

## 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 left 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 right of the Workroom.)

**Youth Education:** We started the year off with the problem of suffering by exploring "J.B." by Archibald MacLeish and the Biblical book of Job. The class will meet on the third floor of the Meeks House (across Caroline Street from the church).

### Adult Education:

**In The Sanctuary:** This week will continue our conversation on the life of David. We will look at David's relationships as they are portrayed in 2 Samuel 6:12-23 and 2 Samuel 11:1-5. If you were not able to join us last week that is fine, you are most welcome this week. These weeks will require participation and thoughtful reflection on how the life of a charter from the Bible relates to our lives.

**Parents Forum -** We will have a Parents Forum meeting every 3rd Sunday during Education Hour in Laura's office in Meeks House. We will gather on November 15th to discuss All Saints/ All Souls - death and grief. Come ready to share your family's experiences with these topics and books, etc that have been helpful to your family.

## Calendar

Sunday 11/15	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
Tuesday 11/17	5:00 p.m.	Fran's 40th Celebration
	6:30 p.m.	Yoga
Wednesday 11/18	7:00 p.m.	Council Meeting
Thursday 11/19	7:15 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday 11/21	12:00 p.m.	Labyrinth Reconstruction



Pledged dollars goal is \$340,000.  
Currently raised: \$260,046.

Pledged hours goal is 450.  
Currently raised: 3,382 hours



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

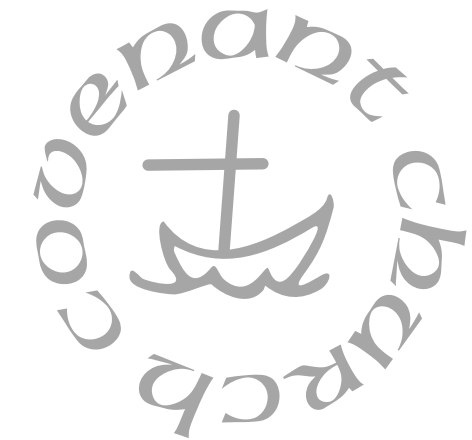
Laura Mayo  
Associate Minister

Fran Avera  
Minister of Music

Carl McAliley  
Organist

Pat Long  
Office Administrator

Hanh-Nhi Ngo  
Office Administrator



## *A Service of Worship for Sunday 15 November 09*

*Since God's creative activity is persuasive,  
not controlling, it is a love that takes risks.  
Hence, each divine creative impulse in the world  
is adventurous, in that God does not know  
what the result will be.*

John Cobb & David Griffin

Covenant Church  
4949 Caroline  
Houston, TX 77004  
713.668.8830

*please enter for worship in silence*

\* Prelude Denis Bédard  
Entrée (Suite Liturgique)

Call to Worship  
\*+ Processional Hymn 504: Union Seminary  
“Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether”

+ Opening Prayer  
**Holy God, breathe your spirit of life into us.  
We are creatures of earth,  
and we are your children, created in your image.  
As you created life at the beginning of time,  
create and shape us anew.  
We want to be clay once more,  
shaped by your hand,  
touching earth,  
contemplating heaven,  
loving,  
working,  
and playing on this good earth.  
We want to be a part of the circle of love  
you began in Jesus,  
reaching to embrace the whole world  
—a circle where the sick are healed,  
the dying are comforted,  
the oppressed achieve new dignity,  
and all live in peace.  
Through your spirit, let it be!**

Scripture Lesson: Jeremiah 18:1-12  
These are our sacred stories.  
**Thanks be to God.**

A Time for Children

\*+ Response 300: Personent Hodie  
*This is love come to light, now is fear put to flight. God  
defeats darkest night, giving for our sorrows hope of new  
tomorrows. 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  
**Forgive us, God,  
when we live our lives  
within the lines,  
when we say  
this is the shape of our work  
this is the boundary of our habitation  
these are the limits to our love  
these are the lines of our vision  
these, and none other.**

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

**Draw us beyond our patterns  
into yours:  
shifting, moving,  
curving, spiraling,  
many-colored, ever-changing,  
stretching, pushing,  
challenging, renaming,  
unsettling, disturbing,  
casting forth,  
and welcoming home.**

Words of Assurance  
Music (8:15) David Popper  
Etude No. 22 in G Major for unaccompanied cello

(11:00) Franz Josef Haydn  
“Tis Thou to Whom All Honor Is Owing”

Time of Reflection  
Proclamation: God in the Making  
Hymn 322 Living God  
“Spirit of the Living God”

Offering  
Offertory: L.J.A. Lefébure-Wély  
Fugue in D Minor

+ Prayer of Dedication  
**What we choose  
changes us.  
Who we love  
transforms us.  
How we create  
remakes us.  
Where we live  
reshapes.**

**So in all our choosing,  
O God, make us wise;  
in all our loving,  
O Christ, make us bold;  
in all our creating,  
O Spirit, give us courage;  
in all our living  
may we become whole.**

+ 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.*

THE CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table  
Prayer  
Communion Hymn #135 Trinity  
“God Is One, Unique and Holy”  
(verses 1, 2)

Sharing the Bread and the Cup  
*If you would like to take communion, but are unable to come  
forward, please notify the usher and the elements will be  
brought to you.*  
*Our communion elements include both wine and water. Gluten-  
free bread is also available.*

+ Affirmation of Faith  
**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  
Tomorrow and times we shall never see.  
So let us be about our task.  
The materials are very precious  
and perishable.**

+ Recessional Hymn 285 Austrian Hymn  
“God, You Spin the Whirling Planets”

Words of Dismissal  
Postlude Hermann Schroeder  
Intermezzo

**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 **Virginia Wells**.  
The Worship Leader is **Kathleen Yeager**.  
The Call to Worship is “On the Ineffable Inspiration of the Holy Spirit” from the writings of Catharina Regina von Greiffenberg, translated by Michael Hamburger.  
The Opening Prayer is from *Touch Holiness*, edited by Ruth Duck and Maren Tirabassi.  
The Unison Confession is from *Night Visions: Searching the Shadows of Advent and Christmas* by Jan Richardson.  
The music for unaccompanied cello at the earlier service is played by **Susan Wegner**.  
The Prayer of Dedication is from *In Wisdom’s Path: Discovering the Sacred in Every Season* by Jan Richardson.  
The Affirmation of Faith is from “73 Voices” by Arthur Graham.