

# THE COVENANT CONNECTION

Volume XV No. 2

October 21, 2009

Covenant United Methodist Church

## Need Your Pastor?

What do you do if you need to get a hold of Pastor Gregg and he is not in the church office?

Please don't hesitate to call his cell phone (509) 720-4366 and leave a message if he isn't able to answer.

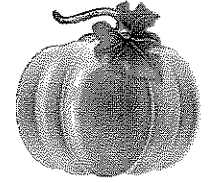
In the case of a pastoral emergency or other urgent need, he will call you back as soon as possible and doesn't want you to wait for regular office hours.

Pastor Gregg's office hours are generally Monday through Friday, from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. These times are approximate and may be modified as needed for morning, evening or week-end meetings. If you need to meet with him at other times, he is flexible and will find a time that works with your schedule.

## Third Quarter Statements of Giving are available.

Please help us save on mailing costs by picking up your statement in the narthex. We will mail any that are remaining later this month.

## Trunk-or-Treat



**Covenant's Parking Lot  
Saturday, October 31**

**6:30-8:00pm**

**We will again offer a safe place for families to trick-or-treat in our parking lot on Halloween. There are three ways you can help to make sure this is a successful outreach event at Covenant.**

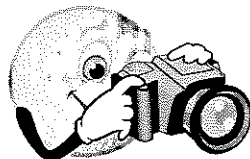
- 1. We need LOTS of candy! Donate bags of candy to our can in the narthex.**
- 2. Come and decorate your car trunk, hatch back or tailgate, and pass out candy to the kids.**
- 3. Donate sugar cookies...We will have a refreshment table set up in the narthex with hot cocoa and spiced cider, and a station that kids can frost a sugar cookie. If you can provide sugar cookies, please contact Chanie Burnham, 464-0195.**



**This is our third year Trunk-or-Treating and parents have told us how much they appreciate our presence in the neighborhood. Plan to join the fun!**

## SMILE - It's Photo Time

Does that sound like your parents? Now it is the Member Ministry Team that is asking you to have your photo taken on November 1 (Celebration Sunday) in order to update our Covenant Directory. It will be easy and painless. We'll also want to know if you have a new phone number, e-mail, etc to list.



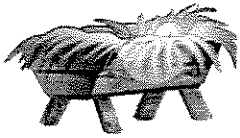
Gregg Longmeier and Paul Viren will set up a photo area. We'll also take images on Nov 8 and Nov 15 if that works better for you. Contact Karen Dashiell, 466-1129 with questions.

## CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

To reach out to those around us, receive people with genuine warmth and hospitality, relate our lives to God and to one another, equip each other as Christian disciples through small group ministry, and to go out into the world to make it more loving and just in the name of Christ.

# Children's Ministries

## Advent Play



We're **broadcasting** live this Christmas with *The Evening News Hour*.

All children and youth ages 6-14 are invited to participate in this year's Christmas Pageant. We'll be creating our own commercials, filming, and sending news correspondents all over the place to get the breaking news of Jesus' birth!

**ON AIR** Sunday, Dec. 13 @ 6pm.

I also need help running lines with actors, making props and designing set pieces. That's YOU so call or email Sarah.

954-1107 or smarken@gmail.com

## Sunday School Teachers Needed —Benefits Included!

Thank you to all the teachers who have volunteered to lead our children in learning about God's love. We still need two teachers to team teach on alternate Sundays in the Pre-K classroom. A wonderful, easy to follow curriculum is provided and we have lots of support for you.

The children are so eager to learn and love being in Sunday School. It takes less than an hour per lesson to prepare. Please prayerfully consider volunteering for this wonderful ministry.

Benefits include happy smiles on Sunday morning, seeing the light of Jesus in the children's eyes and sharing God's love with the children (it doesn't get any better than that!).

To volunteer, or for more information, please call Rhonda at 465-1437 or Carolyn at 468-1705.

## A Shower for the Nursery

Who doesn't love NEW TOYS?

We have registered at Target for some toys and other items we need to replace some worn out and broken things in the nursery.

If you would like to "Shower the Nursery with a Gift" to support this ministry, please go to the registry kiosk at Target, look up Covenant United Methodist Church, and purchase an item. Mark the item with your name and bring it to the nursery by November 15 for our Open House!

Questions, please contact our Nursery Supervisor, Shawna Viren, at 939-0132.



## Children helping Children

Covenant's Elementary Sunday School children will be holding a bake/craft sale on the first two Sundays in November - the 1st and the 8th. The money raised will go toward a scholarship (or hopefully two!) for the school children in our Sister Church. **Please watch for the kids and their delicious baked goodies in November.**

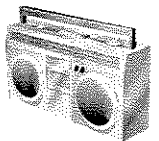
We appreciate your support.

## Bring a Joyful Noise

Elementary Education is in need of 4 - 5 boom boxes (aka CD/cassette tape players) for use in the Sunday School classes.

We're fortunate to have wonderful CDs available to go along with the curriculum, but need a way to play them during the lessons. We also have lots of music on cassette tapes that could be used and enjoyed by the children.

If you have a player that you're no longer using, or would be willing to purchase one for the Sunday School, please let Carolyn know by calling 468-1705, or leaving the player in the office with an "Elementary Ed. Donation" designation on it. Please don't leave them on the Sunday School desk other than on Sunday morning. Unfortunately we've had players taken in the past.



## STEWARDSHIP SEASON

November 1st will be one dedication worship service only at 11 a.m. followed by a wonderful dinner prepared by our hospitality ministry team to honor and thank our congregation for supporting Covenant and its ministries in the upcoming year.

You will receive a letter with an **Estimate of Giving card** and a **reservation card** in it the week this week. We will be taking reservations for the November 1st dinner; please **turn in your reservation card** or call the church office by Wednesday, Oct. 28th. You may **turn in your Estimate of Giving card** on Oct. 25th, at the dedication worship service on Nov. 1st or you may mail it to the church.

Thank you! Rick and Diane Thomas, Stewardship Chairs



### In Our Prayers

Diana Helmer  
Laura Stuart  
Jim Thrapp

### Prayers of Joy & Thanksgiving

Congratulations to Tawna Walker & Bruce Hutton,  
married October 11, 2009.

"Since my youth, I think that I have never lost the intuition that community life could be a sign that God is love, and love alone."  
~ Brother Roger

## a Taizé Prayer Service

Thursday, November 12 @ 7pm  
Covenant Sanctuary

Come seek communion with God in prayer, singing, silence and reflection. Understand how God wants you to follow him. Give thanks for the simple things.

# Thank You

Dear Covenant Family:

We don't even know where to begin to thank everyone for the prayers, food, support, hard work and genuine love that was poured out on us during mom's illness and at her incredible memorial service on Oct. 11. We felt totally embraced in the arms of our Lord and the people of Covenant. What an amazing gift you gave all of us. Words just don't seem adequate to thank everyone for all that was given, but know that we are so very grateful to all of you, and I am sure mom was smiling down from Heaven.

Rhonda Greco and our entire family

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Thank you to my Covenant family for your cards, prayers and concern at the death of my mother, Betty Fountaine. Thank you, also, for those who were able to attend her memorial service. She knew quite a few people at Covenant and will be remembered with love.

~Jan Oman

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### Howdy Hoot 'n Anny Volunteers

With 92 people enjoying the dancing, games, fabric art and food, the Hoot 'n Anny was memorable. Many folks helped with putting the event together.

To name a few:

**Linda Anderson** designed our "lively" hat logo and flyer. **Lee Pennell** secured the dance caller and fiddler group. **Karen King** produced posters, newsletters and bulletins and more. **Shirley Hesselstine** welcomed everyone at the entrance. **Ron Vaughan & Rick Thomas** lead a Saturday morning group of men to setup the room. **Joyce Miller** headed the ladies' and men's decoration group. **Cheryl Vaughan, Mary Larsen and Joyce Miller** loaned their artful quilts. **Steve & Melissa Flaherty** loaned us western gear. Game tables were in the hands of **Jim Shaw, Betty Newell, Gary Proctor, Bethany Pyle, Pam Whorley, Kathy Dirks and Ron Vaughan**. Many of you brought yummy food. Covenant people helped with the setup and cleanup.

Thanks be to God for the fun we shared at the Hoot 'n Anny.

# Youth Happenings

## 5/6 Youth Group

This Sunday, October 25, we will be carving pumpkins from 6:30 - 8:00pm at Covenant in rooms 8 & 10. Please bring a pumpkin (reasonable size) to carve, along with parent approved pumpkin carving tools. Friends are welcome. Please wear something you can get dirty!



If you have any questions, call Toni @ 951-4715 or email [toni@mrsokane.com](mailto:toni@mrsokane.com).

## Come see *School House Rock! Live!*

A fun-filled Broadway musical starring local kids, including our own Austin Ferris!

This musical is presented by Christian Youth Theater—Spokane, performed on stage by Spokane youth, ages 8-19. Performances of *School House Rock! Live!* Will be held at The Bing Crosby Theater located at 901 W. Sprague Avenue, Spokane, WA 99204.

Evenings

November 6, 7, and 14 at 7:00pm

Matinees

November 7\*, 14 and 15 at 3:00pm.

\*\$8 if bought in advance.

Advance ticket prices are \$9 for children (ages 12 and under) and \$10 for adults. Special group and senior rates are available. Call the CYT office at 487-6540, go to [www.cytspokane.com](http://www.cytspokane.com) or call the Ferris family at 465-5190 to get your tickets.

## Book Review Group Schedule

November 10, 9:30am

*Run* by Anne Patchett. Reviewer is Jeannie Peer, the hostess is Karen Dashiell.

December 8, 9:30am

*The Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Schaffer. Reviewer is Nadean Burnside, hostess is Cheryl Vaughan.

January 12, 9:30am

*The Pact: A Love Story* by Jodi Picoult

Hello,

I am happy to tell you that both youth groups are in full swing and going really well. I feel very blessed to have the opportunity to be a part of this place. I want to thank everyone again for making me feel so welcome and appreciated. Some of the kids and I went to the David Crowder Band concert last Monday night at the Service Station and had an absolute blast! Some of the upcoming events are as follows:

October 25: Jr. High Halloween party! Wear your costumes and come play fun games!

October 28: Sr. High Halloween party! Wear your costumes and come play fun games!

October 31: Trunk or Treat! 6:30 – 8 come decorate cookies with the high school group!

Thank you to all the people who put on the Hoot 'n Anny. It was so fun. I hope that you are blessed today and that we see you around Covenant.

Thanks,

Bethany Pyle

Youth Director

## I'd like a tall, skinny, triple latte, extra hot, no foam, with room for milk, please!

Your donations are needed to help our senior high youth establish a new Covenant Coffee Program.



Beginning later this year, the youth will be serving espresso coffee drinks to our members, visitors, and guests. The proceeds from this program will help support our middle school and senior high program activities. And we need your help.

Make your check payable to Covenant UMC (note "Youth Coffee Program" in the memo field). Your contribution is tax-deductible.

For more information, contact the youth ministry team chair, Chuck Anderson, or our youth director, Bethany Pyle.

## Sunday Worship Schedule

8:30 & 11:00am..... Worship Services  
9:45am..... Sunday School for adults, youth & children

### Covenant Staff

Pastor .....Rev. Gregg Sealey  
Church Secretary.....Karen King  
Worship Arts/Children's Ministry Coordinator .. Sarah Marken  
Pianist.....Mac Merchant  
Custodian..... Stan Gray  
Assistant Custodian..... Kyle Smith  
Youth Director..... Bethany Pyle  
Nursery Supervisor..... Shawna Viren  
Preschool Director..... Angie Canavan

### **Office Hours:**

Mon.-Fri ..... 9:30am-3:00pm

“The Covenant Connection” is printed twice a month by Covenant United Methodist Church. **Deadline to turn in articles for the next newsletter is Tuesday, Nov. 3rd.**

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Website: [www.covenantmethodist.org](http://www.covenantmethodist.org)

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### **Return Service Requested**

## It is COOKIE time again!



God's Special Time

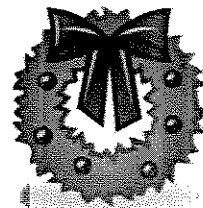
Kairos Prison Ministry is again needing your help to minister to the women at Pine Lodge Correctional Center for Women (Medical Lake). The next four-day weekend will be October 29 – November 1. During that time a group of Christian women from churches around Eastern Washington will share God's love through word and deed—and one of the ways we show love is through *homemade* cookies. Every women in the prison will receive 3 dozen *homemade* cookies.

So—please join the Kairos team in baking as many cookies as we can. We did so well last year that we were able to help out Kairos at McNeil Island for their weekend—and I know we will do it again.

Here are some instructions:

Bake **STURDY** cookies—ones that won't crumble easily and freeze well. Ingredients to leave out: raisins, nutmeg and poppy seeds. Do not frost or roll in powdered sugar. Pack in Ziploc bags (stacked like Oreos) in quantities up to 4 dozen. Bags with instructions can be found in the church narthex. Pray as you bake for those who will enjoy these treats. Bring them to the church by Oct. 27 or call me (Linda Karalfa 315-6978) to arrange pick-up. If you can keep them in your freezer until the week of the event, I will be delighted to come get them from you. **THANK YOU** for caring for those in prison! (Matthew 25:36)

## Support New Hope Resource Center



We will be taking orders for Christmas wreaths on Sunday Nov. 1st. The cost for a fresh, beautiful wreath is \$16. They will be delivered to the church for you to pick up in time for the holidays.

A wreath makes a great present for a neighbor, friend, teacher, or hostess gift.

Your purchase supports New Hope Resource Center, a faith-based ecumenical social service organization in North Spokane County.

**Wisdom Distilled from the Daily Book Study** postponed until next week! Due to illness last week and change of schedule this week, we will postpone our book study until next Sunday, November 1 at 9:45 and then November 8 at 9:45. Looking forward to seeing you then!