



# Come, Satisfy the Hungry Heart at Covenant

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## **No More School Work; No More Books; No More Teacher's Dirty Looks!**

(with great apologies to any teachers ☺)

The closer we got to the end of the school year, my friends and I during elementary school days would chant this little rhyme. It signaled a time for simply doing nuthin'. I'm not sure it's really possible to do absolutely nothing, but most of us if given the chance would certainly accept the offer! In the midst of year round schools, year round sporting events, flexible work schedules, vacations, picnics, reunions, outdoor concerts, movies, our lives are busier than ever as we juggle work and pleasure. And it doesn't look like much of anything is slowing down around the church house either...new officers and leaders stepping forth; the work of the newly formed Pre-Building Team; Summertime Sunday School & Church School, Church Wide Program Planning, etc.

And into this mix I come bearing yet one other invitation to vie for your time—accompanied by your relaxed, laid-back attitude of course ☺. I invite you to a Covenant Book Club...to read one book by July 31—a book that has the potential for helping us grow into God's future; one that compliments the work of the Pre-Building Team & will enhance the outcome of our Church Wide Planning meeting: *Unbinding the Gospel*, by Martha Grace Reese; designed to help us take a close look at the "E Word"—evangelism; taking a tired and worn out word and bringing into a new understanding. At first glance it doesn't have the appeal of Oprah's Book Club, but it's an easy and interesting read.

Are you game? You have 6 weeks to read it and we'll gather for discussion & refreshments on Tuesday evening, July 31 @ 7pm. (childcare upon request). The first order for books will be placed on June 11...Sign up: on line; during worship; or call the church office.

**Come on and read along with me...Blessings, Joanne**

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## **Welcome to our Newest Members**

Jon & Amy Gaffney, united with us, Sunday May 27 from Bethany Memorial Christian Church (DoC) in Bethany WVA. Their address is 4036-104 Greenleaf St, Raleigh, 27606. Their Elder is Phama Johnston. Please extend a warm Covenant welcome to Jon & Amy.

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## **Invitation Ministry Team**

The Invitation Ministry Team continues to implement its plans as we reach out to current and potential guests. The Living Bread Ministry is off to a great start, with volunteers baking bread & delivering it to new guests. Thanks to Terry White for coordinating this effort. Volunteers are also greeting guests (and members) before and after worship each week. Returning guests are then connected with members who have similar interests, family characteristics or geographic location.

A "**Be Our Guest**" Dinner for new members and guests is scheduled for June 3, at the home of Debbie & Jerry Miller. Future B.O.G Dinners will be scheduled on a quarterly basis.

We always have room for more volunteers to help with this vital and rewarding ministry; and we welcome any ideas you have for sharing Covenant's story with others who may be searching for a faith community where they will experience God in Jesus Christ as we travel along this faith journey together. So, please let us hear from you!

--Meg Snave, Jim & Marian Hartman, Coordinators  
[megsnave@nc.rr.com](mailto:megsnave@nc.rr.com) or [jimarian@nc.rr.com](mailto:jimarian@nc.rr.com)

## **The Dream Continues... Pre-Building Team Appointed!**

Based on the results of the hard work by Faithful Planning, Covenant is headed toward a future major building project. The preliminary steps include the formation of a Pre-Building Team. The General Board at its April meeting, approved the appointment of the Pre-Building Team: Dave Deardorff, Chr; Elgin Fry; April Hitch; Ken Hoffman; Debbie Miller, Karen Nolan & John White; Moderator and Ministers, ex-officio.

They have accepted the challenge of exploring how God is calling us into God's future. They will be visiting with Town of Cary officials concerning building code changes, sign ordinances, site plan, etc. since we last built the classrooms & playground; as well as looking at our building project through the fresh eyes of an architect consultant from Church Extension who will help us consider the best options for our future building.

This is a great summertime project, wouldn't you agree? The Pre-Building Team looks forward to presenting the results of their work in late September for congregational consideration and approval of our next steps. Please pray for the Team daily as together we discern God's direction for our faith community...Don Downs, Moderator



**"Well it's different now,  
'Cause Summer time is  
calling me!"**

What's happening with **Children's Ministries** on Sunday mornings this summer? The dog days of summer sure aren't going to slow us down! Starting at 9:15 am, we will "**Live B.I.G.** (Belief in God)" with two classes for ages 3-6 and 7-10 yrs old. Then at 10:30 am we will begin in worship with our families until after the Children's Moment; and then move to a one room class setting for ages 3-8 yrs old where we will be "**Celebrating God's World**" in Children's Church. Children ages 9 & up are invited to remain in worship during the summer months.

"**Live B.I.G.**" Sunday School in June will be looking at "Heroes for God" in June. In July, they will look at how "Jesus Teaches us with Stories", and in August how "Jesus' Friends Go and Tell." The Sunday School classes will use rotating teachers for these months.

"**Celebrating God's World**" will be led by Rev. Anna Perry with Rev. Carolyn Allen substituting. In this class, the children will look at Colors, Gardens, and People in God's World.

We hope to see you in one or both of these exciting, fun programs on Sunday mornings starting in June!

**Happy Summer! Rev. Anna Perry**

**For All Incoming & Outgoing  
Officers & Leaders:  
Elders Meeting, June 5, 7:30pm  
General Board, June 10, 7pm  
Recognition & Installation, July 15, 10:30am**

## Joys & Concerns:

**Congratulations to:** Rev. Sekinah Hamlin, former Covenant member, who is now the President of the Board of the NC Council of Churches.

**New Address & Phone # for Joe & Barb Teixeira:**  
805 Hepplewhite Ct.; Fuquay Varina, 27526; 762- 8904

**Recent:** At Home: Gus Rutledge; Anna Perry's nephew, Adam; Denise Loughridge; Betty Johnston; Marilyn Christian

### Ongoing Prayers for Members & their Families:

**Members:** Anne Scott; Lesley Richardson; Mary Toney...  
**Parents:** Betsy Mebane; Ann Hall; **Mothers:** Dick Reaves; Alan Wilkinson; Dave Deardorff; Sandi Velez; **Fathers:** Meg Snave; Sharon Frost; Debbie Miller; **Stepfather** of Craig Paul; **Grandmothers** of Diana Toney; Greg Stelmack; Carolyn Allen & Bill Rivers; **Sons:** Kathy Smith & Jim Johnston; **Sisters:** Elgin Fry; Hazel Brothers; Elaine Kennel; Sharon Frost; **Brothers:** Debbie Miller; Carol Carson; Art Brothers; **Great Aunt:** Terry White; **Aunts:** Mary Lou Jackson; Steve Frost; Patty Cole & Kathy Smith; **Uncles:** Derek Rutledge; Terry White; Melanie Bunn; Betsy Mebane; **Nephew:** Meg Snave; **Great-nephew:** Jody & Jay Barish; **Cousins** of Barbara Crumpler; Elaine Fry; Larry Linguist; Jim Hartman; **Sisters-in-law** of Hazel Brothers; Phama Johnston.

**Remembering Others:** Howard Tefft; Renie Palmer's neighbor, Bill; Cameron Wall; Rhonda Wendt; Brenda Lorren; Ron Walters & Don Styles; Sharon Johnson; Mickey Michael; Hazel Schuller; General & Regional Church Leaders; Disciples new church starts: Chapel Hill; Burlington & Wake Forest.

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## Congratulations to Our Spring 2007 Graduates

### High School:

**Robert Andrews**, Green Hope High School; son of Russ & Bonnie Andrews; Appalachian State University, Boone, NC.

**Hunt Cassell**, Cary High School; son of Barbara Crumpler; UNC-Greensboro..

**Kyle Duryea**, Athens Drive High School; son of Dennis & Sherri Duryea; grandson of Rev Duryea; UNC-Charlotte.

**Mallorie Monteith**, Broughton High School; daughter of Ebbie Whitley Hendren; UNC-CH

**Claire Sisson**, Green Hope High School; daughter of Catherine Sisson; working at Life Experiences, Cary

**Jacob Sisson**, Green Hope High School; son of Catherine Sisson; Wake Tech Community College, Raleigh. .

### College & Graduate School:

**Natalie Cassell**, UNC-Chapel Hill; entering the Peace Corps in August.

**Greg Warren**, NCCU School of Law

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## 2007 General Assembly July 21-25 Ft. Worth TX



Covenant will be well represented at the upcoming General Assembly with at least 8 members attending. It's like a huge Disciples of Christ Family reunion filled with worship, fun, mission projects, workshops and more! We look forward to sharing our experiences with the congregation upon our return.

## The Library Corner

### *The Last Dance But Not the Last Song*

by Renee Bondi with Nancy Curtis.

Renee Bondi takes us on the journey of learning to live with quadriplegia. At the age of 29 and just two months before her wedding day, she fell from her bed and broke her neck. She is totally dependent on others and her own inner strength and faith to deal with it. She tells about her life with 2 sisters and brother living on a ranch in California and how she became a singer, choir director, middle school music teacher, dancer and respected member of her community. She looked forward to all the things we all plan on in our 20s. Instead she found herself in the prison of a wheelchair, which seems to develop a life of it's own as the story goes on. She credits God with all the progress she made through the pain, frustrations, dependence and fear. Experience the trip to an active life from the moment she awakens on the floor of her bedroom unable to move or make a sound. Continue to the hospital, rehab, and home with the help of so many who lead her to living a good life.

This is a story of hope and courage and not running away from what seems impossible. The reader learns about a subject we really know little about unless involved personally in the situation with someone. You will laugh and cry as you read about what has happened in the following nine years to Renee and her family. There are many surprises. I could not lay this book down and strongly recommend that people of all ages read it. It is better than fiction; no one could have made it up.

*Sally Shelly, Reviewer*

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## Jesus And Wisdom

Wisdom is knowing how to live. Jesus was, and still is, a teacher of wisdom, but not the conventional kind. The alternative wisdom Jesus presents is a life-giving, nurturing way of being that draws people together into gracious, inclusive communities of faith; communities that are God, not self, centered. Come consider these outlandish possibilities with others in the Seekers Sunday School class. Discussions are guided by the insights of Marcus Borg, a theologian, Christian, and author who **wrote Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time.**

It's not too late to join in the discussions, or stop by to eavesdrop on the conversations, even if you don't have the book. **WHEN: Sunday Mornings in June – 9:15 am**  
**WHERE: Youth Room, Education Wing**

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## Disciples Men at Work!

Covenant Disciples Men have been working on behalf of the church by purchasing and installing a new kitchen stove (thanks to Jack Reilly for heading up) and to completing painting on the "Taj Ma Shed" (thanks to Dave Garrett). At the May 12 breakfast, several heard Gary Hahn (Voice of the Wolfpack) bring the program. Recently, some of the Covenant men also joined with other Disciples Men to move 160 bed and dresser sets from NC State and placed them in the cabins at Camp Caroline in Arapahoe.

Seven of us will be participating in the NC Regional Men's Retreat at Camp Caroline, June 1 & 2, staying at Kennel's Beach. The theme is "Faith" & the keynote speaker is Rev. Jamie Eubanks, Church Planter at Wake Forest C.C.

The next NC Regional Men's retreat is scheduled for September 21-23; Johnny Wray, Executive Director of the Week of Compassion will be the keynoter. This one fills up quickly and you must register with Christmount directly; forms available outside the church office.

*Joe Teixeira & Mike Joyce, Co-Chairs*

### **Mark Your Calendars NOW!**

**Covenant's Annual Church Wide Program Planning Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, August 4, 8:30a-12:30p** (breakfast & childcare provided). All members and guests are encouraged to attend as we bring all our ideas to the table for our 2007-08 Program Year. Details later.



## Women's Ministry News...

There will be a Women's Ministry meeting on Sunday, June 10 immediately following worship, to plan activities for next year, to confirm co-chairs, to select committee leaders and participants. All women are encouraged to attend. Your ideas, interests, and commitment are needed. Light refreshments will be served. Please see Lisa Yanchunas or Sharon Garrett for details or if you have a particular interest.

Many of the Women's Ministry's activities are winding down as we approach summer. This gives us the opportunity to renew our spirits, to review the past year, and to focus on the next. Please continue praying for guidance and service as we seek women to fill various leadership positions for the 2007-2008 year in the Women's Ministry. See the two articles below for more Women's Ministry News...

**Sharon Garrett & Lisa Yanchunas, Coordinators**

### A Plug for Women's Ministry sponsored, Parent's Night Out (PNO) by Roxie Gold:

I got to the last PNO late so I helped with the second craft of the evening. Art is my thing and I think that children are brilliant artists. No one has ruined them yet. 9 or 10 crosses were decorated and no 2 were alike. There was a solid red one, a stained glass like one, some decorated with sparkle markers, others with stickers. The children shared markers, stickers, paint, brushes with remarkable patience and good spirits. Very little paint ended up anywhere except on the paper where it belonged.

A bonus to all of this is getting to know the other women who volunteer. And Mary Lou is a genius for organizing the PNO. It runs smoother than many events I've been to with only adults attending. The absolute best part of the Parents Night Out is the look on the parents' faces when they come back to get their children. They look so relaxed and happy when they get back. And their children are so happy to see them - there is no joy like the rush you get when your child flings herself at you and says "Mommy I missed you but I had the best time!" So if you are the parent of young children take advantage of the next Parents' Night Out. Or if you have time to volunteer - you won't regret it.

### Disciples Women's Fall Retreat at Christmount, August 10-12 Registration due by August 3

The theme is *Come to the Table* and the keynoter is Daisy Chambers. This retreat fills up quickly. It's a first come, first serve basis and cannot be made via the phone. So pick up your registration form on the table outside the office and send in your \$20 registration fee ASAP directly to Christmount! See Lisa Yanchunas or Sharon Garrett to learn who's planning to attend and for any other info.

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### Covenant is Recycling!

Please help take care of God's beautiful creation by continuing to put:

- your bulletin & unwanted inserts in the basket by the entryway door.
- used household batteries and printer cartridges in the baskets on the table outside the church office
- plastic bottles, aluminum cans & cardboard in the blue tub in the kitchen.

Contact Kathy Smith at 363-6313 or ekathys@yahoo.com if you're willing to make an occasional delivery to the collection site, or if you have additional ideas for Covenant's recycling efforts. **Thanks, Kathy Smith, Outreach Ministry**

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### A Penny Here...A Penny There...

Don't forget about [www.GoodSearch.com](http://www.GoodSearch.com) - a search engine, that donates half its revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Simply go to the site & enter Covenant Christian Church, Cary, NC as the charity you want to support. Every bit helps. Be sure to spread the word!

## The Music Fund

Recently, gifts have been received to support Covenant's Music Ministry. Some of the money has been used to purchase extra copies of favorite anthems for our new choir members. Some was been used to purchase the new compositions you heard in May. Other funds were designated for the purchase of more choir robes. Thanks to all who have expressed, with these gifts, their appreciation for all who commit their time and talents to this ministry.

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### April 2007 Financial Information

<b>General Fund</b>	
Beginning Balance	\$ (299.54)
Receipts	\$ 21,938.43
Disbursements	\$ 18,057.71
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 3,581.18</b>
<b>Capital Campaign</b>	
Beginning Balance	\$ 26,893.36
Receipts	\$ 450.00
Disbursements	\$
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 27,343.36</b>

Summer Time Fun has Begun! As you travel & are away from Covenant, please remember the expenses of the Church continue! Check with Mary Lou in the church office about doing an automatic draft for your church pledge! That way your \$ is here even when you're not! Or simply mail your tithe/pledge to the church office...

**Be a good Summer Steward!**

### Soaring to New Heights with God! Vacation Bible School 2007

July 9-13 6:30 - 8:30pm



**Lift off!**

**Children, Youth & Adults  
(childcare for infants & toddlers provided)**

Mark your calendars NOW & Register Today!

For more info contact:

Darla and Brad Baldwin, Directors

[darlabaldwin@nc.rr.com](mailto:darlabaldwin@nc.rr.com)

### And Now THE ABSOLUTE FINAL Word from Mary Lou...

You may obtain an updated copy of the Membership List via email...or there are copies outside the office on the table.

Also, we like to know of your attendance here at Covenant...Please remember to sign the attendance pads for Worship, even if the Worship Leader forgets to ask; Sunday School & other meetings...

**AND...one more thing...Please, please...have your Newsletter articles to me by June 19, for the Newsletter. I do like to get it mailed before the first of the next month!**