

## Summer & Fall schedule

- July 24<sup>th</sup> –Picnic with softball team
- September 9<sup>th</sup> – Sunday school starts
- September 9<sup>th</sup> – Combined service with our sister churches
- September 16<sup>th</sup> – Progressive dinners
- October 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> – Bible study groups launch

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

Write down 10 things you are most grateful for.  
To whom do you need to express gratitude?  
Pick up the phone or mail a card or better yet visit them and express your gratitude!

In each of the three areas—material/financial, relational, and circumstantial—what's feeding your feelings of entitlement? How will you pursue an attitude of gratitude?

Pray your blessings out loud. Take some time to praise God.

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## VOLUNTEERS TODAY

- Worship Hour Nursery:** Beth Sharp and Diane Sanford
- Ushering:** Gordon and Sonja Snyder
- Snacks:** Bill and Elizabeth Hendricks
- Coffee Set up:** Mark Miller
- Closing:** Mark and Susan Miller
- Counting:** Peter Hilts and Susan Miller

## OUR STAFF

### Naas Tredoux

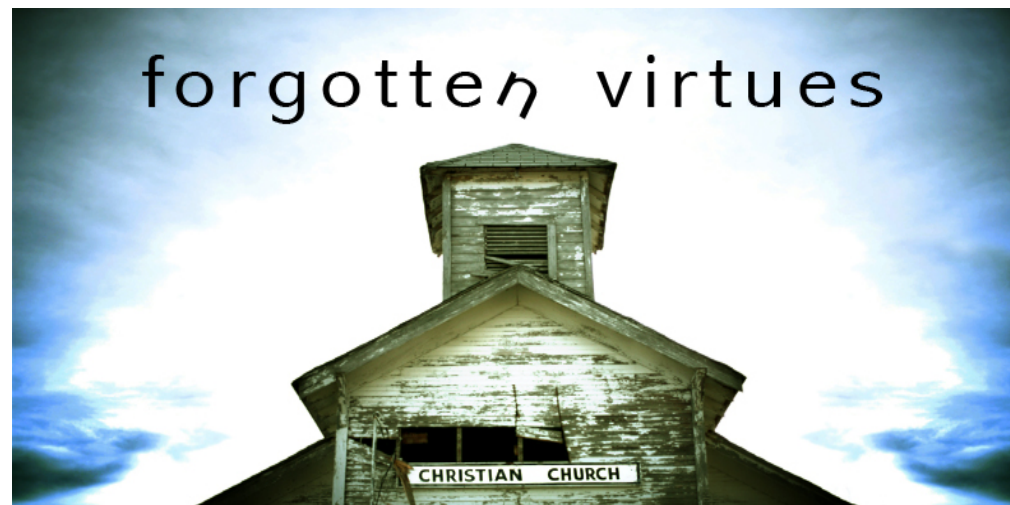
Pastor  
719.209.6508  
pastornaas@faithcov.org

### Tracy Hilts

Director of Pastoral Care  
719.325.6448  
tracy@faithcov.org

### Tom Beard

Worship Leader  
719.659.2904  
tombeard@faithcov.org



## FAITH COVENANT CHURCH

Sunday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012

### Forgotten Virtues

Honor. Loyalty. Gratitude. Honesty. Humility. Are they gone? Have believers left true character behind? I certainly hope not! I read a heartwarming story about gratitude this week, that I think you will appreciate:

In his autobiography, *Breaking Barriers*, syndicated columnist Carl Rowan tells about a teacher who greatly influenced his life. Rowan relates: Miss Thompson reached into her desk drawer and pulled out a piece of paper containing a quote attributed to Chicago architect Daniel Burnham. I listened intently as she read: *"Make no little plans; they have no magic to stir men's blood and probably themselves will not be realized. Make big plans, aim high in hope and work. Remember that our sons and grandsons are going to do things that would stagger us."* More than 30 years later, I gave a speech in which I said that Frances Thompson had given me a desperately needed belief in myself. A newspaper printed the story, and someone mailed the clipping to my beloved teacher. She wrote me: *"You have no idea what that newspaper story meant to me. For years, I endured my brother's arguments that I had wasted my life. That I should have married and had a family. When I read that you gave me credit for helping to launch a marvelous career, I put the clipping in front of my brother. After he'd read it, I said, 'You see, I didn't really waste my life, did I?'"*

## FAITH COVENANT CHURCH

4965 Barnes Road, Colorado Springs, 80917  
719.574.2324, [www.faithcov.org](http://www.faithcov.org)



## Go and do day

Guess what, kids and parents? Our last "Go and Do Day" is rapidly approaching. Please mark your calendars for August 9<sup>th</sup> to attend the Go and Do day! We'll be meeting from 9:30 - 12:30 pm. Be watching in the next few weeks to see just what we will be doing! We hope that your summer has been terrific!

## Semi-annual meeting

The Lead Team would like to inform the members of Faith Covenant that our next Semi-Annual will be held on Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> of August. The main purpose of this meeting is to vote on new Lead Team members. We will reveal the new Lead Team member proposal once it has been finalized.

## Prayer Requests

Please continue to pray for Gene and Sue Bigari's grandson Andrew. He was in a very serious motorcycle accident several weeks ago. His recovery continues to move in the right direction. He is in Occupational therapy to learn to re-use his hands.

Caroline Eklund: Her nephew Justin suffers from severe Diabetes. It's evident he cannot live without a pancreas transplant.

Mark Reagan: Mark recently had major surgery and we are grateful that all went as the doctor had hoped. We can continue to pray for Mark's recovery process and decisions that need to be made regarding a return to work.

## Illustration about sports vs church

The following text is an excerpt from a sermon I recently heard. The pastor was giving an illustration about people's attitudes towards church. I think you will like it. Here it is: *"Football in the fall. Basketball in the winter. Baseball in the spring and summer. I have been an avid sports fan all my life. But I've had it! I quit this sports business once and for all. You can't get me near one of those places again. Want to know why...*

*Every time I went, they asked me for money.*

*The people with whom I had to sit didn't seem very friendly.*

*The seats were too hard and not at all comfortable.*

*I went to many games, but the coach never came to call on me.*

*The referee made a decision with which I could not agree.*

*I suspected that I was sitting with some hypocrites -- they came to see their friends and what others were wearing rather than to see the game.*

*Some games went into overtime, and I was late getting home.*

*The band played some numbers that I had never heard before.*

*It seems that the games are scheduled when I want to do other things.*

*I was taken to too many games by my parents when I was growing up.*

*I don't want to take my children to any games, because I want them to choose for themselves what sport they like best."*

## A caddie worth having

Two golfers stepped up to the first tee on the St. Andrews course at Ardsley, New York, one of America's oldest courses. The elder one was a kindly man who played a thoughtful, deliberate game. The younger man was full of pride and impatience. On the first hole he sliced, lost his ball in the tall grass, shot another one, and had a score of eight instead of four or five. On the second tee he began to lecture the caddie: "Keep your eye peeled. I'm not here to do your job for you!" Thereafter, every bad shot was the caddie's fault! At the end of the first nine holes, the young man was so enraged that he discharged the caddie and carried his own bag. "That caddie doesn't like me," he said to his companion, "and I'm (bleep-bleep) sure I don't like him either. He made me nervous. Thank God he's gone!" After several holes had been played without a word, the older player broke the silence: "Several years ago a little kid from Yonkers came up here and was taken on as a caddie. He was a wonderfully sweet-natured boy; quick-witted, willing, and had a nose for golf. Everybody liked him. His name was William; he had a club foot. But that didn't affect his quality as a caddie. It was a pleasure to go out with him. A certain famous doctor, a member of the club, became interested in William and took him South on a long trip. When William returned, he went back to caddying. The doctor, however, had to give up golf shortly after that because of his health. He died a few months later. One morning I was playing a round with William carrying my bag. Spring was running riot all over Westchester County and the fields and hedges were alive with blossoms. William gathered flowers until he had quite a bouquet. 'Who's the girl, William?' I asked. 'I haven't any girl, sir,' he said sheepishly. 'They're for my friend, the doctor--twice a week I take flowers to his grave.' 'You see,' the man went on, 'the doctor took him down South that winter and operated on his foot. He made the boy whole again. And William never forgot the doctor's act of kindness.' 'Now that's a caddie worth having,' the younger man said. 'What ever happened to this William?' 'He carried your bag today!'

## A great opportunity to serve

There has been conversation lately, started in the Women's Bible Study and spilling out into the halls of the church, about a growing movement as members of Faith Covenant, and now Living Hope, too, are coming alongside a remarkable woman named Rosa Calhoun (the lunch lady at the middle school where Nancy taught) who has a homespun outreach to the homeless population of downtown Colorado Springs. Rosa and her husband Reggie have been connecting with approximately 100 people of all ages in a time of need for the past eight years. There are multiple ways in which we can help them, learn from them and springboard into ministry of our own in the months to come. There will be opportunities for anyone in our churches (including children) to get involved in a variety of ways depending on your interest, comfort level and availability. First we will introduce the sleeping bag drive. This summer we'll be collecting gently used sleeping bags and money to purchase sleeping bags for distribution in early October. We'll also look at everything from collecting socks to finding willing hands to wrap burritos. Stay tuned to hear when we'll have an informational meeting in August to include everyone who might consider becoming a part of this outreach in small or big ways. Questions now? Contact Nancy Stromer.