's birthday and a coworker went and got him a card and cupcakes to help him feel welcomed and special on his special day* *Helping someone by taking them to the store* *As I entered the sanctuary, I was greeted by an usher with the broadest expression of kindness as he so graciously held the door for me to enter. I appreciated the kindness* *At school one of the teachers gave me some Skittles* *Give thanks to survivors of cancer and their families* *Maria gave love and a gift of thanks for me* *68 people showing for my friend's 90th birthday* *My wife helping an elderly neighbor with his lost contact lens* *A ride to see my daughter and my pastor gave me good words to my problem* *Was invited to a Friday night barbecue at church* *Jon mowed the grass and trimmed the hedges. Ann provided wonderful care* *Linda and Joe gave me love on Sunday morning 9/11* *Sarah making a yummy apple pie. Brandy and Renee' bringing drinks and chips to BBQ for kids

Don't those grace notes warm your heart? They sure do mine! Here's one more, a tad expanded from what I jotted down that day… Our church piano tuner, Mike Grossman tuned and repaired our new baby grand piano and upright sanctuary piano in time for the 9/11 commemorative concert. The baby grand had been in storage for three years and took hours to repair, but Mike honored the low price he originally quoted for the job. He charged us half his normal fee and this note on his invoice: *Donation to Covenant Presbyterian Church in support of all they do*. God bless him!

By all means, let's name evil for what it is, let's root out the sin and racism within us, let's work in our world for justice. But let's also turn toward the light, lest we become so consumed by the effects of evil that we miss the chance to be kind to a stranger, and we miss the chance to stop and read to our kids, and we miss the chance to notice how acts of beauty and kindness out-number acts of evil by the thousands.

Sarah

Sarah Nave

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY CELEBRATES EVERYONE

As we gather in worship on this World Communion Sunday, October 2, we are mindful that in the winter of 1935, in a time of great economic uncertainty amid gathering clouds of war, a group of ministers met to consider the spiritual health of the church. They reaffirmed the power of the Lord's Supper in the world to the transforming power of the love of Jesus Christ. World Communion Sunday draws the global community of believers together to proclaim God's reign over the powers of this world. It also reminds us of our commitment to live in hope and engage in resurrection work. Today, while once again standing in the midst of political and economic unrest, we remain recipients and agents of God's call to peace making and to community. Come, share the bread and cup as the people of God on World Communion Sunday.

ICE CREAM SUNDAY WAS A TRIPLE SCOOP OF FUN!

Ever tasted homemade cantaloupe ice-cream? Ever wanted to? Neither did we, until 'Birthday Guy' Dwight Nave kept insisting, so we tried a spoonful at our Ice Cream Sunday after worship on September 18th. And it was delicious! And so was the terrific banana, and the pineapple, and pumpkin spice ice-cream that sisters Shonna Bersik and Rhonda Comfort-Ellington made. And the Oreo ice-cream that Brandy Mallette made. Combine that with the ginormous, beautiful birthday cake and cupcakes that Najala and Melissa Clarke provided for Pastor Dwight's birthday, and Tonda's amazing brownies, and all the delightful ice-cream fixins that Brandy and Rene' brought, and we were all in dessert heaven. From sprinkles to bananas to gummy bears, no ice-cream was left behind. I asked Dave Buck several days later what kind he liked best. "I really liked the pumpkin spice. And the oreo. And the pineapple. I liked all of them! Man, there's nothing like homemade ice-cream!" Thanks to everyone who provided treats and to Dwight for coming early to set up all the tables and chairs outside the sanctuary so we could munch on cold treats as soon as we walked out of church. Thanks to Billy and Tonda for getting photographic evidence that a yummy time was had by all..check out the pics they took of the fun event on the Ice-Cream Sunday sign in the narthex. Yum!

9/11 COMMEMORATIVE CONCERT –BRAVISSIMO!

The Commemorative Concert on Sunday afternoon, September 11, 2016 was a joy to hear and a great fundraiser for the Interfaith Adult Daycare! Covenant's wonderful organist, David Starzer, and our terrific praise band keyboardist, Wanda Bond, were joined by fabulous organist from South Hill, Sidney Long, along with renowned Baptist pastor and church friend, Dr. Grady Powell, who sang baritone. These gifted musicians treated folks in our church and community to stirring musical selections as we marked the 15th anniversary of September 11 with music and prayer. From the first rousing notes of the national anthem to '*His Eye Is on the Sparrow*', from Aaron Copland and *'America the Beautiful'*, to the chords of a final hymn enthusiastically directed by Dr. Grady, *'Let There Be Peace on Earth'*, melodies and voices were lifted to affirm God's care over all creation even amidst times of terror and deep distress. Bravos and special thanks to David, Wanda, Sidney, and Dr. Grady for filling our hearts and lifting our souls with their inspiring music.

IADC's fantastic executive director, Judy Tyree, was introduced as concertgoers heard about the vital services IADC has provided for the aging and vulnerable in our community for 25 years. An appreciative audience donated $1000 to benefit the IADC. Thanks to Pat Sharpf, City Editor for the Progress-Index, and concert-attender, for the P.-I.'s informative coverage on the commemorative concert event.

Covenant Church continues to be a place where our community gathers on special occasions to celebrate, to commemorate, to pray, to sing, to let our souls be filled by great music, and to re-commit ourselves to God's Kingdom work of love and justice, of healing and wholeness.

BLUEGRASS AND BBQ SUNDAY—OCTOBER 9, 2016

Music and song is a response that engages the whole person. Through the ages and from varied cultures, the church has enjoyed diverse musical forms for worshiping and praising God. On Sunday, October 9, the Davis Bradley Bluegrass Band will provide music for morning worship at 10:30. Come hear banjo and fiddle music and vocals on old gospel favorites and new hymns of praise, that will have you saying, "Thank you, Lord!" as well as, "Yee-haw!" Kathy Davis and Bradley Bishop and their bandmates led worship at the Presbytery meeting in Providence Forge in June. Their music is terrific! Bring friends who love great music with you to church on Sunday, October 9.

PUMPKIN PATCH ADVENTURE FOR ALL AGES

Join your fall-loving friends at church on Saturday, October 15 at 1pm and head to **Gallmeyer Farms** in Richmond (4506 Millers Lane) to take a hayride and pick pumpkins. Cost is $8 a person and there are scholarships available. Check with Brandy Mallette at (254)247-4771 for more details, or if you want to sign up for some fall fun! Our reservation is at 2pm, we have reserved spaces for 15 people, so talk to Brandy right away if you want to go! Adults who can help us carpool would be much appreciated..

October 2016

SERVANT VOLUNTEERS

	October 2	October 9	October 16	October 23	October 30
Lay Readers	Dave Buck	Jimmy Mason	Candy Taylor	Betty Wade Jones	Peggy Gregory
The Gospel in Story	Marianne Davis	Volunteers	needed	Thank you!	
Fellowship Snack	Mr. & Mrs. Tommy Lee	Dwight Nave BBQ	Cathy & Dennis Hargrave	Eveline Numfor	Dr. Ben Rice and Mr. & Mrs. Dave Buck
October Head Usher	Bill Benson	Bill Benson	Bill Benson	Bill Benson	Bill Benson
Flowers	Alice Leigh Mason			Jimmy Mason	

Thank you for your Service!

You are providing a valuable ministry to Covenant.

Your participation in these activities is greatly appreciated. If you are not able to serve on your assigned Sunday, please arrange for a substitute and let the Church office know. (804-732-8240).

CPC Community News

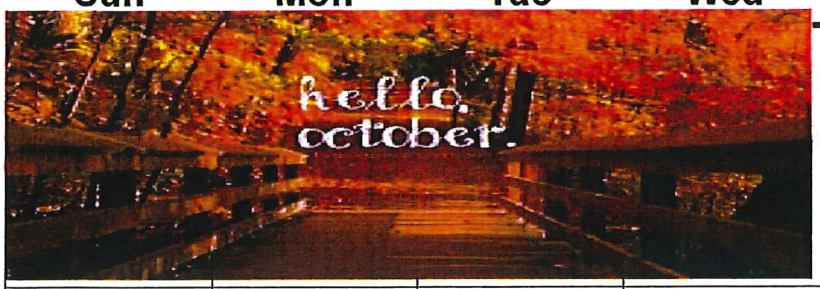
October 3	Myrna Rockwell
October 7	Wanda Bond
October 9	Emily Snead
October 10	Bill Ketcham
October 18	Eric Mitchell
October 19	Cherry Anderson
October 25	Ben Thompson
October 28	Lindsey Snead

PRAYER CONCERNS

PRAYER CONCERNS *Dr. Ben Rice, Dorothy Ketcham, Bill Ketcham, Nancy Porterfield, Shernette Reid and Makayla, Roslyn Jarrett, Joe Hackley, Kenneth Kolowski (friend of Joe Hackley), Greg Schweizer, (Jim's nephew) Joanne Nave, (Dwight's mother), Xena and Xiona (Roslyn Jarrett's neighbors), Jerry Snead, friend of Bill Benson., and Romano Minneci (friend of the Naves)*

October 25 Daryl & Peggy Preston

October 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						*1*
2 World Communion Sunday	*3*	*4*	*5* YALL Youth Group 6:30 pm	*6* Choir 7 pm	*7*	*8* PW Circle Meeting *10* am
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30 5 Cents a Meal Hunger Offering	*31*					

OUR MISSION:

Witness to our faith through worship and compassionate Christian service.

OUR VISION:

People's lives will be transformed by knowing and experiencing Christ so that God is glorified.

OUR VALUES:

Commitment, Faith, Generosity, Love, Respect

Web: CovenantPetersburg.org
Facebook: /CovenantPresbyterianPetersburg
Twitter: @cpcPetersburg

Covenant Courier

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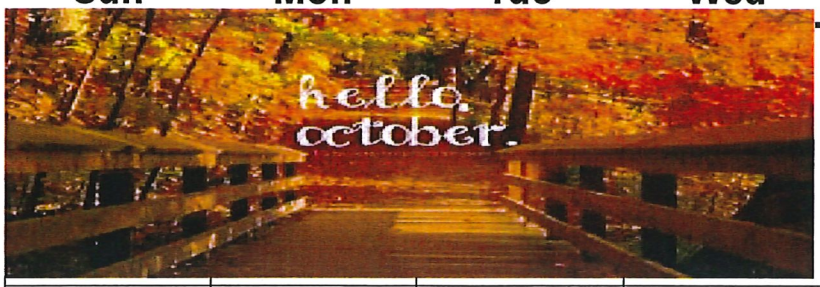
2016

FIRST CLASS MAIL

This newsletter is published to keep the members and friends of Covenant Church informed.

October 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						*1*
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