



# Holy Happenings

August 2010

## Special points of interest:

- A Word from Stephanie, Page 2
- Missions, Page 6
- Chancel Choir Rehearsals Resume Aug. 3, see Page 7
- College Goodie Box Time Again! Page 8

## CHURCH-WIDE STUDY

Join us as we begin a six-week study on *Three Simple Rules* by Reuben Job. This study will begin on August 22 and will conclude on October 3. We will take a break on Sunday, September 19 while we celebrate Holy Covenant's 25th anniversary. More information can be found on Page 4.

### Three Simple Rules

1  
Do No Harm

2  
Do Good

3  
Stay in Love  
with God

— from —  
John Wesley's  
General Rules



**\*\*25th Anniversary**

**T-shirts\*\***

Pre-orders taken on  
Covenant Walk  
August 8, 15 & 22  
\$10 Each

Holy Covenant United Methodist Church  
25th Anniversary

**Saturday, September 18th, 6:00pm**  
Potluck dinner

**Sunday, September 19th, 10:30am**  
One service only, followed by a luncheon in  
Covenant Hall

RSVP to the church office at 281-579-1200 or  
email [carol@holycov.org](mailto:carol@holycov.org)

Visit us on Facebook Holy Covenant 25th  
Anniversary Celebration

## Wednesday Night Live

Fall session begins September 8!

More information, Pages 3 & 4

# Living Our Beliefs



Rev. Stephanie Lind  
Assoc. Pastor

Last month, I spent two weeks with thirty youth at the Texas Youth Academy. Over the two weeks, we looked at a major theological theme each day, and read scriptures that taught us about these themes. We worshiped God by creating, serving, learning, praying, and gathering around the communion table every night. The Texas Youth Academy experience reminds me how important it is to know **why** we believe the things we believe, and even more... how we **live differently** because of what we believe. We live differently because through our baptisms, we have been welcomed into the Church, and marked, "Christian."

Over these next four weeks in worship, we will spend time with some scriptures that teach us how to **Live our Beliefs**. The Scriptures leading our worship, and guiding our themes are:

July 25<sup>th</sup>: **Incarnation**—Colossians 2:6-19—*We explored what it means to be rooted in the God who first came into the world to be rooted in humanity... in us.*

August 1<sup>st</sup>: **Sacrifice**—Luke 12:13-21— *We will read a parable after which Jesus challenges us to look at how we prioritize our lives.*

August 8<sup>th</sup>: **Covenant**—Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16— *We will remember the stories of how God has been faithful from generation to generation, and will ask the question: How does this inform our own faith?*

August 15<sup>th</sup>: **Sabbath**—Luke 13:10-17—*We will look at the gift of Sabbath as part of the rhythm of the Christian Life, and will ask the question: Am I openly receiving this gift?*

Before we reunite with our school-year routine, let us take this season to worship together, and to look at our lives through the lens of scripture that God gives us.

I want you all to know how thankful I am for this church, especially for the ways that you love and care for one another. It is a joy to be your pastor.

Peace,

Stephanie

Please continue to keep Jay in your prayers while he is on his sabbatical. He will return to us on August 15th, refreshed and renewed with the Spirit!

Follow Jay's daily sabbatical blog at:

<http://holycovpastor.wordpress.com/>

Rev. Jay Jackson  
Senior Pastor



Welcome to  
our new  
members

John Liddell

Rick & Chris  
Wensits

Courtney  
Reynolds



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### Financial Update January - June, 2010

Offerings/Tithes:	\$576,083	Stepping Forward in Faith Giving:	
CDC Contributions:	\$ 12,500		\$233,801
Misc. Income:	\$ 29,196		
Total Income:	\$617,780	Building Debt Balance as of 6/30/10:	
			\$2,541,361
Expenses:	\$653,177		



## Church-wide Study: Three Simple Rules

Starting on August 22, we will begin a six-week study on *Three Simple Rules* by Rueben Job. Job is an accomplished author and former editor of *The Upper Room* devotional publications. This book is based on writings of John Wesley in which he emphasizes how important it is that we “do no harm, do good, and stay in love with God”. Through the study, we will examine what these “rules” mean and how we can apply them in our lives.

The study will include a sermon series and lessons in our Sunday school classes and other small group settings. Join us as these lessons lead us to a deeper understanding and appreciation of our faith.

Books will be available for purchase beginning on August 8<sup>th</sup> for \$5 in the Narthex or through your Sunday School class.

## Wednesday Night Live Fall 2010

Please watch for information and signups for Wednesday Night Live classes being offered this fall. WNL classes will begin on September 8 and end on November 17 with the Church-wide Thanksgiving Dinner. Opportunities for learning and fellowship will be available to meet varying interests and schedules.

The tentative list of adult classes include Divorce Care, Breaking Free (newly updated Beth Moore study), Beginning Still-Life Painting, Scrapbooking, Personal Finance, Disciple, Introduction to Methodism, Christian Family Tree (Adam Hamilton), Drop-in Bible Study, Christian Believer, and an exercise class.

Please watch the church website (<http://www.holycov.org>), the Sunday morning church bulletin and Covenant Walk for more information and signup sheets.

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The Pregnancy Help Center will be hosting Volunteer Training in August and September. EVERY volunteer that currently participates or is desiring to participate in the ministry of PHC must attend training. There is a cost of \$25 to cover the training manual. Training Schedule 1 is August 30 through September 3 from 9am-3pm; Training Schedule 2 is September 21, 23, 28, and 30 from 6:30-9:30pm, and September 25 from 9am-4pm. For more information you can go to their website at [www.phckaty.org](http://www.phckaty.org).

# Youth Ministry

Dear Holy Covenant family, we hope you have been enjoying your summer. As usual, our beloved youth have had a calendar full of fun-filled, transformational events and projects. The past 72 days have been nothing short of amazing!!!



We started our summer with the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Summer Kick Off, featuring the return of the 100 foot slip and slide. THE RAIN STOPPED NO ONE!!! And as a result of the turnout for this glorious event, your fearless youth leader had to spray paint his hair a sparkly lime green for the following Sunday worship service. Immediately following that service we accompanied 28 youth to district camp at The Lakeview Conference Center in Palestine, Texas (yes, with green hair). Upon our return we resumed the summer tradition of Thursday Lunch Bunch where we gather at a local restaurant for food and fellowship, then return to the church for games, worship and devotion. The youth praise band had their first performance of the summer at Brookwood Community in Brookshire, Texas. Several other youth joined them in support and were able to participate in the afternoon worship service for the residents. We had two very successful mission trips. The first was Big House in Cameron, Texas. We had a group of 14 fabulous junior high youth that selflessly gave their time and energy for 4 days to help revitalize homes and churches in the Cameron community. With a few days to recuperate, we had just enough time to pack and accompany 11 senior high students on a 7 day UM ARMY mission trip to Tyler, Texas. What a joy it was to see this group choose to graciously give of themselves in relationship building, labor and worship. In between those two mission trips we had two of our youth attend Texas Youth Academy for a two-week long leadership conference designed to guide high school sophomores and juniors who have a desire to explore their faith and future. And finally, our Deeply Rooted Jr. and Sr. high youth participated together in every aspect of worship services on Sunday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, HCUMC Youth Sunday.

All of these activities and events could not have been possible without our self-sacrificing youth volunteers. We appreciate all of you for helping to make this summer transition a successful and positive growth experience for all of our youth.

WOW! What a summer we have had, and with just a few weeks before school starts we plan to make the last days of summer count. Check the youth calendar for upcoming events. If you are interested in volunteering in the youth department send an email to [youth@holycov.org](mailto:youth@holycov.org). We have a place for YOU!

Thanks to all for your prayers, encouragement and support.

*Shawn and Demi*

**Parents Night Out**  
**August 14th**      **4-8pm**

To make your child's  
 reservation, contact  
**Judy Koehn:**

[judy@holycov.org](mailto:judy@holycov.org)



## More on Missions...

**KCM Annual Golf Tournament** - Mark your calendars for this exciting event on Monday, October 18. See [www.ktcm.org](http://www.ktcm.org) for sponsorship levels or for additional information or check out the Mission Bulletin Board by the kitchen. This is one of the two major yearly fundraisers that KCM has to support the many programs out in our community. If you are interested on being on a Holy Covenant Team, please contact Nancy [Krahel@nkrachel@hotmail.com](mailto:Krahel@nkrachel@hotmail.com).



**ALL CHURCH MISSION DAY** - Saturday, October 16. This day is being set aside as a HC- all church mission day; a mission day for all ages with nursery services provided. Our goal is to have everyone partake in a mission opportunity that day regardless of age. We are currently in the process of preplanning many mission opportunities and are now looking for individuals to lead these teams. Please contact Nancy Krahel at [nkrachel@hotmail.com](mailto:nkrachel@hotmail.com) if you can take on a leadership role. No experience necessary! Come out and serve God by serving others. More details to come in the next couple of weeks.

**Bible Drive** - Many thanks to all of those who contributed to our recycled Bible drive last month. We were able to collect 80 bibles which were distributed to clients in KCM's Social Services Program. More people will be able to read God's word because of your donations.

**August Recycle Drive** - A donation box will be available on the KCM bin in the narthex for all of those unwanted toiletries that get collected from hotels and from air travel. The children will use these to make hygiene packs for the seniors and homeless as part of our all church mission day in October.

### OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE:



**BINGO @ Grace Care Community Center** –the first Sunday afternoon of the month. About 4 volunteers are needed to conduct one afternoon of fun! This is a perfect opportunity for a family event. For more information, contact Twilla Oman at [twilla\\_oman@hotmail.com](mailto:twilla_oman@hotmail.com)

**Join the Outreach Team!** We're currently seeking assistance for a coordination role for a Community-wide Thanksgiving Day Feast as well as someone with a passion for starting up a homeless ministry (or any other ministry). Contact Nancy Krahel at [nkrachel@hotmail.com](mailto:nkrachel@hotmail.com) for more information.

### A note of appreciation from the Army base:

Thank you so very much for all of your support. We appreciate you thinking of our soldiers and their families. Grafenwoehr has changed a lot in the last 5 years. We now have 760 active members and approximately 12,600 dependants. Graf is now the largest army installation outside of the U.S.. We appreciate all the time and effort that you have put into this project. We have volunteers here who pick up the packages and sort the coupons into food and no-food packets to make it easier for the soldiers and their families. Rest assured, the soldiers and families that come in everyday to pick up envelopes appreciate this very much. Being overseas, every little bit of financial help goes a long way. Thank you very much for all that you do to support us!

Sincerely,  
Primila Raja  
Army Community Service, USAG Grafenwoehr

## Music News

Taylor Davis



The Chancel Choir is singing the National Anthem at the Astros game on Tuesday, August 10! Want to join us? Tickets are \$14—just call Carol in the main office to sign up. One thing is guaranteed: regardless of the outcome of the game, fun and fellowship will be had, and a rousing rendition of the anthem will bring down the house!

ATTENTION YOUTH! We are starting a brand new choir! There are lots of details being hammered out as we speak, but here is what you need to know for the upcoming retreat we're going on:

Who: All 7-12 graders

What: Youth choir retreat

When: Labor Day weekend (leave Friday after school, come home on Monday)

Where: Camp For All, just outside of Brenham

Why: Because I can't think of a better way for a group to congeal than to go on a retreat designed just for them.

Stay tuned for the nitty gritty details, but mark your calendar & tell your friends. Volleyball tournament, swimming, a talent show, a dance, singing, community, devotionals...this is not to be missed!

The Chancel Choir begins rehearsing for the fall on Tuesday, August 3. If you joined us for MorningSong and are thinking of joining us for the fall, give us a try on Tuesday night the 3rd - we promise you'll have a great time. And if you didn't join us for MorningSong, but have the urge, you should give it a try. There are a lot of exciting opportunities ahead for us!

As I write this, I am in shock that our summer is winding down. It is hard to believe that school supplies are on sale again, and talks of tax free holidays are on the rise. It seems like just yesterday we were celebrating graduations and looking forward to Ken Medema and his incredible ministry. July was such a great month of music, from Lonestar Bluegrass and Claudia's supreme soprano voice, to Covenant and the talents of Rhett Butler. Thanks to all who helped make each event happen. Whether cooking hot dogs or wiping down tables, your selfless gift of your time and energy is a blessing to this music ministry.

## Young @ Heart



### SAVE THESE DATES!

August 18: Monthly potluck luncheon at Holy Covenant

August 29: Tour of the George H.W. Bush Library and Museum in College Station

September 15: Monthly potluck luncheon at Holy Covenant

September 30: Luncheon cruise on Lake Conroe on the Southern Empress (replica of an 1800's Victorian paddleboat)

**Holy Covenant United Methodist Church**

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www.holycov.org

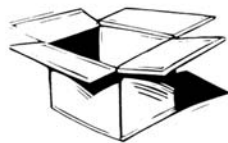
Rev. Jay Jackson, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Stephanie Lind, Associate Pastor

Meeting the Needs of People with the  
Power of Christ

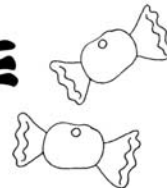


Holy Covenant United Methodist Church provides a friendly, family environment for worship, Christian education, fellowship, and outreach. Guests and members alike often comment on the immediate, comfortable acceptance they feel at Holy Covenant, as well as the care and compassion that they find amongst our membership. Our congregation is known for its strong reliance upon prayer, upon the study of God's Word, and upon the transformational power of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Our mission at Holy Covenant is "Meeting the Needs of People with the Power of Christ." We believe that the true strength and nature of any church is to be a fellowship of adults, youth and children who use their talents and faith for the causes of Jesus Christ. We invite you to come and to join us as you claim your place in ministry, feed your soul, make Christian friends, and



**COLLEGE GOODIE  
BOXES**



*What does every college student like to receive when they go off to school?*

*Goodies in the mail!*

The Family Nurture Committee at Holy Covenant United Methodist Church will be sending out "College Goodie Boxes" five times during the 2010-2011 school year. If you are interested in having a "College Goodie Box" sent to your college student or another college student you so love, please fill out a form (available in the church office) for each student you are wishing to send a goodie box to. Each box is packaged with love and includes an encouraging note. The cost per student is \$35 for in state and \$45 for out of state (this **ONLY** covers the cost of postage). Please return the completed form with cash or a check payable to HCUMC (memo - College Box) to the church office. Payment **MUST** be paid in full in order for your student to receive his or her "College Goodie Boxes."

Last school year, 34 college students received goodie boxes five times throughout the year for a total of 170 boxes sent.

Please contact Liz Callahan (281-347-2013) or Sue Berger (281-395-9894) if you have any questions.