

Covenant Christian Church
 (Disciples of Christ)
 2911 S.W. Cary Parkway Cary, NC 27513
 Phone: 919-481-4715 Fax: 919-481-4016
 Email: covenantcc@bellsouth.net
 Web: www.CovenantChristianChurch-Cary.org



Sundays
 Worship: 9:00am & 11:00am
 Sunday School: 10:00am

Wednesdays
 Youth Groups & Adult Studies 6:30pm
 Worship: 7:30pm

Volume 21 No.10

September 28, 2007

The Art of Juggling...

The other day I heard someone talking about juggling; how he had learned to juggle as a kid; but lately hadn't seen anyone juggle. But I beg to differ. While I may not toss physical objects in the air and catch them at alternative times and toss them back into the air, the fine art of juggling is not lost! Just think of the many things you and I have to juggle in the course of even one day or one morning or afternoon as we take care of ourselves, our family members, our work outside the home.

We can only toss so many items into the air and keeping them going, without having them all come crashing down on top of our heads. And in those times when it looks as if we can't keep it all in balance, I for one am glad that among many things, I envision God as a great Juggler--the One who is there to help us discern what is important among all the items that need to be juggled.

As the Fall season brings us additional things to juggle, I seek God's wisdom to discern what the priorities are for my life and pray for the strength and courage to let go of those things that are more selfish and not all that important; and to only toss up those things that are of God and God's desire for my life and for those with whom I share life. This is my prayer for you, for me and for our church family...See you 'round the church house...

Blessings, Joanne

Sunday, October 7... World Communion Day...Pulpit Exchange



In 2005, 6 area churches began a local *Partnership in Mission & Ministry* by building a Habitat for Humanity house: Community United Church of Christ; Pullen Memorial Baptist; Hillyer Memorial Christian Church (DoC); Millbrook Baptist; N. Raleigh United Church of Christ and Covenant. We hope the pulpit exchange among 4 of our churches will lead us further into deepening friendship, continuing dialogue and joint public witness to our world.

Rev. Steve Halsted, Minister at Community United Church of Christ will be our guest minister at Covenant at 11am. Rev. VerBurg will preach at Pullen Memorial Baptist. This is a blessed opportunity for us as we continue to break down denominational barriers and seek common ground in the name of Christian Unity. Please make every effort to be here to welcome Rev. Halsted.

A WORD from the Moderator...

One of my favorite ways of knowing is to look in the sky each fall to see the constellation Orion. Each year, I look forward to seeing Orion's belt, arrow, and knife scabbard in the morning sky when I get the paper as part of the annual celestial rhythm.

Just as Orion has its place in the yearly rhythm, so we too, as a church family have an annual rhythm. Fall is the busy season for church officers, where we look at what we want to focus upon for the coming year, develop a budget to see how much it will cost to deliver these areas of focus for us within the church and as we reach out to those in need; and as we invite others who are seeking a church home. Brad Baldwin, Vice-Moderator and the Program Council are now beginning that process.

There are LOTS of wonderful areas where we are growing and moving toward God's future--some of them cost more in the way of time and talent, while others require time, talent, and financial resources. You can see for yourself in worship with the Gathering, our new non-traditional service and our blended traditional service; our additions in children and youth ministry, and the different ways we can study to learn more about who we are and our part in this celestial rhythm.

We have a terrific and growing number of people who are volunteering their time and talents to continue to help this growing community of faith grow closer to a relationship with God.

In the coming weeks, you'll be asked to consider what you can offer financially to help continue our growth. Look for information on our stewardship campaign and continue to take time to prayerfully consider how you can help us continue to grow... **Chris Hitch**



CROP Walk
 Sunday, October 7
 Let's meet at 1pm
 Cary High School Stadium

It's a 5k walk/run to raise funds for local and worldwide hunger efforts. It's not too late to register. Contact Kevin Eldridge, Coordinator, 460-8561; Kevin_e@bellsouth.net

Joys & Concerns

Welcome Melanie & Joe!



Sunday, September 9, Melanie Fagert & Joe Busby united with us. Their address/phone #: 128 Drummond Circle, Cary 27511; 715-309-8243. Meg Snave is their Shepherding Elder. Please offer your own words of welcome to Joe & Melanie.

Our love & prayers are with Sharon & Dave Garrett in the recent death of Sharon's aunt.

Recent: Debbie Miller at home; Scott Larsen; Henry Bunn (9) and his family; Bill Huncik; those serving in Iraq and the Iraqi people; the people of Myanmar ...

Continuing Prayers for:

Denise Loughridge; Mary Toney; Betty Johnston; Hannah Stiles; Amarvi Thompson.

Parents of: Ann Hall. **Mothers of:** Ann Washington; Renié Palmer; Steve Frost; Sandi Velez; Dave Deardorff; Alan Wilkinson. **Fathers:** Meg Snave; Sharon Frost; Debbie Miller. **Daughter:** Monteith's. **Sons of:** Kathy Smith; Jim Johnston. **Grandmother of:** Diana Toney; Greg Stelmack; Carolyn Allen; Bill Rivers; Darla Baldwin. **Grandfather of:** Darla Baldwin. **Sisters of:** Roxie Gold; Elgin Fry; Hazel Brothers. **Brother of:** Art Brothers; Sharon Frost; Carol Carson. **Great-Uncle of:** Terry White.

Aunts of: Cathy Downs; Kathy Smith; Larry Linguist.

Uncles of: Terry White; Melanie Bunn.

Niece of: Patricia Mills. **Nephews of:** Meg Snave, Roxie Gold & Joe Busby

Great-Nephew of: Jody & Jay Barish.

Cousins of: Terry White; Bob Kennel; Barbara Crumpler; Elaine Fry; Larry Linguist; Jim Hartman;

Sister-in-laws of: Hazel Brothers; Phama Johnston.

Remembering: James Baker, Nancy Alexander; Hazel Schuller; Barbara McCauley; Gail McCormick; Renie Palmer's neighbor, Bill; Cameron Wall; Rhonda Wendt; Brenda Lorren; Ron Walters; Don Styles; Sharon Johnson; General & Regional Church Leaders; Disciples new church starts.

Many thanks to Jim Johnston, Property Ministry Chr & all who helped to beautify our church grounds...Wow! And thanks to Dennis Duryea for providing the fall flowers.

<> <> <> <>

Miss a Sunday?

Want to hear what went on in worship?

We are now able to provide CDs of the 11:00am Sunday morning worship each week. Contact the church office: 481-4715; covenantcc@bellsouth.net or stop by to pick up a CD.

**1 Craft Fair + 1 Yard Sale +
1 Bake Sale + 1 Antique Sale
+ 1 BBQ Lunch =**

Covenant's Fun Raising Event!

Saturday, October 13

8am-2pm

So start now by:

- Cleaning out the clutter for the Yard Sale—**NO CLOTHES!**
- Making a favorite craft for the Craft Fair;
- Planning for the homemade goodies you want to make for our wonderful bake sale;
- Selecting any items for the antique sale;
- Start bringing items on Thursday, October 11.

We also need a lot of help:

- Friday, October 12—setting up tables & organizing the items you bring to the church
- Saturday, October 13—we need food servers and delivery folks for the BBQ lunch; helpers with the Bake Sale, Craft Fair & Yard Sale.

Once again you will have the opportunity to purchase Fair Trade crafts, coffees & chocolates as we directly support third world artisans & their families..

Proceeds support: Women's Ministries; Men's Ministries; Fair Trade & the Fund Raising Ministry.

Questions? Contact Elaine Kennel, 557-0847;

elkcm@aol.com

<> <> <> <>

Want to Volunteer to Work at the State Fair? October 12-21

While we no longer "officially work with St. Paul's at the State Fair Booth, several Covenant individuals still want to help out. Covenant receives income as a fund-raising effort, from each slot that a Covenant volunteer fills. If you're interested, contact the church office: 481-4715; or covenantcc@bellsouth.net and state your preference for which day or days; and which shift or partial shift: early morning 6:30-11a; mid-day noon-5:30p, or evening, 5:30-10:30p. Someone will contact you with further information and how to receive your passes. We already have people working the first and second shifts during the weekday.

**Invitation Ministry is Hosting
A "Be Our Guest" Dinner**

for All Guests

Sunday, October 21

4:30-6:30pm

at the home of Don & Cathy Downs

Your Invitation is in the Mail!

Women's Ministry News

District CWF Meeting – All Women of the Church

Welcome! Come join us at St. Paul's Church in Raleigh for our district's Christian Women Fellowship Meeting on **Saturday, November 10th** from **noon until 2:00**. It's been a while since our district has met. Lunch will be provided at no charge. Valerie Melvin, the new Regional Associate Minister, is the guest speaker.

Women's Ministry Bible Study: Our next bible study is Tuesday, October 9, 7:30pm, at the church, in the classroom down the hall on the left. This is a great opportunity to fellowship with other women and learn about this year's intriguing New Day theme, "Come to the Table." Every session stands alone, so come to one or come to all!

Women's Ministry Breakfast: Saturday, December 1, 8:30 am – 10:00. The Interfaith Food Shuttle Director is speaking about how we can take surplus food in our community and deliver to people in need. We may be able to see how Covenant's own garden can help in this effort. Breakfast begins 8:30 a.m.; the program begins at 9:00. A pancake breakfast is being provided.

August 2007 Financial Information

General Fund	
Beginning Balance	\$ 8,552.03
Receipts	\$ 17,374.13
Disbursements	\$ 19,582.23
Transfer	\$.00
Ending Balance	\$ 6,343.93
Capital Campaign General	
Beginning Balance	\$ 3,598.68
Receipts	\$ 350.00
Transfer	\$.00
Ending Balance	\$ 3,948.68

Please remember to support the Operating Budget with your pledges, tithes and donations.

We do want to encourage members/guests to setup **automatic bill pay** with their bank so that a check is sent to us each week or month. The information that one needs when setting up an automatic payment is as follows:

Billor Name: Covenant Christian Church
Account number: GENERAL FUND
Billor Address: 2911 SW Cary Parkway
Billor City, State, Zip: Cary, NC 27513
Billor phone number: 919-481-4715

The account number can be GENERAL FUND/
SANCTUARY FUND/CAPITAL CAMPAIGN/or
MEMORIAL FUND.

Further questions? Contact Betsy Mebane, Treasurer,
betsy_mebane@hotmail.com.

Library Corner...

How to pray after you've kicked the dog

by Terry Teykel

The interest on learning to pray came to my attention during the discussion of Unbinding the Gospel. It seemed right to report on a library book on the subject. The title of this one caught my eye and I was not disappointed.

The Prologue, Introduction –things are not always not what they seem and Epilogue will encourage you to read the book. The author, a pastor for 28 years uses humor and illustrations of prayer and answers questions people ask about prayer.

The book is divided into three parts which deal with the myths people have about prayer.

Part I – Overcoming the fear of rejection because of the myth that God does not answer prayer if there is sin in your life and the myth that Prayer is like an international phone call – distance is extreme, the connection shaky, the rate is high and the number hard to remember.

Part 2 – The fear of failure with the 3 myths; Some prayers are better than others, Prayer is crisis motivated and The main goal of prayer is to get God's attention.

Part 3 – The fear of embarrassment with 2 myths: In order for my prayer life to be legitimate, it should look like someone else's and Prayer is a gift – some people have and some people don't.

Each myth is followed with its truth freeing us from the mental blocks the myths cause. Prayer is a conversation with God; you do not need a formula but one can be found if you want one.

This was informative and fun to read. Other books of prayers or about prayer can be found in the library on the Meditation/Devotion shelf. The spine label on the books is blue with A#.

Sally Shelly, Reviewer

<> <> <> <>

The Gospel Continues to be Unbound!

The latest Covenant study, **Unbinding the Gospel**, by Martha Grace Reese, is making a difference in the life of our church family. The power of prayer at work in our lives as we pray for our congregation, its leadership, members and the seen as well as the "yet to be seen" guests is evident every time we gather for worship, study, fun and the business of the church.

The renewed energy and commitment is emerging from deep within us as we sense God's leading in every part of our church life. It's not too late to jump in and see what everyone's talking about...The Sunday group meets at 10am; and the Wednesday group meets 6:30-7:30pm.

Come see what you've been missin'!

It's Time for Trunk or Treat!



Sunday October 28
3:30-6:30pm

Trunk or Treat is our annual Halloween Celebration for Covenant, the MacArthur Park neighborhood and any one else you want to invite. There's something for everyone. What better way to celebrate Halloween than by spending a crisp fall evening playing games, face paintings, eating delicious food, and parading around in costumes.

Wear your costume, and plan to join our neighbors from MacArthur Park at 3:30p at the corner of Heathridge and Pennsbury to start the parade to Covenant. We'll have lots of games and fun events for the whole family, along with dinner (donations of \$3/person or \$10/family are appreciated).

****Special All Points Bulletin****

Have we got a treat for you...the hot air balloon that had to be cancelled during Vacation Bible School, is coming to Trunk or Treat—this is not a trick! ☺ Beginning at 4pm Mr. Brown will offer tethered rides for all who have signed release forms. The ones from VBS are still on file and extras will be available on site, but a parent must be present to sign for all minors.

As always, there will be a Cake Walk, and—new this year—**Covenant's Cheesecake Factory**—raffle tickets will be sold for a homemade cheesecake. We'll end the evening with the traditional trunk or treating when kids go from trunk to trunk for Halloween treats in the parking lot.

How can you help?

- Dress up in costume
- bake Halloween goodies for the cake walk
- bake a cheesecake for the raffle,
- decorate your trunk or truck bed & hand out treats
- Volunteer to help with dinner
- or just come along for the fun!

Contact Rev. Perry & Darla Baldwin about games, Cake Walk or Cheesecake raffle; or Jeanne White to volunteer to help prepare or serve the light supper or provide special treats for the children.

Bring your family, invite your friends and neighbors, and join us on October 28!



Save the Date!
Let's Celebrate!
Covenant's 21st Anniversary
in Grand Style
Sunday, November 21
Worship & A Luncheon!

Program Council Meeting
Sunday, October 14 after 11:00am Worship
General Board Meeting
Sunday, October 21 after 11:00am Worship
Both Groups are doing 2008 Budget Planning!

It's beginning to look a lot like...

...Okay, it's not Christmas yet! (only 86 more days ☺)
But it's time to start thinking about Covenant's Christmas Play for the annual Holiday Tasting Party, December 16, 5-7pm. This year we'll be performing the inaugural presentation of "Looks Like Another Silent Night," written by our own Kathy Kidwell.

There are parts for children of all ages, from toddlers to teens. Parents, please encourage your child/ren to participate. And then let us know if your child is interested in being in the play in a speaking or non-speaking role. We'll tailor the script to fit our cast.

So please contact the church office: 481-4715 or covenantcc@bellsouth.net or Kathy Kidwell: kathy.kidwell@accesspointinc.com; 460-8931
by October 21.

<> <> <> <>

A Final Word from Mary Lou...

Updated Membership Lists are available via email... just call me and I will send you the attachment...or you can pick up a copy on the table outside the church office.

Attendance Counts! We need to know when you're here for worship; church school; meetings and events here at Covenant...Please remember to sign the attendance registry and pass it down your row even if the Worship Leader forgets to ask you to do so...The names of our guests are important to Invitation Ministry too!

AND...one more thing...All Staff, New Officers, Leaders and Ministry Chairs: Please, please...have your October Newsletter articles to me by October 17. I make every effort to post it online by the first of each month. But I can't do it without YOUR input!
P.S. Folks, we're not doing a very good job at this!