

Grateful...and Debt

Imagine that you were privileged to be born or adopted into one of the finest families in America. Your home was in the top 5% of the largest homes in America. You enjoyed excellent accommodations, state-of-the-art comfort---including climatized control. You never had to carry in fuel to heat, eat, or just enjoy comfort. You had space to rest, play, fellowship, enjoy reunions, invite friends and worship. Your home was convenient, located excellently with easy access in all kinds of weather.

You were privileged to have parents at home---parents who love you. Your parents are encouragers working together with your other siblings to insure your optimal future. You are encouraged to prepare yourself well...study...plan...seek wisdom.

Your family is careful to keep God central. Prayer. Bible is the most important Book in the home.

Your family practices good stewardship---careful in tithes, offering---faithful. Equally careful with managing of family funds---being sure that every dollar is wisely spent.

Hold your head up. Go out the door. Stand proud. Give thanks to God. Rejoice. Your family IS there with you! Supporting. Caring. Loving. Resourcing. Rescuing.

So, you are part of the Covenant Family! What a blessing! What a blessing you are to each of us. What a blessing we desire to be to you. In our character we have not followed fads and fashions. We have not jumped on bandwagons of esoteric theology. We have not tried to hang on to or ride on the coattails of persons of fame in the Kingdom. We have not chased after interventions that were eruptive popular movements. We have not allowed other books to replace the preeminence of THE BOOK. In other words, we have not done the wacky, weird, and far-out.

We decided home would be a good place to keep to the basics. We decided the Bible would be our anchor. We decided that simplicity of faith in Jesus Christ as Our Savior is sufficient.

Imagine you are out in a ship. It begins to sink. Are the life-preserver

vests individualized with all sorts of different art, shapes, colors, weights? No--All are alike. All are for every person. Whoever puts on the life-vest will be carried on the dangerous waters.

We are convinced that Christ's Death and Resurrection is sufficient. No need to fancy it up. Decibel level is not the issue. Stage lighting is not the issue. Pomp and circumstance is not the issue. The seed planted was Jesus. We just need to be Born Again..., die to self, and grow up in Christ.

Covenant is a family of common-sense, feet-on-the-ground, anchored-in-the-Word, Spirit-filled and -led, folks that trust God. We trust God for our lives here on earth. We trust God for our lives in His Resurrection.

We are confident that the Glory of the Church is Christ. We are confident that no message needs to be fancied or massaged to add power to the message of the cross. We are confident that the gospel has power to save us (I Timothy 1:8).

Glad you are part of the family. My prayer is that you will grow and be strong. Live powerfully now and prepare for a more powerful future.

Enjoy the blessings of being in a Great Family!

Truly, we are so grateful...and our debt is more than we can pay. I Corinthians 15:3 "Christ died for our sins"

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.

Covenant Church Announcements...

Water Baptism: Our next water baptism is THIS Sunday, January 30th. If you would like to be baptized please contact Bettie Christian.

Moms Small Group: Wednesday, January 26th at 10:00 AM in the OT Cafe. Open to moms with children of all ages. Childcare provided. If you have any questions please contact Marianne Tolley at toley31@msn.com.

February Emphasis - "A Heart To Serve": Our church leadership has deemed February's church-wide emphasis as "A Heart To Serve." This follows our Prayer & Fasting emphasis in January and is a natural flow from drawing closer to God. As we have been preparing ourselves spiritually, let turn our focus on serving God through volunteering in church ministry. Pastor Bare's sermons throughout the month will reflect our theme and each week we will be highlighting various ministries throughout Covenant. How's your Heart To Serve?

Friday Bible Study: Carolyn Thompson is currently leading our Friday 11 AM Bible study in the Cafe. She is a skilled and apt facilitator. You will be blessed for this opportunity of learning practical lessons from God's Word.

Watoto Children's Choir Live Concert of Hope: We are excited to announce that the Watoto Children's Choir will perform at Covenant Church on Wednesday, February 9th at 6:30 PM. We are in need of volunteers to host the children and chaperone at their home for one night. Please contact Pastor Angela Raker if you are interested in hosting children.

Informational Meeting: Sunday, February 13th at 12:30 PM. Informational meeting for all those that are involved, parents of elementary children, or would like to be involved with Jr. Kids Church, Kids Church, Sunday School, & Special Events. Lunch Provided. Family invited. RSVP to Abigail Wells at 973.5536.

Order Pizza and Support Covenant Youth Group: Order Pizza from Vocelli's Pizza between 12-5PM every Sunday until Feb. 5th a 10% donation of each order will be given toward a student's trip to Winterfest. Vocelli's Pizza (434) 977-4992. Mention "Covenant Church" when ordering. Direct Donations to student's trips are also being accepted for Winterfest. Thank you for supporting Covenant Youth.

Atmosphere Changers Expressive Worship Ministry: If you are interested in the ministry of dance, mime and/or dramatic movement and know or believe you have been called to the ministry of dance, please contact Aisha R. Thomas at 973-651-8587.

Continued Church Announcements...

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 shared daily with staff.

Church Communications Team - If you have experience in web design (coding), graphical design, desktop publishing (mac or windows), video production, community relations (print media, radio), etc. please contact Pastor Tim Sersen. We are also looking into redesigning our Covenant logo. Please submit ideas and sketches to Pastor Tim.

Need a quiet retreat for prayer? Your prayer room is open during the church's regularly staffed office hours Monday-Friday. You built it - use it and be blessed! You can enter using the door in the alleyway just past the front porch of the New Testament building below the welcome center room door; come up the steps and turn to your left. You can also enter from the main sanctuary through the mezzanine door when the church sanctuary is open.

Listen to Pastor's Messages Online: Each Monday morning we update our church website with Pastor Bare's message from the 8:30 AM service. This is a great resource and evangelism tool. Let your friends, family, and co-workers know that they can hear a great message every week simply by going to www.covenantchurch.net and click on audio messages.

Sunday Prayer: Come together each Sunday morning in the prayer room to pray for our pastor and church. Beginning at 7:45 a.m., prayer continues during both church services. You might choose to either pray until 8:30 a.m. and then attend service, or to attend one service, and pray during the other service. If you can only be there a short time, just quietly come and go as you need. This is a time of flowing prayer.

Contact Information

Pastor Harold Bare— Senior Pastor— pastor@covenantchurch.net
 Tim Sersen— Fine Arts Ministry —t.sersen@covenantchurch.net
 Bettie Christian— Prayer & CARE Ministeries—b.christian@covenantchurch.net
 Angela Raker— Children's Ministry—a.raker@covenantchurch.net
 Martin Li— International Ministries—m.li@covenantchurch.net
 Zenas Choi— Youth Ministry—z.choi@covenantchurch.net
 Jessica Dizon— Executive Assistant/Bookkeeper—j.dizon@covenantchurch.net
 Patty Perkins— Business Administrator—p.perkins@covenantchurch.net
 Abigail Wells— Administrative Assistant—a.wells@covenantchurch.net

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Covenant Church

MANY NATIONS, ONE FAITH, SERVING GOD



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From the
Pastor's
 Heart

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THE BARE FACTS...

TITHING: Partnership with others in tithing makes possible evangelism that one person can never do.

MISSIONHEART: When you give and a soul is won to Jesus, you are wise (Proverbs 11:30b).

CHURCH: A common cause sought with common heart will get the attention of heaven.

PRAYER: Lord, we fast and pray not for material things, but that our hearts may be imprinted with serving as our DNA.

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-culturism, and promoting volunteer based ministry.

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

WE ARE PRAYING FOR...

Our Missionaries
 Our Troops
 Raymond Bittinger, Sr
 Louise Bittinger
 Patsy Dickinson
 Terry Fitz
 Louise Gentry

Brenda Gentry
 Kathy Goebel
 Ashley Harris
 Louise Heislup
 Monetta Helton
 Sue Kramer

Curtis Morris
 Charles Martin
 Pastor Angela Raker
 Tammy Southall
 Kathy Steele
 Shirley Thompson

WEEKLY HAPPENINGS...

Intercessory Prayer •

Sunday Mornings starting at 7:45 and prayer continues during both services. 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

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.