



New Covenant

Presbyterian Monthly

VOL. 33 – SEPT 2017



DON'T WASTE YOUR COMMUTE

We live in what has to be the most frenetic society in all of human history. It seems as though things are just getting faster and faster, and the pressure to fill our schedules with non-essential activities is becoming more and more demanding. The impact of such a dynamic is not easy to measure; but, one of the things that I have noticed in my own life is that it is easy for our devotional life and family worship to fall by the wayside if we are not guarded and purposeful about it.

I spend a great deal of my days driving from place to place. Two to three days a week, I am up early to drive my sons to school 30 minutes from our house. Then, I am driving to visit members in the hospital, to Presbytery meetings, to lunch and dinner appointments, to events in the church, to events in the community, to my sons sporting events, to the gym, etc. If I could calculate the hours that I spend in a car each and every week, I am sure that it would come out to somewhere between 15-20 hours/wk. This means that I need to be purposeful about utilizing the time in commute to feed my own soul and the souls of my children--not simply to be on the phone doing more work

(which is what I often find myself doing). Here are five very tangible things that we can work toward as we attempt to redeem the time on our commutes:

1. Spend time in Prayer. The day I met my wife, at a bookstore, we both intimated that we liked to pray in the car on our commute to work and school. This was one of the first things that made me realize that I should pursue a relationship with her. People often complain about their prayer life not being what they know it should be. When we are alone in a car, the Lord is present with us. Our daily commutes provide us with time for communion with the living God. The car may not be the closet, but it is certainly a quiet place for prayer. If someone were to object by saying, "But, you have so many distractions when you're driving. It's not like you can close your eyes and pray while you're driving," I would encourage them to read Richard Pratt's *Pray with Your Eyes Opened*. We learn to pray best when we learn to pray, what we might call, "dagger prayers"--namely, short and direct prayers to God where ever we may be.

2. Listen to Audio Bible, Sermons or Lectures. We now have more resources at our disposal than ever before. If we have a 30 minute commute, we have quite a bit of time to stream the Bible online, listen to sermons from trustworthy preachers, theological lectures and classes, or podcasts that contain theologically rich content. There is absolutely no reason why we should not be feeding our souls on our commutes by means of all of these resources. Just as is true of prayer, we have to be purposeful about redeeming the time in this regard. I grew exponentially as a new believer by doing listening to audio recordings of Scripture and R.C. Sproul sermons on the radio on a one hour commute to work every day. You will never regret doing this.

3. Memorize Scripture and Catechism with our Children. God has entrusted us with a stewardship to shepherd the children He has given us. They belong to Him. He has loaned them to us and made us stewards of their souls. What we do with regard to bringing them up in the training and admonition of the Lord will have an impact on them for the rest of their lives and for all of eternity. In as much as this stewardship is of paramount importance, it is also one of the responsibilities that we most quickly abnegate when we allow ourselves to get caught up in the rat race of our society. Are there tangible things that we can do to safeguard against the temptation to neglect such an important aspect of our lives? I believe that there are quite a number of practical steps that we can take in order to carry out the pursuit of feeding our own souls and bringing our shepherding our children, even in the midst of such a frenetic society.

When I was a boy, my dad would often redeem our commutes by memorizing Scripture with my sister and I. He would also teach us New Testament Greek out of Machen's *New Testament Greek for Beginners*. I have sought to follow his example as I raise my sons. Often, when I am driving my boys to school or somewhere else in the community, we will do our Bible memorization (we've memorized Ephesians 1, Hebrews 1, 1 Peter 1, Colossians 1 and a number of Psalms) and we review

the *Westminster Shorter Catechism*. With regard to teaching your children the Catechism, Dana Dirksen's Songs for Saplings albums are incredible resources.

That being said, I don't want to exasperate my sons on every drive. We also listen to music and talk about what's happening in their lives; but, I also do not want to miss an opportunity to teach them truth that will serve the purpose of helping them grow in their knowledge of God.

4. Sing Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs. God instructs us in the Scripture to teach one another in Psalms and hymns and spiritual songs. One of the best times to do that is on our daily commutes. I have often sung a hymn with my family when we are in the car. It is a time when you can, in a largely undistracted way, teach your children the words to the hymn. Again, there are so many resources to make this accessible while we drive. For instance, the Sovereign Grace *Together for the Gospel* albums (vol. 1, vol. 2 and vol. 3) are outstanding accompaniment albums.

5. Spend Time in Thinking in Silence. After I initially wrote this for an online theological site, Tim Challies remarked that he wished I had included one more thing that we should be doing as we seek to redeem our time. He suggested that it would do us all a world of good to have time in silence, away from our phones, televisions, radio, chatter, social media, etc. I wholeheartedly agree. One of the only places where we can get such silence in order to meditate on Scripture and on our lives, or to sit in silence and think about things that we need to do, is in the car on our commutes.

There is so much more that we can and be doing to redeem our commutes. The ideas above are just a few of the ways that we can maximize our time for the spiritual benefit of our own souls and the souls of our children. May God give us more grace in Christ so that we will not waste our commute, but will use it for His glory and our spiritual good.

By Rev. Nick Batzig

Children's and Youth Sunday Ministry Update

Youth Fellowship

Since the start of this year David and I have had the joy of leading our Sunday evening children's discipleship, "Youth Fellowship" twice a month. We structure our time by opening with games and a review of the catechism or Bible comprehension then move into learning about a great hymn of the faith and singing Bible songs. Following our time of praise we have a snack and then play an organized game outside. Some of our students' favorites include "Juggernaut", "kickball", "Jackpot" and "Spud". We are sincerely grateful to everyone who has helped sit in and be an extra set of hands, provided snacks or prayed for this ministry.

Hymns of the Month:

This year the children have learned the following hymns:

- What a Friend we have in Jesus (February-March)
- Fairest Lord Jesus (April)
- How Great Thou Art (May)
- Praise to the Lord, The Almighty (August)

"Teach Me To Worship" Sunday School Class:

Beginning in January of this year we introduced a new class for preschool-age students through 2nd graders called "Teach Me to Worship". The curriculum follows the outline of a worship service and teaches students about the various elements of worship each month. The course is designed for a full year, and it is our hope to complete the study this year. Teachers and students alike have benefitted from the study of worship of our great God.

Catechism Sunday School Class:

David Prussia has faithfully worked through the Westminster Shorter catechism this year. Our students picked up where they left off in their study last year and learned catechisms 14-81 from the end of 2016 through 2017. It is our hope and prayer to complete our study of the shorter catechism this year and create a plan to continue to teach through the entire catechism over the course of two years, teaching the catechism every other quarter to our students.

Bible Verses:

Our students have diligently worked through verses in Galatians and Ephesians this year. The following is a list of verses our students from third grade through twelfth grade were encouraged to learn. Preschool aged students through second graders learned verses coinciding with the curriculum with their individual teachers.

- Galatians 2:16
- Galatians 2:20
- Galatians 3: 13
- Galatians 4:4-5
- Galatians 5:16-17
- Galatians 5:22-23
- Ephesians 1:3-4
- Ephesians 1:5-6
- Ephesians 1:7-8
- Ephesians 1:9-10
- Ephesians 1:11-12
- Ephesians 1:13-14

Students receive verse cards in Sunday school and anyone who can recite their verse on Sunday morning in class receives a special prize.

For more information about the Children's Ministry please email Meghan Prussia at Meghanprussia@gmail.com.

~ Youth Group ~

Beginning in September, the New Covenant Youth group will be joining with First Presbyterian Church in Pooler's Youth group. This new combination youth group will work as follows:

On the first and third Wednesday of the month, the youth will meet at First Pres. On the second and fourth Wednesday of the month, the youth will meet in Richmond Hill. We are currently in the process of securing a suitable location for a combined youth group in Richmond Hill. We will announce that locations as soon as we have finalized our plans. Until then, the youth will plan to meet at New Covenant's church office.

Here is the schedule for the combined youth group:

At First Presbyterian Church in Pooler:

Sept. 6, 20; Oct. 4, 18; Nov. 1, 15; Dec. 6.

Dinner at 6:00 and study from 6:45-8:00.

At New Covenant in Richmond Hill:

Sept. 13, 27. Oct. 11, 25. Nov. 8, 22. (possibly) Dec. 13.

Dinner at 6:00 and study from 6:45-8:00.

For more information, please contact David Prussia at jdprussia@gmail.com



Congregational Life

Congratulations are in order as we celebrate the birth of **Zoe June Carr**, born to Steve and Maggie on

Saturday
June 10th, 2017 at 1:45 p.m.

Weight 9 pounds, and
20.5 inches.



Congratulations are in order as we celebrate the birth of **Maridith Aileen Mosier**, born to Malachi and Cara on

Wednesday
August 9th, 2017 at 6:27 p.m.

Weight 8 pounds, 7 ounces, and
22 inches.



~ Thank you everyone for your prayers! ~

SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

WEEKLY MEETINGS

- Adult Sunday School | Sept 3, 10, 17, 24 | 9:30 am | The adult Sunday school class will continue meeting in the worship room, studying "The Promise Keeper: God of the Covenants," a teaching series by R. C. Sproul.
- New Members Class | Sept 3, 10, 17, 24 | 9:30 am | The New Members Class will continue to meet to learn about the church, church membership, key doctrines, what New Covenant Presbyterian believes and practices, taught by Rev. Nick Batzig.
- Children's Sunday School | Sept 3, 10, 17, 24 | 9:30 am | At the same time students meet for catechetical training, the preschool and younger elementary students will meet up stairs for their Sunday School lesson. This quarter Preschool students age 3-5 and Younger Elementary students grade K-2 will continue the "Teach Me To Worship" series that they started in the beginning of the year. Parents are encouraged to pick up their children from their classrooms immediately following Sunday school. For more information please email Meghan Prussia at meghanprussia@gmail.com.
- Children's Catechetical Training | Sept 3, 10, 17, 24 | 9:30 am | The Catechetical Training class for the older elementary students and the youth group will continue meeting in the cafeteria. For more information please email David Prussia at jdprussia@gmail.com.
- Sunday Worship | Sept 3, 10, 17, 24 | 10:30 am | Morning worship is at the City Center. Rev. Nick Batzig is currently teaching a series called "Luke: The Sure Word".
- Men's Breakfast and Book Study | Sept 5, 12, 19, 26 | 6:00 am | The men will continue meeting at the Omelet Café in Richmond Hill to begin "Let's Study 2 Peter and Jude" by Mark Johnston. For more information or to join this study please contact Bobby Wise at bobbywise84@yahoo.com.
- Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study | Sept 5, 12, 19, 26 | 10:00 am | Mothers of New Covenant who have young children will work through "Instructing a Child's Heart" by Tedd and Margy Tripp, meeting at the home of Laura Guenzel, for a time of discussion and encouragement. Please contact Josie Lesondak at (423) 619-3516 for the location address and join the ladies in this study.
- New Covenant University Fellowship | Sept 5, 12, 19, 26 | 7:15 pm | NCUF will be continuing their study in "The Emmaus Sessions" at the church plant resident's house in the Southside. | For more information please email southsideplant@gmail.com.

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Women's Wednesday | Sept 5 | 6:15 pm | At the home of Michelle Shepherd | The women of New Covenant will meet for their monthly Bible study and fellowship time. Dinner theme is TBD. For more information please contact Michelle Shepherd at michelle.shepherd23@gmail.com, (803) 448-3148, or
- Youth Group Bible Study | Sept 13, 20 | 6:30 pm | The youth group will continue a study of God's grace using Great Commission Publication's youth curriculum | For more information about the study or upcoming events please email David Prussia at jdprussia@gmail.com.
- Fellowship Groups | Sept 13, 20 | 6:30 pm | New Covenant Fellowship groups will continue meeting at various locations on the 2nd and 3rd Wednesday evening of each month. For more information please email the church office at newcovpres@gmail.com.
- Men's Leadership Initiative | Sept. 3, 17 | 5:00 pm | The men of New Covenant will meet for the continuation of "The Upper Room", a men's leadership initiative that aims at the growth and development of emerging leaders (both officers and middle leadership) who have the potential to influence others after having been called, equipped and coached.
- Women's Bible Study | Sept 3, 17 | 5:00 pm | The women of New Covenant will have the opportunity to meet together at the City Center to work through a series from Matthew 5-7 on the Sermon on the Mount. Childcare will be provided. Contact Tonya Robinson at tonya@tonyarobinson.com, (912) 445-1023, or Lisa Beth Smith at llsmith691@comcast.net, (912) 663-4868.
- Youth Fellowship | Sept 3, 17 | 5:00 pm | The children and youth of New Covenant will meet for a time of learning about the great hymns of our faith, singing praise, playing, and eating snacks. Youth will have an opportunity to serve the younger children in our church and all involved will have the chance to grow in their knowledge and understanding of the great hymns of our faith.
- Praise, Preaching and Prayer Meeting | Sept 24 | 5:00 pm | At the City Center in the back of J. F. Gregory Park.



SEPTEMBER SERVICE SCHEDULE



Date	Sunday School Nursery	Nursery Welcome	Nursery C: Crawlers W: Walkers	Sunday School Children's Ministry	Visitor Welcome Team	Morning Greeters	Music Team	Sound Techs	Church Set Up Crew	Lord's Supper Setup/ Servers	Ushers	Coffee
9/3/2017	Lee Ann Koon, Donna Walters	Anna Batzig	C: Anna Batzig, Schaeffer McCary; W: Amy Howell, Josie Lesondak	David Prussia, Meghan Prussia, Callie Oldham, Cindy Warnock, Stephanie Warnock	Steve and Maggie Carr	Steven and Robyn Kretschmar	Laura Guenzel, Emily Mowry, Mike Warnock, Rob Shepherd, Joseph Brown	Garrett Houghton	Bobby Wise, Chris Ward	Setup: Jeff Loomis; Servers: Jeff Loomis, Chris Ward, Andy Hitt, Jack Koon, Daniel Spidle, Rob Shepherd	Nathan Grout	Rodney and Soonja Parkin
9/10/2017	Mary Pat Byrd, Jane Jones	Katie Price	C: Griff & Justine Hogan, Katie Price; W: Eva Hall, Callie Oldham	David Prussia, Meghan Prussia, Callie Oldham, Cindy Warnock, Stephanie Warnock	Rob Shepherd	Jane Jones, Cindy Warnock	Anna Batzig, Avery Koon, Jesse Spidle, Rob Shepherd, Joseph Brown	Daniel Spidle	Steven Kretschmar	Setup: Jeff Loomis; Servers: Jeff Loomis, Chris Ward, Andy Hitt, Jack Koon, Daniel Spidle, Rob Shepherd	Chris Ward	Nathan and Donna Grout
9/17/2017	Aubrey Ward, Linsdsey Houghton	Robyn Kretschmar	C: Robyn Kretschmar, Laura Guenzel, Avery Koon; W: Debbie Usher, Paige Smola	David Prussia, Meghan Prussia, Callie Oldham, Cindy Warnock, Stephanie Warnock	Brad and Mary Pat Byrd	Rob Shepherd	Emily Mowry, Amy Howell, Mike Warnock, Rob Shepherd, Joseph Brown	Josh Byerly	Andy Hitt, Chris Howell	Setup: Jeff Loomis; Servers: Jeff Loomis, Chris Ward, Andy Hitt, Jack Koon, Daniel Spidle, Rob Shepherd	Garrett Houghton	Steve and Maggie Carr
9/24/2017	Amy Howell, Anna Batzig	Brad Byrd	C: Brad & Mary Pat Byrd, Ashley Cook; W: Josie Lesondak, Carrie Brookshire	David Prussia, Meghan Prussia, Callie Oldham, Cindy Warnock, Stephanie Warnock	Danny and Hannah Deardorff	Nathan and Donna Grout	John Carr, Maggie Carr, Jesse Spidle, Rob Shepherd, TBD	Sean Ellsworth	Jeff Loomis	Setup: Jeff Loomis; Servers: Jeff Loomis, Chris Ward, Andy Hitt, Jack Koon, Daniel Spidle, Rob Shepherd	Daniel Spidle	Terry and Susan Logan
9/24/17	Praise, Preaching, Prayer						Meghan Prussia, Laura Guenzel, Mike Warnock, Rob Shepherd, Drum TBD	David Prussia				

Volunteers, “thank you” for your willingness to serve! For schedule changes, contact the schedule coordinator:

- Sunday School Nursery:* Anna Batzig, agbatzig@gmail.com, (912) 312-2204
- Nursery Welcome:* Anna Batzig, agbatzig@gmail.com, (912) 312-2204
- Nursery Crawlers & Walkers:* Anna Batzig, agbatzig@gmail.com, (912) 312-2204
- Sunday School for the Children:* Meghan Prussia, meghanprussia@gmail.com, (912) 507-1706
- Visitor Welcome:* Rob Shepherd, shep4real@gmail.com, (770) 617-3309
- Morning Greeters:* Rob Shepherd, shep4real@gmail.com, (770) 617-3309
- Music Team & Sound Techs:* Travis Peacock, charleshaddon81@gmail.com, (912) 312-7671
- Church Set-up Crew:* Terry Logan, terry.logan@gmail.com, (912) 312-3319
- Lord's Supper Setup & Servers:* Jeff Loomis, loomis.jeff@gmail.com, (904) 891-6772
- Ushers:* Chris Ward, ctopherward@gmail.com, (706) 302-1777
- Coffee:* Maggie Carr, southsideplant@gmail.com, (912) 661-4751

Please try not to make any swaps with other serving volunteers without first contacting the coordinator for approval. This will help avoid any overlap of assignment for individuals. Also, any possible advanced notice is greatly appreciated. Thanks again!

TBD = to be determined

Pastor Octavius Delfils & his wife, Marie, along with their children, Farah and Carlens



Mission to Haiti

During the month of July, we planned to take a little rest, but not fully so. It is rather a month of another aspect of ministry. We have been granted four weeks off for some rest with family and friends after two years of uninterrupted works on the field. During this time out of Port-au-Prince, we have been mainly in South Florida where we stayed with some very good friends.

Our visit in the US was also a time of great encouragement and refreshment to prepare us to go back to the ministry with more vigor. During the five Sundays that we have been out of Port-au-Prince, the Lord allowed us to visit some churches who pray regularly for us and support us with words of encouragement and financially. It is so encouraging and comforting to know that so many people are praying for us and even more so when we are able to meet them.

For this trip, it was a privilege for my family to visit Jeff and Ann Klein in Savannah, GA. Jeff and Ann were among the key people the Lord used to bring the Reformed faith to Haiti. They helped also a lot with the planting of the first Presbyterian churches there. They were also among the key people the Lord used to bring me to a Reformed Seminary in America. So our hearts knit together and she is a prayer warrior with us in the ministry. It was the first time my family had the opportunity to visit them in their home in Savannah. While we were there, we worshipped at Kirk of the Isles (PCA). We had also the privilege to spend some time with my good friend from Greenville Seminary, Pastor Nick Batzig. What a privilege to be able to talk about some ministry opportunities together in Port-au-Prince in the near future!

Find us on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/reformedpresbyterianchurchinhaiti>



Mission to Congo

~Aug. 23, 2017 email~

Dear NCPC Friends,

Lillis is cancer free and is in physical therapy for neck movement from her extensive surgery and is teaching at a slow pace with no voice loss for her music classes. God has mercifully answered prayers through you. We are so thankful.

As we partner with the Farming God's Way Team in South Africa, we know the Curriculum is changing the way the Africans think about the

resources God has given them. One key concept is: do not burn your resources but use them for compost.

We are in the process of translating all the materials into French for the French speaking African countries. It is a daunting task but the Lord is leading...

Ron will be in Port Elizabeth, SA doing the voice over for the DVD series Aug 27.

Please pray the Lord will give clarity and fruitful results for the complete series.

How are you all doing? What has the Lord put on your heart in the upcoming months?
How can we pray for you?

Love & Blessings,

Ron & Doris (doris.weeks@gmail.com)

Mbandaka, D R Congo

Redemption Works International, <http://www.redemptionworksint.org/>

Mission to Italy

Greetings Brethren! Jesus cares for His flock in Viterbo.

Let Us Pray, therefore... *(keep praying for these)*

- o "That the Lord of the Harvest would send out laborers into His harvest" (Matthew 9:38). There is so much work undone simply because of a lack of men.
- o That the men of the church, myself included, would be courageous in the Lord and lead our homes in the way of the Lord and take up responsibility in the church of Christ and humbly serve.
- o That we would be the men that God created us to be and that we would not shrink back from what He calls us to do.
- o That there would be brotherly love and a humble spirit as we submit ourselves to one another in the Lord.
- o Discipleship time.
- o That Angelo and Gianni would grow in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- o For our Thursday Study.
- o That God would direct Alessandro regarding his future and the possibility of seminary.
- o For future officer nominations.
- o That God would add 10 new families to the church, who belong to Him. May He draw men to Himself!
- o That the Lord would mend the hearts of the single, divorced, and widowed.
- o That God would help Mike to preach Christ crucified faithfully and that he would improve in His preaching in general... That he would grow spiritually.
- o That God would provide financially, our daily bread, and the resources needed. [We need your support.](#)
- o That God would grant Mike and Ivana physical health and stamina, abundant wisdom and discernment.
- o That the Lord would provide godly men and women as spouses for those who are available.
- o That the Lord would provide the resources for our upcoming Westminster Standards project. *Stay tuned!*
- o That God would grant us compassion and love for the lost. May we love them, remembering that it was God who first loved us and sent His Son to live and die for us, even though we did not deserve it.



Thank you for your laboring with us in the work of Christ in Italy.

Sincerely in Christ,
 Mike and Ivana, <http://missiontoitaly.com/partner-with-us/>
 Address: Mission to Italy, 109 Shetland Way, Greer, SC 29650

~ For more information about missionaries and missions, contact Pastor Travis Peacock through the church.~

2017 FINANCIAL UPDATE	
MONTHLY GIVING	
January.....	\$33,105
February.....	\$28,734
March.....	\$37,285
April.....	\$34,546
May.....	\$21,009
June.....	\$28,472
July.....	\$29,488
August.....	\$31,947
2017 YTD Giving \$244,589	