

A photograph of a vast field of red flowers, likely poppies, in the foreground. The field stretches towards a horizon line under a soft, hazy sky. The sun is visible as a bright, glowing orb in the upper right quadrant, casting a warm, golden light across the scene. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene, with a misty or foggy quality near the horizon.

June
2015



174 Years Under Covenant

Every year, June 2 is a special day for the people of PCC. The Sunday nearest (this year, May 31) we pause to celebrate Heritage Sunday and offer our thanks to those who have walked in covenant with us for 40 years or more.

Covenant. What does that mean for a church? Most churches have a defined “membership,” but how does covenanting together to be a church define us? What is the Biblical basis for covenant? Why do groups of people covenant together? Does PCC have a history of living under covenant? What has been the Evolution of Covenant here? That’s what I will be speaking on this year on Heritage Sunday. I think the answer to these questions may surprise you.

A little background may be helpful. A covenant is “a formal and serious agreement or promise between two or more parties especially for the performance of some action.” The English word “covenant” was first used in the 14th century, but the concept has been around since people first began to form communities and work together. From the most primitive to the most complex cultures, people have bound themselves together covenantally for their mutual safety and security, out of mutual respect for one another, and out of fidelity to a greater purpose. For Christians, that greater purpose is God.

One Congregational covenant says we bind ourselves together for the working out of God’s ways, “known or to be made known to us.” Two things jump out of that sentence: Knowing God is not a static or legal thing. It is a relationship. Some of his ways are obvious to anyone who comes in contact with him. Other of his ways it takes *years* or even a lifetime to really grasp. The other thing that jumps out is that little word “us”.

We don’t come to God individually when we’re gathered together as a Church. Your individual relationship with God – the outworking of his grace and kindness toward you in Christ and your salvation – is a great gift. But *us*, gathered together into the Bride of Christ, the Body of Christ, is one of the profound miracles in all human history. When we approach the Throne of Grace as a people, we are coming *as one*. That’s why it is so important that we covenant together.

We don’t covenant so we’ll know who gets to vote at the annual meeting. We covenant together so we know we’ve got brothers and sisters we can count on to hold us in place before the Throne, if necessary, so we won’t abandon God or each other when the going gets tough. We also covenant to praise together the God who has done this miracle (and all the miracles).

We're going to learn about The Evolution of Covenant on Heritage Sunday. The following Sunday, June 7, we will be offering everyone the opportunity to covenant with us or to renew the covenant they are living under with us. What a joy and awesome responsibility it is to walk in covenant with God!

Faithfully Yours,



Jon



Men's Breakfast is Coming!

Calling all men (and their sons, etc.!)



I don't know about you, but my favorite meal of the day has always been breakfast. There's nothing like a hot cup of coffee, eggs, home fries, and toast. It is people like me that keep the diners of the world in business. But as fun as going to a diner is, it isn't nearly as much fun to go alone.

I often think...why don't I invite a couple of friends to join me for breakfast? But then I think I need an excuse or an occasion to do it. Then I think...we've got a whole church full of men and boys who probably feel the same way I do about breakfast.

The occasion I am looking for is Father's Day Weekend. I know Robertson Hall isn't a "diner," but imagine the short order cooks back in the kitchen cranking out orders, the waitperson bringing unlimited coffee around, and time to relax with a friend or two or with your son(s). That's what we're going to do on Saturday, June 20. *The Dad's Diner* will be open from 7:00 until 9:30 a.m., serving just what you'd expect at your favorite morning joint. We'll even have copies of the local newspaper. Come any time until 9:00 and you'll be served a made-to-order breakfast.

But wait! There's more. At 9:00 a.m. Pastor will be leading us in a half-hour of Bible study, worship, and praise. Come early and stay for the fellowship, come late and be doubly fed, but come! Bring your friends and neighbors, your business associates, your basketball team.

There is never a charge at *The Dad's Diner*. If you think of it, though, it would help us to plan if you'd call the church office (860-688-2014) and tell us you're coming. Walk-ins are totally fine.

Sermon Series for June

May 31 Heritage Sunday – First Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm: 29

Epistle: Romans 8:12-17 (Preaching Text)

Gospel: John 3:1-17

Sermon: The Evolution of Covenant

June 7 Covenanting Sunday - Second Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm: 138

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Gospel: Mark 3:20-35

Sermon: Who are my Mother and my Brothers?

June 14

Psalm: Psalm 20:1-8

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 4:7-18

Gospel: Mark 4:35-41 (Help! - Disciples in boat in storm)

Sermon: Help, Thanks, Wow - Part 1

June 21

Psalm: Psalm 133

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 8:7-15

Gospel: Mark 4:26-34 (Thanks! Kingdom of God grows like mustard seed)

Sermon: Help, Thanks, Wow - Part 2

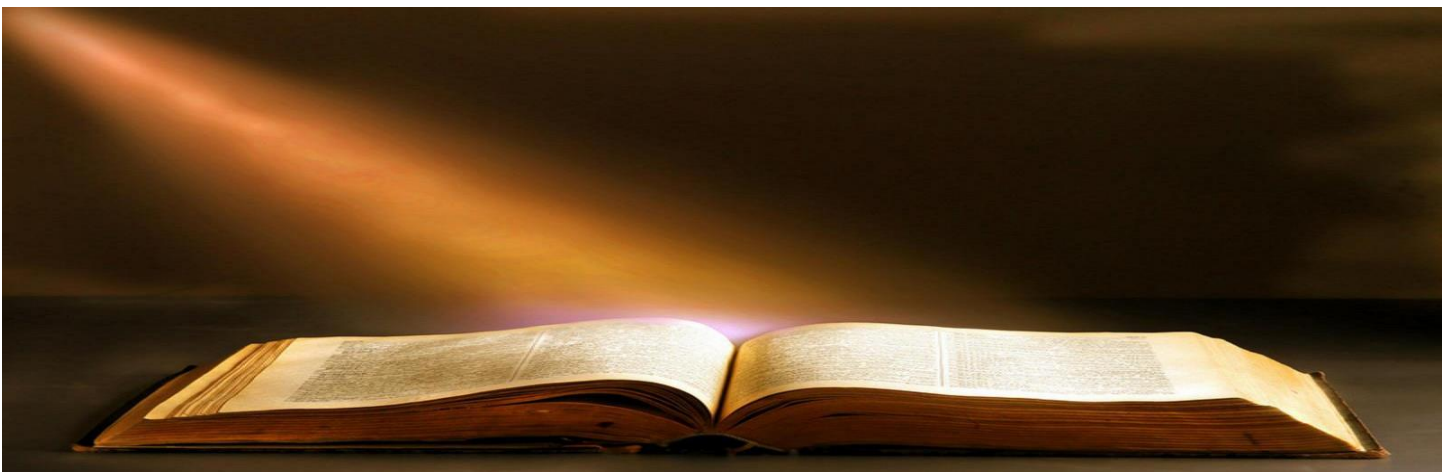
June 28

Psalm: Psalm 30:1-5

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15:51-58

Gospel: Mark 5:21-43 (Wow! Raising of Jairus' daughter)

Sermon: Help, Thanks, Wow - Part 3

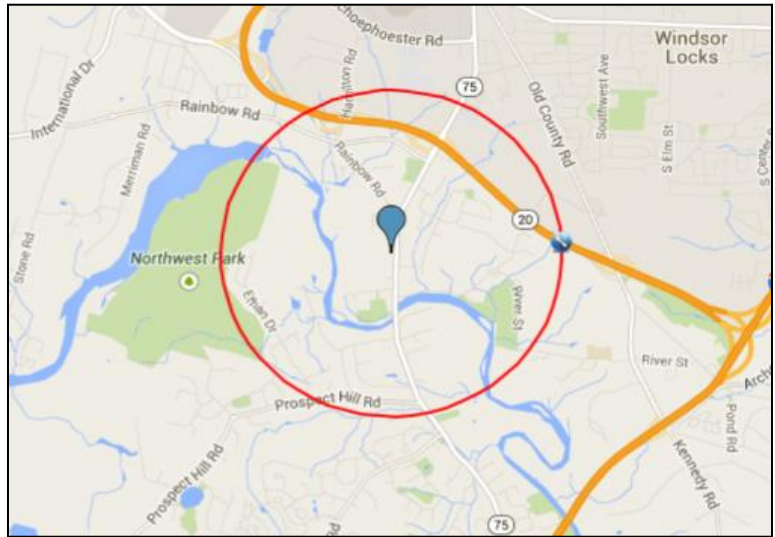


Mile Wide Prayer Initiative

“A voice cries: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.” (Isaiah 40:3, ESV)

Over the next year, our church will hone our prayers. You’ll be given the opportunity to adopt from one of 40 streets within a mile radius of the church building to focus your prayers over the next year. How is this done?

You simply choose a street supplied for you at the snack table during coffee hour after church. The name of the street is printed on the outside of the envelope and inside the envelope are practical suggestions on how to go about covering your chosen street in prayer.



Why are we doing this?

If we as church are to be a light to our neighbors within a mile of 1817 Poquonock Ave., then the most basic need we can give them is intercessory prayer. Intercessory prayer is praying on the behalf of another. Since we as Christians know the one true God through His Son Jesus Christ, we enjoy connection to Him that others may not. Others can benefit from our prayers if we are committed to praying for them. You can serve one particular street by committing to pray for that street for one year.

If you haven’t done so, come and choose a street of your choice. Commit to serving our neighbors through prayer.

“First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people.” (1 Timothy 2:1, ESV)

Kitchen Volunteers Needed!

The Hartford Project is looking for kitchen volunteers. This is a great way to serve our participants during the week so that they can serve others throughout Hartford! Tasks may include organizing and moving supplies, preparing and serving meals, cleanup, and taking inventory. The hours are flexible but include opportunities during the following time windows, from June 28-July 2, July 12-16, and July 26-30.

Sunday | 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday | 6:00-11:30 a.m.

Thursday | 6:00-11:00 a.m. and 1:00-6:00 p.m.

Please contact veronica@rolcf.net with questions or to volunteer.

The Hartford Project (THP) is an urban ministry immersion experience for teenagers in New England. Church youth groups are invited to come and live in Hartford, CT for four days in the summer. During this week they will serve the community, learn about poverty, experience racial reconciliation, and build relationships with the wider body of Christ.



Baby Shower

St. Joseph Parish is sponsoring a baby shower to benefit St. Agnes Home and St. Gerard's Center for Life the weekend of June 6 and 7. Saint Agnes Home in West Hartford provides residential care and supportive services for parenting adolescent mothers and their infants. Saint Gerard Center for Life in Hartford is a pregnancy resource center which supports pregnant women and their families. If anyone would like to participate, donations can be dropped off at PCC by Friday morning, June 5. Items needed are:



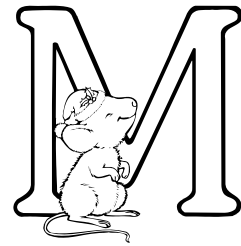
Diapers size 4,5,6
Unscented or sensitive Baby Wipes
Sippy Cups (6 months and up)
Bottle Brushes
Crib Sheets
Bibs (large size)
Socks for toddlers
Child Bath Towels and Wash Cloths
Adult Bath Towels and Wash Cloths
Dove Sensitive Body Wash or Bar Soap
\$5 CVS Gift Cards



Any monetary donations will be given to St. Gerard's Center.

NEWS FROM MARY'S DESK

I have been working in the gardens trying to get them to look welcoming. Slowly it is coming together, but I need a little help. I'm looking for volunteers to transplant eight bushes. Contact me in the office at (860) 688-2014 if you are interested.



Thought for the month: "God sees us as we can be, but loves us as we are."



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ Check out the current edition of the CCCC Newsletter, "The Foresee" using this link: <http://www.ccccusa.com/The-Foresee>
- ❖ Newsletter Deadline for the next issue (Summer) is Friday, June 19, 2014. poquonockcc@sbcglobal.net
- ❖ For those of you with a computer, a great Scripture resource is the Daily Office, an arrangement of Bible readings that Christians worldwide use. www.esvbible.org offers many reading plans to suit your needs. I like the Daily Office because it follows the church year.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

JUNE BIRTHDAYS



Lindsay Huntington	6/1
Jared Silliman	6/2
Brian Wetzel	6/13
Tessa Markesich	6/14
Laura Dugdale	6/17
Laurel Sayles	6/17
Colin Varnet	6/18
Kevin Pomeroy	6/18
Betty Chicoler	6/20
James Anderson	6/22
Brian Michalewicz	6/23
Jeannette Carpenter	6/30

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

James & Lucile Anderson	6/9
Bob & Lori Bourret	6/9
Bonnie & Larry Karkowski	6/15
Russ & Shirley Grandahl	6/19
Stanton & Jane Brown	6/21
Chris & Jenn Johnson	6/26



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p>Happy Father's Day</p>	1 8:50-12 Playschool	2 8:50-12 Playschool 3:30 Elders Meeting (6)	3 8:50-12 Playschool 6:00 Family Dinner (RH,K) 7:00 Bible Study (L) Scouts (6)	4 8:50-12 Playschool 9:00 Guitar Lessons (L,4) 9:30 Women's Workshop (6)	5 8:50-12 Playschool	6 7:00 Men's Breakfast (RH,K) 10:15 At-Ann (RH) 1:30 Eagle ceremony (S,RH,K)
<p>7 LORD'S SUPPER 9:30 Worship 10:00 CE 10:45 Fellowship</p>	8	9 5:30 ECC Meeting (RH) 7:00 Wyndemere Mtg (RH)	10 6:00 Family Dinner (RH,K) 7:00 Bible Study (L) Scouts (6)	11 9:00 Guitar Lessons (L,4) 9:30 Women's Workshop (6)	12	13 10:15 At-Ann (RH) 1:30 Scouts (RH, Outside)
<p>14 9:30 Worship 10:00 CE 10:45 Fellowship 6-8 YG</p>	15	16	17 6:00 Family Dinner (RH,K) 7:00 Bible Study (L) Scouts Court of Honor (6,S)	18 9:00 Guitar Lessons (L,4) 9:30 Women's Workshop (6)	19 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	20 10:15 At-Ann (RH)
<p>21 Happy Father's Day <i>Summer Begins</i> 9:30 Worship 10:00 CE 10:45 Fellowship</p>	22	23	24 6:00 Family Dinner (RH,K) 7:00 Bible Study (L) Scouts (6)	25 9:00 Guitar Lessons (L,4) 9:30 Women's Workshop (6)	26	27 10:15 At-Ann (RH)
<p>28 9:30 Worship 10:00 CE 10:45 Fellowship 6-8 YG</p>	29	30				

FATHER'S DAY WORD SEARCH

N U F T E N U J
W U Q N B L E U
K R H E C V O D
R A M N O S J S
Q O V L O C T D
H Y F L X K I A
U A E A I V F X
G L H S T Q I M
S P S B U H X X
F E U V P O E S
S T P L E H C R

FATHER
FIX
FUN
HELP
HOME

HUGS
JUNE
KISSES
LOVE
PLAY

