

# Covenant Courier



September 6, 2009

Volume II

Issue I

# WEDFEST

*Wedfest*, our mid-week meal and study, will begin on Wednesday, September 19, and end on November 18.

A wonderful meal, prepared by the Milhams and Steeds, will be served beginning at 5:30 pm. The meal costs \$4.00 per individual with a \$10 maximum charge for families.

There will be one adult class beginning at 6:30 pm. The topic of study will be Biblical Peacemaking. Conflicts in relationships, in the family, in the church are inevitable. How are we instructed by God's Word to deal with conflict? This is what we will be addressing this Fall. The class will watch a 30 minute video each session taught by Ken Sande, the director of Peacemaker Ministries. Ken is a ruling elder at Rocky Mountain Community Church (PCA) in Montana. Following the video, Gary Hopkins and Jerry Shore will lead a discussion of the material covered.

The youth will meet at 6:00 pm in the Sr. Hi. Room for fellowship and bible study. Kent Travis will be teaching from 1 Samuel.

Jacki Travis will teach the preschoolers.

**New this Fall!** Pioneer Clubs for the school age children – See the Pioneer Clubs Kickoff.

## Hymn Sing

On September 9, October 7, and November 4, rather than our normal Wedfest, we will be doing a Hymn Sing. We gather together at 5:30 pm, for a pizza and sodas (you are welcome to bring your own food if you wish). Then at 6:00 pm, we gather around the piano in the Fellowship Hall, take requests from the Trinity Hymnal, and sing together. We will break up our singing at the mid way point with a brief missions report each time.

## Small Groups this fall

There will be four small groups that will be meeting regularly this Fall. You are invited to participate in any of the groups! Please contact the respective leaders if you have questions or if you need directions.

Geographically, these groups meet at follows:

### South

**Leaders** – Gary Hopkins (gohop007@suddenlink.net) and Jerry Shore (robertshore@att.net)

**Where** – At the Shore's – 804 Spring Creek Dr. 75703 (903-939-8760)

**When** – Second and Fourth Sundays from 6-8:00 pm – September 13 and 27

**What** – Biblical Peacemaking – with emphasis on outreach, prayer, Christian living, and enjoying one another

### West

**Leader** – Ken Brumfield (kenbrumfield@mac.com)

**Where** – At the Brumfield's – 4419 Cascades Shoreline 75709 (903-535-2988)

**When** – Second Fridays at 6:00 pm – September 11

**What** – Paul Tripp's book, *A Quest for More* – discussion led by Trae Elmore

### Central

**Leader** – Steve Simmons (Steve@5thstpc.org)

**Where** – September 13 at the Simmons – 3007 Oak Knob 75701 (903-595-1718)

September 27 at Turman's – 2225 Suanne 75701 (903-592-4138)

**When** – Second and Fourth Sundays at 6:00 pm.

**What** – A study of the book of Judges

### East

**Leader** – Mike Bowen (mike@5thstpc.org)

**Where** – Meal at Church with families, move to Bowen house (903-526-2476) for discussion – nursery provided at church

**When** – First and Third Saturdays at 5:30 pm – Sept. 19

**What** – To be determined by group – general encouragement and prayer in marriage and parenting and biblical living and service in and outside the Church.

## **Pioneer Clubs Kickoff**

*Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00*

Pioneer Clubs is a midweek program designed for kids, K-5<sup>th</sup> grade. Each week we will study God's word, memorize scripture and learn life skills, such as cooking, gift making, mission work, etc. Awards will be given at the end of each four-week section.

We will begin each meeting in the sanctuary with songs, and a skit that will reinforce the Bible story. Katie LaRoy and Lorrie Simmons will lead the opening. The kids will then be divided into two groups, K - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade for the Bible story, scripture memorization and activity. Lisa Sharpless will teach K - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and Jane Simmons will teach 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

If you have questions about Pioneer Clubs, please call Lisa Sharpless @ 903-894-3744.

# The Other Trees Are Yours!

Pastor Steve Simmons

It is in our nature, having fallen with Adam, to see only the tree that is forbidden and not the forest by which we are surrounded. Sometimes in the life of the church this tendency can become a limitation to ministry. Opportunities to serve and minister abound but one can fail to see those opportunities for a number of reasons. As we grow older and become less active it is easy to think that ministry must slow down or be discontinued—not so! Ministry changes but does not end in this life. As our lives change because of changes in work or family, ministry may need to change—God has called us to labor in His Kingdom but not necessarily by doing the same ‘thing’ at every stage of our lives. As we look at the gender restrictions that God has placed on serving as an officer of the church it is easy to think of them as unreasonable and limiting restrictions. But, God does not restrict anyone from serving His cause. While the women of our church may be forbidden one tree, it is one in a garden of many. We, all of us, are called to serve Christ by serving His people in the context of the church at every

stage of our lives. If we are kept from doing one thing it is no reason to not serve somewhere else. Grace calls us to something better.

Look around and find a place where you can serve Christ in teaching, discipling, mercy, helping, or praying. Look for ways to connect to the lives of others. Find the hurting or tired and comfort them. There are as many opportunities and needs as there are people in your life. When Paul calls us to “Redeem the Time” he is literally saying “buy up the opportunities”, it is a call to an active seeking of a place to serve. You do not need an “official” ministry to be ministers of the grace of God. You do not even need the Session’s permission to love people with truth and mercy. But, just in case you are waiting for that—you have it now. Go, love your neighbors, making disciples of all nations. In doing this you will find opportunity to aid others in their growth in grace as you also find yourself growing into the image of Christ, as we together build ourselves up in love. (See Ephesians 4:1-16)

## Sunday School Information:

### *Adult Classes:*

Class	Teacher	Topic
Olivet	Jamie Milham	The Book of James
Men’s Class	Bill Turman	The Riddle of the Parables
Christian Fellowship	Ron Brady	The Life and Letters of Peter
Covenant	Travis/Bowen	Imitating the Man, Jesus

### *Youth and Children’s Classes:*

Class	Teacher
Sr. Hi.	Fletcher Smith
Jr. Hi.	Gary Hopkins
Older Elementary	Jim Dent
Middle Elementary	John and Stacey Priddy
Younger Elementary	Bridgette Booth
Preschool	Louann Lewis
Toddlers	Ann Davis

**Ladies’ group meetings:** The Esther Circle will meet on Tuesday, September 15, at the home of Linda Smith, 15142 Southport Dr. Call Linda at 903-534-1127 for more information.

**Ladies Night Out** will meet on September 24, at 6:30 pm. Place to be determined. Watch future bulletins!

**Men’s fellowship meeting:** On Sept. 23, at Double Dave’s Pizzaworks in the Times Square Shopping Center. Meet at 8:00 pm.

# September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1  <b>Robert Lewis</b>	2  <b>Bill Shanholtz</b>	3  6:30 pm M&M Circle  <b>Chuck Booth</b>	4  <b>Joseph Brumfield</b>	5
6  9:30 am Sun. School 11:00 am Worship	7  <b>Betty Fullerton</b>	8  7:00 pm Deacon's meeting	9  5:30 pm Hymn Sing 7:00 pm Choir Practice  <b>Chris Ball</b>	10	11  6:00 pm Small Group W/ Ken Brumfield  <b>Joy Glover</b>	12
13  9:30 am Sun. School 11:00 am Worship  6:00 pm Small Groups <b>Greg Simmons</b>	14  7:00 pm Christian Ed Committee Meets  <b>Beth Spiller James Leath</b>	15  9:30 am Esther Circle 7:00 pm Session  <b>Megan Priddy</b>	16  WEDFEST 5:30 pm 6:30 pm Classes 7:30 pm Choir Practice	17	18  <b>Jacqueline Kwaku</b>	19  5:30 pm. Small Group
20  9:30 am Sun. School 11:00 am Worship	21	22	23  WEDFEST 5:30 pm 6:30 pm Classes 7:30 pm Choir Practice 8:00 pm Men's Fellowship <b>John Orbaugh</b>	24  6:30 pm Ladies' Night Out	25  <b>Kaitlyn Elmore Jami Brumfield</b>	26  <b>Sara Siviero</b>
27  9:30 am Sun. School 11:00 am Worship  6:00 pm Small Groups <b>Makaylee Clark</b>	28	29	30  WEDFEST 5:30 pm 6:30 pm Classes 7:30 pm Choir Practice			

**The Covenant Courier** is a production of 5th Street Presbyterian Church. Our goal is to promote extensive communication within the body so that all may more thoroughly enjoy the benefits of Christian Fellowship.

For questions, comments, and/or informational submissions, please contact us at [news@5thstpc.org](mailto:news@5thstpc.org)