

Education Hour

Children & Youth Education:

Our children and youth will meet together for Summer Sunday School. We will gather in the library of the church building each week to learn about the people of the Hebrew Bible and to have a lot of fun.

Adult Education:

There will be a quarterly business meeting in lieu of adult education on July 11. **Parents Forum** - Parents Forum meets every third Sunday of the month during education hour in Laura's office in Meeks House.

Calendar

Sunday 7/11	9:00 a.m.	Children & Youth Education
	10:00 a.m.	Quarterly Business Meeting
	10:30 a.m.	Coffee & Fellowship
Tuesday 7/13	6:30 p.m.	Worship
Wednesday 7/14	9:00 a.m.	Yoga
	7:00 p.m.	Garden Work Day
Thursday 7/15	7:00 p.m.	Deacons Meeting
		Hospital Resources Development
Sunday 7/18	9:00 a.m.	Foundation (HRDF) Ice Cream Social
	10:00 a.m.	Education Hour
	10:30 a.m.	Inquirers' Class
	6:00 p.m.	Coffee & Fellowship
		Worship
		Theology Book Group

Inquirers' Classes Start July 18

A session of classes for visitors and those considering membership in Covenant will begin on Sunday, July 18 at the education hour. The seven 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 at Meeks House on Sundays beginning July 18.

Helpful Information

Childcare Childcare is provided in the nursery beginning at 10:15 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.

Covenant Newsletter To subscribe to the monthly newsletter, please send an e-mail request to office@covenanthouston.org. The newsletter is also available online at www.covenanthouston.org.

Covenant Recycles If you do not wish to keep your order of worship 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

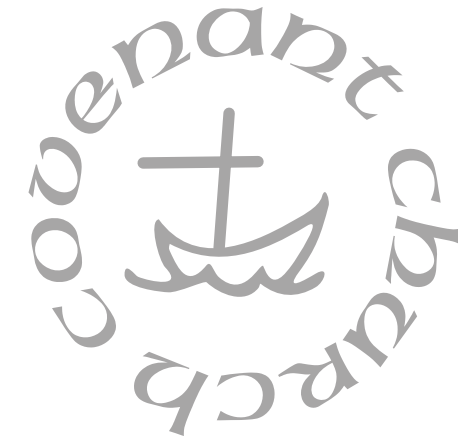
Pat Long

Office Administrator

Hanh-Nhi Baik

Office Administrator

Covenant Church
4949 Caroline
Houston, TX 77004
713.668.8830



A Service of Worship for Sunday 11 July 2010

*Every act of remembrance
is an act of faith.*

Jeremy Rutledge

please enter for worship in silence

* Prelude	Prelude William H. Harris	Unison Confession	+ Doxology Old Hundredth
Call to Worship		<p>I don't let my religious world get too complicated. I just kind of go: Well, I think I know what God is. God is love... and as much as I respond in allowing myself to be transformed by that love and acting in that love, that's my religion.</p>	<p><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></p>
*+ Opening Hymn 464	Hymn to Joy "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"		+ Affirmation of Faith
+ Opening Sentences		Words of Assurance	
<p>Our story is one that explores what happens when, in the face of any circumstance, we choose to have faith...</p>		Music Johann Sebastian Bach Allemande, from Suite No. 3 for unaccompanied cello	<p>We clasp the hands of those that go before us, And the hands of those who come after us. We enter the little circle of each other's arms And the larger circle of lovers, whose hands are joined in a dance, And the larger circle of all creatures, Passing in and out of life, who move also in a dance, to a music so subtle and vast that no ear hears it Except in fragments.</p>
<p>Ours is the story of learning to have faith in our own innate goodness and capacity to love.</p>		Proclamation: _____	
<p>Ours is the story of seeing past the apparent randomness of happenings to uncover layers and layers of connection.</p>		+ Hymn 211 Lobt Gott in seinem Heiligtum "Lord, You Have Been Our Dwelling Place"	+ Closing Hymn 528 Sarum "Give Thanks for Life"
<p>Ours is the story of knowing, even in the midst of great suffering, that we are not cast out and alone.</p>		Invitation	Words of Dismissal
Scripture Lesson	Ecclesiastes 3:1-13	Pastoral Prayer	Postlude Léon Boëllmann Sortie in F Minor (Heures Mystiques)
<p>These are our sacred stories. Thanks be to God.</p>		Offering	
A Time for Children		Offertory: Samuel Sebastian Wesley Choral Song	
*+ Response:	Personent Hodie	+ Prayer of Dedication	
<p><i>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.</i></p>		<p>For all the saints who went before us who have spoken to our hearts and touched us with your fire, we praise you, O God.</p> <p>For all the saints who live beside us whose weaknesses and strengths are woven with our own, we praise you, O God.</p>	<p>Worship</p> <p>The acolyte lights the candles at the beginning of worship and carries the light out at the conclusion of the service. The acolyte is Ruben Milano. The worship leader is Tom Day. The Call to Worship is "Baseball" from <i>An Early Afterlife</i> by Linda Pastan. The Opening Sentences are adapted from <i>Faith: Trusting Your Own Deepest Experience</i> by Sharon Salzberg. The Unison Confession is from from Bono in <i>Bono in Conversation with Michka Assayas</i>. Susan Wegner is the cellist. The Prayer of Dedication is from Sheila Cassidy in <i>Soul Weavings: A Gathering of Women's Prayers</i>, edited by Lyn Klug. The Affirmation of Faith is from "Healing" in <i>What are People For?</i> by Wendell Berry.</p>
Call to Confession		<p>For all the saints who live beyond us who challenge us to change the world with them, we praise you, O God.</p>	
Silent Confession			

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

+ *Please stand if you are able*