

## Service for the Public Worship of God

**26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time** ~ September 27, 2009  
Eleven O'clock, A.M.

Guest Preacher: Rev. Michael Winship

Pastor: Rev. Dr. James E. Swanson

Choir Director/Organist: Beverly Antis

Liturgist: David Blewett

**OUR SERVICE OF WORSHIP BEGINS WITH THE MUSIC OF THE ORGAN**

**\* PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONE DURING WORSHIP \***

THE PRELUDE    My Faith Has Found a Resting Place    James Southbridge

THE CHORAL INTROIT    Surely the Lord is in This Place    Robert Lau

\*THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN 341

Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine!    ASSURANCE

\*THE PRAYER OF ADORATION

THE INVITATION TO CONFESSION

THE PRAYER OF PUBLIC CONFESSION

Holy God, how exalted are your ways; Holy Savior, how sinless is your life; Holy Spirit, how pure is your power! Whatever progress we imagine to have made along the road to righteous living, we stand in need of your grace this day. We, your people, are not worthy of your care and do not follow Jesus as nearly as we should.

Forgive us for what we have done, and for what we have failed to do, that has hindered the full expression of your love and the advancement of your kingdom here on earth. Continue to call us back to repentance, and turn us to the upward way, for we sincerely desire to do your will and follow where you lead.

Have mercy on us, we pray, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

A TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Hear and believe the Good News! Our past is finished and gone.  
In Christ everyone is being made new.

People: Praise God! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

\*THE GLORIA PATRI 579

GLORIA PATRI

\*THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH PC (USA) Study Catechism, Questions 8-10

Leader: [Question 8.] How do you understand the love and power of God?

People: Through Jesus Christ. In his life of compassion, his death on the cross, and his resurrection from the dead, I see how vast is God's love for the world — a love that is ready to suffer for our sakes, yet so strong that nothing will prevail against it.

Leader: [Question 9.] What comfort do you receive from this truth?

People: This powerful and loving God is the one whose promises I may trust in all the circumstances of my life, and to whom I belong in life and in death.

Leader: [Question 10.] Do you make this confession only as an individual?

People: No. With the apostles, prophets and martyrs, with all those through the ages who have loved the Lord Jesus Christ, and with all who strive to serve him on earth here and now, I confess my faith in the God of loving power and powerful love.

\*THE GREETINGS OF PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN & THE NOISY OFFERING

THE SHARING OF JOYS, CONCERNS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CHORAL PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Abide, O Dear Redeemer Melchoir Vulpius

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING Ecclesiastes 3:9-13 (Pew Bible p. 588)

\* The liturgist is reading from the New King James Version \*

Liturgist: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

THE EPISTLE READING Philippians 4:4-8 (Pew Bible p. 187)

\* The liturgist is reading from the New King James Version \*

Liturgist: Here ends the reading of the Epistle.

All: Praise be to you, O Lord.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CANTICLE (Hymn Tune # 310, ST. AGNES)

Lord, let Thy Word illumine us, with truth and love divine,  
And make us faithful to the Christ, 'til we are wholly Thine. Amen.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GUEST PREACHER



YOU WERE GREETED TODAY by Donna Hobaugh.



THE FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY  
are placed this morning by Joe & Eileen Davidson  
In Memory of Loved Ones

FELLOWSHIP HOUR immediately follows this worship service downstairs in the Assembly Room. Everyone is cordially invited to attend. Hosting today's Fellowship Hour is Donna Hobaugh.

Wel come! Gr ace and Peace to All!

We are delighted to have you with us if you are visiting today! Please indicate your attendance by signing one of the cards in the pew rack, and kindly place it in the offering plate when passed.

Then following worship, linger a bit longer and join us for Fellowship Time in the Assembly Room downstairs.

Exit at the rear of the Sanctuary to take the stairways or at the front to take the elevator to the lower level.



We are pleased to welcome to our pulpit this morning The Rev. Michael Winship ...

Rev. Winship served as the minister of the former Calvary Evangelical Presbyterian Church (now known as Grace @ Calvary Lutheran Church) on the diamond. An Honorably Retired member of Beaver-Butler Presbytery, Reverend Winship has preached at more than a dozen area churches. Mike is a regular volunteer at Covenant Cupboard; he and his wife Shirley live in Butler and now call The Hill Presbyterian Church their home congregation. We thank Rev. Winship for preaching today while Pastor Jim is recuperating from his surgery.

The Congregation is invited to the Installation of  
Rev. Elizabeth Wallace  
at Knox Presbyterian Church  
449 Nicholson Ave., Ellwood City PA 16117

TODAY, Sunday, September 27, 2009 at 3:00 p.m.

~ Reception to follow ~

Elizabeth was previously installed as a "Designated Pastor" and will now be a regularly installed pastor at Knox Presbyterian Church.

## SEEKERS' ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

*always provocative speakers, interesting  
topics & lively discussions*

**Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the Assembly Room**



Next Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>

**Dr. Steven S. Tuell**

Associate Professor of Old Testament,  
Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

Topic:

"In The Beginning: What Genesis Says  
and What it Doesn't Say"

Dr. Tuell's series continues October 18, 25 and November 1

*Coffee, tea, juice and a snack are available before class—served from  
the small kitchen beginning at 9 a.m.*

## FALL BIBLE STUDY

(Led by Pastor Jim & Rev. Merry Meloy)

**STARTS Wednesday,  
October 21 at 1:00 p.m.**

(Every other Wednesday—  
same time, here at Covenant)



October 21, November 4, November 18, and December 2

We will be studying materials by John J. Pilch entitled  
"Introducing the Cultural Context of the Old Testament"

Our next Joint Bible Study (with Saint Andrews and Faith Presbyterian churches) is an invitation to learn the Mediterranean culture of our ancestors in the faith as a means of better understanding and appreciating the Bible. The lessons will concentrate on Wisdom literature and guide the participants through a cross-cultural comparison of middle-class U.S. cultural values with those of the Mediterranean world.

There is no charge for study materials... and no "prerequisite" of Bible knowledge required.

Come, join us as we explore God's Word together!

## Next Sunday



## CALLING ALL PET OWNERS !

Your are Cordially Invited to Attend...

### "A Blessing of the Pets Service"

October 4, 2009 @ 2:00 p.m.

(Front Lawn of, Covenant Church)

Service Led by Nancy Jo Moorhead

SNACK - LUNCH follows  
(Special treats for people & pets !)

~ Free & Open to community pet owners ~

Tell your friends and neighbors !

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## In The Life of Our Church

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### Prayer Concerns:

Art Forbes . . . . . Health concerns, though still "at work" regularly;  
no definitive diagnosis following recent tests

### Joys:

Pastor Jim . . . . . Now at home and recuperating from his recent  
successful surgery

Ellie Walchesky . . . . . Released from Concordia, now at home & doing  
wonderfully well

### For Continued Prayer:

Minnie Anderson; Julie & Bud Bruno; Marion Campbell; Marian Curran;  
Eleanor Ritts; Gladys Strobel; John Towns; Bill and MaryLou Wilson

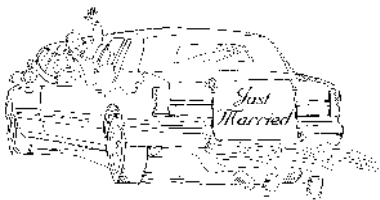
### Birthdays this Week:

Minnie Anderson - September 30

Neil Thomas Conley - September 30 (Happy 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday Neil!)

David Blewett - October 2

## Just Married



## Congratulations!

Jason & Shannon (Fair) Reefer

...who were married yesterday, Saturday,  
September 26<sup>th</sup> in York, PA. Jason is the son of  
John & Mary Reefer; grandson of Lois Reefer;  
and grandson of Marian Curran.

May Jason and Shannon experience the richness of God's blessings; may they share abundant joy and happiness; and may they face the challenges ahead with faith, strength and trust in each another.



Next Sunday @ 11 AM

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY  
SUNDAY OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup>

"Justice and peace shall kiss each other" - *Psalm 85:10*

Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. William A. Jamieson (Rev. J.)

Celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Peacemaking Offering Received

On World Communion Sunday, Christians from around the world gather in worship to partake of the elements of bread and wine in remembrance and celebration of the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This is also the time to bear witness to the unity of Christians everywhere as we seek to live out Christ's command to work for justice and peace in a world that is deeply divided in conflict and war.

The Peacemaking Offering:

The Peacemaking Offering is one of four special offerings designated by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s General Assembly.

Each congregation is encouraged to retain 25 percent of the Offering it receives to use for local ministries of peacemaking within the church and its community; 25 percent is used by presbyteries and synods; and 50 percent is used by the General Assembly ministries through the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program.

The offering will be received during worship next Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. Please make checks payable to Covenant Presbyterian Church marked Peacemaking in the memo portion. A remittance envelope is included in the Fall 2009 Issue of the Covenant Chronicle and will be available in next Sunday's bulletin.



Mark your calendar now...  
Meet Cobbie Palm and Joel Tendero,  
Int'l Peacemakers from the Philippines

Tuesday, October 6, 2009 ~ 11 am

Our presbytery will be hosting two men from the Philippines who are part of a pilot program that pairs an International Peacemaker with a PC(USA) mission co-worker. Cobbie Palm (mission co-worker) and Joel Tendero (UCCP pastor) will be here in Butler on Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>.

Covenant Church will host a gathering of local Presbyterians  
for Lunch and an Informational Program  
beginning at 11:00 am in the Assembly Room.



September 27, 2009

"His authority on earth allows us to dare to go to all the nations. His authority in heaven gives us our only hope of success. And His presence with us leaves us no other choice."

~ John R. W. Stott  
*Preacher, Evangelist*

"The ultimate purpose...is that God be prized above all things."

~ John S. Piper  
*Preacher, Author*

"There are three stages in the work of God: Impossible; Difficult; Done."

~ James Hudson Taylor  
*(1832-1905) English Missionary to China*

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Guest Minister: The Rev. Michael Winship  
The Reverend Dr. James E. Swanson, Pastor

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