

Continued Announcements...

NEW Church Prayer Line: We now have a designated Prayer Line for you to call 24 hours a day. That number is 434-953-9066. When you call you will hear an encouraging word from Pastor Bare and you will have the opportunity to leave your prayer request which will be retrieved and prayed for that same day.

New Sunday Bible Study Coming in September: Ten Commandments of Disability Etiquette - Rose Williams

Have you ever wanted to befriend or help someone with a disability but felt unsure want to say or how to help? If so, this fun, informative and interactive class is for you. We will discuss the ten commandments of disability etiquette and study Jesus' approach to the disabled in his day. As we see our church becoming more diverse, we will be better equipped to minister to the one in five Americans with disabilities. "The greatest accommodation you can offer someone with disabilities is friendship." The friendship of Jesus, accompanied by our friendship!

First Friday Prayer: Please mark your calendars for First Friday prayer September 3rd from 7 to 8:15 p.m., and come together for a time of corporate praise and intercessory prayer in our prayer room. Enter using the door in the alley way just past the front porch of the New Testament building below the hospitality room door; come up the steps and turn to your left. All are welcome.

Sunday Prayer: You are encouraged to begin your Sunday morning worship in the prayer room during the times of 7:45 - 8:25 a.m. as we pray together for our pastor and church. Please remember your prayer room is open during the church's regularly staffed office hours Monday-Friday for individual prayer as well. Many thanks to all of you who made it possible to provide two very comfortable wing chairs for this room! You built it - now come and be blessed!

Prayer Retreat: For those who have registered, please remember our prayer retreat is August 27th and 28th. Additional information will soon be available for you. If you did not register but find you would like to attend, contact Pastor Bettie Christian, 973-5536, to see if any available rooms remain.

E-Women Conference Registration: Ladies, it's time to once again register for the annual E-Women Conference to be held Oct. 1, 2 at the Roanoke Civic Center. The cost is \$61 plus cost of lodging (depending how many are in the room). You may call the church office or contact Patsy Dickinson (434-962-3874) for more information. Forms are available on the Ladies Ministries table in the back hallway of the NT Sanctuary.

Contact Information

Pastor Harold Bare— Senior Pastor— pastor@covenantchurch.net
 Tim Sersen— Fine Arts Ministry —t.sersen@covenantchurch.net
 Bettie Christian— Prayer + CARE Ministries—b.christian@covenantchurch.net
 Angela Raker— Children's Ministry—a.raker@covenantchurch.net
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From the Pastor's Heart

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A Special Thanks to All Who Have Contributed Thus Far to the Pastor's Heart

Tony Metler	Charles & Mildred Staton	Peter & Cora Cefarati
Robert Frantz	Loraine Williams	Ernie & Ellie Deomampo
Wilbert & Kathleen Baker	E.L. & D.O. Floyd	Joyce Tuel
Charles Chapman	Angus Arrington	William & Divina Bray
Judy Davis	Anna Lobianco	Doris Dunn Dillow
Robert Nelson	Donnie & Theresa Lamb	Edward & Lilian Richardson
Anthony & Virginia Rubianes	Jane Wells	

THE BARE FACTS...

TITHING: Folks wide awake and looking at Judgment Day tithe happily.

MISSIONHEART: Investing in souls pays eternal dividends.

CHURCH: A praying church will stir the interest of God to stir a community.

PRAYER: Lord, we confess we cannot of our own ability do the work to which you have called us.

WHO WE ARE...

CORE VALUES: We are a Covenant community, bonded together by the Holy Spirit, united in Christ to serve His Church and each other, and to preach, teach, and make disciples.

MISSION: To glorify God through worship and lifestyle, to lead the unsaved to Christ, to share His love with our community and the world, and to strengthen the body of believers through discipleship.

VISION: To create a spiritual culture of growth by reaching the lost, adding to our congregation, maturing believers, strengthening outreach and missions, developing leaders, expanding trans-culturalism, and promoting volunteer based ministry.

MOTTO: "Many Nations, One Faith; Serving God."

WE ARE PRAYING FOR...

Our Missionaries	Louise Heislup	Jeri Scott
Our Troops	Monetta Helton	Susan Elaine Hall Singh
Terry Fitz	Joyce Hurt	Tammy Southall
Kathy Goebel	Anna Lobianco	Kathy Steele
Courtney Holmes	Charles Martin	Terry Wilthew
	Lillian Schomp	

Condolences To: Lillian Schomp-Death of her son, Richard Schomp
 Mae Barbour- Death of brother, Morris King

WEEKLY HAPPENINGS...

Intercessory Prayer...

Sunday Mornings 7:45 -8:15AM in the Prayer Room.

Sunday Services: 8:30 AM & 10:45 AM

Bible Study Classes: 9:45 AM

Wednesday Night Adult Service, Youth Ministry and Kids Club:
 6:30 PM-7:45P.M

Alternate Choir Practice:

6:45- 7:45

If you know of somebody who would like to receive the weekly Pastor's Heart by postal mail or email, please send his/her name, complete mailing address and/or email to Covenant Church, 1025 Rio Road East, Charlottesville VA 22901.

For more information visit www.covenantchurch.net or call 434-973-5536.

Sleepy Town, USA

I drove through Sleepy Town. Shades were pulled. Lots of houses were dark. Only an occasional candlelight. A few folks were out. Dark was lurking like a bad omen. Here and there a person seemed to be moving with reason and purpose. But their steps seemed out-of-step with Sleepy Town.

There were lots of objects and leftovers in Sleepy Town that suggested its being a party town. Having fun was primary. Something for everyone to do what they wanted. Feeling good and enjoying life appeared to be the mantra.

Sleepy Town folks jumped around from church to church in an attempt to find singing, preaching, and social customs that fitted their comfort zone. It did not matter that they had pledged fidelity. It did not matter that they had been leaders in a church. Just one Sunday they decided life was more about them than others or promises. They drifted on, like sagebrush on a windblown prairie.

When they ran out of churches and failed to find the "shoe that fitted" their wants, whims, times and schedules they resorted to starting their own church, fellowship or home pajama religious circle. No set rules. No authority. No accountability for stewardship. It seemed the most important part of new religious beginnings was to be against old religious ideas, customs, and beliefs.

Tithing was changed to giving where "stroked." If in the mood, give to a person or project that will get name listed, get a letter knighting sainthood and promise of "Free Pass" to heaven, or a personal thank-you. Maybe even an invitation to a special banquet with names of donors listed for everyone to see. Folks started to mark amounts of 2%, 3%, 5% as tithe, without looking to see Webster's dictionary still denotes tithe as 10%. They jumped up and down with songs about heaven, while they were busy getting and spending gold on earth.

The Bible was replaced by lots of "Christian" self-help books. The "SELF" should have been a warning. But folks in Sleepy Town took great pride in their ability to do it themselves. They also craved the esoteric and new...and could afford fads and fashions.

Self up front and successful allows Self to carve out Self's own rules for moral living. God is reduced to Self's definitions. The Good Book becomes a book of suggestions, read occasionally, and resting generally closed under the well-worn self-help books.

Down in the dark alleyways of Sleepy Town a few liberal folks were at work. They were crafting laws to give more and more people what more and more people wanted. More pleasure. More freedom to follow addictions. The right

to marry and divorce as easily as trading cars. The right to live and sleep with others as a biological urge that fulfills natural yearnings. Men with men. Women with women. Other things despicable and against the Good Book.

A few good folks in Sleepy Town raised their voices in protest. But laws were passed that threatened, jailed, intimidated. Girls as young as 12 and 13 having abortions. A man in one house living with a woman...and he had more than five children by different women. A woman looking at her husband and saying: "I want to date other men, lots of them. I don't want to be confined to one man." But the laws passed said it was OK. Folks slept on...and parties multiplied with ever greater recklessness and wantonness.

Money was God. Money meant having the right to pleasure. Money meant freedom to go and do. Money meant recklessness of actions without regard to future health, broken relationships, consequences with children, and fear of God. Sleepy Town was on a roll. Everyone got to do what everyone wanted to do.

Blindness had gripped Sleepy Town. Storms came. Hurricanes. Floods. Droughts. Wars. Economic failures. Political blunders. Earthquakes. But Sleepy Town residents just cleaned up best they could and went back to partying.

It occurred to me as I drove through Sleepy Town that fools want to play in the present as if there is no future. But I saw the morning sky hint toward dawn. The Son would rise. In the glory of His Coming Sleepy Town would be judged. I shuddered. My heart was broken.

It was then that the Spirit said: "Son, do not be discouraged. A revival is building. There are good folks in Sleepy Town. They are praying. Fear not. I hear their prayers. One day they will rule Sleepy Town. One day evil will be conquered. One day I will set up my throne on earth and the whole earth will be filled with my glory."

Thank you for joining with me in the effort to wake up Sleepy Town.

Pastor Bare



Dr. Harold Bare is a former social worker/counselor and college lecturer. While serving Covenant Church since 1981, he has authored numerous articles and several books, including: They Call Me Pentecostal, Hell is War, and A Month of Sundays.

He is married to Laila Bare, Ed.D. (VT). They have three children, Danny, Dana, and Joshua, and 7 grandchildren.

Sundays at 9:45 AM - THE Place to Be: Sunday Bible Study: You may join a class at any time. Smiling faces and new friendships await you as we study God's word together.

SNL for Ladies is THIS Sunday, August 15, 4-6 PM: Ladies, what a great time of worship, prayer, food, fun, friendship, and thought-provoking topic we have planned for you this Sunday. Do you find yourself involved in too many things? Life passing you by too fast? Or do you have a hard time deciding what is most important? Then find yourself at SNL this Sunday, where we guarantee you will be blessed! Finger foods and snacks will be provided. What can you do to prepare? Pray for it. Invite some friends. And bring something for the "My Clutter, Your Treasure!" table if you'd like. **Don't say NO to this one!** See you there!

Wednesdays 6:30-7:45 PM: Special activities and Bible study for everyone. Why not make time in the middle of your week to come to the house of the Lord!

Attention Parents: Practices for the all **Children's Christmas Drama** will begin in the upcoming weeks. If you would like your children to participate please call the church office to get their name on the list... auditions for speaking parts will be held the next 2 Sunday mornings; Aug 8 and Aug 15 at 9:30 in the OT sanctuary. For more information or questions, please call Pastor Angela or Sue Kramer.

Teen Concert: Summerfest Christian Music concert featuring Christian bands (Mike's Chair, Building 429 and Brit Nicole) at Waynesboro High School on Friday, August 20th. We will leave Covenant at 6pm sharp on Friday night, please bring \$5 for the concert and money for McDonald's. We will return by 9:45pm on Friday night. Please reserve space by emailing Pastor Zenas at z.choi@covenantchurch.net by Wed. August 18th.

Join the Choir: Practices are Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM. If you cannot make Thursday evenings, we have an **Alternate Choir Practice** night on Wednesdays from 6:45-7:45 PM in the OT Café. Either way, please contact Pastor Tim Sersen for more information.

The Creator in You: Aug 29th after Second Service: Join us as we discuss how you can be a creative teacher. We will have a refresher course, tips on how to make your classroom and lessons exciting, and a time of fellowship. From Infants to 5th grade, you can always find a creative way to teach God's Word. Open to all those involved or interested in Children's Ministry. Lunch Provided. More information, please contact Pastor Angela Raker.

Evangelism Phone-a-thon Coming: We are looking for individuals who would like to be a part of a huge telephone evangelism event that will be happening here at Covenant in the fall. If you are interested in joining the planning team for this event, please call the office at 973-5536 or email a.wells@covenantchurch.net.

Talent Search: We are looking for those who want to use their talents for the Lord, especially in the area of special singing. Please contact Pastor Tim Sersen if you would like to either sing a solo or be a part of a special singing group (i.e. Southern Gospel) that could possibly sing on a regular basis.