



# A Prayer Response to God

**"Philosophy seeks knowledge for the sake of understanding, while religion seeks knowledge for the sake of worship."**

(William Temple)

**"The character of worship is always decided by the worshiper's conception of God and his relation to God."**

(Evelyn Underhill)

I encourage you to meditate on the following prayer that we used in one of our worship services. Too often we recite words without much reflection. We need to allow time for contemplation so the words penetrate our minds and hearts and become our own.

Because God is *holy*  
**We worship Him with awe and reverence.**

Because God is *love*  
**We worship Him in loving adoration.**

Because God is *good*  
**We worship Him with a spirit of gratitude.**

Because God is *all-knowing*  
**We come to Him in our ignorance seeking genuine knowledge.**

Because God is *wise*  
**We come to Him in our foolishness, seeking the wisdom that comes only from Him.**

Because God is *merciful*  
**We worship Him in contrition and with repentant hearts, seeking His forgiveness.**

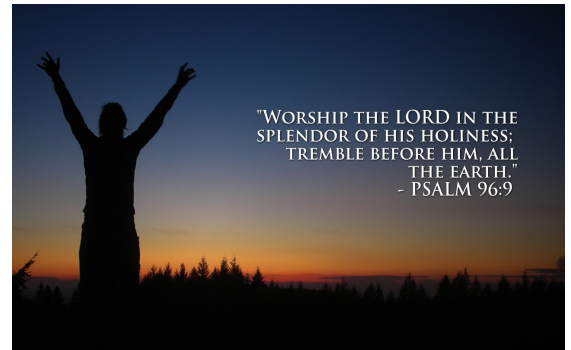
Because God is *compassionate*  
**We come to Him casting our burden and cares upon Him.**

Because God is *everywhere-present*  
**We worship Him at all times and in all places, confident of His personal presence.**

Because God is *truth*  
**We worship Him, trusting every word He speaks to us to be true, for He cannot lie.**

Because God is *righteous*  
**We worship Him with deep respect and with a desire to be like Him.**

Because God is *unchanging*  
**We worship Him with living faith and quiet confidence that He will always be as He has always been.**



*Lars Wilhelmsson*, Interim Pastor

# FALL KICKOFF

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9**

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL FALL KICK-OFF  
4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST  
WITH YOUR TEACHERS**



**Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>  
9 am  
Come for BREAKFAST  
and a fun CRAFT!**

## **KICK-OFF SUNDAY PICNIC**

**Our Friendly Fellowship Committee is planning a Kick-Off Sunday Picnic after the 2nd Worship Service on September 9th.**

**Come join your church family for some fun games and fellowship as we celebrate the start of a new season at Covenant !**

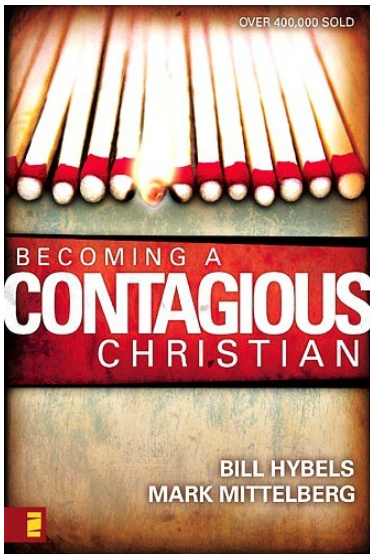
**Bring a favorite salad or side dish to share; the burgers, hot dogs, drinks and dessert will be provided by the Committee.**

**For more information please contact Melissa Otten or Kyla Stetson. It won't be the same without you.....Hope you can come!!**



# Sunday Morning Women's Bible Study

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**Bill Hybels & Mark Mittelberg**

## **BECOMING A CONTAGIOUS CHRISTIAN**

***New Book Study beginning Sunday, September 9  
All women are invited each Sunday morning  
10:30 am in Classroom A***

Evangelism doesn't have to be frustrating or intimidating. Bill Hybels and Mark Mittelberg believe that effectively communicating our faith in Christ should be the most natural thing in the world. We just need encouragement and direction. In *Becoming a Contagious Christian*, Hybels and Mittelberg articulate the central principles that have helped the believers at Willow Creek Community Church become a church known around the world for its outstanding outreach to unchurched people. Based on the words of Jesus and flowing from the firsthand experiences of the authors, *Becoming a Contagious Christian* is a groundbreaking, personalized approach to relational evangelism. You will discover your own natural evangelism style, how to develop a contagious Christian character, to build spiritually strategic relationships, to direct conversations toward matters of faith, and to share biblical truths in everyday language. This landmark book presents a blueprint for starting a spiritual epidemic of hope and enthusiasm for spreading the Gospel.

### **Bill Hybels writes:**

*"In their heart of hearts, I think all true followers of Christ long to be contagious Christians. Though unsure how to do so or the risks involved, deep down they sense that there isn't anything as rewarding as opening a person up to God's love and truth."*



Books may be ordered online at [www.christianbook.com](http://www.christianbook.com). For more information, call Bobbie Morgan (203.381.9931) or send an email — [bobbiekay54@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bobbiekay54@sbcglobal.net).

## Light on the Hill Food Pantry

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Jim Kearns wishes to thank everyone for the food donated each month for ***Light on the Hill Food Pantry*** at the Summerfield United Methodist Church in Bridgeport. Jim delivers the food once a month for which they are very thankful.

A new school year is starting and Jerry, the person in charge at the Pantry, has given a list of needed food items. Remember, this

food not only feeds adults, but families with children too. Your generosity is one important and wonderful way that we share God's love — with adults; as well as, children.

### **Food Items Needed include:**

Cold Cereal	Box Milk
Pop Tarts	Jelly (grape)
Peanut Butter	Saltines Crackers



## FOUNDATIONS

**Foundations** is our confirmation/discipleship program. Traditionally it is for middle school students but we have had high school students as well. We are starting Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. We meet every Sunday morning at 9am in the youth room downstairs. It is important to be involved from the beginning as we walk through the entire Bible together over 2 years of class. The class involves reading and contemplating scripture daily, then gathering to discuss the meaning of what has been read. It is a great foundation of the Christian faith, answering many of the questions of why we believe what we believe.

## OASIS

**Oasis** will be kicking off the school year on **Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>**. Anyone in high school who desires to be part of a community that seeks God together by encouraging and loving each other is invited to join us. Connect with other high schoolers as you search for what being a disciple of Jesus looks like in 2012. We meet every Wednesday night from 7:00-8:30 (our official end time but many stay much later).

## JHAMS

**Jhams** will start on **Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup>**. JHAMS is for all middle school students (grades 6-8) who want to get closer to God and learn what His desire is for our lives. We have a lot of fun together and meet in small groups where we can build strong relationships with a few other students to help each other live for Jesus today. JHAMS meets every Thursday night from 6:45-8:15.



## Walk to Cure Diabetes

Luke Gibbs' Team will be walking for JDRF (*Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International*) on Sunday, September 23 at 10:00 AM. Come join us if you can!

If you would like to make a donation to JDRF on behalf of Luke's Team, make your check payable to **"JDRF"** and mail to:

David & JoAnn Gibbs  
87 Indian River Road, Milford, CT 06460

Our family continues to be thankful to our church family for the love and support we feel from all of you. Please continue praying for Luke as he continues to face the challenges of managing and living with diabetes every minute of every day.

Visit the JDRF website for more information:

<http://jdrf.org/walk-to-cure-diabetes/>

# BIG SUNDAY



**September 2 &  
September 30  
10:00 am**

Where we can all worship together.

On this Sunday there will only be one worship service.

Come join us as we unite our hearts and minds  
as we worship the Lord our God together.

## September Birthdays & Anniversaries

9/1	Lillian Valente	9/13	♥ Mark & Carol Mojcher
	♥ Carmen & Karen Rosa	9/14	Billy Kattler
9/2	George Mulligan		Mike Ambrose
	Melissa Otten		Quinn Kellerman
9/3	♥ John & Jill Monroe	9/17	Althea Larkin
9/4	Dan White		Kris Freeley
9/5	Joe Anderson	9/18	Ruth Powell
9/6	♥ Carl & Melissa Otten		♥ Mike & Cheryl Blair
9/7	♥ Estuardo & Luiza Estrada	9/19	Noah Schaper
9/9	Linda Gustavson		♥ Mike & Lynne Sullivan
	Barb Meyer	9/20	RJ Gerte
	Matthew Fiscus	9/21	♥ Cliff & Pat Swanson
9/10	Jimi Meyer		♥ Tim & Nancy Anderson
	♥ Cary & Roseann Slater		♥ Doug & Kris Freeley
9/12	♥ Larry & Ann Boyle	9/23	Arthur Giannotti
9/13	Freddy Capossela		Mark Wirth



9/24	Bina Hoyt
	Karen Delfino
	Kris Otten
9/25	♥ John & Phuong Heitz
9/26	Carolyn Nelson
9/27	Carmen Rosa, Sr.
9/28	Don Sebestyen
9/29	Cheryl Blair



# Pastoral Search Update

As announced during worship on August 5<sup>th</sup>, the Pastoral Search Committee has been busy during the summer months! We continue to review and pray over information on potential candidates. This includes self-completed profiles made available by the Evangelical Covenant Church, resumes, sermons and other information, as available. We also consider pastors recommended to us who may be from other denominations, as allowed by the Covenant Church. Contact was made with a number of pastors and initial interview questions were refined. Initial interviews took place and more are scheduled for September.

The Search Committee wants you to know that we are very thankful for one another and the varied gifts and perspectives we bring to the task you have given us. God has provided well and we are functioning well because of it! Together, we stand firm in this God-given confidence as we move forward as a body of eight, instead of nine. Chuck Forstrom, Committee Chair, has followed the Lord's call to step off the Committee so that he is able to focus his personal time and energies on other needs. Although we greatly miss him and his gifts of patience and wisdom, both he and our Committee know that our search will continue to go well as we rely on God's leading. The new Committee Chair, Bobbie Morgan, has been affirmed by both the Church Council and the Pastoral Search Committee.

As we navigate this exciting and crucial part of the pastoral search we are thankful for your prayers. Some things you might pray for are:

- **The Process Itself**, that we continue to follow it with prayer, integrity and guidance from our conference superintendent, Howard Burgoyne
- **Potential Candidates**, for their openness to the Lord's leading, for their ministries, for themselves and their families as we intersect with their lives sometimes briefly and sometimes longer through the process
- **Our Church Congregation**, as we seek to grow in faith and service now and in the future, for our support and care for our interim, Pastor Lars, and his family, as well as for our future senior pastor
- **The Pastoral Search Committee**, for our focus and energy on the task you have given us, as well as for ourselves and our families as we continue through the process



A chart outlining the Pastoral Search Process is displayed in the Welcome Center along with a marker showing where we are in the process. A smaller poster is also displayed in the church office hallway. If you would like a copy of this poster or the church profile (put together by the Committee earlier this year), please leave a note for Gail Lent, church secretary, in her box or send her an email ([gail.lent@coveaston.org](mailto:gail.lent@coveaston.org)). Also, the church profile is available on the church website, [www.coveaston.org](http://www.coveaston.org), under "about us".

**Bobbie Morgan (Search Committee Chair), Bill Austin, Barb Drummond, Judy Goyette, Bob Lindquist, Jim Meyers (Council Chair), John Monroe, Bobbie Morgan, and Paul Veerman**

# Children's Ministry

## Summer 2012

Thank you for the time, donations and prayers for our summer activities. We had over 100 kids at VBS, and they collected over \$1,000 for *Covenant Kids DR Congo & India*. We had a lot of teen support for Water Day and great time fishing with Sam Keegan. Check out some pictures!



Roan learns how to remove the hook with Mr. Keegan



Singing with Mr. Dan at VBS



Cooling off on Water Day

**FRIENDS NIGHT OUT  
GAME NIGHT!**  
**Tuesday, September 25**  
**6:30-7:45 pm**

**Grades K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**Bring your friends! At FNO we play games, make crafts, do special service projects and learn how to follow Jesus together.**

A large graphic with a blue background and colorful polka dots. It features a central pink oval with text and another pink oval at the bottom with text. Several small photos of children are scattered around the graphic.

# September



Covenant Church of Easton

**1 Sport Hill Road  
Easton, CT 06612**

[www.coveaston.org](http://www.coveaston.org)

Phone: 203.371.8335

Fax: 203.373.9025

E-mail: [gail.lent@coveaston.org](mailto:gail.lent@coveaston.org)

Rooted in Christ - Reaching Out to the World

## September Worship

### BIG SUNDAY – 1 SERVICE – 10:00 AM

September 2      2 Corinthians 4:7-12      **Obstacles to Discipleship:**  
Lamentations 3:22-23      **Disappointment**      Pastor Lars  
Holy Communion

### TWO SERVICES EACH SUNDAY – 9:00 am and 10:45 am

#### **FALL KICKOFF SUNDAY – Sunday School begins**

September 9      Matthew 5:21-26      **Obstacles to Discipleship:**  
**Anger**      Pastor Lars

September 16      Ephesians 4:26-27      **Obstacles to Discipleship:**  
Hebrews 12:14-15      **Bitterness**      Pastor Lars  
Kid's Message

September 23      Matthew 6:25-34      **Obstacles to Discipleship:**  
**Anxiety**      Pastor Lars

### BIG SUNDAY – 1 SERVICE – 10:00 AM

September 30      Pastor Cary Preaching