



Covenant Presbyterian Church

...a spiritual home where 'God's love has the run of the house'...

400 Lancaster Avenue, Malvern (Frazer), Pennsylvania 19355

Phone: 610-648-0707

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Rev. Alex Becker, *Lead Pastor*

Rev. Maggie Niles, *Associate Pastor*

Dara Harris, *Director of Children and Youth Ministries*

Amy McLoughlin, *Director of Music*

Bonnie Sumerfield, *Pianist* Patti Mann, *Bell Choir Director*

James Looney, *Worship Technology Coordinator*

Sunday Worship Service

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Sunday, September 15, 2024

10 a.m.

To our guests: Welcome! We invite you to respond with bolded words during prayers and readings.

*All those who are able, please stand

Assemble in God's Name

The church opens wide its doors and in the name of Jesus bids welcome to our Lord's house.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT..... **Unity Handbell Choir**

Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart arr. by Cynthia Dobrinski

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Our God flings stars into space and says

“See! You are all my children, each and every one.”

We come, the stars in the skies,

The sand on the shore,

all God's children everywhere,

drawn to God, drawn to love, drawn to worship.

*OPENING HYMN.....65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of the stars, You promise to be with us always, you promise to love us no matter what, you promise to forgive us whenever we ask. Lord, we are sorry that we need to ask for your forgiveness so often, that we fail you time and again, but we are glad that you forgive us and allow us to move on; wiping the slate clean each time, and offering us a fresh start. May we, like Abram, believe your promises, trust in you and follow you, more faithfully day by day. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

Proclaim God's Word

The God who speaks in Scripture addresses us now.

CHILDRENS' MESSAGE **Rev. Alex Becker**

Children are always welcome to remain in worship! Or, after the children's message, children ages 5 - gr. 5 are invited upstairs for Children's Church during the service. Please pick up your children after the benediction.

SCRIPTURE **Genesis 15:1-6**

SERMON **Rev. Alex Becker**

Believing and Seeing

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

MINUTE FOR MISSION – Ushers

THE GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE

Offerings may also be given online at covenantfrazer.org/give or in the offering box in the Gathering Space.

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*BLESSING OF THE OFFERING

Go in God's Name

*The Holy Spirit sends us forth to be instruments of God's peace:
To do justice, to love kindness, to walk humbly with our God.*

*SENDING HYMN **697**

Take My Life (vs. 1,2,5,6)

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Thank you for worshipping with us! We are working together to create comfortable worship spaces for all our members and visitors.

- Join us in the sanctuary. Children's activities for the pew are located through the back doors of the sanctuary or on the windowsill near the front of the sanctuary.
- Adults and children are also invited to the Gathering Space for worship. A children's table with quiet activities and a rack with children's books are available for little ones.
- If you need a quieter worship space, the parlor is available.
- The nursery/preschool is open for children birth through age 4 during the service (Rm. 114)
- A mother's nursing room is available at the end of the hallway past the bathrooms (Rm. 108).
- Please join us in the Gathering Space following the service for Covenant Connect, a time of food & fellowship.

All women are welcome to the first meeting of **Presbyterian Women's monthly Bible study** for inspiration, fellowship, and service on **Wednesday, Sept. 18th, 1 – 3 p.m. in the parlor.** This year's study book is ***Let Justice Roll Down: God's call to care for neighbors and all creation*** and is available in the church office. The cost per book is \$10 and can be left in the envelope with the books or given to Mary Decker. Questions? Contact Mary at marydecker02@comcast.net.

Women's Bible Study meets each **Thursday, 7 p.m. on the upper level of the church in the library (Rm. 208)**. This is a place to find rest, to be encouraged, and to grow in faith! Together, this group centers on God's Word and discovers what the Bible has to say today. This year the group is studying 1 Corinthians. There is an open invitation to Join us anytime – please check the church website calendar to verify meeting dates. Contact Sarah Reindel with questions: sarah.reindel@comcast.net.

There will be a **Congregational Forum on Sunday, Sept. 22nd**. Join us in the sanctuary after worship for updates & communication from Session.

New Member Class, Sept. 29th & Oct. 6th, 9 a.m. in the parlor - Come if you are interested in becoming a member or are curious to learn more about Covenant! Meet with church leaders and staff for conversation. Call or email the church office to RSVP.

The **Fall Women's retreat** this year "A Day by the Fire: For seasons of Change & Transition" is the perfect self-care day for any woman to put aside her daily stressors and focus on her relationship with herself and her spirituality. The retreat will be held on **Saturday, Oct. 19th from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Paoli Presbyterian Church**. Light refreshments and lunch will be included. There is a suggested donation of \$25 although scholarships are available for anyone who needs one! This is the perfect event to invite friends and co-workers to! Please email Pastor Maggie to RSVP to reserve your spot (mniles@covenantfrazer.org).

Pantry needs for this week are peanut butter (15/16 oz. jars) and jelly, although all donations are welcome. Donations may be dropped off at the church on weekdays between 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Covenant is having its 2nd annual **Blessing of the Animals** service this year! There will be a short blessing service at **10 a.m. on October 26th**, along with treats for pets and crafts for kids. This year we are also hosting a drive to collect pet items for La Mancha Animal Rescue (you can find a list of needs on our church website calendar of events). Please, for everyone's safety, make sure your dog is on a leash and your cat is in a carrier! We look forward to celebrating our pets with all of you!

Anyone is welcome to take a **prayer shawl** from the cupboard in the Gathering Space to share with someone who might find comfort in it. Please sign the clipboard in the drawer below the cupboard to let us know you shared one.

Your help is needed to provide **meals for Youth Group** on Sunday evenings. If you are willing, please bring enough for 10-12 people to be delivered to CCLC at 4:45 p.m. Homemade or storebought is appreciated! Sign up at covenantfrazer.org/youthmeals or by contacting Dara at dharris@covenantfrazer.org. Thank you so much!

Join a small group for a trip to Philadelphia to help serve lunch at **Broad Street Love** to serve those who are experiencing deep poverty. **In October, the group is going on Thursday, the 24th. Starting in November, they will be going on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.** Find out more information, including how to sign up at our church website calendar of events. Contact Barbara Rhinehart with questions; brhinehart@gmail.com



This Week at Covenant

Sunday, September 15

- 9 a.m.** - Adult Christian Education
- 10 a.m.** - Worship Service/Children's Church/Explore
- 11 a.m.** - Confirmation meeting
- 11:15 a.m.** - Covenant Connect
- 4:30 p.m.** - Youth Group

Monday, September 16

- 10 a.m.** - LIFT
- 6:30 p.m.** - Promise Keepers
- 7 p.m.** - Worship Arts rehearsal
- 7 p.m.** - Alcoholics Anonymous

Tuesday, September 17

- 10 a.m.** - Covenant Quilters
- 6 p.m.** - Unity Handbells
- 7 p.m.** - Book Club

Wednesday, September 18

- 1 p.m.** - Presbyterian Women

Thursday, September 19

- 9 a.m.** - Broad Street Love
- 7 p.m.** - Women's Bible Study
- 7 p.m.** - Chancel Choir

Friday, September 20

- 6:30 a.m.** - Promise Keepers

Sunday, September 22

- 9 a.m.** - Adult Christian Education
- 10 a.m.** - Worship Service/Children's Church/Explore
- 11:15 a.m.** - Covenant Connect
- 11:15 a.m.** - Congregational Forum
- 4:30 p.m.** - Youth Group

*See more events at covenantfrazer.org/events and subscribe to our emails at covenantfrazer.org/newsletter.
For more information, call the church office at 610-648-0707, Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.*



Scan to give



Connect Card