



The Covenanter

NOVEMBER 2021



Winter Park
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



"Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our 'God is a consuming fire.'"

-Hebrews 12: 28-29

The 12th chapter of Hebrews describes how we should engage the world as daughters of sons of God. It begins with words like "run the race with perseverance," "consider Him [Jesus], who endured such opposition... so that you will not grow weary and lose heart." The author continues with phrases like, "endure hardship as discipline," "strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees," "live in peace," "see to it that no one misses the grace of God," "Jesus, the Mediator of the New Covenant," and concludes with the above verse, "Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our 'God is a consuming fire.'"

Great words like, "run, consider, not grow weary, endure, strengthen, live in peace, see to it, Jesus, and be thankful." There is much encouragement for us from this chapter of the Scriptures. However, in our current milieu where divisions exist within divisions, I think these words are particularly instructive. In a sense these phrases, ideas, words, concepts, admonishments and instructions are in many ways the opposite of how the "powers and principalities of this world" function.

The word "run" implies a necessary action on our part. "Consider" encourages us to reason, to use our intellect and our emotions as we run. Phrases like, "not grow weary" and words like "endure and strengthen," are a reminder that the call to follow Jesus is rarely easy. Often, our faith in Him will bring us into conflict with others. Which is only made more difficult by the reminder to "live in peace," it actually continues, "with everyone." We discover that much of our lives should be invested, so that others do not miss the grace of God – Jesus. Finally, the chapter concludes by encouraging us to "be thankful."

I'm thankful for the opportunity to participate with each of you in this tremendous calling God has placed upon our lives. I'm thankful for grace, for the love of God and the Holy Spirit's presence among us. I'm thankful for Jesus, for His willingness to endure hardship for our sake. I'm thankful for the Empty Grave. I'm thankful for our church. I'm thankful for each of you. I'm thankful for the opportunity to be installed as one of your pastors. I'm thankful for all who worked so hard on the reception for my installation, as well as those who participated in the service.

I'm thankful, we are entering a new season, a new time, filled with new opportunities for all of us. I'm thankful for life now and the life to come. I'm thankful for my wife, our children and grandchildren. I'm thankful for food, clothing, shelter and meaningful labor. I'm thankful for music and poetry. I'm thankful for the air God made today and that I can breathe deeply. I'm grateful for birds, and bugs, for fish and animals - especially those that taste good.

I'm thankful God saves us, gives us a mission and walks with us daily.

I pray our thanksgiving season will be more than just a few days preparing and sharing a turkey. I pray that throughout the entire year, we would inhabit the 12th chapter of Hebrews and daily - run, consider, not grow weary, endure, strengthen ourselves, live in peace in this challenging world, and above all, that we would be thankful.

Happy Thanks Living,

Pastor Darren

Worship Services: 8:15 & 10:30 AM | Sunday School: 9:15 AM
400 S. Lakemont Avenue | Winter Park, FL 32792 | 407-647-1467 | www.winppc.org

Veterans Day Concert

VFW Band Post 2093

11/7
4-5pm
Free



Join us on Sunday, November 7 at 4pm
as we celebrate our Veterans.

This 25+ year old band is organized to support VFW Post 2093 in Orlando and is dedicated to entertaining and supporting veterans and the local community.

A reception will follow the concert. Donations will be accepted.



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RIP Medical Debt

In October we met our goal of raising \$10,000 to forgive medical debt for those in need in Orange and Seminole Counties. Our final total is \$15,300. RIP Medical Debt will purchase the debt to be forgiven in the amount of \$1,530,000. Letters will then be sent to those who have received this forgiveness.

I can't begin to tell you all how wonderful you all have been in doing God's work to help our neighbors in need. God bless you all.

~Syd Davis



For laughs (or groans!) around your table

Knock knock. Who's there? Arthur.
Arthur who? Arthur any leftovers?

Why was the Thanksgiving soup so expensive?
It had 24 carrots.

If you use boxed mashed potatoes ...
... Great-Grandma will turn over in her gravy.

My family said, "No more Thanksgiving jokes." ...
... but I said I couldn't just quit cold turkey.

Living Nativity

DECEMBER 18TH

BEGINS AT 6:00 PM | LAST ADMITTANCE IS 8:30 PM



2021 Advent Booklet

We would love to have members of WPPC participate in this year's Advent booklet. We are looking for original art and photography. The booklet will be in three parts. The first part will focus on references to Christ in the Old Testament, the second part will focus on the Christmas story as presented in the New Testament, and the third part will focus on biblical references to Christ in the future.

Suggestions for art or photos would be: pictures of Churches, altars, candles, wreaths, nativity scenes, holly, poinsettias, etc. We would also like to have inspirational nature scenes of mountains, valleys, the ocean, etc. Finally, we would like to have pictures of clouds, sunsets, rainbows - any unique sky scene.

If you would like to participate, please email Phyllis Woods at phylliscw@cfl.rr.com. All artwork and photography must be received no later than November 21st. (We would prefer it earlier than this.) The booklets are planned to be distributed on November 28th. We will be very grateful for your contribution.

Apopka Community Toy Drive

Toy Collection
Sunday, December 5

Toy Delivery
Tuesday, December 7

Please bring NEW toys only. The toys will be made available at discounted prices for parents to purchase their gifts with dignity.

Contact Rachel Myers at 407-484-7290 if you would like to help box the toys on Sunday after the service and/or deliver them on Tuesday, December 7. Come join the Fun!

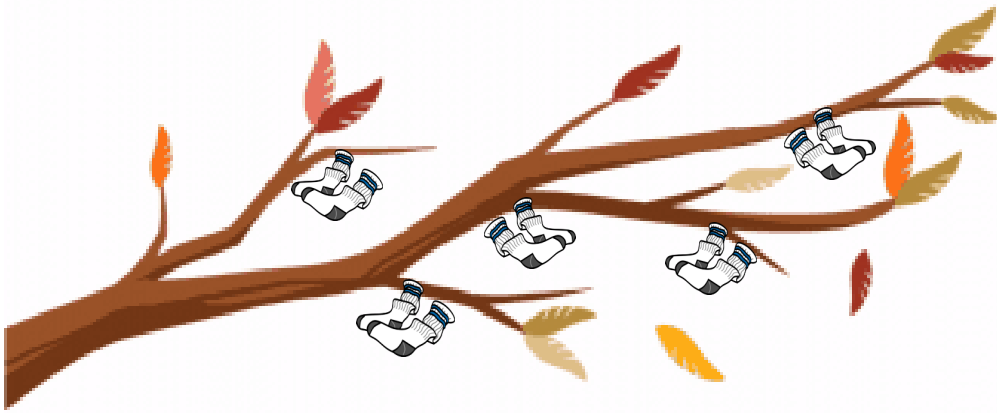


SUGGESTED TOYS:

- ☐ BICYCLES, SKATEBOARDS, SCOOTERS, HELMETS, TRICYCLES
- ☐ DOLLS OF ALL COLORS
- ☐ ARTS & CRAFTS KITS
- ☐ PLAY 'PRETEND' KITS, JEWELRY AND MAKEUP
- ☐ SPORTS BALLS OF ALL KINDS
- ☐ EDUCATIONAL GAMES AND BOOKS
- ☐ NEW SOCKS, PAJAMAS, PLAY CLOTHES, AND UNDERWEAR FOR BOYS/GIRLS
- ☐ CARS & TRUCKS (ESPECIALLY MEDIUM/LARGE VEHICLES)
- ☐ TOYS, CLOTHING, AND BLANKETS FOR INFANTS & TODDLERS
- ☐ BABY DIAPERS (NEWBORN TO SIZE 5)



YOU CAN ALSO HELP BY ORDERING THROUGH
AMAZON AND SENDING YOUR ORDER TO:
HOPE COMMUNITY CENTER - CHRISTMAS TOY SALE
1016 NORTH PARK AVE., APOPKA, FL 32712



WHITE SOCKS DRIVE
DECEMBER 5th IS THE DEADLINE!!!

This year we will be serving the Homeless earlier than usual so please bring your socks before December 5th. The Hannah Circle will be folding and packing them for the December Meal.

The recipients of these socks are the people that come to the Coalition for the Homeless for an evening meal, or they are residents in the program. Our church has been doing this drive for over 20 years, and have dispensed literally thousands of pairs of socks. It's hard to describe the joy and thanks that is expressed for these simple gifts.

Please bring
NEW WHITE SOCKS
and deposit them in the
marked containers in
FRONT OF THE CHURCH.

We will be accepting the socks
up until **December 5th.**

The Compassion Committee thanks you for your continued support.



This month we continue the Community Life Committee's "catch up" with our new members who have joined in 2021. This month we are delighted to introduce Sue Howard and Lynne McKnight, who are both members of our chancel choir as well! If you haven't yet had the opportunity, please get to know Sue and Lynne, and make sure they know they are part of our family. Don't forget to look in next month's edition for more new members!



Lynne McKnight

Joined: April 25, 2021

In 1981 Lynne moved with her extended family from Lake Forest, Illinois to Seminole County, and then in 1992 to Winter Park. She and husband Jim have three children. Jim passed away in 2018.

She has a Master's in Music and Education from UCF, and has taught in Orange County schools and led the music program at The Christ School downtown. She has also traveled with the chancel choir of 1st Presbyterian to sing in Europe, and has sung with that choir in Carnegie Hall!

Becoming part of WPPC has given Lynne renewed joy in worship, both by participating in music and being uplifted by Pastors Darren and Emily.



Sue Howard

Joined: August 15, 2021

Sue retired in 2019 from Baptist Hospital in Miami, Florida after 35 years as an oncology nurse and bioethics consultant. She has three married children and six adult grandchildren, three in college and three who are working. She moved to Westminster at Baldwin Park this past April after living 48 years in Miami, Florida. She is looking forward to singing in the choir and becoming an active member at WPPC.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES
9:15—10:15 AM

RELATIONSHIPS IN ACTION (R IN A) • ROOM 301

November 7 • Growing Up A "Preacher's Kid"

Warren Hodge will share his experience of having grown up as a "Preacher's Kid". He will give us a behind the scenes look at how his father's position influenced his interactions with his community and his peer group. He will also reflect on ways in which it guided his development and transition to adulthood.

November 14 • The Holy Land Revealed—Lecture 11: The Maccabean Revolt

This session will continue our exploration of the Hellenization of the Holy Land. While the Maccabees are known for having opposed the imposition of Greek culture and religion on the Jews, once they became the rulers, they began adopting various aspects of Greek culture.

November 21 • Hope CommUnity Center

Each year WPPC generously donates Christmas toys to the Hope CommUnity Center (HCC) in Apopka. Edith Tavera and Mariela Delgado will share with us the impact that these donations provide in their Toy Sale. The Hope CommUnity Center and the Central Florida Community have sponsored the sale for 47 years to assist parents that buy toys and their kids. The money collected in this event helps to support the Youth and Family Program. HCC is dedicated to the empowerment of immigrants and working poor communities to develop its own potential and create a positive change.

November 27 • Thanksgiving Weekend

The R in A class will not be meeting this Sunday.

SEEKERS CLASS • ROOM 315

What happened in the early days of Christianity from about 100 AD to 400 AD.? There were many leaders, both men and women, during this time, and their writings are available to us today. Have you heard of Tertullian, Pelagius, Blandina or Helena... probably not. Come join the Seekers Class any Sunday and participate in a discussion led by Terry Irwin and Marilyn Bryant. Your faith will be enriched. (Bonus: Occasionally there are also donuts.)



DEACON'S DEN DENNIS SCHMALSTIG, WPPC DEACON

Exuberant Joy



I sometimes get the feeling that creation runs on waves of exuberant joy. The most recent glimpse occurred while I stood on my back porch waiting for a whippet to finish peeing in the bushes. I happened to look at the bird feeder hooked from an elderberry branch. I saw a small, rust-colored bird perched above the feeder. He gave me an inquisitive look as if asking whether I planned to eat him. He decided that I was harmless, flew down, and snatched a few seeds. He winged away in a quick blur. My spirits lifted as if the bird had carried them up with him..

Gloomy, difficult times have been our family's share lately, but Judy and I have had moments

when we felt reassured that all would be well. Reassurance sometimes slips into happiness as a vision of brighter days briefly appears tangibly real.

Perhaps I'm grasping at straws to keep moving forward, but these blessings come at odd moments. I haven't been praying for guidance or comfort or joy. Happy bursts come my way when I least expect them.

The only pattern that I can apply to the arrival of joyful sparks is that they often happen when I'm outdoors. When I pause to feel a breeze ruffle my hair, to watch sunset light reflect off a golden cloud, to listen to birdsong (and traffic and sirens—they always accompany each other in my neighborhood), I sometimes feel my worries fall away. A still mind, receptive senses, and a nonjudgmental attitude linger after the joy fades..

I used to paint landscapes in my neighborhood of cinder block houses, cars, and trees. Passersby would walk up behind me to watch me work. Most moved on without saying a word. Some commented, "You sure made that look better than it does." I told a few that anything looks good after you've taken time to really look at it. Hidden beauty lurks behind surface appearances. So does joy.



We are excited to have more of our Hannah Sisters joining us on November 8th in Fellowship Hall and hope to see some new faces, as well.





SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, MARKS THE END OF DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME. DON'T FORGET TO "fall back" AND SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR BEFORE GOING TO BED SATURDAY NIGHT.

NEWS FROM OUR CUBAN PARTNERS

The Cuba Partnership held a virtual summit with participants from partner churches from the United States, and pastors and members of the Presbyterian Church in Cuba. Worshipping together in English and Spanish reminded all of us that our God transcends national boundaries. Cuban pastors described the economic stress experienced by Cubans as a result of the COVID 19 virus, lack of tourists and other visitors, Cuban economic policies, and the US policies regarding Cuba. Pastors further describe the stress they experience when their churches are unable to meet the needs of people in the community. Churches are also grieving the loss of members due to COVID. While Cuba has finally been able to develop a vaccine it has not met the needs of everyone. The seminary in Cuba helped by using their facilities to provide a place to children and their families who are suffering from COVID. Churches are not able to meet in person yet and are using *WhatsApp* to communicate the ministry. It has continued to be difficult to send funds to Cuba but a large container is now on its way to Cuba with dried beans, rice, syringes, and other essentials. It will probably be spring 2022 before church groups will be able to resume trips to Cuba. The plan is to have smaller zoom meetings during the year that permit US churches to communicate with their Cuban partners.

I was moved by the genuine commitment of the Cuban pastors and members to show God's love to those around them despite difficult circumstances. It reminded me why I have come to love these people so much. The Compassion Committee will keep you informed of possible ways for WPPC members to connect with our Cuban partners.

~Mary Van Hook, Compassion Committee



COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS - Here's How to Help

We are delighted to again be serving in the Men's Service Center at the Coalition for the Homeless of Central Florida. If you would like to serve, please sign up on the Coalition serving list posted in the hallway near the office, or contact Nancy Galyean at 407-929-0903 or nangalyean@gmail.com.

What	When
Bake brownies (Bonnie Gaughan 407-804-2565)	Wed 11/10 9:00-11:00 AM
Prepare meal (Mary Van Hook 407-359-2388)	Thurs 11/11 9:30-11:30 AM
Bag brownies (Joanne Robertson 407-678-8254)	Fri 11/12 9:00-10:00 AM
Donate reading materials: Magazines (news, sports, cars, National Geographic, religious magazines/booklets, paperback books)	All month: Place in COALITION giant storage box in Fellowship Hall.
Prepare to transport: Gather supplies, load food & supplies into bus (Nancy Galyean 407-929-0903)	Fri 11/12 3:30-4:00 PM
Serve the Meal. Join us in the WPPC kitchen for departure to Coalition at 4:00 PM and return by 7:30 PM. Volunteers please wear closed-toed shoes; it is a violation of health code to wear flip-flops. Please sign up in office hallway or call Nancy Galyean (407-929-0903) by the Wednesday before if you would like to serve.	Fri 11/12 4:00-7:30 PM NOTE: The church bus is reserved for this function.
Cleanup kitchen: Wash, sanitize items used; store supplies	Fri 11/12 7:30-8:00 PM
Financial Donation: Make check out to WPPC; note on the memo line "Coalition for the Homeless" - mail to WPPC or bring to the church office.	Anytime

HOMELESS COALITION TEAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Each month about 50 devoted WPPC volunteers handle the many tasks to provide and serve a wonderful meal to our guests at the Coalition.

We are in need of additional volunteers for various projects, and backup volunteers when regulars must be absent.

Any of the above gifts, or your time, are so appreciated!
To help in any way, please contact: Nancy Galyean
407-929-0903 or nangalyean@gmail.com.

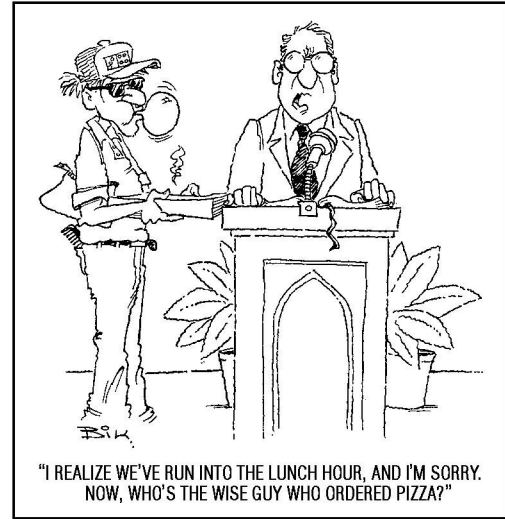
?? Bible Quiz ??

Naaman, the commander of the Aramean army, had leprosy. Who told his wife about a prophet in Samaria who might be able to cure Naaman? And who was that prophet?

- A. the king of Aram; Elijah
- B. Naaman's wife's sister; Isaiah
- C. an Israelite servant girl; Elisha
- D. a visiting emissary from Israel; Jeremiah



Answer: C (See 2 Kings 5:2-3, 8-10.)



GOD'S WILL

God wants us to follow his will, but how can we know what that is?

Directions: Write the letters on each vine in the correct order on the lines provided to complete 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, NIV.

e 7 2 4 1 c 3 i 6 5

w 3 y 5 2 a 4 s 6 a 1

_____ ,

continually,

p 1 y 4 r 2 a 3

e 4 g 1 v 3 i 2

in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

h 2 n 4 t 1 a 3 s 6 k 5

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18, NIV

Answer: rejoice, always, pray, give, thanks

Puzzle!

Complete each friend pair from the Bible, using the verses as hints. Then write the circled letters in order on the blanks below to complete Proverbs 17:17.

David & _____	2 Samuel 15:37
King Agrippa & _____	Acts 25:13
Naomi & _____	Ruth 1:22
Paul & _____	Acts 16:25
Joshua & _____	Numbers 14:6
Peter & _____	Luke 5:8-10
Job & _____	Job 2:11
Elijah & _____	2 Kings 2:1-14
Zophar & _____	Job 2:11
Jonathan & _____	1 Samuel 18:1
Peter & _____	Luke 5:8-10
Jesus & _____	John 11:20
Jesus & _____	John 11:5
Timothy & _____	2 Timothy 1:1
Jesus & _____	John 11:5
Mary & _____	Luke 1:39-40
Job & _____	Job 2:11
Aaron & _____	Exodus 4:27


" _____ "


....

PROVERBS 17:17a

Answer: Hushai, Festus, Ruth, Silas, Caleb, John, Bildad, Elisha, Eliphaz, Moses, A friend loves at all times.

Job, David, James, Mary, Martha, Paul, Lazarus, Elizabeth,

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u> Martha Heine Edmund Short	<u>6</u> Debbie Pauzar
<u>7</u> Barbara Ogburn Ronald Peterson	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u> Gay Jung	<u>12</u> Sawyer Bartholomew Elaine Ellman Christine Rich	<u>13</u> Allen Shaw George Sumrall
<u>14</u> Helen Ammerman	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u> Evan Ellman	<u>18</u> Gayle Ernst	<u>19</u> Avery Erb	<u>20</u> Martha Campbell Sevilla Morse Reta Peterson
<u>21</u> Dail Pribil	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u> Curtis Harrison	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>28</u>	<u>29</u> Samantha Blood	<u>30</u>				

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<u>1</u> Lucy Martin	<u>2</u> Jackson McCurdy	<u>3</u> Rene Cuthill Sara Woodward	<u>4</u>
<u>5</u> Beverly Tavel	<u>6</u> Doris Anguish	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u> Annabelle Bartholomew Terry Irwin Sylvia Reaves Dawn Sumrall John Trexler	<u>9</u> Ellenorr Osterhaus	<u>10</u> Reta Jackson Robert Walker	<u>11</u> Linda Morse
<u>12</u> David Lee	<u>13</u> Berta Hall Noel Wilson	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u> Linda Beaty	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u> Melinda MacDade Don McCarter Ann McDonald	<u>18</u> Betty Gale Case
<u>19</u> Julie Kent Holly Small Stephen Smith	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u> Cynthia Nants	<u>24</u> Corinne Dodd	<u>25</u> William Darcy Julie Frazier Tasha Lampe
<u>26</u> Julie Rankin Ellis Roe	<u>27</u> Jerry Osterhaus Clark Ranson	<u>28</u> Howard Evans	<u>29</u> Gary Henderson Lil Rea Ellen Skelton	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u> Patrick LaRue Glenn Riccio	



VPK students working together to weed, plant and water their class' garden box.

We are blessed to have devoted staff members (and their families) who go above and beyond to help out around the preschool. VPK teacher Mrs. Kearney and her son Ian took on the task of sprucing up the overgrown garden area behind the school that had been sitting idle during the scorching hot summer months. They spent many hours weeding the five huge garden boxes and surrounding area, replaced a fence that had deteriorated in the elements and installed new mulch.

Mrs. Kearney's students, the Alligators, enjoyed planting green beans, carrots, tomatoes and mixed flowers. They will be weeding, watering and observing their plants as they grow. They will (hopefully!) end the gardening lesson by picking and tasting the vegetables they have grown.



Garden box area BEFORE photo.



Garden box area AFTER Mrs. Kearney and her son Ian spent many hours weeding, replacing fence and installing new mulch.



Alligators VPK class is planting carrot, green bean and mixed flowers seeds in their class' garden box.



VPK student turns the soil before planting.



Our VPK students hope to find tomatoes on these plants soon.



The Rev. Dr. W. Darren Bess, Senior Pastor
 The Rev. Emily Wasser, Associate Pastor
 Carolyn Achenbach, Director of Operations/Accountant
 Cindy Mitchum, Executive Assistant
 Barbara Hordern, Administrative Assistant
 Justin Chase, Director of Music
 Penny Walsh, Organist
 Susan Davis, Director of Handbells & Children's Music
 Tricia Wilson, Director of Preschool Programs
 Kenny Lovelace, Sexton

SESSION

2021

Phillip Anderson
 Lisa Dreasher
 Jayne Leach
 Shaheed Mohammed
 Nelson Roe

2022

Theresa Coker
 Bonnie Gaughan
 Fran Morrissey
 Michelle Trahan
 Jay Van Hook

2023

Syd Davis
 Fred Kittinger
 Malcolm MacDiarmid
 Jim McKinney
 Dawn Sumrall

DIACONATE

2021

Mike Galyean
 Reta Jackson
 Julie Kent
 Curtis Koon
 Sara Van Arsdell
 Jeanne Vinci

2022

Susan Davis
 Jane Munns
 Rachel Myers
 Christine Rich
 Dennis Schmalstig
 Meg Ball Thomas

2023

Ron Ellman
 Betty Johnston
 Sevilla Morse
 Cynthia Nants
 Jyme Smith

MISSIONARIES

Mark Hare & Jenny Bent - Costa Rica
 Dr. Dan & Elizabeth Turk - Madagascar

For Covenanter or Sunday bulletin submissions, please fill out a publicity request online at <http://winppc.org/publicity-request/> or contact Cindy Mitchum at cindym@winppc.org or 407-647-1467.