



Where tradition comes to life!

250 West 7th Street, Erie, PA 16501 • Phone: 814-456-4243 • Fax: 814-454-3350
www.firstcovenanterie.org

8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Worship Services
Palm Sunday—April 5, 2009
Rededication of the Sanctuary and McBrier Chapel

GATHERING

Gathering Music: *A Trumpeting* Dale Wood
Open Now Thou Gates of Beauty arr. Broughton

Welcome Rev. Dr. Dale E. Southern

Prelude: *Ride On In Majesty* Helvey
Covenant Choir, Gloria Singers, Cherubs

Call to Worship (*from Psalm 135*) Scott Sesler

Leader: Praise the Lord, Praise the name of the Lord.

People: Give praise, O servants of the Lord.

Leader: You that stand in the house of the Lord.

People: In the courts of the house of our God.

Leader: Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good.

People: Sing to God's name, for God is gracious.

Leader: God has chosen you to be the people of God.

All: Praise the Lord. Let us worship God.

PRAYING

***Hymn No. 88:** *All Glory, Laud, and Honor* Valet Will Ich Dir Geben

***Prayer of Confession** (*Unison and Silent*) Scott Sesler

Gracious God,

You have called us to be your people and claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ. We confess that we have not lived up to our calling. We have been timid and frightened disciples, forgetful of your presence and the strength of your Spirit among us.

O God,

Forgive our sinful ways. As you have chosen us, and claimed us in our baptism, strengthen us anew to choose Christ's way in this world. Give us your Holy Spirit that each one in ministry may be provided with all the gifts of grace needed to fulfill our common calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon** Scott Sesler

***Response:** *Bless Your Holy Name*

Crouch

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is with- in me, bless your
ho - ly — name. (end) You have done great things, — you have done great
things, — you have done great things, bless your ho - ly name.

***Passing the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

11:00 a.m.—Children’s Blessing (*Bring OGHS fish banks forward.*)

(After the Blessing, children up through 4-years-old who leave the service will be escorted to Classroom A and children 5-years-old through Grade 3 who leave the service will be escorted to Children’s Worship in Reed Chapel.)

A SERVICE OF REDEDICATION

Greetings from the Presbytery of Lake Erie Rev. Dr. David S. Oyler

Recognition of the Renovation / Restoration Committee Dr. Southorn

Litany of Rededication: Sanctuary and McBrier Chapel

(See insert: A Litany of Rededication)

***Hymn No. 89:** *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

Ellacombe

Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer (*debts...debtors*) Rev. Stephen E. Morse

LISTENING

Anthem: *Ride On, King Jesus*

Scott Sesler, tenor

arr. Hall Johnson

New Testament Scripture: *John 12:12-19* (*Page 875, Pew Bible*) Dr. Southorn

Sermon: “Renewal Through the Cross” Dr. Southorn

RESPONDING

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: *All Glory, Laud and Honor*

arr. Manz

***Doxology (Hymn No. 592):**

Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Scott Sesler

***Hymn No. 100:** *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

Rockingham

***Benediction**

Dr. Southorn

Postlude: *Marche Triomphale*

Dubois

* Congregation will please stand, if able to do so.

Liturgist: Scott Sesler

Attribution for music used in the service represents the name of the composer, arranger, or tune.

THE FLOWERS AT THE LECTERN are presented to the glory of God and in loving memory of Thomas R. Sesler, given by his family. At the conclusion of the service, the Sesler family will take the flowers from the sanctuary bouquet and distribute them accordingly.

THE ROSEBUD IN THE CHAPEL honors the birth of Delaney Grace Vilushis, daughter of Amy and Chad Vilushis, born on March 9, 2009.

THE ROSEBUD IN THE BAPTISTRY honors the birth of Daniela Elizabeth Engelskirger, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Karl Engelskirger and granddaughter of Diane Engelskirger, born on March 24, 2009.

FIRST COVENANT LIFE

Communion Prep Brunch

- ★ Do you have young children whom you feel may be ready to begin receiving Communion?
- ★ On Sunday, April 19th, following the 11:00 a.m. worship service, Pastor Dale Southorn will teach children and their families the basics of Communion at the annual Communion Preparation Brunch.
- ★ Typically, families with children in the middle elementary grades participate in this event which takes place in the Fidelis Room, on the second floor above the Parlor. Sandwiches, beverages and dessert are provided. Families are asked to bring a salad or side dish to share.
- ★ Please RSVP if your family would like to attend to Mary Cooper in the church office:
mary.cooper@firstcovenanterie.org
or 456-4243 by Sunday, April 12th.

An Easter Sunday Reminder

- ★ We will not hold our regularly scheduled programming (Sunday School, Confirmation Class, Stephen Ministry training, Kirk Ringers, Kirk Singers, and Youth Clubs) on Sunday, April 12th in observance of Easter.
- ★ All regular programming will resume on Sunday, April 19th.

Chocolate Keepers

- ★ *Chocolate Keepers* will meet on Saturday, April 18th from 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. in the Parlor to remember special Easters of the past.
- ★ Come with stories to share, photos and one-of-a-kind memories.
- ★ We will participate in a related fun activity and spend a few minutes in devotions.
- ★ We invite all women and girls to join us.
- ★ Bring some chocolate and come ready for some fun and Christian fellowship.

Sunday Christian Education Schedule

9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Children

- Nursery Room 109 and 113
- Preschool Room A
- Kindergarten, Grade 1 Room C
- Grades 2-3 Room 313
- Grades 4-5 Room 315

Youth

- Grades 6-7 Middle School Lounge
- Grade 8 Confirmation Class Room 119
- Grades 9-12 Senior High Lounge

Adults

- “Christianity for the 21st Century” Room 116
- “Don’t Know Much About Sunday School” Fidelis
- “Exploring the Text” Parlor
- “Wrestling with the Text” Witherspoon

FIRST COVENANT LIFE

Campus Ministry

- ★ Have a Happy Easter break!
- ★ *The Ark* will resume on Wednesday, April 15th.
- ★ *The Ark* offers a weekly fellowship for college students on Wednesday evenings in the Parlor from 9:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.



- ★ **Today, Sunday, April 5th**, we will be looking at the events of Holy Week, and using clips from the film: *The Passion of the Christ*.
- ★ Meet in Knox Hall (instead of the Senior High Lounge)
- ★ Please bring \$1.00 for snacks.
- ★ Friends are welcome to join us!

No Covenant Connections

This Wednesday, April 8th

- ★ This Wednesday, April 8th, we will not have *Covenant Connections* in observance of Holy Week.
- ★ *Covenant Connections* will resume on Wednesday, April 15th.
- ★ On April 15th, after desserts, we will learn about the recent adult mission trip to Houma, Louisiana.

One Great Hour of Sharing

- ★ The *One Great Hour of Sharing* offering that will be received this morning, April 5th.
- ★ Children should bring their fish banks forward during the Children's Blessing.
- ★ *One Great Hour of Sharing* envelopes are available in members' offering envelope boxes. Additionally, envelopes are available in the pew racks and from the ushers. Checks can also be mailed to, or dropped off at, the church office.
- ★ *One Great Hour of Sharing* is celebrating its 60th Year of providing relief efforts of various sorts throughout the United States and the world.

On Easter morning, Mary proclaims, "I have seen the Lord."
We all have seen the risen Lord in our lives just when we need to.
Please share one such experience with me,
and who knows, you may help write my Easter sermon.

- Pastor Dale

Please drop this form off at the Church Office.
Thank you.

WELCOME

WELCOME TO ALL, especially guests and newcomers to Erie. Please take the Welcome Pad (burgundy folder in each pew) from the center aisle, sign it, and be sure to include any change of address information. If you are not on our mailing list and would like to be added, please include your address. Then pass the Pad to the others sitting in your row. Once the Pad reaches the outside aisle, please pass it back to the center aisle.

AFTER EACH WORSHIP SERVICE, we invite you to join us for a time of fellowship in the Parlor.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP: Please switch off cell phones and pagers upon entering the Sanctuary and McBrier Chapel. Welcome and make room for those who arrive during the service by leaving space at the ends of the pews. Please do not take flash photographs during the service.

FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN: We have childcare available during both entire worship services, with an infants' and toddlers' nursery in Room 113, and—during the 11:00 a.m. service only—for preschool-age children in Classroom A. After the “Children’s Blessing” in the 11:00 a.m. service, children through age 4 who leave the service will be escorted to Classroom A and children from age 5 through grade 3 who leave the service will be escorted to Children’s Worship in Reed Chapel.

We welcome children in the worship service. We have special children’s bulletins available from the ushers.

ASSISTANCE FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED is available for worship. Please contact an usher if you wish to use the system.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FROM THE USHERS.

IF YOU NEED HELP ENTERING OR LEAVING THE SANCTUARY OR CHAPELS, our ushers will gladly assist you and provide whatever help you may need.

RESTROOMS are located at the rear of the Sanctuary, in the Narthex. Please use the side aisles to reach these preferred facilities in order not to distract the worship leaders or other worshippers.

PARKING AVAILABLE at the southeast corner of 7th and Myrtle Streets. Additional parking is available at the municipal parking ramp (7th Street); Altman Hall, 235 West 7th Street; Dr. Kohler’s office, 219 West 7th Street; and Carney and Good offices, 254 West 6th Street.

WOULD YOU LIKE SOMEONE TO LISTEN TO YOU OR PRAY WITH YOU? A Stephen Minister will gladly meet with you, listen to you, and pray with you in McBrier Chapel following the 11:00 a.m. worship service.

MEANING OF THE LITURGICAL COLOR: The color purple marks the time in the church calendar for seasons of penitence and preparation, Lent and Advent.

SERMON TAPES or CDs are available for \$2.00 each. Please place your order with the church office by calling 456-4243. You may also listen to the sermon free of charge, or view a manuscript of the sermon, at www.firstcovenanterie.org.

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS: If you wish to submit information for inclusion in this weekly bulletin, the information needs to reach the church office no later than Noon on Monday to appear in the bulletin for the following Sunday.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, April 5th

—Palm Sunday—

—One Great Hour of Sharing—

**Rededication
of
Sanctuary and McBrier Chapel**

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service—*McBrier Chapel*
 9:25 p.m. A Time of Fellowship—*Parlor*
 9:30 a.m. Christian Education—*Assigned Rooms*
 9:30 a.m. Confirmation Class—*119*
 9:30 a.m. Stephen Ministry Training—*Discovery*
 11:00 a.m. Worship Service—*Sanctuary*
 12:15 p.m. A Time of Fellowship—*Parlor*
 4:45 p.m. Youth Bells—*Music Room*
 5:30 p.m. Kirk Singers—*Music Room*
 6:15 p.m. Youth Clubs—*Knox Hall*
 6:30 p.m. Parish 06 Bible Study—*Parlor*

Monday, April 6th

- 6:00 p.m. Lenten Study—*Sweets' Home*
 7:00 p.m. Lenten Study—*Magees' Home*
 7:00 p.m. Lenten Study—*LeSuers' study at the
Headleys' Home (1141 Matthew Court)*
 7:15 p.m. Covenant Bells—*Music Room*

Tuesday, April 7th

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Group—*Parlor*
 8:00 a.m. Food Pantry—*Garage*
 9:00 a.m. Staff—*Parlor*
 9:30 a.m. Program Staff—*Pastor's Study*
 7:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training—*116 and
Library*

Wednesday, April 8th

—No Covenant Connections—

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study—*Perkins, 4403 Peach*
 10:00 a.m. VBS Directors Meeting—*Library*
 7:00 p.m. Deacon Parish Team Leaders—
Witherspoon
 7:30 p.m. Deacons —*Witherspoon*

Thursday, April 9th

—Maundy Thursday and Communion—

—Preschool Easter Vacation begins—

—Gannon Easter Break begins—

- 10:00 a.m. Small Group—*Parlor*
 12:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service—
McBrier Chapel
 6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service—*Sanctuary*
 7:15 p.m. Covenant Choir—*Music Room*

Friday, April 10th

—No Preschool—

- 6:45 a.m. Men's and Boys'
Good Friday Breakfast—*Knox Hall*
 12:00 p.m. Downtown Ecumenical Service—
St. Peter Cathedral
 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service—*Sanctuary*

Saturday, April 11th

- 9:00 p.m. Easter Instrumental Rehearsal—
Sanctuary

Sunday, April 12th

—Easter Sunday—

- 8:30 a.m. Worship Service—*McBrier Chapel*
 9:25 a.m. A Time of Fellowship—*Parlor*
 11:00 a.m. Worship Service—*Sanctuary*
 12:15 p.m. A Time of Fellowship—*Parlor*

**SUNDAY, APRIL 12TH, 2009
8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.**

Easter Sunday

“All Things Are Made New”
Revelation 21:1-5a and John 20:1-9

REV. DR. DALE E. SOUTHORN



Our mission at First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant: To awaken all people to their need for a life-changing encounter with the living Lord Jesus Christ, and encourage and equip each one to become His fully-devoted follower.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE COVENANT

Rev. Dale E. Southorn, D.Min., *Pastor*
 Rev. Stephen E. Morse, *Parish Associate*
 Steven Skinner, *Minister of Music and Worship*
 Joseph Kumer, *Director of Youth and Family Ministries*
 Del VonVolkenburg, FPCBA, *Director of Administration*
 Cheylan Fosmer, *Campus Minister*
 Nick Hernandez, *Campus Minister*
 Shirley Wilson, *Music Associate/Organist and Children*
 Lisa Hiegel, *Director of Covenant Preschool*
 Leanne A. Bentz, *Ministry Assistant*

Emily Anau, *Bookkeeper*
 Mary Cooper, *Secretary*
 Chris Samler, *Building Engineer*
 Shirley Albrecht, Jr., *Housekeeper*
 Luba Kovalchuk, *Custodian*
 Stephanie Johnson, Anne Sauer, and
 Carol Skinner, *Nursery Attendants*
 Helen Greider, Jackie K. Jones, Seph Kumer, *Hosts*
 Richard Schraeder, *Kitchen Assistant*

The Congregation, *in ministry*
We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation



Where tradition comes to life!

Erie, Pennsylvania
April 5, 2009

A LITANY OF REDEDICATION

Eternal God,
The heaven of heavens cannot contain you,
much less the walls of temples made with hands.
Graciously receive our thanks for this house of worship,
**And accept the work of our hands,
offered to your honor and glory.**

We thank You,
For the Church universal,
for which these visible buildings are a symbol;
**For your presence whenever two or three have
gathered in your name,**
For this place where we may be still
and know that you are God;
**For making us your children by adoption and grace,
and refreshing us day by day with the bread of life.**
For the knowledge of your will and the grace to perform it,
For the fulfilling of our needs and desires as you see fit.
For the pardon of our sins, which restores us
to the company of your faithful people, and
**For the blessing of our vows and the crowning
of our years with your goodness,**
For the faith of those who have gone before us and for our
encouragement by their perseverance,
We thank you Lord.
For the sacrificial giving and stewardship of generations
past and present in this church,
We thank you Lord.
For those who had the vision to see not only the need,
but the potential of this restoration project.
We thank you Lord.
For the Renovation/Restoration Committee that gave
countless hours of dedication to this project.
We thank you Lord.
For the contractors, craftspeople, and volunteers who saw this
as more than just another job, but as a sacred calling
worthy of great care,
We thank you Lord.
For the generations who will inherit this house of worship,
We ask your blessing.
Therefore we offer this church as a place of welcome for the
lonely, and a place of joy and beauty for all your people.

Almighty God,
we dedicate this place of worship, that in prayer and praise, in
Word and Sacrament, we may know your will and experience
your peace and power in our lives. Let this place be a refuge
for those who suffer or sorrow, a fortress for those besieged by
temptation, a beacon for those in darkness.

**May we enter your gates with thanksgiving
and come into your courts with praise.**

Trusting in Jesus Christ, we rededicate this Sanctuary and
McBrier Chapel to your glory in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF THE COVENANT

250 West 7th Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16501

814-456-4243

www.firstcovenanterie.org

the Rev. Dr. Dale E. Southorn, Pastor

RENOVATION/RESTORATION COMITTEE

Scott Sesler, *Chair*

Judy Anderson

Karen Briggs

Ray Fritts

Libby Gorman

Bill Heard

Brent Sesler

Cal Wurst

Neal Wurst

Staff Liaisons: Steve Skinner and Del VonVolkenburg

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COMITTEE

Jean Tauber, *Co-Chair*

Ralph Wright, *Co-Chair*

Ray Fritts

Barbara Osborn

Gordon Osborn

Staff Liaisons: Leanne Bentz and Del VonVolkenburg

CONTRACTORS

Ann Arbor Audio, <i>Brighton, MI</i>	Sound system
Apex Cleaning Services, Inc., <i>Erie, PA</i>	Slate polishing and stone cleaning
Associated Finish Systems, Inc., <i>Erie, PA</i>	Ceiling panels
Carl Tullio & Sons, <i>Erie, PA</i>	Concrete sidewalks
C·K·W Architects, LLC, <i>Chicago, IL</i>	Architect
Dana Floor Sanding, <i>Erie, PA</i>	Wood floor refinishing
Eicher Painting, Inc., <i>Erie, PA</i>	Painting
Electrical and Mechanical Systems, Inc., <i>Erie, PA</i>	Electrical
Edinboro Hardwoods, <i>Edinboro, PA</i>	Millwork
Fiske Associates, Inc., <i>Erie, PA</i>	Stone repairs
Floor Expressions by Greg Thomas, <i>Erie, PA</i>	Slate entry and floor repairs
Karpinski Engineering, <i>Cleveland, OH and Ashville, NY</i>	Electrical engineering and lighting design
Mark Scoltz Plastering and Stucco, <i>Erie, PA</i>	Plaster repairs
Mezalick Design Studio, LLC, <i>Philadelphia, PA</i>	Stained glass window coverings and repair, chancel sound wall and sound diffusers
New Holland Custom Woodwork Ltd., <i>New Holland, PA</i>	Choir chairs
Schaal Glass Co., <i>Erie, PA</i>	Glass for sound wall and window coverings
Scobell Co., <i>Erie, PA</i>	Plumbing and heating repairs
Scott R. Riedel & Associates, Ltd., <i>Milwaukee, WI</i>	Acoustical Consultant and Sound System design
Sesler, Inc., <i>Erie, PA</i>	Choir risers, sound booth, and ramp
The Keck Group, Inc., <i>Warwick, NY</i>	Pew and furniture refinishing
Tim Campbell Painting, <i>Erie, PA</i>	Painting
Tim Cross Painting, <i>Erie, PA</i>	Painting
Universal Scaffold Systems, <i>Zelienople, PA</i>	Scaffolding
Vogt-Brewer-Litz, Inc., <i>Erie, PA</i>	Painting
Waggoners, Inc., <i>Hutchinson, KS</i>	Pew cushions