

## 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 continuing 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:

**In the Sanctuary** - Part Two of a Science and Religion discussion will be led by Tim Wegner and Bruce Yaeger.

**Bible Discussion** - Bible study in Meeks House will be led by Margie Latham on May 30. Text: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31.

**Parents Forum** - Parents Forum meets every third Sunday of the month during Education Hour in Laura's office in Meeks House.

## Calendar

Sunday 5/30	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
Monday 5/31		Memorial Day - Church Office Closed
Tuesday 6/1	6:30 p.m.	Yoga
Wednesday 6/2	9:00 a.m.	Garden Work Day
Sunday 6/6		<b>Summer Worship Schedule Begins</b>
	9:00 a.m.	Education
	10:00 a.m.	Coffee & Fellowship
	10:30 a.m.	Worship
		First Sunday Food Offering
	12:00 p.m.	Covenant Birthday Party & Youth Camp Fundraiser

## Helpful Information

**Childcare** Childcare is provided in the nursery beginning at 8:15 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](mailto:prayer@covenanthouston.org).

**Covenant Newsletter** There is a weekly Newsletter available online at [www.covenant-houston.org](http://www.covenant-houston.org). To have this Newsletter e-mailed to you, please send an e-mail request to [office@covenanthouston.org](mailto: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

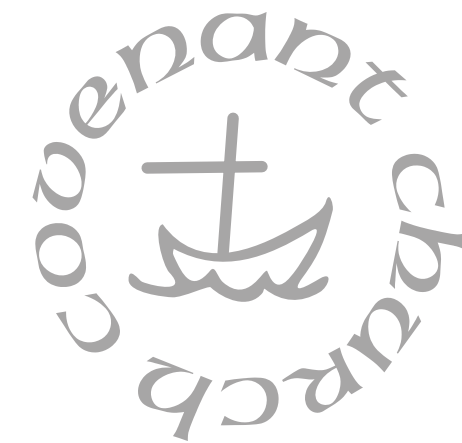
Laura Mayo  
Associate Minister

Fran Avera  
Minister of Music

Carl McAliley  
Organist

Pat Long  
Office Administrator

Hanh-Nhi Baik  
Office Administrator



*A Service of Worship  
for Sunday  
30 May 2010*

*There is, in fact, no teaching without learning. One requires the other.*

Paolo Freire

*please enter for worship in silence*

Covenant Church  
4949 Caroline  
Houston, TX 77004  
713.668.8830

\* Prelude Warren Martin  
 Processional

Choral Introit (11:00) Canonbury  
 “O Teach Me, Lord”

Call to Worship

\*+ Processional Hymn 454 Liebster Jesu  
 “Blessed Jesus, At Your Word”

+ Opening Sentences  
 Source of all being, we turn to You as did our people in ancient days.  
**They beheld You in the heavens;  
 they felt You in their hearts;  
 they sought You in their lives.**  
 Now their quest is ours.  
**Help us, O God, to see the wonder of being.**  
 Give us the courage to search for truth.  
**Teach us the path to a better life.**  
 So shall we, by our lives and our labor, bring nearer to realization  
 the great hope inherited from ages past,  
**For a world transformed by liberty, justice, and peace.**

Scripture Lesson John 13:31-35  
 These are our sacred stories.  
**Thanks be to God.**

A Time for Children

\*+ Response: Personent Hodie  
*Down to earth, as a dove, Came to light holy love:  
 Jesus Christ from above bringing great salvation  
 Meant for every nation.  
 Let us sing, sing, sing, dance and spring, spring, spring.  
 Christ is here, ever near! Gloria in excelsis.*

Call to Confession

Silent Confession

Unison Confession  
**God,  
 some days we don’t have any fun,  
 We don’t have the time for fun,  
 or the energy.  
 We’re too busy trying.  
 Trying to get caught up.  
 Trying to figure out our lives.  
 Trying to become better people.**

God,  
**show us that sometimes we try too hard.  
 Teach us not to be afraid to let go.  
 Teach us to trust you.  
 Teach us that it is OK to relax.  
 Teach us to be gentle with ourselves  
 through your strong and gentle love.  
 Amen.**

Words of Assurance

Music (8:15) J.S. Bach  
 Suite No. 3 for Unaccompanied Cello (Sarabande)

(11:00) arr. Alice Parker  
 “Come and Taste”

Proclamation: The Teachers I Loved Most Taught Me Not to Fit In

+ Hymn 392 Hall  
 “Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord”

Invitation

Pastoral Prayer

Offering

Offertory: J.S. Bach  
 Prelude and Fugue in D Minor (Well Tempered Clavier, Book II)

+ Prayer of Dedication  
**We are blessed with many good teachers  
 in our schools, colleges, and churches.  
 May we listen to them with deep respect,  
 learn from what they say,  
 and find our own courage to support them  
 as we walk the path of learning together.**

+ Doxology Old Hundredth  
*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.*

+ Affirmation of Faith  
**Covenant affirms—**  
**The loving presence of God, the life and teachings of Jesus,  
 and the revealed Spirit throughout the ages.  
 The sanctity, dignity, and equality of human beings  
 and the value of all life in the universe.  
 Truth as an ongoing process, and the necessity to be explorers  
 in the continuing discovery of faith and understanding.  
 The practice of inclusivity in our worship  
 and in all other aspects of our corporate life.  
 The importance of passing on our knowledge  
 and an understanding of traditions.**

+ Recessional Hymn 297 Vicar  
 “O Lord of Every Shining Constellation”

Words of Dismissal

Choral Benediction (11:00) Canonbury  
 “O Fill Me with Thy Fullness”

Postlude André Fleury  
 Allegro vivo (Vingt-Quatre Pièces)

## 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 **Byron Kress**.

The Worship Leaders are **David Taylor** and **Carson Graf**.

The Call to Worship is “Working Together” by David Whyte.

The Opening Sentences are from *Gates of Prayer: The New Union Prayer Book* from the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

The Time for Children is led by **David Ramsey**.

The Unison Confession is from *Touch Holiness*, edited by Ruth Duck and Maren Tirabassi.

**Susan Wegner** is the cellist at the first service.

The Prayer of Dedication is adapted from and inspired by Parker Palmer’s *Afterward in Stories of the Courage to Teach: Honoring the Teacher’s Heart*, edited by Sam Intrator.

The Affirmation of Faith is from the Covenant Mission Statement.

\* *Ushers will seat latecomers*

+ *Please stand if you are able*

+ *Please stand if you are able*