



COVENANT COMMUNITY

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Embracing all. Feeding spirits. Reflecting Christ...
Changing lives forever!

FAITH ON TRIAL

UNFINISHED: THE BOOK OF ACTS



SUNDAY, MAY 31ST, 2020 - 10:00 A.M.

FAITH ON TRIAL:
FAITH AMIDST
INJUSTICE

LIVE STREAMING

CCPC live streams our worship services every Sunday morning. Please join us in spirit by going to www.covenantcommunitypc.org/live-stream. You can give, fill out a Connection Card, and also view archives of past services and sermons all from the comfort of your home.

Ministers - All members of the congregation

Staff:

Pastor - Jim Gates

(757) 615-1799 or jim@covenantcommunitypc.org

Director of Children & Family Ministries - Amanda Fuls

(715) 573-6296 or amanda@covenantcommunitypc.org

Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries - Dan Frost

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Director of Music Ministries - Les Fraaza

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Parish Visitor - Jess Wakefield

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Communications & Evangelism Coordinator - Drew Bouché

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Office Manager/Bookkeeper - John Jacobs

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Choir Director - Deb Perrin

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Bell Choir Director - Ruth Wrynski

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Housekeeper - Carol Anklam

Church Office

(715) 359-6467 or ccpc@covenantcommunitypc.org

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Gathering Around the Word

Quiet Reflection and Preparation for Worship:

This year we will read through the Book of Acts together, considering how the story of the early church might shape and guide our own congregation's story. Like Acts itself, we are Unfinished. Study this week's Acts passage and note the additional readings for the week at www.covenantcommunitypc.org/unfinished-sermon-series.

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship:

Come, Holy Spirit! Ignite within us the fire of your love.

Fill us with grace, peace and joy.

Come, Holy Spirit! Grant us your power and strength,

So we might do great things for you, O Lord Almighty.

***Hymn:** "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness" (vs. 1,4) #291

***Call to Confession:** Acts 2:36-27

Peter called to the crowd on Pentecost, saying, "Let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah." May we, like our ancestors, be "cut to the heart" and offer our prayer of confession together.

*Prayer of Confession:

Holy Spirit, you descended on Pentecost in tongues of fire, setting alight the hearts of your people. Even today, you live within each of us who have called on the name of Jesus. But in times of trial and difficulty, we turn away from you and towards ourselves, or to lesser helps.

When the world persecuted your people, you gave them words to say and wisdom beyond themselves; in life and in death, your people won glory for Christ. Yet when our faith is challenged, we despair that our human knowledge is so often insufficient for the moment.

Forgive us for being self-reliant when you have made your home within us. In times of crisis, challenge and trial, may we turn to you this week, trusting in your power over our own. Set our hearts on fire again, and equip us to be the light of the world.

(We keep a moment of silence for reflection)

*Assurance of Pardon:

Acts 2:38

On Pentecost, Peter gave this invitation to the people and to us: "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Believe the gospel: in Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God. **Amen!**

Children's Message

Period of Fellowship:

Proclaiming the Word

Old Testament Reading: Daniel 1:1-21 NRSV Bible

Special Music: "Fill-A-Me-Up" CCPC Choir

New Testament Reading: Acts 24:1-27 NRSV Bible

Sermon: Faith on Trial: Faith Amidst Injustice Jim Gates

Responding to the Word

***Hymn:** "Breathe on Me, Breath of God" (vs. 1,2,4) #286

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory Music: "The Church's One Foundation" Marcy Fehrman & Les Fraaza

Connection Card and giving are available on the live stream web page.

Bearing and Following the Word into the World

Announcements

*Benediction

***Choral Benediction:** "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" (vs. 1) #829

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROGRAMMING UPDATE—In light of the recent WI Supreme Court Ruling, we find ourselves without any legal guidance on how to safely navigate our current pandemic. Although the “Safer-At-Home” order was overturned, nothing changed related to the safety concerns regarding COVID-19. Our elders debated many courses of action for our congregation. Ultimately, we felt that keeping our family safe required caution and that reopening was not an urgent need. **So, we decided to remain with an online-only worship service through at least the next two Sundays (Today and June 7).** This means all our programming will continue via Zoom or our website. After June 7th, we will reevaluate and let you know the plan for the following three weeks of June. In planning and thinking about that eventual reopening, we highly value your opinions and thoughts. To that end, we prepared a simple survey that we would very much appreciate you taking the time to complete. Here is that link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ccpcopen>. Thank you for your patience - please know that no one wants to resume worship more than we do!

CCPC COOKBOOK PROJECT—It has been 30 years since our church published a cookbook. Several of our volunteers working at the Warming Shelter this winter decided it is time we publish another! Ladies in our Lunch Bunch browsed about fifty different church and organization cookbooks to determine what we’d like ours to look like and have made several preliminary decisions about the book. The book will be printed locally, and we are now ready to work on the collection of recipes. We hope all of you will be willing to share your yummy recipes with us!

You can submit recipes in three different ways:

1. A printable, hand-written form that we will include in the Covenant Connection weekly email.
2. A Google form (https://drive.google.com/open?id=1njxRyjD8PqvAVR-l0Z-peWUq_shdHmuqVCmYvhftOBU). Just complete the form and hit “submit”.
3. A Word form included in the Covenant Connection weekly email. Simply double-click on the shaded portions, type in your recipe, save and email to cgeurink@charter.net.

Have fun going through your favorite recipes! We will also be needing help with organizing and finalizing all these recipes. If you are interested in helping, please let contact Colleen Geurink (cgeurink@charter.net or 715-359-6038). Our goal is to have the books ready by Thanksgiving to be available as Christmas gifts.

CCPC'S CARE CLOSET IS CURRENTLY CLOSED FOR DONATIONS—During the COVID-19 situation, we are not able to receive donations of used clothing for our Care Closet.

DONATE TO HOPE LIFE CENTER—Due to our circumstances with the Covid-19 pandemic, CCPC was unable to have our yearly Baby Bottle drive for Hope Life Center. In light of this, we invite you to visit Hope's website to donate and support this amazing local organization. Please go to <https://give.cornerstone.cc/hopewi> to give financially, or go to www.hopewi.com/Home to learn more about their important work in our community.

DVDS AVAILABLE FOR THOSE WITHOUT INTERNET ACCESS—CCPC will be making available DVDs of our worship services for those who do not have access to the Internet. If you know someone who does not have the ability to watch our live stream or archived sermons on our website, please contact Jim Gates (jim@covenantcommunitypc.org) or Drew Bouché (drew@covenantcommunitypc.org).

THE HERO TREE AT CCPC—CCPC invites you to honor the heroes in our community, and in your personal life, by acknowledging them on our “Hero Tree,” located outside the west entrance of our building. From healthcare workers and grocery store clerks, to parents and neighbors, this recognition is open to anyone that has impacted you in a positive way during this pandemic. Their first name and last initial, along with the person honoring them will be written on a ribbon and hung on the tree. We will also alert your hero that they have been honored in this way. To have your hero ribbon placed on the tree, please go to <https://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/hero-tree>.

BIBLE STUDIES & SMALL GROUPS

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM—The women's Bible study will be meeting *THIS* Tuesday, June 2 at 12pm via Zoom, as well as every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. You can learn more about that Zoom program on our website at <https://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/using-zoom>. If you have not been a part of these studies in the past but would like to join us now, simply contact Jim Gates (jim@covenantcommunitypc.org).

YOUTH, CHILDREN & FAMILY

YOUTH GROUP VIA ZOOM—All students grades 6th-12th grade are invited to join us online, using Zoom, *THIS* coming Wednesday at 6pm. There will be more information to come via emails and texts, so be on the lookout! If you would like to see video messages from previous weeks, please go to <https://www.covenantcommunitypc.org/youth-group>. If you have any questions, contact Dan Frost (dan@covenantcommunitypc.org).

YOUTH I.D. VIA ZOOM—All of our 6th-8th graders are invited to join us via Zoom for I.D. (Institute of Discipleship) every Sunday at 9am. ***We will continue to have I.D. for the remainder of our time being at home.*** Be on the lookout for email invitations and text messages! If you have any questions about how your student can participate, please contact Dan Frost (dan@covenantcommunitypc.org).

KID'S I.D. VIA ZOOM—Kid's I.D. (Institute of Discipleship) will continue to take place every Sunday morning at 9am using Zoom! ***We will continue to have I.D. for the remainder of our time being at home.*** Parents, make sure you check your email and pay attention to text messages related to this virtual class. If you have any questions about how your kids can participate, contact Amanda Fuls (amanda@covenantcommunitypc.org).

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Monday	6:00 p.m.	W&F Committee Meeting via Zoom
	6:30 p.m.	CE Committee Meeting via Zoom
		Deacon's Meeting via Zoom
Tuesday	12:00 p.m.	Women's Bible Study via Zoom
Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Salt & Light Youth Group via Zoom
Thursday	6:00 p.m.	Covenant of Salt Meeting via Zoom
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Kid's I.D. via Zoom
		Youth I.D. via Zoom
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Live-Stream