

## 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 no adult classes on September 5, Labor Day weekend.

**Parents Forum** - Parents Forum meets every third Sunday of the month during education hour in Laura's office in Meeks House. The next meeting will take place on September 19.

## Calendar

Sunday 9/5	9:00 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Education Hour Coffee & Fellowship Worship First Sunday Food Offering
Monday 9/6	Office Closed	Labor Day
Tuesday 9/7	6:30 p.m.	Yoga
Wednesday 9/8	9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.	Garden Work Day Deacons Meeting
Thursday 9/9	7:15 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday 9/11	9:00 a.m.	Art as Prayer
<b>Sunday 9/12</b>	<b>8:30 a.m.</b> <b>9:40 a.m.</b> <b>10:30 a.m.</b> <b>11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Worship</b> <b>Education Hour</b> <b>Coffee &amp; Fellowship</b> <b>Worship</b>

Please note: The Fall schedule resumes next Sunday with two services.

## 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](mailto:prayer@covenanthouston.org).

**Covenant Newsletter** To subscribe to the monthly newsletter, please send an e-mail request to [office@covenanthouston.org](mailto:office@covenanthouston.org). The newsletter is also available online at [www.covenanthouston.org](http://www.covenanthouston.org).

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 5 September 2010*

*And so we stand confused and reluctant in the abyss  
between what we have experienced as fact and what we  
have envisioned as possible, unable either to linger forever  
in whimpering passivity in bondage to idols in which we no  
longer believe or to leap through our fear in the passion that  
threatens to transform us.*

Carter Heyward

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*please enter for worship in silence*

* Prelude J.S. Bach and J.G. Walther “All Glory Be to God”	Unison Confession	+ Doxology Old Hundredth
Call to Worship	<b>We confess what we know to be true that the divine is not some aloof deity hiding beyond the clouds above.</b>	<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>
*+ Opening Hymn 262 National Hymn “God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand”	<b>We confess what we fear to be true that the <i>kindom</i> of heaven, the beloved community will only come when we build it ourselves.</b>	+ Affirmation of Faith
+ Opening Prayer	<b>We confess what we hope to be true that we are travelers on history’s arc and we are anything but alone.</b>	<b>Each of us is an artist Whose task it is to shape life Into some semblance of the pattern We dream about. The molding Is not of self alone, but of shared Tomorrows and times we shall never see. So let us be about our task. The materials are very precious and perishable.</b>
<b>Amid all the noise of our lives, we take this moment to sit in silence— to give thanks for another day, to give thanks for all those in our lives who have brought us warmth and love, to give thanks for the gift of life.</b>	Words of Assurance	
<b>Let us open ourselves, here, now, to the process of becoming more whole— of living more fully, of giving and forgiving more freely, of understanding more completely the meaning of our lives here on this earth.</b>	Music Sonatina No. 1 Andante Franz Schubert	
	Proclamation: Breaking the Mold	
	+ Hymn 248 Sursum corda (Smith) “You Are Before Me, Lord”	+ Closing Hymn 321 Song 13 “Holy Spirit, Truth Divine”
Scripture Lesson Jeremiah 18:1-11	Invitation	
These are our sacred stories. <b>Thanks be to God.</b>	Pastoral Prayer	Postlude Charles W. Ore “Fanfare” in A flat major
A Time for Children	Offering	
	Offertory: Andantino Cesar Franck	
*+ Response: Personent Hodie  <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>	First Sunday Food Offering	<b>Worship</b> The acolyte lights the candles at the beginning of worship and carries the light out at the conclusion of the service. The acolyte is <b>Byron Kress</b> . <b>Maggi Tucker</b> is the guest organist today. The worship leaders are <b>Angie Parle</b> and <b>Byron Kress</b> . The Call to Worship is “Life is Always Unfinished Business” by Richard Gilbert. The Opening Prayer is from Timothy Haley in <i>Rejoice Together: Prayers, Meditations, and Other Readings</i> , edited by Helen Pickett. The Unison Confession is by <b>Jeremy Rutledge</b> . The Sonatina is played by <b>Linda Day</b> , violin and <b>Maggi Tucker</b> , piano. The Prayer of Dedication is from <i>Celebrating Women</i> , edited by Janet Morley and Hannah Ward. The Affirmation of Faith is “73 Voices” by Arthur Graham.
Call to Confession	<b>Tender God, touch us, Be touched by us, Make us lovers of humanity, Compassionate friends of all creation. Gracious God, hear us into speech, Speak us into acting, And through us, recreate the world.</b>	
Silent Confession		

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

+ *Please stand if you are able*