



THE COVENANT WEEKLY

. . . reaching our community.

ISSUE DATE
JANUARY 26, 2012

Back and Full of Gratitude

by Bob Myers, Senior Pastor

Hard to put into words the gratitude I want to express to you, Covenant Church, for your enthusiastic support of this mission trip to Zimbabwe. Please receive thanks from a full heart. You made this trip possible, and your enthusiastic welcome back Sunday and your interest in this particular ministry is so heartening.

After Jesus' disciples saw the little ones responding to Jesus he took them aside privately and said, "Blessed are your eyes for what they see". Our team experienced the privilege of seeing firsthand an amazing spiritual dynamic, so our eyes are blessed. Now, we are seeking to understand the next follow up steps to maximize and sustain the impact both there and here. Our team met last night to plan a special presentation (date pending), and to discern the first follow up steps as well as brain storm about future possibilities.

One aspect of this trip our entire team saw firsthand was how essential Bud and Mandy Jackson are to bringing the mix of people and resources together that address ministering in both Word and deed to the HIV/AIDS crisis. They are the straw that stirs the drink. They have the wisdom that can't be rushed or learned through books. And their relational dynamic in empowering relationships and humbly stepping aside grows out of their genuine humility. Bud and Mandy have been essential to making good ministries better, and there is a clear sense that while many good things are happening, they can be made all the stronger with more coaching and coordination. Our team was served so well by their investment in planning, not to mention delicious meals prepared by Mandy, and the labor of loving hospitality of having seven people to host in your home. For Bud and Mandy, hospitality is a way of life, and their house is always humming with guests around their table. This is just the African way of "people first".

When I lie down to sleep, images rush through my mind of people, scenery, and experiences. Christ's Kingdom is advancing powerfully through Southern Africa. I am so thankful for being sent by you, and hope I return somehow "improved" by the experience.

Personal Note:

Just as I was settling back into this time zone, we received word that Liz's beloved grandmother passed into the Lord's presence last Friday at the age of ninety-nine. God's timing was kind although death is never pleasant, nor part of the Lord's original design for us. So Thankful that Jesus has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. No other comfort suffices!. Liz was able to immediately drop everything to be with her mother. And I was able to preach at the funeral on Monday night, and lead a committal service Tuesday morning. Liz's Nan was a persistent evangelist with everyone she knew, which made speaking at her funeral a natural opportunity to lift up Jesus Christ. Liz's Mom has been a 24/7 care giver for about ten years. It was heartening to see her church, Metropolitan Baptist Church of Brooklyn, rally around her and attend the funeral service, doing what churches ought to do, and what I often see manifest here in this Body of Christ.

Church Happenings

Upcoming Events & News . . .

Epiphany Fellowship of Camden Launch Service, Sunday, January 29th at 12:45 p.m. See attached flyers for more information. If you would like to attend the Launch Service and would like to carpool with those of us who will be leaving from Covenant's parking lot, please contact Angela Johnson so we can coordinate rides. If you are willing to drive and have room in your car for others, please indicate this in your e-mail. If you need a ride please let me know as well. We will leave the parking lot at 11:15 am this Sunday, January 29th. Some members have indicated that they are going, but will meet us there. Contact Angela at 215-489-5477 angela3686@comcast.net

American Red Cross Blood Drive: 40 signed up so far!

Wednesday, February 8th - appointments run every 15 minutes from 1:45-6:30 p.m. Call the office today to sign up or sign up via the internet at www.redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code: 0227881. Help save a life! If you can't give, please consider helping by making reminder phone calls the night before or by making cookies for the day of the drive.

Marriage Matters Seminar, Saturday, February 11th from 10am- noon

The title of a recent book that helped me so much in my marriage says it all: Relationships: A Mess Worth Making. I have always told couples coming for pre-marital counseling that marriage is the easiest thing to do wrong (just be yourself!), and the hardest thing to do right (you'll need to die to yourself). Putting two sinners in close proximity surrounded by four walls is just begging for problems! Come for a no nonsense, honest and realistic short seminar on the great and dangerous divine gift of marriage. Sign up on Sundays or call the church office today.

Membership/Information Class: Inquirer's Class: Sunday, February 12th following the 2nd service until 3:30 p.m. If you are new to Covenant or want to find out more about the church, please plan on attending this informational class. **If you have been attending a while and are now ready for membership then this class is for you also!** This is the first step if you are interested in membership, but you are under no obligation by taking the class. **This class is designed for 9th graders through adults.** Please contact the church office to sign up and **let us know if you require childcare by, Sunday, February 5th.**

QUEST - YOUTH INQUIRER'S CLASS: Sunday, February 2nd following the 2nd service until 3:30 p.m. Covenant offers a Youth Inquirer's Class for 5th - 8th graders at the same time as the Adult Inquirers Class. Please contact the church office or fill out the insert on Sundays to sign up if your child is interested in becoming a member of Covenant Church and would like to attend the class.

DAVE RAMSEY'S FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY IS COMING TO COVENANT! Dave Ramsey's "Financial Peace University" empowers churches to train their congregations to handle God's money according to biblical principles. In each 2-hour weekly session (starting Saturday, February 18th and lasting till May 19th) your class will watch an entertaining lesson on DVD and then engage in an active small group discussion. Participants will need to purchase a membership kit (\$93) which includes the FPU workbook, Audio CD library of the lessons, cash management system, best-selling book, and a lifetime membership. The cost is per couple/family. Call John for more information at 267-880-3713, ext. 101 or at johnm@covenant-church.org Sign up on Sundays or by calling the church office. *Scholarships are available.*

The Adult Fellowship Team of Covenant Church is planning **an adult winter escape** and we hope you will join us! The event will be held on **Saturday evening, February 25th** in the Worship Center so very little travel is involved! Join us for a COVERED DISH SUPPER and enjoy a delicious dinner, a chance to see or meet new friends and evening of fun entertainment! We held this event a couple of years ago and it was a huge success. Save the date and details will follow soon!!!

Mark Your Calenders for March 14-17 & April 18-21st. We are gearing up to have a **BRAND NEW photo directory published through Olan Mills**. There will be plenty of spots available to have your picture taken. Signs ups will start soon. We'll keep you posted. Every family unit will receive one FREE directory plus a \$25 gift certificate to put towards a packet. You are under NO OBLIGATION to purchase any pictures, but we'd like to have as many faces in print as possible. This is a much needed tool for our growing congregation. The online version will be updated also through this process.

Covenant Church

Contact Information . . .

4000 Route 202
Doylestown, PA 18902

E-Mail: covenant@covenant-church.org
Web Address: www.covenant-church.org
Phone: 267-880-3713
Fax: 267-880-3716

Staff Telephone Extensions and Email Addresses
Bob Myers 100 bobm@covenant-church.org
John Marcott .. 101 johnm@covenant-church.org
Andrew Poe 102 andrewp@covenant-church.org
Micah Skipper . 103 micaahs@covenant-church.org
Kim Hathaway 104 kimh@covenant-church.org
Josh Crum 105 joshc@covenant-church.org
Bob Clark 302 bobc@covenant-church.org
Angela Maxwell 303 amaxsteppingstones@yahoo.com
Birth - 4th Grade kids@covenant-church.org
Z56 (5th & 6th Grades) z56@covenant-church.org

At a Glance

Calendar for this Week . . .

Thursday, January 26

- PALS: 9:15-10:15am (Farm)
- Coffee Break: 10-11:30am (Room 205)
- Worship Team: 7:30pm (Worship Center)
- Men's Bible Study: 7:30pm (Room 125)

Saturday, January 28

- Men's Travel Study: 6 a.m. (cafe)
- Safe Families Training: 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Sunday, January 29

- Worship Services: 9:00 & 10:45
- Children's Classes for birth - 6th grade
- Crave: 6-8 p.m.

Tuesday, January 31

- Men's Early Morning Bible Study
6:45-8:00am (Room 125)
- Women's Bible Study: 9:15-11 a.m. (Room 125)
- Shift: 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 1

- Precepts Bible Study: 10-11:30 a.m. (Room 205)
- SHAPE: 6-7:30pm (Multipurpose Room)
- Stitching InHis Name: 7pm (Lounge)
- Celebrate Recovery: 7:00pm (Conference Room)