

The Covenant Newsletter



“Comfort me with apples. . . “
— Song of Solomon 2:5a

September 2010

Covenant Presbyterian Church
471 Parkway Avenue
Trenton, New Jersey 08618
609.989.8282
www.CovenantChurchTrenton.org

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Covenant Online...

If you haven't checked out our new and improved website lately, click on www.CovenantChurchTrenton.org to see what you have been missing.

Here's a sampling of what you'll find:

- ▶ This newsletter (and you can find it online — in full color — before you get it in the mail) and an archive of past newsletters.
- ▶ The story of the 1950 cookbook.
- ▶ Letters from and news about missionaries that we support.
- ▶ More information about upcoming events.
- ▶ Late-breaking church news.
- ▶ Photos of past church events
- ▶ Links to other websites of interest.

Minister's Message



A time of August, a time of September!

When I came home the other day—it was the middle of August—it struck me how little snail mail we had received during the whole week. Then I realized how few phone calls had come in, and also how few e-mails. Indeed, everything slows down in August! The radio news in the car on the way home said that Wall Street had traded at much lower volume; the traffic on Route 1 was light. Even if you are not involved with schools and are not on vacation, August noticeably brings an enjoyably quiet and peaceful pace.

Has God given us August on purpose?

September will be different. At Covenant we will start up again full force. Our educational classes for young and old will resume, we have new plans and energy for Bible study, we are thankful for our continuing Sunday School teachers and we welcome many new ones (Lorraine, Jennifer, JoAnn, Debbie, Jasmine, Annemarie, Tina, Lisa, Terry, Karen, and Sandra - what a blessing to have you all!). The Christian Education Commission has exciting plans for start-up Sunday on September 12. The choirs will start practicing again, praising God through music and singing on Sundays under our new minister of music, Derek Cressman: Welcome, Derek!

Has God given us September on purpose, as well?

My peaceful August reflections and the blessings I feel about the coming joy and energy in September reminded me about the well-known text from Ecclesiastes 3:

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven:

a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;

a time to kill, and a time to heal;

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together;

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

a time to get, and a time to lose;

a time to keep, and a time to cast away;

a time to tear, and a time to sew;

a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

a time to love, and a time to hate;

a time of war, and a time of peace.

With this text in mind, I am convinced God gave us a time for a restful August and a time for a brimming September. May God bless our changing of pace this month!

Peace and grace,

The Rev. Jan Willem van der Werff



How to Reach the Pastor

If you have a pastoral concern, or want to talk to the pastor, the Rev. Jan Willem van der Werff, please call 609.989.8282 or e-mail him at jwvanderwerff@comcast.net (Monday is his day off.)

In a pastoral emergency, please call 609.902.0101.



Welcome Back, Summer Travelers!
Sunday, September 12
9 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

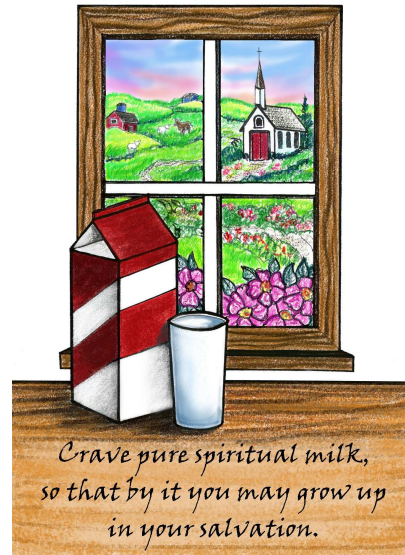
Calling all parents and children! Sunday school will start off with a delicious breakfast and an agenda filled with laughter and merriment. Our morning's theme is "Welcome Back, Summer Travelers."

Story-teller Pat Flores will be present to share one of her summer adventures with us. Pat is also a member of the National Storytellers Association. Alison McMullen will introduce the Covenant Youth and Children's Choir. And we will hear about the adventures our Youth Group is planning for this coming year.

All of our teachers and members of the Christian Education Commission will be there to answer your questions.

We are looking forward to sharing a fun-filled morning with you and your child/children.

Jane Politi, Director of Child and Adult Education



Spiritual Growth

Behold: The Arts for the Church Year

In September and throughout the church year we will have another way to look at scripture and pray. The art work, prayers, and poetry will be carefully chosen to reflect the mood and the themes of each church season. The arts invite learners to respond to the Bible stories in a deeper and more meaningful way.

For our convenience, the large prayer and meditation board has been posted outside the sanctuary door for the enhancement of our spiritual life. Please feel free to take a copy of the prayers, poems and meditations.

Feel free to hang any theme related prayers or poems you may want to share with the congregation.

The Adult Education Commission

Wednesday, September 8, 5:30 p.m.

Community Action at Princeton University will hold "Professor Night," at which students and staff of the university will discuss the book *The Blue Sweater* by Jacqueline Novogratz. In this best-selling book, Ms. Novogratz shares her experience about micro-financing for women in Africa. All members of Covenant Church and friends are invited. (See story on page 18.)

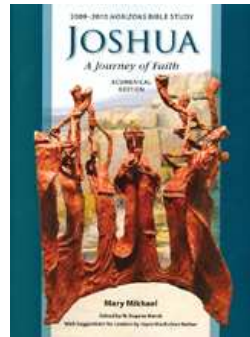


Wednesday September 15, 7 p.m.

The Circle of Sisters will meet in the lounge. Come and get connected. We become healed, whole, and free so that we may become instruments for love itself; so that we can give ourselves away, pour ourselves out in the service of life, and be filled again, over and over in the infinite circle of love and care and connection that is the whole.

Sunday, September 19, 7:45 a.m.

The men of Covenant will meet for breakfast and discussion. All men are invited to come and bring a friend.



Tuesday, September 21, 1 p.m.

The Women's Bible Study group will resume its discussion of *Joshua, A Journey of Faith*, in the lounge. All Covenant women (and their friends) are welcome.

Wednesday, September 22, 7 p.m.

The Book Study group will begin a new year with two books simultaneously: *Christ of the Celts* by J. Philip Newell and *A New Kind of Christianity* by Brian D. McLaren. (For more information on these books, see page 13.) For our first meeting we will read the prelude and chapter 1 from *Christ of the Celts* and the preface and (short) chapters 1, 2, and 3 of *A New Kind of Christianity*. Come and enjoy an interesting discussion of these two important books. Bring a friend!

Here's What's Cool At Sunday School!



This year we have an exciting and enriching Sunday School program planned. We will be using "Season of the Spirit," a lectionary-based program. This year's curriculum is pretty amazing with so many supplements, take-home opportunities, resources in art, music, etc. It's a wow!

We're hoping to restructure the Sunday School program by creating four age-appropriate groups. We're also excited by all of our new Sunday school teachers: Tina Lamb, Lisa Schnerr, Terry Birchenough, Jasmine Murray, Karen Pennypacker, Annemarie Lamb and Sandra Austin. Our returning teachers are Debbie Peters and JoAnn Trevor.

Sounds like a great year, doesn't it?

Please note the following:

- Sunday School starts Sunday, September 12, and concludes on June 12, 2011, which is Kids' Day. That Sunday service will be dedicated to them.
- Sunday School is held from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.
- It meets every Sunday with the exception of the Sunday after Christmas
- There is no official Sunday School class on Easter, but there will be a morning of events planned for your child or children.
- Registration will be held on Sunday, September 12, if your child is not pre-registered
- Please take an active part in your child's or children's Sunday School year!

Jane Politi, Director of Child and Adult Ministry



Peacemaker from Bolivia To Visit Covenant

The Rev. Luis Perez Alanoca, an international peacemaker from Bolivia, will preach at Covenant on Sunday, September 26, then give a presentation in Fellowship Hall during coffee hour.

Rev. Alanoca is president of the Independent Presbyterian Church in Bolivia and is a professor of music (he'll bring Bolivian musical instruments with him to use in his presentation). He is in charge of the "Joining Hands for Life" network, related to the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and deals with issues of gender equality, water and air pollution, fair trade, and poverty.

His sermon topic will be "The Sweet Water is More Valuable Than Gold," with scripture readings from Genesis 1:28-30, Genesis 9:1 and Acts 13:1-13.

Prutky Scholarships Awarded



Lillian and Millard Prutky were long-time members of Covenant Presbyterian Church who died in 2001 and 2004, respectively. In 2006, their family established a charitable trust in their name to fulfill their expressed wish that they help young people obtain the education that they never had.

The trust provides funds for scholarships to young people in Mercer County who demonstrate financial need, aptitude and commitment toward higher education and who reflect Christian values as evidenced by activity in their church and community. A committee consisting of the pastor, George Amick and Angie Leammann reviews the applications and selects the recipients.

This year, \$20,000 was available for this purpose, and was distributed equally among 10 extremely well qualified and deserving applicants. They are:

Rachel Breccia, who this fall will be a junior at The College of New Jersey, majoring in finance.

Chris Haldane, who will be a third-year student at Penn State, studying petroleum and natural gas engineering.



Katie Houghton, who will be a sophomore at Columbia University, with her career path still undecided.

Patrick Jaeger, who will be a second-year student at Mercer County Community College and whose passion for aviation has prompted him to work toward a career as a commercial pilot.

Rachael Leichssenring, who will enroll as a freshman at Mercer County Community College, where she will study to become a teacher, with hopes of teaching in the third or fourth grades.

Ali McMullen, who graduated from TCNJ last year with a bachelor of science degree and will complete her graduate work there this fall, with the goal of teaching hearing-impaired children at the elementary school level.

Jasmine Murray, who will attend Mercer County Community College with the objective of becoming a pediatrician.

Christa Velenger, who will enter her second year at Elizabethtown College in Pennsylvania, studying to become an occupational therapist.

Darrell Washington, who will be a sophomore at Lafayette College, studying mechanical engineering.

Amanda Zasoski, who will be a junior at TCNJ, majoring in elementary education with a concentration in math, science and technology.

Youth Group News



It's that time again... back to school and the start of Sunday School mean Youth Group is starting too! We're really looking forward to having two good size groups this year and have lots of fun events in the works. This year we are going to be following the theme, *Faith and Music*, which is sure to take us in interesting and spiritual directions.

We will kick off the youth year in September at Ewing Presbyterian Church and alternate months between churches. The meeting times have remained the same this year with Junior High meeting at 4:45 p.m. and Senior. High meeting at 6 p.m. on Sunday evenings.

Our **September Calendar** will be as follows:

September 12

Youth Group Kick-Off Pizza Party at Ewing

September 19

Regular Meeting at Ewing – Bring your Favorite Song

September 26

Regular Meeting at Ewing

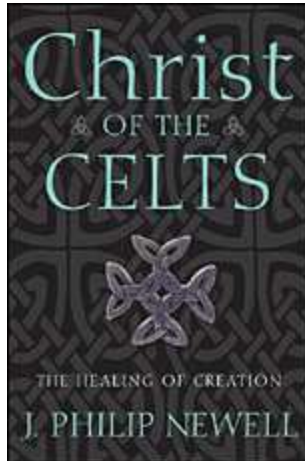
We are really excited to see all the youth in the fall and catch up on summer happenings. As usual feel free to bring a friend or two along to any of our meetings!

Jessica Jaeger, Youth Minister

Covenant Book Club

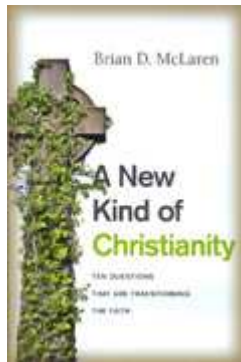
September 22

7:00 p.m.



The book club will begin its new year September 22 with two books, *Christ of the Celts* and *A New Kind of Christianity*. The discussion group meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month.

In *Christ of the Celts*, author J. Philip Newell diagnoses the human soul as longing for peace in the face of fear and fragmentation and offers the ancient traditions of Celtic Christianity as a way forward in healing humankind and the earth. An international retreat leader who is the former warden of Scotland's Iona abbey, Newell argues that we discover unity as we become connected to one another and allow ourselves to be surprised by the Presence that is within creation and within the human soul.



In *A New Kind of Christianity*, Brian D. McLaren attempts to codify the beliefs he introduced in several previous books. McLaren, one of the most visible faces of the emergent movement, examines 10 questions the church must answer as it heads toward a new way of believing. He deconstructs the Greco-Roman narrative of the Bible and addresses how the Bible should be understood as an inspired library, not a constitution. He urges us to trade up our image of God and realize that Jesus came to launch a new Genesis. There are chapters on the Church, sexuality, the future, and pluralism, and in the end McLaren calls for a robust spiritual life.

Good News Choir



Our new minister of music, Derek Cressman, is looking forward to working with the Good News Choir this year and is asking for members' input in deciding on the selections to be sung during the season.

If there is a piece of music that speaks particularly to you and that you would like the Good News Choir to perform, please get in touch with Derek by e-mail at derekjcressman@yahoo.com.

Titles and composers are fine, Derek says, but an mp3 file or youtube clip would be even better!



StoryCorps Comes to Trenton

Every Friday, listeners to NPR's Morning Edition hear interviews recorded through StoryCorps, one of the largest oral history projects ever conducted.

StoryCorps will be in Trenton from Sept. 10 through Oct. 2, when its mobile recording booth will be parked at the state museum to record the stories of 140 New Jersey residents.

Mobile booth interviews are conducted between two people who know each other. A StoryCorps facilitator guides participants through the interview process.

After each 40-minute recording session, participants receive a free CD of their interview. With their permission, a second copy is archived at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress for future generations to hear. StoryCorps asks a donation of at least \$25 for each interview, but will waive the request if participants cannot afford it.

While New Jersey Network hosts the four-week visit, NJN will air a selection of the local interviews and create special programs around the project. Segments of select interviews also may air nationally nationally on Morning Edition. New Jersey stories will be archived at njn.net. Reservations can be made on Sept. 10 by visiting storycorps.org or calling 800-850-4406.

We Get You to the Church On Time!

Do you want to attend church on Sundays but have no transportation? Please call the church office or the scheduled driver and arrangements will be made for you to be taken to church and then taken home. Below is the schedule for September and October van drivers.

Please contact the church office at 609.989.8282 if you need a ride.



Sept. 5 Dave

Sept. 12 Mickey

Sept. 19 Jeff

Sept. 26 Joyce

Oct. 3 Dave

Oct. 10 Mickey

Oct. 17 Joyce

Oct. 24 Jeff

Oct. 31 Dave



Trenton Children's Chorus Moves to Covenant

Dear Friends at Covenant:

The sweet sounds of singing children will echo through the halls of Covenant Presbyterian Church on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school this fall. Covenant is the new home of the Trenton Children's Chorus (TCC).

Founded in 1989, TCC is an after-school program that offers choral music education and performance opportunities for children in grades K-12, and serves as a vehicle for character development. TCC is open to students from Trenton and the neighboring communities.

A typical Tuesday or Thursday begins with a bus ride from school to Covenant. Volunteers greet children as they arrive and help them with their homework. When homework is done, children might work a puzzle, play a game, read a book, or chat with friends. Volunteers serve snacks, and then it's time for rehearsal. Children divide up into their respective choirs: Preparatory Choir (grades K-2), Training Choir (grades 3-5) and Intermediate Choir (grades 6-8). In addition to rehearsal, there is music theory and enrichment, where note reading, pitch matching and rhythm are taught using drums, xylophones and rhythm instruments. For grades K-8, dismissal is at 5:30. Then, after a short break, members of The Chorale (grades 9-12) arrive for rehearsal.

TCC has performed at the United Nations, at the swearing in of Rep. Rush Holt in Washington, for interfaith prayer services sponsored by the Children's Defense Fund at the National Cathedral, in concert with Bobby McFerrin and Dave Brubeck, with the Greater Trenton Symphony Orchestra and Princeton ProMusica, and most recently for the inauguration of New Jersey Governor Chris Christie.

TCC places its members in music and academic enrichment camps during the summer, and offers current students and graduates financial support for tutoring, music lessons, private secondary schools and college.

Does TCC make a difference? Here are what two of our recent graduates had to say about their experience:

“I really feel like I’m a changed person because of choir,” says TCHS graduate Maria, an 11-year member of TCC. “Ever since middle school, some people would put me down and look down on me. I fought that all through high school. But at choir, people said, ‘You can do it, Maria.’ I didn’t have to listen to the voices that were putting me down. At choir I got encouraged, which moved me forward and made me stronger than I was before.”

“I am about to embark on a new part of my life and the Chorus is still helping me become successful,” says Natiya, an 8-year member of TCC, now a junior at Georgian Court University. “Through the Chorus I have learned what good service, dedication and music can do for a community. Thank you for creating opportunities for me and opening my mind to different things, different experiences, and different people. I promise to do my best, and always to do good things.”

We look forward to our time at Covenant!

Maureen Llort, Program Manager





Covenant Hosts Community Action of Princeton

For the third year, Covenant will host Community Action of Princeton University.

Community Action is a student-led, pre-orientation program for the freshman class sponsored by Princeton's Student Volunteers Council. The program involves a week of volunteer service based on a community immersion experience that allows participants and leaders to live in or near their community service area. A group of students will stay at Covenant the week of September 4-11, and will volunteer at organizations such as Habitat for Humanity and Crisis Ministry.

On Wednesday, September 8, "Professor Night" will be held at which students and staff of the university will meet to discuss the book *The Blue Sweater* by Jacqueline Novogratz. In this best-selling book, Ms. Novogratz shares her experience about micro-financing for women in Africa. Professor Night will begin at 5:30 p.m., and all members of Covenant Church and friends are invited to attend.

George Self is coordinating this project.





Covenant Fast and Feast Weekend

Saturday, October 16, is World Food Day (WFD), a worldwide event designed to increase awareness, understanding and informed, year-around action to alleviate hunger.

Most Covenant members have not experienced what it means to go a day or more without food. We are indeed most fortunate. In an effort to increase awareness of what it really is like to be hungry and to be in unity with those working to alleviate hunger, the Adult Education Commission proposes that Covenant members fast from 6 p.m. Saturday, October 16 to 6 p.m. Sunday, October 17.

Members who agree to participate will not partake of any solid food for that period of time. Adult Ed will provide safe, nutritional fasting guidelines in your October Newsletter. Please be sure to check that issue of the newsletter for the guidelines.

The fast will end with a celebration meal in Fellowship Hall. We will begin the meal by serving communion.

Adult Ed will ask Covenant members to notify the commission if they intend to participate. Forms will be in the church bulletin and can be placed in the basket at the back of the church.

If interested, or if you need more information, please contact Adult Education members: Jane Politi, Lorraine Metzgar, Karen Penypacker, Alice Wardlow, JoAnn Trevor,



NAMI Family-to-Family Course

*Thursday, September 9
7pm – 9:30 pm*

On Thursday, Sept. 9, NAMI Mercer (National Alliance on Mental Illness) will begin its fall semester of Family-to-Family, a free, 12-week education course for adult family members of persons living with mental illness.

The course covers the biology of brain disorders; diagnostic criteria for the major mental illnesses, including schizophrenia, major depression, bipolar disorder, panic disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder and borderline personality disorder.

Classes will be held on 12 consecutive Thursday nights from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at the NAMI Center of Mercer County, 3371 Brunswick Pike, Suite 124 (adjacent to Mercer Mall) in Lawrence Township.

Although the education series is free, registration is required. Contact the NAMI office at 609.799.8994.



Health and Wellness Fair

*Saturday, October 9
9am – 2pm*

“A different kind of health fair” will be held at Covenant Church/Beloved Community from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 9. Activities will include health screenings and wellness demonstrations, health care information tables, health care employers, resume reviews, job search workshops, and activities for kids.

Sponsors are Epsilon Upsilon Omega chapter, AlphaKappa Alpha Sorority; Delta Upsilon Chapter, Omega Phi fraternity, and the Institute of Wonderful Women Working for Empowerment.

Personal Note

Dear Covenant Family,

Thank you so much for the good wishes, calls, cards, flowers, and pastoral and lay visits during my recent hospitalization.

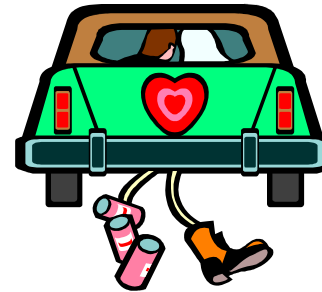
It is a heartwarming experience to be the recipient of prayers and good will from such good friends.

With Christian love, *Carol Stawski*



They're Married!

On Saturday, August 21, Cristin Volz and Jim Tranter were united in marriage. Cristin is the daughter of Cathie and Richard Volz. The Rev. Jan Willem van der Werff officiated. Congratulations, Cristin and Jim!



Baptism

Hannah Anne Volz was baptized during Sunday worship service August 15. Hannah, who was born July 4 in Manchester, Connecticut, is the daughter of Michelle and Brian Volz. The proud grandparents are Cathie and Richard Volz.

Ewing Church To Remain Standing

A special panel formed by the Presbytery of New Brunswick to review the controversial decision by the Session of Ewing Presbyterian Church to tear down the 143-year-old sanctuary on Scotch Road has vetoed the decision in a finding that the building is in better condition and requires far less costly renovations than church leaders had led the congregation to believe.

The report of the seven-member Ewing Administrative Commission, issued August 20 after an 11-month study, concluded that “there were neither structural nor financial grounds to demolish,” according to a detailed story in *The Times of Trenton* August 22.

The commission gave Ewing church leaders three options: renovate the sanctuary at an estimated cost of some \$519,000, sell or donate it to another organization, or lease it to another organization for restoration.

“The stone sanctuary might someday deteriorate to the point that demolition is appropriate,” the report said. “For now, the Ewing Administrative Commission has reset the process, with the hope that the church will now unify as one body, focusing not so much on the building per se as on its deep meaning and historic importance for many in the body.”

The Presbytery appointed the commission in an effort to calm a dispute that had divided the Ewing church since the sanc-



tuary was condemned as unsafe in the spring of 2007. The Session based its decision to demolish on the opinions of engineers whom the commission characterized as unfamiliar with the structure and who estimated the cost of making it safe at around \$2.5 million.

The commission found that a key component of the debate was the dire financial situation in which the Ewing church finds itself. Annual pledge receipts are down \$100,000 from a \$350,000 high in 2005 and membership hovers at 100, down from 250 in 2002, the report said. A \$665,000 mortgage balance on renovations to the church's current worship hall, across Scotch Road from the sanctuary, and other projects must be paid off in 2013, the report stated.

The report was critical of the Ewing Church leadership for allowing the controversy to balloon without due regard to the concerns of critics of its decisions and for failing to effectively mediate the differences of opinion within the congregation. Leaders of the Presbytery also failed to provide guidance when asked for it early on, the report said.

A special meeting of the congregation was scheduled for 11 a.m. Sunday, August 29, to discuss the findings with members of the commission.



Flea Market
Saturday, October 2, 2010
Covenant Church
Corner of Parkway &
Parkside Aves
in Trenton
8 am – 1pm



Sausage Sandwiches
Nathan's Hot Dogs
Pantry items
Soups, Jams, Salsa, Potato Salad

To reserve space call
609.989.8282
(Bring your own table)

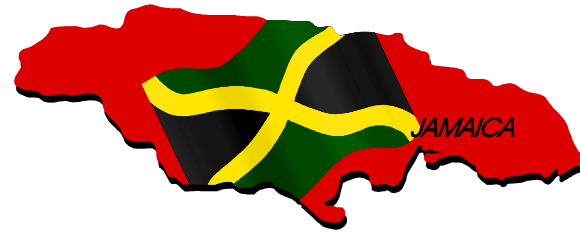
\$6 additional if you need to rent a table

You may download your registration from
at

www.CovenantChurchTrenton.org

and mail check to:
Covenant Presbyterian
471 Parkway Ave
Trenton, NJ 08618

Mission News



From Jamaica . . .

The following is from the 2010 *Mission Yearbook for Prayer & Study*, Presbyterian Church (USA):

“Many of us put a great emphasis on patriotism and loyalty to both God and our country. We often struggle to do justice to either. Former PC(USA) mission co-worker Joyce Williams is the perfect example of someone who manages to do well at both. She both serves her church, Webster Memorial in Kingston, Jamaica, and works to develop and improve schools in her beloved Jamaica.

“Not only does Joyce gather financial donations, she recruits people from both the island and the United States to paint schools, build furniture, and do whatever it takes to further the education of mind and spirit in Jamaican students.

“Joyce Williams has vision, and she is the heartbeat of many things she has initiated. She has written job descriptions for posting on the PC(USA)web site, which led another mission worker to teach at Iona Preparatory School for two years. This in turn enabled the students to have instruction in music and art at no cost to the school.

“Mrs. Williams is a fine example of Christian leadership and service. She is highly respected by church members, children, parents, and anyone else whose life she touches. Jamaica is truly blessed by her life example of what it means to serve God and God’s people.”

Joyce Williams, who is one of Covenant’s mission partners, currently is recovering at home in Jamaica from a heart attack that she suffered in June. The episode caused her to postpone a visit to New Jersey and Covenant that she had planned for this summer. She intends to reschedule the trip when her health will permit.



Heifer Project 2010

Last year our children collected money for beehives. This year we're going for something bigger — trees. A gift of tree seedlings for one family is \$60. The sale of fruit and nuts can help a struggling family increase their income by 40 percent and even though they may only make \$175 a year, with the extra pennies, one day they can pay for a child's higher education. Please help our children raise money for this worthwhile endeavor by including your donation in the blue envelopes found in the church pews.

Serving at TASK

Thursday, September 23 at 2:45 p.m.

The **Trenton Area Soup Kitchen** volunteers would be happy to welcome anyone interested to join us on September 23. We meet in the parking lot at 2:45 p.m. and Dave Kulp drives us in the van from there to the soup kitchen and back. We get back around 5:30. If you'd like to go, please let us know so we won't leave without you. You can call the church office 609.989.8282.





Food for Friends

Sunday, September 26

The Covenant **Food for Friends** ministry was begun some thirty years ago by the Mission and Outreach Commission under the guidance of Walt Lee.

The congregation has faithfully provided non-perishable grocery items, such as canned goods, pasta, cereals, rice, packaged meals, crackers, peanut butter and jelly, on the last Sunday of every month. The food is stacked under the pulpit for all to see.

During the following week, the food is transported to one of five food pantries in Trenton. These five are located in different parts of the city, to serve as many people as possible, because most food pantries are patronized primarily by people who live within walking distance. They are Crisis Ministry on Hanover Street, Phoebe's Pantry at Bethany Presbyterian Church on Hamilton Avenue, Habitat for Humanity at Olden and North Clinton Avenues, the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen on Escher Street, and Mount Carmel Guild on North Clinton Avenue. Our **Food for Friends** collection on September 26 will go the food pantry at Crisis Ministry.

If you would prefer to make a monetary gift, write a check to that month's designated pantry, put it in an envelope marked "Food for Friends," and place it in the collection plate. (Food pantries are always happy to receive money.) If you will not be in church that Sunday and would like to contribute, leave your non-perishable groceries at the church office marked "Food for Friends," and we'll see that they are included.



OPEN THE DOOR
7 p.m. Friday
to Noon Sunday
October 22 - 24

Camp Johnsonburg

Price \$83.75

**Price includes: Lodging, Breakfast Saturday and Sunday,
Lunch and Dinner on Saturday**

Come and experience the glory of the fall forest at Camp Johnsonburg. Share fellowship and explore the rich image of the door as an invitation to for growth and awareness. *Open the Door* is a retreat for the discovery of one's potential for goodness and fulfillment.

Debbie Peters and Jane Politi, Facilitators

Scholarship money available

**If you are interested or need more information, please contact the
Adult Education Commission members:**

Lorraine Metzgar, Karen Pennypacker, Jane Politi

JoAnn Trevor, Alice Wardlow

Reservations are now being accepted.

Please fill out the bottom portion of this page and give it to one of the
Adult Education members.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____



Adult Education Survey

It's that exciting time of year when the Adult Education Commission is in the process of planning Covenant education events! In order to offer timely and relevant sessions, we invite you to be part of the process.

Please take a few moments to complete this survey. Check four topics that interest you, and feel free to add any others that aren't listed:

Addiction	Aging Gracefully
Anxiety/Stress	Caretaking
Christianity and Homosexuality	Depression
Dealing with Grief	Immigration
Living with Chronic Illness	Managing Finances
Parenting/Grandparenting	Religion and Politics
Spirituality	Teenage Pregnancy
Dealing with Mental Health Issues in Your Family	

Other topics:

Submit your complete survey by Sept. 26, either by dropping it in a basket provided at the back of the church or by giving it to a member of the Adult Education Commission: Lorraine Metzgar, Jane Politi, Alice Wardlow, JoAnn Trevor, Karen Pennypacker.

Thank you for your input!

Covenant is Going Digital!

The Covenant Newsletter will be available to most of you on the Internet only, beginning with the January 2011 issue. To make this change, which will save postage and office supply costs, we need information from you. Please check the appropriate box and mail to the church office at 471 Parkway Ave., Trenton NJ 08618, or place in the offering plate on Sundays, or e-mail to Rae at 471covenantrae@comcast.net You may also call the church office at 609.989.8282

- 1. I will access the Newsletter at the Covenant website
www.CovenantChurchTrenton.org
- 2. Send my Newsletter by e-mail to (e-mail address)

- 3. I will pick up my Newsletter at church.
- 4. I no longer want to receive the Covenant Newsletter.

New Information for Church Directory

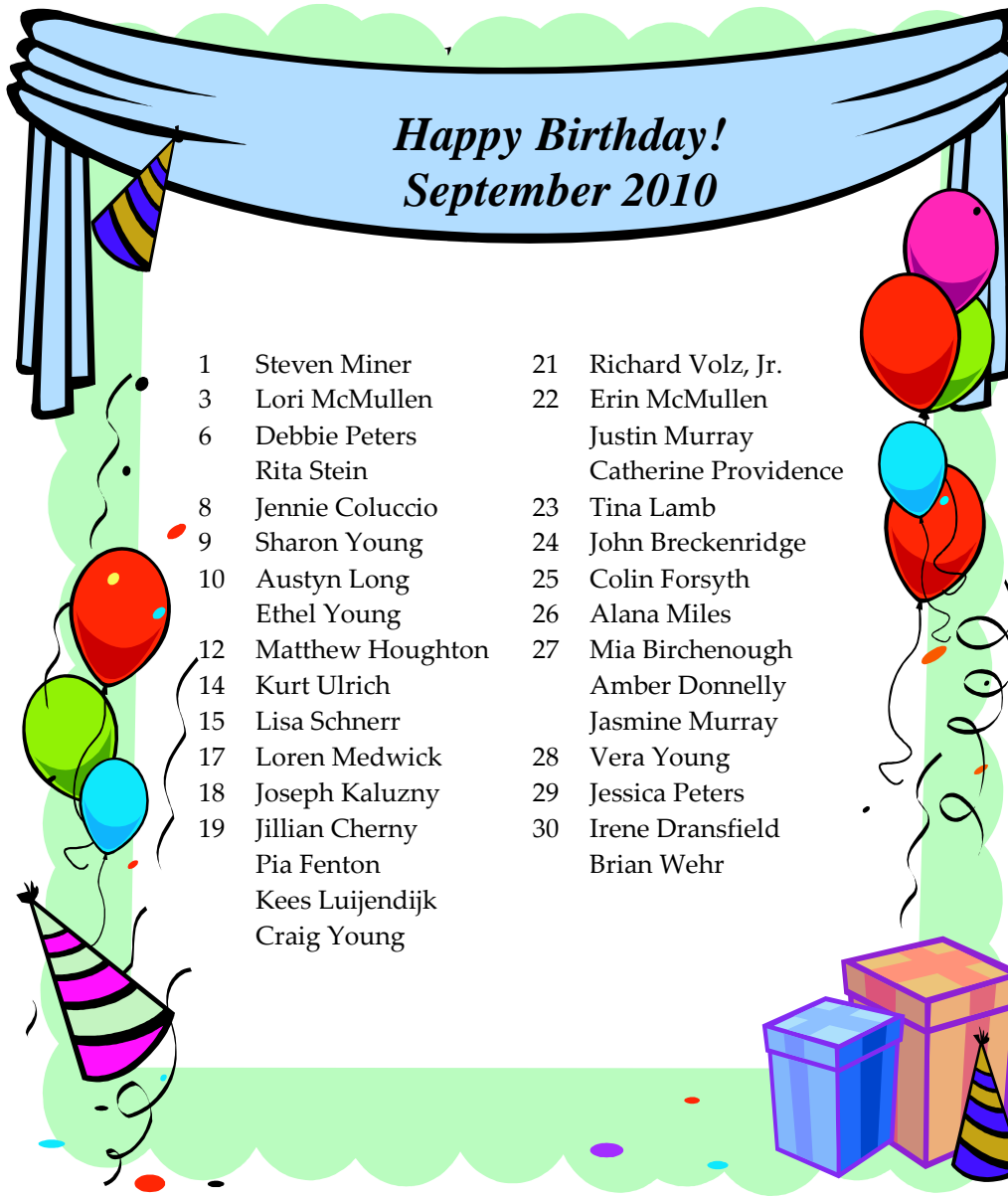
We plan to have a new church directory at Start Up Sunday in September. If you have a change of address, telephone number and/or email address, please fill out the form below and mail to the church office at 471 Parkway Ave., Trenton NJ 08618, or place in the offering plate on Sundays, or e-mail to Rae at 471covenantrae@comcast.net You may also call the church office at 609.989.8282 with any changes.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

E-mail Address _____



**Happy Birthday!
September 2010**

- | | | | |
|----|------------------|----|----------------------|
| 1 | Steven Miner | 21 | Richard Volz, Jr. |
| 3 | Lori McMullen | 22 | Erin McMullen |
| 6 | Debbie Peters | | Justin Murray |
| | Rita Stein | | Catherine Providence |
| 8 | Jennie Coluccio | 23 | Tina Lamb |
| 9 | Sharon Young | 24 | John Breckenridge |
| 10 | Austyn Long | 25 | Colin Forsyth |
| | Ethel Young | 26 | Alana Miles |
| 12 | Matthew Houghton | 27 | Mia Birchenough |
| 14 | Kurt Ulrich | | Amber Donnelly |
| 15 | Lisa Schnerr | | Jasmine Murray |
| 17 | Loren Medwick | 28 | Vera Young |
| 18 | Joseph Kaluzny | 29 | Jessica Peters |
| 19 | Jillian Cherny | 30 | Irene Dransfield |
| | Pia Fenton | | Brian Wehr |
| | Kees Luijendijk | | |
| | Craig Young | | |

*Deadline for the October newsletter is **Tuesday, September 21**. Submissions received after the deadline will not get into the newsletter. Submissions may be dropped off, mailed or e-mailed to the church office.*

Covenant Presbyterian Church
471 Parkway Avenue
Trenton NJ 08618

Pastor: Rev. Jan Willem van der Werff
Parish Associate: Rev. Dr. Nancy H. Schluter
Administrative Assistant: Rae Richardson
Newsletter: Donna & George Amick

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Sunday School Start Up
Sunday, September 12
9:15 am
Call 609.989.8282 to register

or

Visit our web site at
www.CovenantChurchTrenton.org

Dated Material
Please Deliver Immediately