



The Heartline

Covenant Presbyterian Church "Loving God by Serving Others"
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"Where Hearts are Warmed"

October 2012



Busy ... Busy ...

Fall is upon us, and activities and events are springing up everywhere. There's lots to do, there are many opportunities to serve, and there will be good times together for the Covenant family.



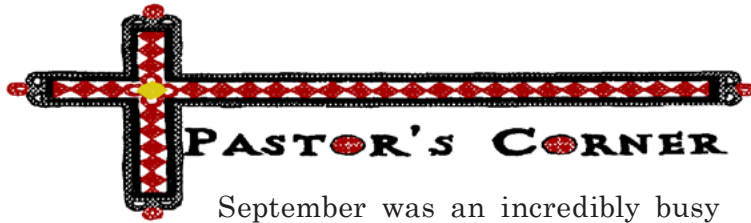
- October 7 CommUnity dinner will be a Taco Bar and is coordinated with Youth as a fundraiser
- October 7 1 PM in Sanctuary – Choir practice (Come one, come all) - weekly
- October 10 Dinner & Movie Night at 6:30 PM *One Night with the King*, the story of Esther
- October 14 Ceara Ebbs filling the pulpit
- October 21 & 28 Confirmation & New Members class
- Month of November - Watch for notice of Philadelphia dinners, garage sales, Youth jewelry sales, and Stewardship campaign details
- November 4 John Tucker filling the pulpit, Communion moved to November 11th
- November 11 Communion and CommUnity Dinner planned to coincide
- November 11 Veterans service with Buchholz JROTC Color Guard for Pledge of Allegiance
- November 25 Christ the King Sunday
- December 1 Hanging of the Greens at 9 AM in Fellowship Hall – Refreshments served
- December 2 Complete decorating the church after worship and after CommUnity Dinner

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[MOVIE NIGHT: see page 8]



September was an incredibly busy month. I almost wrote “week;” it has just seemed that everything was packed into a short time frame. And I know that *MANY* of you have felt that same sense of timelessness.

The Youth and about three of us “adults” attended a wonderful contemporary rock concert at Universal Studios. It was awesome! I really witnessed a solidarity there, but especially among the audience attending Skillet’s concert. So, I’m indebted to the youth and their moms for inviting me. Thanks, you guys – er, gals! I’ll tell you all something special about being with youth-siblings: I became acutely aware of how special siblings are to one another in Christian families. And it’s like that often in a church. Sometimes we realize how lovely our relationships have become, how significant we are in each other’s lives. Thank you, young people, for giving me that awareness!

I have been scouting around for Christian counselors, and I found the Pastoral Counseling Center on the web. It’s located at 8620 NW 13th Street in Gainesville. You can call for information at (352) 215-8844. And if you ever want someone to go there with you or drive you there, just ask you pastor!

There have been new names replacing former ones on the prayer list this month. This is “life on life’s terms,” as someone told me. But, I think it’s difficult to accept life on life’s terms sometimes. That’s why we have Christian *COMMUNITY*: to be present with one another as Christ was present with people. Now, it’s our Calling to be God’s presence to the world by being the hands, feet, hearts, minds, and souls of Christ, whether we are social advocates for the vulnerable, prayer warriors, servers at the St. Francis House, holy quilters, Elders on Council, or volunteers at the VA or Shands.

This month, Pauline Wise has invited a few of her church family and her neighbors more into her life. She requires lots of love, through flowers, prayers, cards, calls. If you can, invite her out for lunch – and just *LISTEN*, just be *PRESENT WITH* someone who’s grieving.

Marty Lyda has sold her house!!! Her new address is 414 Second Street, St. Augustine, FL 32084. In her words: “This move has come about with lightening speed. [The] house sold and the closing is Friday. I will miss my church family and look forward to seeing anyone who comes to St. Augustine.”

On the evening of September 14th, at the Habitat for Humanity Fundraiser, I got acquainted with the new pastor of Westminster Presbyterian

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[PASTOR'S CORNER, from page 2]

Church and his wife, Rev. Larry and Cathy Green. I'd bet that they'll be delighted to receive your cards, sent to Larry in care of Westminster Presbyterian Church.

A couple of more items: our Presbytery meets Oct. 2nd at Camp Montgomery – Ruling Elder John Peters is our church's Elder Commissioner. The next movie night is Oct. 10th, at 6:30. There will be a sandwich bar (a very yummy and healthy one) for supper. Bring friends! "One Night with the King" (the story of Esther) is the movie. I suggest strongly that you read her story in the Bible before the viewing! The next women's lunch bunch date is Oct. 4th; place to be determined by anyone who's determined to pick the place! And, I ask that you hold dearly to your hearts and in your prayers Dianne Felts; she would appreciate all of your phone calls and cards! And don't forget that Kaitie Nighthorse – she's spending entirely too much time away from our love and fellowship!

Be well and love one another in His Peace



October Birthdays

- 4 Michael Brewer
- 9 Kathryn Russell
- 10 Beth Herrington
- 12 Alice Nimmo
- 16 Danny Alessi
John Ebbs
- 23 Larry Herrington



Meditation Trail - It's Full!

by *Mike Heim, ASLC*

Have you noticed? With all the rain this summer, the wetland is again *FULL!* Even the sinkhole was full of water, with many old tennis balls floating in it at the end of September! Water was again flowing under the bridge near Newberry Road and also under one of the bridges that the Scouts built, flowing into the large wetland from the wetland behind Oak Crest. It's definitely a change from last year when we could walk across the dry wetland area!

Soon we will be experiencing cooler temperatures, shorter days, and the last bursts of flowers this year. Along the original trail loop, the bromeliads (*Aechmea* 'Lyman Smith') with the pink flower stalks and small blue flowers should still be blooming. At several places along the trail system, watch for patches of strawberry bush (also known as bursting-heart plants or *Euonymus americanus*). They bloomed with cream-colored flowers (five petals) this summer but now have unusual-looking star-shaped red capsules that have burst open with orange seeds suspended below them. Also easy to spot will be beauty berry bushes (*Callicarpa americana*), with clusters of purple berries in the axils of the leaves. The berries are eaten by birds and some animals but are astringent to humans if eaten in large quantities.

Last month, you may have noticed both rattlebox plants (*Crotalaria pallida*) and Spanish needles (*Bidens pilosa*) blooming along the edge of the woods near the CPC end of the trail. Rattlebox plants are easy to spot, with their spikes of yellow flowers. Spanish needles are so abundant that it would be difficult to miss seeing them. These plants are in the aster family and have composite flowers with five white "petals" and small yellow flowers in the center of each "flower."



Committee News

The committees of Covenant have been active this past month. Here are some highlights:

Administration and Personnel (meets 3rd Sunday following worship): Janis Bomar, Chair

- Interviewing for Administrative Assistant part-time 20 hours/week
- Continuing to work on administrative manual for the church
- Performance reviews of Pastor Laura and Brittany to be completed within the next month
- Website www.covenantpresbyterianchurch.org ready to be uploaded and revealed. Please go to www.covenantpresbyterianchurch.com to see the new look of the web site.
- Still seeking volunteer(s) to help Harley Walker organize the Christmas dinner at St. Francis House – Interested parties, please contact Janis Bomar.
- Janis has submitted a request to Presbytery to serve on the Presbytery's Committee on Ministry.

Budget & Finance: John Peters, Chair

- Review all weekly bank transactions
- Continue to work with cell tower team to negotiate a different lease arrangement

Commissioner to the Presbytery of St. Augustine: John Peters

- John Peters has submitted a request to Presbytery to serve on the Presbytery's Council
- Healthy Congregations program on Relationships presented September 15, 2012 in Fellowship Hall. Pastors Alisun Donovan and Charlie Landreth conducted the workshop. Due to activity at the Presbytery with no interim Executive Presbyter, further programming is on hold until sometime after the first of the year.
- Next Presbytery meeting is October 2, 2012, at Camp Montgomery

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Member Care

A reminder – there will be cards in Fellowship Hall every Sunday on the counter for congregation to sign. These cards are for those in need of love and caring, providing nourishment for the soul.

Fellowship (meets 2nd Sunday following worship): Debbi Alessi & Ceara Ebbs, Co-chairs

September was a very busy month in the Fellowship Hall. We entered into the Fall Season by changing of the color of the kitchen. “Blue Rain” now lights our walls. Thank you to the Ebbs Family, Jim Traer, Bryan and Joy Paulin for all of your hard work in painting the Kitchen. You did a beautiful job! While the kitchen was being painted, Fellowship Coordinator Debbi Alessi, along with Ophelia Carver, Wendy Firman, Johannah and Joy Paulin, cleaned and organized the supply closet, and added five of our flower vases on the wall to add some fall colors. Thank you also to one of our visitors, August Paulin Jr., who participated in the alteration of the vases, allowing them to hang perfectly on the wall.

It is such a blessing that we have this opportunity for Fellowship after Sunday’s Services. We welcome all to join us, and bring a friend or a family member. Thank you for being a part of our lives here at Covenant.

Nominating Committee (meets as needed throughout the year): Susan Nimmo, Chair

Will meet in October to review positions needed for nomination for coming year.

Stewardship Committee: Susan Nimmo, Chair

Work is in progress to plan this year’s campaign. Please be sure to check out activities in the November edition of Heartline.

Thank you to Janis Bomar, Susan Nimmo, and our entire Fellowship Committee for all of the delicious food/snacks/treats provided for Fellowship during the month of September. Another, “Thank You” goes out to Prue Tucker for her amazing contribution of the desserts, Ophelia Carver for her Squash Casserole, Katherine Russell for the Zucchini Squash, and Lauren Traer for the rolls that all accented September’s Community Dinner.

October’s Community Dinner will be a Taco Bar, and all proceeds will benefit the Youth Group of Covenant Presbyterian Church.

Christian Nurture and Education: Susan Nimmo, Chair

- Survey to congregation on needs of Christian Education is completed and the results are being tallied
- New member class, including Confirmation class, to be October 21st and October 28th. We have two for Confirmation class and two for

new member's class. This is a great opportunity to learn the Presbyterian culture, its mission and beliefs. Interested parties should contact Pastor Laura or Susan Nimmo for details. Everyone is welcome, member or not, for fellowship and discussion.

Worship and Music (meets 4th Sunday following worship): Kay Ebbs, Chair

- Veteran's Day service planned, with Buchholz JROTC Color guard serving as Flag bearers. Be prepared to have swell of emotion as we sing all the hymns of the Armed Forces throughout the worship service. We need your help! If you or a loved one has served in one of the branches of military, please prepare a note on service to the country and submit it to the church before November 1st so that we can display them in narthex in a poster. Pictures are also welcome!
- Choir practice resumes October 7th at 1 PM in the Sanctuary. All voices are welcome to par-

ticipate. Choir will practice weekly.

- Christmas Eve program planning in process. The outdoor service will commence at 6:15 PM with the live Nativity, followed by an outdoor service at 7 PM. We are searching for musicians, both vocal and instrumental. Contact Kay Ebbs if you are interested. The indoor service will follow at 8:15 PM and we will share in "Lessons and Carols," an old tradition. There will be something for everyone!
- Youth are actively participating in worship service monthly as acolytes or ushers. We are working on their role as liturgist.

Building and Grounds (meets 1st Sunday following worship) : John Carver, Chair

- The lease negotiation with Crown Castle is getting close to final agreement.
- The kitchen was painted and you must take a look! It is beautiful and so bright!

- Approved the use of our facilities by Alcoholics Anonymous for a small fee. They will come three times a week around noon. If you are around the church during their meetings, welcome the participants as part of our mission to serve the community.

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Youth Advisor, Ceara Ebbs

- We have several members of the congregation who have severe hearing loss after attending the “Rock the Universe” concert at Universal Studios in Orlando. Attending were Kay Ebbs, Ceara and Savanna Ebbs, Susan Nimmo, Monica and Alice Nimmo, Pastor Laura, Brittany Roughton and Johannah Paulin. As you might guess, it was the adults who have the problem of hearing loss. Susan Nimmo was the smart one, as she carried her smartphone and work earplugs the entire evening. Ask the Youth about “Skillet,” a rock group. A great time was had by all.



Jen Ledger of Skillet

- Youth meeting September 9th
- Movie Night to be restarted October 10th (Wednesday), at 6:30 PM with a sandwich bar followed by the movie at 6:45 PM. The movie for October is *One Night with the King*, the story of Esther. We now plan that movies will be held every month. Stay tuned for future dates and movie titles.
- Currently, the Youth are making bracelets and earrings to sell at church and around town for fundraising. Janis Bomar has been helping them with this project. The jewelry is beautiful and will make great gifts for the holidays. The Youth will be donating 10% of the sale price to the church or to the American Cancer Society in honor of our Pastor.



Next Council meeting: October 22nd at 6:30 PM in the Library. Anyone from the congregation may attend a Council meeting with permission of the Pastor or the Clerk of Council. There are guidelines to be followed, which will be shared with you on request and are posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

2012 Session
Rev Laura Joost-Kuhn, Moderator

Debbi Alessi	Janis Bomar
John Carver	Ceara Ebbs
Kay Ebbs	Susan Nimmo
John Peters	Clerk John Tucker

The Heartline is published monthly. You may submit articles either handwritten, typed, or on disk (saved in text or Word format) and delivered to the church office.

Deadline for the next newsletter is
October 23, 2012.

If you have a question about submitting an article for *The Heartline*, please call John Tucker.