

Education Hour

Children's Education:

Pre-K - 2nd Grade- We are studying stories from the Bible through creative activities and crafts using the *Seasons of the Spirit* curriculum. This class will meet in the Library (to the right of the Workroom.)

3rd Grade - 5th Grade - We are using *The Seasons of the Spirit* curriculum, music, and art projects to examine the stories of the Bible through the lectionary. This class will meet in the Classroom (to the left of the Workroom.)

Youth Education: We are beginning a study of Jesus using *Jesus and His Kingdom of Equals*. This book uses biblical scholarship and information from the Jesus Seminar to create portraits of Jesus. We will become more familiar with Jesus' context in history as well as his Jewish identity.

Adult Education:

Bible Discussion: In the Meeks House (1st floor): Study and discussion of one of Sunday's lectionary passages from the Bible. Led by Margie Latham. Focus scripture: Luke 9:28-36.

In The Sanctuary: Behind the large myth that religion is in inherent conflict with science -- particularly the theory of evolution -- lie many smaller myths. In this class, Bruce Yaeger will debunk several major myths of the evolution wars. He will sort out truths from falsehoods, both about the theory of evolution itself and how it has been received.

Parents Forum - Parents Forum meets every 3rd Sunday during Education Hour in Laura's office in Meeks House. Join us Sunday, February 21 as we discuss cultural identity with Laura Mitchell: Have you often wondered about how to talk to your children about race, culture, and ethnicity? I have, too. Come join us as we ask our questions together. We can talk about how our children navigate through such topics as racial identity naming ourselves and claiming our culture.

Calendar

Sunday 2/14	8:15 a.m.	Worship
	9:15 a.m.	Coffee & Fellowship
	9:30 a.m.	Education
	10:30 a.m.	Coffee & Fellowship
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	12:00 p.m.	All Church Committee Meetings
Tuesday 2/16	6:30 p.m.	Yoga
	7:00 p.m.	Council Meeting
Wednesday 2/17	10:00 a.m.	Garden Workday
	7:30 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Service at Rothko Chapel
Thursday 2/18	7:15 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday 2/20	10:00 a.m.	Garden Workday
Sunday 2/21	8:15 a.m.	Worship
	9:15 a.m.	Coffee & Fellowship
	9:30 a.m.	Education
	9:30 a.m.	Inquirers' Class
	9:30 a.m.	Parents' Forum
	10:30 a.m.	Coffee & Fellowship
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	6:00 p.m.	Theology Book Group

Helpful Information

Childcare Childcare is provided in the nursery beginning at 8:45 a.m.

Communication Cards If you're a visitor with us, please fill out a blue Communication Card and drop it in the Offering basket.

Covenant Membership Membership in Covenant Church is open to all persons who affirm the loving presence of God, the life and teachings of Jesus, and the revealed Spirit throughout the ages. Those interested in learning more about Covenant are encouraged to express that interest to one of the Ministers or the Worship Leader. Any person desiring membership first becomes an inquirer and is asked to attend an orientation class designed to acquaint inquirers with the church and its beliefs. After a period of eight weeks, the inquirer may indicate a desire to become a member.

Celebrations and Concerns If you would like to share a celebration or concern with the Covenant community, please post it on the announcements board in the Narthex or e-mail it to prayer@covenanthouston.org.

Covenant Newsletter There is a weekly Newsletter available online at www.covenanthouston.org. To have this Newsletter e-mailed to you, please send an e-mail request to office@covenanthouston.org.

Covenant Recycles If you do not wish to keep your bulletin this Sunday, please recycle it by placing it on the stand located in the Narthex on your way out.

Covenant Church affirms the sanctity, dignity, and equality of human beings and the value of all life in the universe. We welcome persons of all racial and ethnic heritages, all sexual orientations, and all faith perspectives to our Christian community. We stand for each individual's right to worship God and to respond to God's call to ministry in her or his own understanding of God's all-encompassing love.

We value a holistic approach to faith and seek to worship in ways that are intellectually credible, emotionally stimulating, spiritually engaging and contemporarily relevant.

We value music and art and ritual to express what we cannot ever fully say.

We value participation so that we might hear many approaches to our shared faith.

Covenant Church

an ecumenical liberal baptist
congregation

Members of Covenant

Ministers

Jeremy Rutledge

Minister

Laura Mayo

Associate Minister

Fran Avera

Minister of Music

Carl McAliley

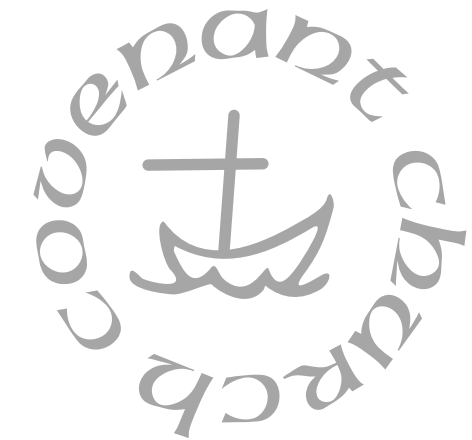
Organist

Pat Long

Office Administrator

Hanh-Nhi Ngo

Office Administrator



A Service of Worship for Evolution Sunday 14 February 2010

*Gorilla, chimp, orangutan, and human —
we are all the children of a single mother.
We are all holding hands with Eve.*

Gary Kowalski

*Only through understanding the universe
can we understand ourselves or our proper role
in the great community of existence.*

Thomas Berry

please enter for worship in silence

Covenant Church
4949 Caroline
Houston, TX 77004
713.668.8830

*	Prelude Allegro maestoso (Vingt-quatre Pièces)	André Fleury	Words of Assurance		
	Choral Introit (11:00) “Creating God, Your Fingers Trace”	Hancock	Music (8:15) “Divertimento” Allegro di molto	Franz Josef Haydn	
	Call to Worship		(11:00) “Make a Joyful Noise Unto the Lord”	Rob Landes	
*+	Processional Hymn 464: “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”	Hymn to Joy	Time of Reflection		
*+	Opening Prayer O Wonderful Weaver of the World, Help me to bridge the gap From my separateness To the unity of all creation. I come as a single strand And ask that you weave me Into your web of creation Together with earth and sky, Eagle and tree, Water and fire, Red and black, Yellow and brown, Women and men, Young and old, Weak and strong.		Proclamation: In Our Bones		
	Scripture Lesson	Genesis 1:31a	+ Hymn 288 “I Sing the Mighty Power of God”	Ellacombe	
	A Time for Children		Invitation		
	A Time for Children		Pastoral Prayer		
	A Time for Children		Offering Offertory:	J. S. Bach	
	A Time for Children		Fugue in G Minor		
	A Time for Children		+ Prayer of Dedication		
	A Time for Children		We vow to refrain from action that ignores interdependence. This is our restraint.		
	A Time for Children		We vow to make every effort to act with mindfulness. This is our activity.		
	A Time for Children		We vow to live for the benefit of all beings. This is our intention.		
*+	Response: <i>Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care, and teach us to love Thee and help us to share.</i>	Mueller	+ Doxology	Old Hundredth	
	Call to Confession		<i>Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Sing praise all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Maker, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.</i>		
	Silent Confession				
	Unison Confession		+ Affirmation of Faith		
	We confess that the story of which we are a part is the story of all life. We confess that the universe we inhabit is shared by countless life forms. We confess that the lives we live are not about ourselves alone.		We believe that the universe in which we live and move and have our being, is the expression of an inexorable process that began in eons past, ages beyond our comprehension and has evolved from singularity to multiplicity, from simplicity to complexity, from disorder to order.		

**We believe that the earth
and all who live upon the earth
are products of the same process
that swirled the galaxies into being,
that ignited the stars
and orbited the planets through the night sky,
that we are expressions of that universal process
which has created and formed us
out of recycled star dust.**

**We believe that all living things
are members of a single community,
all expressions of a planetary process
that produced life and sustains it
in intricate ways beyond our knowing.
We hold the life process itself to be sacred.**

+ Recessional Hymn 554
“Let All Things Now Living”
Ash Grove

Words of Dismissal
Choral Benediction (11:00)
“Indwelling God, Your Gospel Claims”
Hancock
Postlude
Prelude in C Major
Composer Unknown

Worship

The Acolyte lights the candles at the beginning of worship and carries the light out at the conclusion of the service. The acolyte for the second service is **Sarah Cravens**.
The Worship Leaders are **Stephen Milano** and **Miller Kress**.
The Call to Worship is from *Gitanjali* by Rabindranath Tagore.
The Opening Prayer is from Nancy Murzyn in *Soul Weavings: A Gathering of Women’s Prayers*, edited by Lyn Klug.
David Ramsey leads the Time for Children.
The Unison Confession is by **Jeremy Rutledge**.
The cellist is **Susan Wegner**.
The Prayer of Dedication is adapted from the ecological precepts of the Green Gulch Zen Center in Muir Beach, California.
The Affirmation of Faith is adapted from David Bumbaugh’s essay, “The Marketing of Liberal Religion.”

Inquirers’ Class Starts February 21

A class for visitors and those considering membership in Covenant will begin on Sunday, February 21, at the education hour. The eight weekly sessions will cover such topics as liberal Christianity, Baptist principles and history and the history of Covenant as well as information about the structure and functioning of the church through the Church Council, the Diaconate, and the committees. Presenters include the ministers, committee chairs, and other members of the congregation. If you are interested in learning more about the church and its people, join Joe Milano in the Meeks House on February 21.

* *Ushers will seat latecomers*
+ *Please stand if you are able*

+ *Please stand if you are able*