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Fall Worship Schedule

Beginning
Sunday, September 12th
Covenant Church will
resume regular worship
hours.

8 & 11* am Worship Services
9:30* am Adult, youth and children's Sunday
School
10:30 am Coffee/donut Fellowship

You Can Do BETTER Than Your Best!

Pastor Tom Willcox

The Army says, "Be all that you can be" but **God** says that you can be more! God wants you to be more, to do better than *your* best. God makes it possible for you to exceed your limits. In fact, God expects more of you than your best.

An old farmer, having retired from milking cows, made most of his modest income selling firewood. Unfortunately, he found several folks in the area were starting to sell firewood less expensively than he could. When he asked around, he found that his competition could apparently cut more firewood than he could and in less time, therefore they could sell the firewood for less and still make a good profit. Knowing that he was the best in the valley with a handsaw and axe, he dug a little deeper to discover their secret. As it turned out, the secret of his competitor's success was some new fangled saw called a "chain saw". Not wanting to be beaten by the competition, the old farmer went into town and bought the best chain saw he could find.

After his first week of cutting wood with the new saw, the old farmer found that he had only cut half as much wood as he normally cut in a week. What is worse, he was sore and worn out from the effort. The old farmer was not afraid of learning something new nor was he afraid of a bit of hard work. He decided that he just needed a little more time to learn to use this new saw properly.

Continued on page 4.

Contact us

Phone
724-981-3535
Fax
724-981-4852
Email
covenant@verizon.net
Website
www.covenantpressharon.org

New Members Class

Pastor Tom Willcox would like to meet with prospective new members on Sunday afternoon, September 19, at 4pm for a one-hour informational and organizational meeting. Those who attend will have a chance to help choose from two or three alternative schedules for the new member class. The class will be a total of ten hours in length. Those attending will explore the answers to questions including:

- What it means to be a part of God's Family?
- What it means to be a Presbyterian?
- Who we are at Covenant and what are we about?
- Who am I in all this, how can I fit in?

The new member class will begin between September 20 and October 3, according to the group's choice of schedule. The schedules I am considering include:

1. 1pm to 7pm, Saturdays on 9/25 & 10/2. This would include dinner together
2. 1pm to 7pm, Sundays on 9/26 & 10/3. This would include dinner together
3. 7pm to 9:30pm, Mondays & Wednesdays on 9/27, 9/29, 10/4, 10/6.

There will not be a separate class for 9th and 10th graders to join the church, as has been done in the past. Anyone age 14 yrs. old and older will take the same class as the adults.

Please fill out the response form in your bulletin if you are interested.

Baptisms for Fall

If you are seeking believer's baptism for yourself or a child baptism for your children, you must contact the church office (981-3535) to pre-register. October 17th will be the next baptism date.

Sunday School Resumes

Adults, youth and children's Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 12th at 9:30 am.

Night of Praise

Sunday, October 24 at 7 pm

Unity Presbyterian Church (1857 Mercer-West Middlesex Rd. will be the host of this year's NIGHT OF PRAISE. Special guest will be George Campbell, noted evangelist and musician from Scotland.

Soloists, duets, trios, quartets, choirs and instrumentalists are invited to share a selection during the program.

At 6 pm the Community Choir will rehearse for all who like to sing. For more information, contact Jane Bartholomew 981-2377.

Elevator Project

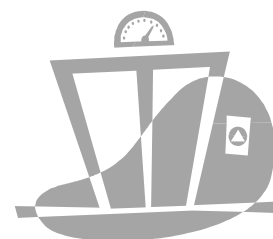
The Elevator fund is now open for contributions.

Previous bids will be updated and the project will be a "go" when we have enough money. Session voted that 15% of any new undesignated bequests will also go into the elevator fund

All who have pledged in the past, please add your contribution and then we'll have our elevator.

Our current balance is \$74,054.

If you would like to contribute to the elevator, please use a pew envelope and mark it ELEVATOR.



Don't Forget to Visit the Church Website Often

www.covenantpresssharon.org

There are many helpful pages including: the Prayer Page, calendars, youth & children's activities, applications and much more.



*"New Music"
(Already shipped and ready)*

COME JOIN US IN THE CHOIR !

*"New Choir Robes" !!!
(To be ordered this September
And ready for Christmas!)*

*"Bell Choir"
(Back and ready to ring!)
(We've been rehearsing this summer!)*

*"Old Favorites"
"Requested Anthems"*

Covenant Chancel Choir is open to everyone from 6th grade to adult!

Rehearsals begin: Thursday, September 2nd !

September 2 nd	Thursday, <u>7:15</u> pm	First Choir Rehearsal
September 9 th	Thursday, <u>7:15</u> pm	Choir Rehearsal
September 12 th	Sunday, <u>11:00</u> am	Choir's first Sunday to sing!
October 14 th	Thursday, <u>7:15</u> pm <u>8:00</u> pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal <u>First Christmas Cantata</u> <u>Rehearsal!</u>
December 19 th	Sunday, <u>7:00</u> pm	Christmas Cantata
December 24 th	Friday, <u>7:00</u> pm	Christmas Eve Communion

The Lord is so good and greatly to be praised! May He bless us again with another year of great "fellowship and friendships", and with that indescribable joy that only comes from singing praises to His name!

In praise to Him,

Penny Kraynak



Cont'd. You Can Do BETTER Than Your Best!

After his second week of cutting wood with the new saw, the old farmer was very sore, very tired and quite frustrated. He went back into town with his new saw determined to return it and get his money back. When he got to the store, the old farmer dropped the saw on the counter and declared, "This saw isn't worth two cents. I want my money back."

The shopkeeper seemed shocked and genuinely apologetic. He asked the old farmer what the problem was. The farmer replied, "This dang-blasted, new fangled saw weighs a ton and don't cut wood fer beans! I worked harder in the last two weeks than I normally work in a month, yet I only cut one week's worth of wood." The shopkeeper said that he was terribly sorry. He went on to explain that everyone else who bought the new saw thought the world of it. He suggested that he check it out to make sure that it was working properly. He checked that it was primed, pulled the cord twice and on the second pull the saw fired right up.

The old farmer jumped about four feet with a look of terror in his eyes. He exclaimed, "WHAT IN THUNDER IS THAT NOISE? How'd you make it to do that?"

At times, we are all a bit like that old farmer. We have tools; the Bible calls them gifts, with great power. However, we try to make them work by our own strength. Can't you just see that poor old farmer working up a sweat as he tried to push and pull that chain saw across the wood? If only he had known about the power he had at his finger tips. All he had to do was start the engine and he'd be cutting more wood and cutting it faster than ever before.

God wants to use you and me to bless others. When God wants to bless, he wants to bless in a GOD SIZED way. The apostle Peter has this to say:

"God has given gifts to each of you from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Manage them well so that God's generosity can flow through you." **1 Peter 4:10 (New Living Testament – NLT)**

God has given gifts to you and I. God did not give gifts to us for our benefit. God gives us gifts so that he can bless others through us. God has given me a gift mix that allows me to teach and preach. He did not give me my particular gifts so that I could build myself up by using them. God gave me my gifts so that he could build you up through me. What is more, God wants to bless you according to the measure of his power, love and generosity.

God does not want to be limited by what "Pastor Tom" or any other human has to offer. What we have to offer is not nearly enough for God. He wants to bless you according to the measure of *his* wisdom, *his* truth, and *his* love. No matter how hard I try, no matter how capable I am I can never match God.

What does this mean to you and to me? It means that we *MUST* find out what kind of tool we are meant to be in God's hands. It also means that we *MUST* learn how to cooperate with God, especially in our area of gifting, so that *God's* gifts can flow through us according to the measure of *God's* generosity.

God has two goals in giving gifts to us. The goal stated above is the first; God wants to give to others generously through us. God reveals the second goal in the next verse in First Peter.

"Are you called to be a speaker? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Are you called to help others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. *Then God will be given glory* in everything . . ." **1 Peter 4:11 (NLT – Emphasis added)**

God's second goal is to bless others in such a way that the process of blessing them clearly points back to God. God wants the glory for what God does. God is not insecure and does not need to build up his sagging ego. We need to worship him! God made us to worship him. God is certainly worthy of our worship. Additionally, God knows that people need to be reminded that he is God or we will forget him. In fact, we may never know about him unless we see him at work.

If you lift weights, train hard and then press 400 pounds or more we say, "What an athlete!" But if you are a scrawny, blind and weakened man named Samson; and you pray and then pull down an entire pagan temple made of stone, then we say, "What a God!" If you are a Navy Seal who is in top condition and you defeat an opponent, who outweighs you by 50 pounds of muscle, in hand-to-hand combat, we say, "What a fighter!" If you are a smallish shepherd boy named David and you defeat an opponent who outweighs you by four or five Davids, we say, "What a God!"

By leading us to do God sized work in God sized ways, God makes sure that he gets the glory not us. In this way, God insures the maximum blessing for those he blesses and the maximum saving witness to those who need to know that he is God.

BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE!

We also benefit when God uses us to bless others! God does not give gifts to us in order to bless us (ordinarily) but to bless others through us. By his grace and wonderful creativity God has also made things work in such a way that being used in his service is just about the most wonderful and fulfilling experience any human can ever have.

Imagine the freedom a train would experience if after hours, months or years of trying to churn it's way through freshly plowed fields the train was put up on a railroad track for the first time. Nothing could free a train more than being on the track it was made to run on. Nothing frees us more than doing the work we were created to do.

“For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so that we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.” **Ephes. 2:10 (NLT)**

There is no greater joy in the Christian's life of ministry than using the gifts God has given us to do the work God planned for us to do. I like to describe our Spiritual Gifts as the place where God has caused our heart's desires and our world's greatest needs to meet.

I love to do evangelism. I am deeply committed to prayer. I enjoy blessing others by visiting or doing little, background acts of love. Nothing fills me up or excites me more however than preaching, teaching or leading. God has uniquely created me for these works. These are also the greatest needs in the “world” immediately around me and for which I am God's best answer. There are many other needs all around me. God may call me to help meet those needs. Nevertheless, I am not God's best or first answer to those other needs. Perhaps you are!

What are your gifts? What is your heart's, God given desire? What is your world's greatest need?

Don't feel badly if you don't know the answer to those questions yet. Start working to find your unique answers, your unique place in God's wonderful plan. The elders are working to develop ministry that will help all of us as a congregation identify and clarify our understanding of our spiritual gifts. I am happy to help you as you work to understand God's plan for your life. There are many wonderful books and tapes on the subject. The Dunamis workshop in Quarryville, PA next month deals specifically with this topic (brochures are available in the sanctuary or from the church office). I am one of the teachers for this Dunamis workshop and I would love to have some of our church family there to share the adventure.

Trust that God will lead you as you seek to understand his plan for your ministry. He wants you on track with his plan and he knows how to get you there. Start moving and God will direct you. God wants to build you up and to bless you! God wants to do more through you than you could ever do on your own. With God's gifts and power, you can do better than your best. Believe it!

Children's Ministries

It is hard to believe that the new school year is right around the corner. With the new school year comes a multitude of activities for the children of our church. Crib Nursery, Little Lambs, Sunday School, Youth Club, Christmas Musical, and more are all in the works for the upcoming year. I am so excited for this opportunity to work with the ministries of Covenant that are geared toward the children. In the upcoming weeks, you will begin to see opportunities for you to become involved in these ministries also. We will be holding a meeting about Youth Club (Sept. 8th), there will be an opportunity for you to sign up to help in the nurseries, and other areas also.

Please be in prayerful consideration of where you feel God might be leading you this school year. The children of our church are an important and vital part and I am so looking forward to being a part of their lives. Consider becoming a part of their lives too.

May God bless you in the upcoming school year. ~Jenn Winiecki, Director of Children's Ministries



From the Associate Pastor

I am writing to inform you that I have accepted the call of the Gashland Presbyterian Church in Kansas City, MO to be their Associate Pastor for Outreach and Discipleship. My last Sunday with you will be September 5, 2004.

I know this may come as a surprise to some of you, but this has been a long and prayerful process for Jill and me. We cannot express to you our appreciation for the way you have loved us over the past three years. While these have been three intense years, they have been incredibly rewarding and we have grown so much.

I want to take this opportunity to clear up some possible misunderstandings. I know that I stood in front of the congregation a few months ago and told you that I was selling my house but staying here at Covenant. Jill and I realized that we were pushing our will, and not listening to the Lord. We wanted to stay, but God protected us from making the mistake of buying a new home here. I also want to make clear that I am not leaving because Pastor Tom has asked me to or because of any conflict with him. He and I work well together and he has never indicated to me that he wants me to leave.

The reasons for us leaving are several. I need to return to the ministry to which I have been called: outreach and discipleship. I am passionate about bringing people into the kingdom and discipling them into maturity, and I need to do that with adults. I am not called to youth ministry and, as much as I love youth, I need to return to my calling.

I am looking forward to talking more with any of you who have questions or would just like to chat. My prayers will continue to be with Covenant and the family we have built here. We love you. ~Sean C. Martin, Associate Pastor

Senior Fellowship

Our first meeting of this season will be Tuesday, September 14th at noon. The program will be "Senior Surprise" by Bonnie Banic.

Our luncheon meetings begin at 12 noon on the second Tuesday of the months, September, October, November, December, March, April, May, and June.



A nice lunch is served, followed by a program and short business meeting. Cost is \$5.00.

Anyone age 55 and over is welcome. Reservations are to be made the Thursday before the meeting by calling Alice Tatusko at 724-346-5101.



Mission Trip to Santa Marta

We have about 25 people signed up for the mission trip to Rancho Santa Marta which is planned for August 14th to the 22nd.

As we prepare to leave, those of us planning to go on this trip covet your prayers for the Lord's will in organizing the trip as well as preparing hearts to hear our message.

If anyone wishes to contribute to the trip, you can place an offering in a pew envelope and mark it for the Mission Trip.

Don Wiseman	Rob Wilson	Allie Wilson
Katie Wilson	Tom Willcox	Raylene Willcox
Kerry Willcox	David Willcox	James Willcox
Christine Willcox	Cheri Barnes	Ann Baker
Amanda Kreutzer	Andrea Kreutzer	Sheida Fleming
Bruce Whitney	Karen Whitney	Cathy Maiden
Glenn Maiden	Katie Mohr	Angie Mohr
Heather Hunter		

Deacons Food Pantry

The Deacons currently assist 14 families in the surrounding community. Once a month we give out a full bag of groceries plus a gift card to a local super market. We also give turkeys at Thanksgiving and Christmas.

In October, we will once again be asking for donations of non-perishable foods to be put in the green barrels.

Your donations help to supplement the food we purchase mainly from the Community Food Warehouse in Farrell. However, many foods are not available or are limited in their availability. We are in need of canned fruit, sugar free (diabetic) items and pumpkin and cranberry sauce for the holidays.

Start watching for sales now and put the items aside. Also, please check the expiration dates. We do not want expired items.

We thank you for your support in the past and ask for your continued support in this outreach ministry of your church. (Matt. 25:35-40).

Special Thanks

- Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make SB2W a huge success! The campers all had such a wonderful time and that could not have happened without you. Thank you to the congregation for your support of this great program ~Jenn Winiecki
- We had a wonderful week at Vacation Bible School learning to "Power-up God's Way". We had 50 children attend VBS. Children were from our church, other areas churches, and some without a church. The children learned important lessons when they visited a different site each day and the lessons were brought to life by Lizzie and Wilma who struggled and resolved problems while trying to get in shape, both physically and spiritually. The children learned about accepting others even though they may be different, serving others first, comforting others when in need, and forgiving others. We served others through our mission of collecting canned and boxed food for the Community Food Warehouse. We collected over 300 food items and the children were so excited to help other children who may not have food to eat. Our terrific week would not have been possible without the support and prayers of the congregation of this church. Thanks so much to all our teachers and helpers and all who donated craft supplies, food, and time to help may VBS possible. Special thanks to Michelle for all her help and the pastors for their support. Anne McGowan and Jen Levitt



Church Office Requests

- Due to the new regulations regarding patient privacy, the church may not be informed in a timely manner when church members are hospitalized. Therefore, we ask that you please notify the church so that the pastors may be informed.
- If your address or phone number or email address has changed, please inform the office so that we do not waste the ever increasing cost of postage.

Church Email Addresses

Church office – covenant@verizon.net

Pastor Tom Willcox – pastortom@covenantpressharon.org

Collections of Cancelled Stamps & Pop Can Tabs

Don't forget that the church is still collecting canceled stamps and pop/soda can tabs. These small insignificant items bring much-needed items for the good organizations. Stamps: do not pull them off the envelopes, just cut around it leaving ½ inch border and deposit them in the red box in the Commons or at the back of the sanctuary



Also, the Ronald McDonald Houses, which help families of ill children, collect pop or soda can tabs. There are round, silver containers around the church.

Kiddie Korner Preschool

We continue serving the children of Covenant Church and the Shenango Valley. We are taking applications for a waiting list.

- Mini-Preschool for 3 or 4 year olds 9-11:30 and 12:00 -2:30 Monday, Wednesday and Friday
- Pre-Kindergarten for 4 or 5 year olds 9-1pm Monday and Wednesday

We are committed to providing an environment in which young children can grow toward what we believe is each person's highest purpose: the fulfillment of individual, God-created potential.

There are registration forms at the back of the sanctuary or available on the church website at www.covenantpresssharon.org. Both classes are now full and we are beginning a waiting list.

Mother's Day Out

- 9 am to 1 pm Monday through Friday
- Provides loving childcare for 3 months to 5 year olds
- Structured play environment with age appropriate activities
- Daily scheduled includes free play, stories, snack, songs, and games
- Fine motor skills development through the use of clay, fingerpaint, crayons, playdoh, sand, and water
- In order to provide enough staff and a quality program, we need to know as soon as possible if your child(ren) will be attending for the 2004-2005 school year
- Applications available at the back of the sanctuary or at www.covenantpresssharon.org

Due to growth of the program, we are in need and would greatly appreciate new or gently used donations of the following items:

- Riding toys
- High chairs dress-up clothes (costumes)
- Changing table
- Baby gates

Losses in the Church Family

Treva White Violet Cheeks

Campbell's Soup Labels

Our collection of Campbell's soup labels has been discontinued. I have sent thousands of labels for articles for Kiddie Korner. Thanks for saving all the labels. ~Wilma Black.



Advent



**Monday,
November
1st**

**Pictures and articles may
be emailed to or dropped
off at the church office.**



Contemporary Worship Update

Last year the session, during its regularly scheduled monthly meeting, listened to a passionate, spirit-filled plea for a program of alternative worship, praise and prayer. Subsequently, an informational survey was passed out to the Sunday school classes and over 60 individuals illustrating their support for such a program.

The Worship Committee was then tasked with the responsibility of determining what it would take to make this program happen. Knowing full well that any new program would need the valued leadership of our new pastor, no new plans were developed until after his arrival. Pastor Willcox has, since his arrival, prayerfully determined the need for an alternative type of service and was instrumental in approaching the session through the worship committee to make it happen.

The session, subsequently after much discussion, approved research into alternative worship with the hope of having a sample program in place by the fall. Shortly thereafter, a prayer group, led by Pastor Willcox was formed to attempt to discern God's leading. This core group consists of members of the staff, session, congregation, and community has been meeting every other week for three months. Nearly all the prayer time has been focused on the Lord's leading. Progress in many ways has been deliberately slow to ensure proper discernment as those involved have realized that God is in charge and we must livingly wait for his direction, not boldly move on our own.

Several key areas have been prayerfully established. First the group has determined the need for alternative worship either to service our own congregation, but quite likely to act as an outreach to the community. Secondly, the group has been visiting other contemporary style worship services in the area, having already determined what to look for in worship. Namely, considerable time has been spent in prayer and discussion concerning what makes for worthy worship, specifically praising and glorifying God and developing a satisfying experience for the individual. The Lord's Prayer was determined as a key model for worship. We have determined that many other important factors contribute to worthy worship both individually and corporately. Tying them all together has been a main goal. Our next meetings will likely try to establish what God is doing in other churches and what God might want to happen here in our own church.

These prayer groups have been open to the congregation and community, but are only attended by less than a dozen. This is a wonderful opportunity to participate in something exciting God has planned for us. We request and encourage your participation. Our next meeting is on Aug. 18th and again on Sept. 1st. Most meetings last about an hour and a half depending on God's leading.

It is rather a coy statement to say that this endeavor will not happen without your participation. This is true. But have you ever considered the blessing that might be yours, just waiting for you to grab it, by taking part in something new and exciting. Remember two people suffer when you don't utilize your God given talents: your lost blessing for lack of obedience and the person who could have been blessed from experiencing your use of His gift.

Doug Swanson, Worship Committee Chairman

Mission Committee Update

The fall church year is soon starting and if you would like to "start" doing something a little different this church year, the Mission Committee may have something for you!

We are always looking for more people with a heart for missions. We try and offer many mission opportunities through our annual mission trip as well as ways to help with local missions. There are many local missions needing assistance by volunteering to help in various ways, prayers to uphold them, as well as financial assistance. We will continue to seek out local opportunities and present them to you for your interest. Of course, we do run a local mission here at the church with Wednesday night Youth Club.

We meet once a month on Tuesday evenings and are always looking for new people to meet and join us with different ideas. Even if you can't attend each month, you can attend as led with any ideas or concerns.

If you feel led in this direction but cannot find time to attend "one more meeting", **we still need you!** We know we already have people out there praying for our missionaries but we need people to pray specifically for one missionary on a daily basis. We would see that you are updated with their latest news and needs. If you would like to 'adopt' a missionary as your own, this would be a way for you to be part of the mission society and not have to attend a meeting.

Our present Mission Society includes: Dick Simon, Jeff Greene, John Koborie, Nancy Bestwick, Sheryl Scarmack, Patsy Kilbert and Barb Madura. You can see any committee member if you feel led to become part of our team or you can let the church office know by filling out an opportunity form in the Sunday bulletin.

There is a place for you!

Train A Child . . .

Covenant Presbyterian Church continues to be a spiritually nurturing environment. Many Covenant members have heard God's calling and sprung from the congregation to become missionaries. Now two young men raised in the church have become ministers.

Rev. Brian Kilbert

I officially started on Sun. Aug. 1st as the pastor of Fairview UPC in New Manchester, WV and Newell Pres. in Newell, WV. They are both small churches - Fairview has about 100 members and Newell has about 30.

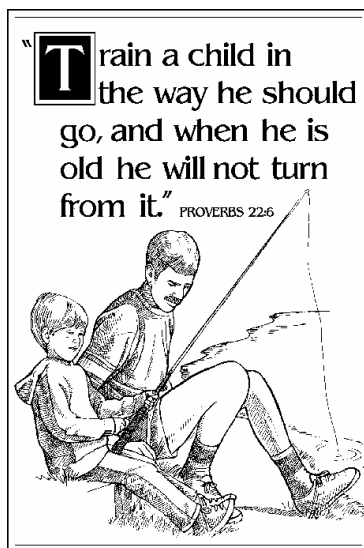
I move into the manse next to Fairview on Aug. 15th. I plan to help perform a wedding on Aug. 28th, and a couple of people have informed me of their desire to have their children baptized soon. I have a few ideas for sparking new ministry in the area. For example, Chester is a nearby recreational town that is bound to influence people in ways that consequently will call for spiritual help/guidance.

Please pray for both the church and the area, because it is experiencing a decline due to loss of jobs in the steel industry and elsewhere. The recreational industry (nearby racetrack, casinos, etc.) is helpful for the economy, but it doesn't fix the main problems (at least I think so). The church expects me to attract new younger members, but with the town being so small (and apparently only getting smaller), that may be the wrong place to focus one's energies.

Nevertheless, I am confident that God will bless his church, in the way he wills, and I trust my Lord to grow Fairview and Newell according to his providential care. In the words of the missionary, William Carey, I will "expect great things of God, and attempt great things for God."

To God be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

sheepkeeper2116@yahoo.com



Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it." PROVERBS 22:6

Pastor Chris Kilbert

It has been a couple of weeks since the ordination, and I wanted to update all of you on what has been happening in my life! If you have been praying for me, then many of those prayers have been answered. God has been so faithful! And I continue to be blessed everyday. My parents, Patsy and Don, helped me move down here on July the 6th. St. Albans, WV is about 4 1/2 hours away from Sharon. It is a bedroom community 15 miles West of Charleston, the capital. It has between 10 and 15,000 people and I think it is in a great location ~ close enough to the city, but far enough away to be able to breathe and enjoy God's creation. As you probably know, WV is a beautiful state and has lots of mountains and forests in which to hike, camp, and raft. So you know where I will be in my free time.

I have my own apartment and I really like it. It is a two-level, two-bedroom place, so if any of you feel the urge to come visit, you are more than welcome to. Or if you would like to write me, my new address is 1030 Kanawha Terrace, Apt. 19, St. Albans, WV 25177. And my email is still advocateofchrist@yahoo.com.

As for life in the pastorate, I am truly enjoying it. But God has definitely put me on the spot once or twice already. The day after I moved in, I was asked to assist in the funeral of one of the members. The time was really used by God and I was so thankful to be a part of the ceremony. I have been able to get to know many of the people in the church. Everyone has been so wonderful to me. The church threw me a pastor's shower the week after I got here and my place has become a much warmer place to live. And more importantly, they have been so encouraging and supportive. I am so excited to be a part of this congregation.

By the way, we are Riverlawn Presbyterian Church, one of three PCUSA churches in St. Albans. We have about 90 people attend on a Sunday morning, probably around 150 on the rolls. We have two Sunday morning worship services. One particularity that I personally like is that the early service (8:45) celebrates Communion every week. The 11:00 does so once a month. Like Covenant, Riverlawn is very proud of its choir. The church participates in cell/growth groups, prayer chains, preschool and after school programs, an annual summer mission team to Columbia, and it supports many other kinds of outreach and missions. It is an older congregation, but they are young at heart. If there is one thing you could pray for, it is that the youth program will get on its feet again and that leaders will step up to assist with it. Thank you for your prayers - both for Brian and myself. I look forward to what God has in store for the future, for Riverlawn, as well as Covenant.

Recent Graduates

High School

Anthony DeGerolamo graduates from Hickory High School. He plans to attend LaRoche College where he will play soccer. Anthony enjoys soccer, baseball and speed skating.

Justin Fike will be class valedictorian at Hickory High School's graduation. He will study at Cornell University. Justin enjoys soccer, pole vaulting, rock climbing, hunting and fishing.

Bethany Grundy graduates from Sharon High School. She plans to attend Edinboro University to major in elementary education. Bethany enjoys dance and gymnastics. She also enjoys getting involved in different clubs and organizations in school such as Teen Institute, Student Council, Future Teachers of America, choir, band and orchestra.

Brad Homer graduates with honors from Hubbard High School. He will be studying Civil and Construction Engineering Technology at Youngstown State University. Brad enjoys sports and weightlifting.

Kimberly Jones will be graduating with honors from Sharon High School. She has been accepted at Indiana University of Pennsylvania to major in Nuclear Medicine Technology and plans to play tennis for the school. She is a member of Teen Institute club, the concert choir and Tiger Kittens show choir as well as the newspaper staff at Sharon High School. Kim played varsity tennis and softball for the Sharon Tigers for four years. She also sings in the church choir and works at Daffin's Candies.

Chris Norris will graduate from Sharon High School. He plans to attend Westminster College in the fall as well as play baseball for the college. He will study broadcast communications. His hobbies include: baseball, cars, golf, gardening and working part-time as a detailer at a car dealership. He played varsity baseball for four years as well as was a member of the concert choir and band. Chris received an \$11,000 scholarship through the Young Presbyterian Fund through the Presbyterian Church.

Jenna Simon will graduate from Warren G. Harding High School. She has been accepted at Youngstown State University where she will major in special education/intervention specialist. Jenna enjoys swimming, volleyball, reading and fastpitch.

Technical

Gary Myers graduated cum laude from ETI Technical School with a degree in electronic engineering.

College

Tracy Apa has graduated from Penn State University, Shenango, with a Bachelor's degree in Human Development and Family Studies. She is planning to continue her education with a Master's degree in Christian Counseling.

Jason Sanata graduated from Westminster College with a Bachelors degree in Business Administration. He is working in management with Sherwin Williams. His future plans include working on a master's degree. Jason enjoys hunting, sports and coaching.

Advanced Degrees

Jennifer Winiecki, Gannon University – Masters in Education (curriculum and instruction). Her future plans include continuing to teach second grade at Grove City Christian Academy

Brian Kilbert, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, Master of Divinity (theology and parish ministry). He plans to be pastor of a Presbyterian congregation in the relative area. He enjoys reading, music, caving, hiking. "I give thanks to God for bringing me this far."

Christopher Kilbert, Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary – Master of Divinity (pastoral ministry). His future plans include ordination in the PC9USA as Minister of the Word and Sacraments and solo pastor of a small congregation. He enjoys hiking, camping, mountaineering, caving, whitewater rafting, climbing, etc... "Purge pride, teach truth, live love, to God be the glory!"

Snapshots of Covenant Church Fellowship



volleyball

cotton candy

***Covenant Presbyterian Church
263 East State Street
Sharon, PA 16146***

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