

## Covenant Christian Church

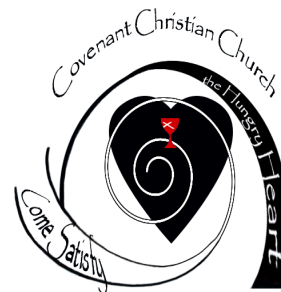
(Disciples of Christ)

2911 S.W. Cary Parkway Cary, NC 27513

Phone: 919-481-4715 Fax: 919-481-4016

Email: [covenantcc@bellsouth.net](mailto:covenantcc@bellsouth.net)

Web: [www.CovenantChristianChurch-Cary.org](http://www.CovenantChristianChurch-Cary.org)



### Sundays

Worship: 9:00am & 11:00am

Sunday School: 10:00am

Volume 22 No.9

### Wednesdays

7:30pm Taizé Worship

August 28, 2008

## Along the Way...

...I recently met a new young friend, Isabel, who is 4 years old. While speaking with her mother, I learned that one of the challenges many parents face is deciding what is acceptable and unacceptable programming for children to watch. For whatever reason, Isabel's mother feels quite fortunate that Isabel's favorite TV channel is The Food Network! And her favorite chef is Rachel Ray! She especially likes it when Rachel talks to her food and she told me with a giggle in her voice that she recently heard Rachel say, "Hello, guys" to a bunch of carrots ☺.

I asked Isabel if she ever helped cook for her family and she replied that she helped make soup. When I asked her what she might cook if I ever came to her house...she quickly said, "Pretend food!" I have lots of pretend food in my play kitchen." Of course coming from a 4 year-old, pretend food makes for a delicious entrée on any imaginary menu. "Sounds absolutely yummy..." I said.

Later, the idea of "pretend" food as opposed to "real" food kept running through my head as I thought about the beginning of our new program year here at Covenant. Then I kept focusing on the Covenant sound byte that serves as an umbrella for our ministries, **"Come, Satisfy the Hungry Heart."** Hmmm...

If someone asked you what kind of food they would receive if they stopped by this church house, how would you reply? "Pretend" food or "Real" food? Well, I gotta tell you, pretend food is unacceptable. It provides no nourishment whatsoever. Lots of places in our lives offer an endless supply of pretend food. But as more me and our faith community, we seek to satisfy our hunger and thirst for God by sharing and receiving "real" food; the only food that nourishes our very spirit.

As we kick-off the new program year offering refreshing worship, challenging studies, meaningful ways to serve others, let us make a commitment to be here and to seek true joy in our lives and to share that true joy with all who are among us and all who are longing for the same, whom we have yet to invite...and let's not forget to laugh as we *seek to satisfy the hungry heart...* **Blessings, Joanne**

<< << << << <<

## Promotion Sunday

**This Sunday, September 7 at 9am & 11am**

During both worship services this Sunday, we will be promoting the children who will be entering a NEW Class this year. All children in grades 3-5 will receive bibles. And Youth bibles will be given to our Middle School students. Parents, please make an effort to be in either service so that we may recognize your children in this special way.

## And Now a Word from Your Moderator...

It is my pleasure to announce that our own Hunt Cassell has been employed on an interim part-time basis as Youth Director at Covenant, with programmatic responsibility for Chi-Rho (grades 6-8) and CYF (grades 9-12). Hunt, a college sophomore, is a graduate of our CYF group and has served as an adult sponsor for the youth mission trip for the last two years. He will serve us on a semester by semester basis until a new associate minister is called. Hunt is the son of Covenant member Barbara Crumpler. Please welcome him and offer him your support in this important new role.

This action, approved unanimously by the general board, comes as a direct response to the suggestions and concerns voiced at a meeting in July of the parents of our Youth, a meeting designed to inform our leadership in providing continuity during our interim period of search and call of a new associate minister. We're also grateful for Jon & Amy Gaffney and Carol Carson who will provide continuity as volunteer youth sponsors for the second year.

Another July meeting of the parents of our young children (infants through grade 5) addressed the concerns for children's interim programming, as well. We are fortunate to have Phama Johnston, former church pre-school director and current pre-school teacher at SAS, and Craig Paul, a middle-school vice-principal, co-chairing our Education Ministry and directing our children's programming along with other strong and committed volunteers.

Fall programming "kicks off" on Sunday, September 7, and excitement is in the air! Leaders and volunteers are in place for all ministries and many plans have been developed over the summer. There is a place for YOU to participate and /or to volunteer your time and talents, and I encourage you to do so. Participation builds community and provides relationships and experiences along one's spiritual journey.

Come join us *on the journey. Seek to satisfy your hungry heart!* **Karen Nolan, Moderator**

◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇



### **Spotlight on Entertainment!** **Covenant's Annual Talent/Un-Talent Night** **September 7** **5:00 to 7:00 PM**

Sunday night, **September 7** is the date for the event everyone looks forward to enjoying! Talent/Un-Talent Night is a well-loved tradition that you will not want to miss. The event begins at **5:00 PM** with a make-your-own taco & burrito bar with all the fixings. A lively entertainment line-up will follow the meal, featuring an array of Covenant folks. **Sign up** on the poster in the church entry, call the office, or contact Jeanne White (919-342-3713 or [jandjw@nc.rr.com](mailto:jandjw@nc.rr.com)) to reserve your spot in the performance line-up.

Are you a clown? Do you and friends want to get together a singing duo or trio? Do you have a favorite poem you want to share? Do an impersonation. Play an instrument. Juggle. Dance. Demonstrate your hobby. If you haven't heard Art Brothers on the harmonica, this is your opportunity. Just like with the Super Bowl broadcast, you will want to watch for new "commercials" by a dynamic singing trio. If anyone has a spotlight we could borrow, that would be a fun addition to the evening, too.

If you are not a performer, we welcome your help with the set-up, food preparation, or clean-up. You can sign up for that participation on the poster also. And last—but certainly not least—we need an audience! Come enjoy the show!

## **Sunday School Classes Begin New Year Sunday, September 7 at 10am**

In order to get a driver's license, you must pass a test. In order for college & grad students, doctors, nurses, teachers, lawyers, CPAs, clergy, and all other professionals and practitioners, you must pass boards, tests, certifications and such to do so. And many professions require annual continuing education to be currently certified.

What if the Church required that you take some sort of Bible Test in order to be declared a practicing Christian; how would you fare? Why is it then, do you suppose, that so many of us find continuing education in the scriptures irrelevant, useless, unnecessary; and only at the very least, the right thing to do in order to be a "good" parent? Think about it and then make plans to attend the appropriate classes offered each Sunday at 10am:

- **Nursery Care for Infants & Toddlers—same rooms—first 2 rooms on right**
- **Pre-School Class for 3 & 4 yr olds—same Classroom—last room on right**
- **Younger Elementary for K-1<sup>st</sup> graders—same Classroom—second on left**
- **Older Elementary for 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders—first room on left**

(The above classes are using the fun and interactive Live Big series)

- **Youth Class for grades 6-12—sanctuary**

### **Adult Classes:**

**THE DISCIPLES CLASS WILL NOW MEET IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY** off the sanctuary entrance. They use The Present Word series; a Bible based study that helps learners apply scriptures to everyday living and the world situation. Everyone receives a study book that allows you to keep pace with the class even when you need to be absent. Bob Kennel is the primary teacher but members of the class also periodically share teaching responsibilities.

**SEEKERS CLASS WILL CONTINUE TO MEET** in the last classroom on left (Youth Room) in the Education Wing. Currently they are discussing the assigned lessons of the Lectionary scriptures that coincide with those that are presented in morning worship. Ideas for forthcoming studies will be presented soon. Carole Tyler is the primary facilitator with several other class members who also lead the discussions.

**HOT TOPICS CLASS WILL NOW MEET** in the room opposite the Church Library off the sanctuary entrance. We look at contemporary moral issues and cultural concerns through the lens of our Christian faith. Beginning September 7, the class will share in a new five session study titled "Questioning Capital Punishment". Each session includes a 20 minute video presentation by Sr. Helen Prejean, a leading authority and outspoken critic of state-sponsored execution. A Roman Catholic Sister, Sr. Helen has ministered to numerous inmates on death row, and has authored two books based on those experiences, *Dead Man Walking* and *The Death of Innocents: An Eyewitness Account of Wrongful Executions*. She is the founder of the Death Penalty Discourse Center in New Orleans. Leadership is rotated among Craig Paul, Carolyn Allen, and Kathy Smith.

## Calling All Youth!

### Chi Rho (grades 6-8) & CYF (grades 9-12)!

- Sunday, September 7, 5-7pm Let's sit & eat together as a group at our Talent/UnTalent Night
- Sunday, September 14, 5pm we will gather to "OFFICIALLY" welcome Hunt Cassell as our new Youth Director along with the Youth Ministry Team: Jon & Amy Gaffney and Carol Carson.
- **This year both groups will meet for regular programs on Sundays, 5-7pm.**
- **You are encouraged to bring at least one friend with you each week!**

Some upcoming important dates:

- Chi Rho Regional Retreat at Camp Caroline: September 12-14
- September 21-5pm, Covenant hosts youth groups from St. Paul's & Wake Forest for a special Barton College program
- CYF Regional Fall Retreat at Camp Caroline: September 26-28
- October 5, annual **CROP**Walk
- October 26, annual Trunk or Treat event



### ***Kids to Kids Kick-off***

Calling all Kindergartners through 5th Graders! Please bring your family to White Oak Park in Cary on Sunday, September 14, from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. for the Kids to Kids Kick-off. Invite a friend to come with you too! We'll enjoy lunch together, play some games, and go over our service projects for the 2008-2009 season.

If you have any questions, please contact Jay or Jody Barish at 460-2820 or [jodylb23@yahoo.com](mailto:jodylb23@yahoo.com)  
Hope to see you there! *Jody & Jay*



### ***LIBRARY CORNER***

***Never Let Me Go*** by Kazuo Ishiguro

This novel by the author of ***The Returns of the Day*** will hold your attention because it is about life in a world in which human cloning is legal.

Kathy at 31 relates her experience of growing up with her classmates at Hailsham, a private boarding school. Here children are raised for a special purpose in the world. The children become aware of being different but not how as they mature. Questions arise that seemed to be answered satisfactorily to the students but not to the reader. There is always a sense of "what is really going on here". Yet the children have fun, make friendships, and learn to enjoy art and nature.

One wonders who loves these children, who is in charge of the school and why. What is the purpose of this school and the children in it and all the other groups of children in other schools or institutions? It is a thought provoking book on a topic that may eventually receive much discussion.

**ALERT:** The book ***A Cup of Tea*** was removed from the library before being processed for borrowing. Please return it to the corner table in the library when finished reading it. Thank you.

*Sally Shelly, Reviewer*

## So, What's the Search Committee DOING?

On August 20, members of the Associate Minister Search Committee, along with Rev. VerBurg and moderator Karen Nolan, met with our regional minister, John Richardson. Since Covenant has never convened a full search committee, we needed some guidance on the steps and processes involved in searching for, and eventually calling, an associate minister. John was very helpful, offering great advice and a manual with step-by-step instructions on the process. We will now begin work on our congregational profile, the document that tells prospective ministers about Covenant, and establish a timeline for the process.

We also need your help. One thing John talked about was the potential to “network” to find candidates. The regional office will keep us posted on Disciples ministers who are actively seeking a position, but there are other ways of getting candidates, too. Do you know someone (or know someone who knows someone) who might be interested in working with the children and youth of Covenant as a Director of Youth and Children? Maybe they're affiliated with another denomination. Ask around. If someone is interested, please submit their name to me or another member of the Search Committee. We believe the right person is out there somewhere, and that God will help us find him or her.

**Our next scheduled meetings are 6:30pm on Monday, September 8 and Thursday, September 18.** We'll keep you updated as things progress, but please don't hesitate to contact one of the members of the committee with any questions, feedback, or input: Darla Baldwin (chair), **Error! Reference source not found.**, Don Downs, Ted Glasener, Priscilla Glasener, Tim Stiles, **Error! Reference source not found.**, or Madison Rivers.

<><><><><>



### Movie Night Set for October 11 “August Rush”

John and Jeanne White invite you to their home, 317 Felspar Way, Cary, for the next gathering for Covenant Movie Night, Saturday, October 11. Mark your calendar now to join this fun group. The showing, beginning at 7:00 PM will feature the movie “August Rush”. Here is what Netflix has to say about the movie. “After cellist Lyla (Keri Russell) and guitarist Louis (Jonathan Rhys Meyers) share an enchanted night together, circumstances rip them apart, and the child produced by the union is raised by a stranger (Robin Williams) who nurtures the boy's musical talent. Determined to find his parents, the boy, known as August Rush (Freddie Highmore), relies on music to draw his mother and father to him. Terrence Howard co-stars in this magical drama.”

Contact the White's: 342-3713; [jandjw@nc.rr.com](mailto:jandjw@nc.rr.com) for more info or to have them save you a seat!



### “No Idle Hands”

“No Idle Hands” is a group that meets together to work on hand-craft projects. We learn from each other and “ooh and ah” appropriately. Some of us bring our personal projects while many of our items are donated to local clinics and others in need. We meet regularly on the third Tuesday of each month at 10:00am. **Our next meeting is September 16.** We work and chat; chat and work and we often go out to lunch together. Please join us or drop by with words of encouragement. For more information, contact Jeanne White: (919-342-3713) or e-mail: [jandjw@nc.rr.com](mailto:jandjw@nc.rr.com).

## COVENANT WOMEN'S MINISTRY NEWS...

Those that had the opportunity to go to Women's Retreat @ Christmount last month have returned to Covenant refueled, energized and excited about things to come this program year. The Steering Committee is polishing their wheels in anticipation of moving us forward into a new beginning. *Are you ready to listen?*

This year's theme ***Whose Voice Is It? Learning to Listen for God*** is captured on the t-shirts provided though the regional office of Disciples Women's Ministry. We have a few of these available for sale here and now (\$12.00) and we can order more through the region as necessary. Please contact Marilyn or Ann if you are interested.

An exciting jumpstart to our new beginnings takes place Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am-10:30am. Mark your calendars now for our 1<sup>st</sup> Quarterly Breakfast! We are honored to have Janie Buck as our guest speaker this day. Janie served as our '05 NC representative for Women-to-Women to Korea and currently serves as a coordinator for disaster relief through Samaritan's Purse. You won't want to miss this one. She has an interesting and thought provoking story to share!

Looking ahead...

- Monthly Bible Study meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month; beginning October 14; 7:30pm at the church
- Attention all good cooks, crafters, money handlers & stage designers! **The FALL FUN(D) RAISER** is slated for Oct 18<sup>th</sup>!

***"Listen for YOUR call to Women's Ministry!"***

*Blessings,*

*Marilyn & Ann*    [marfrwms@yahoo.com](mailto:marfrwms@yahoo.com) ; [annpw@hotmail.com](mailto:annpw@hotmail.com)

## ***DISCIPLES MEN - More active than you might know...***

Covenant's Disciples Men have recently:

- Donated benches in honor of Rev. Anna and Casey Perry
- We also helped move a new Disciple family into a home in Apex

And now we're:

- Working to support Outreach with upcoming "Green" activities
- Planning an upcoming meeting as a virtual "Go to meeting" basis

Our next men's breakfast meeting is September 20 at the church (invite someone and carpool them)  
For more info contact Mike Joyce: [michael\\_joyce@ncsu.edu](mailto:michael_joyce@ncsu.edu) or Bob Kennel: [Bkennel@aol.com](mailto:Bkennel@aol.com)

***Bob Kennel, Secretary***

### **Mark Your Calendars!**

**Monday, November 17, 2008**

Barton college welcomes internationally acclaimed religious scholar,

Dr. Marcus J. Borg

As the featured speaker for this year's lecture

in the Allen R. Sharp Religion in Life Series

Details forthcoming about the lecture & dinner



## Upcoming Outreach Events:



**CROP WALK 2008**

**Sunday, October 5**

More information forthcoming!

<><><><><>

### **THE *GREENING* OF COVENANT**

Thank you to everyone who gathered Sunday, the 24<sup>th</sup> for the Kick-Off of "The **Greening** of Covenant". Our goal is to put in place steps the congregation can take to better care for God's creation, both as the Church and as individuals. Those present discussed a wide variety of ideas from ceiling fans to carpooling, establishing a "**Green** Team" and a "**Green** Fund", doing an energy audit and eliminating Styrofoam -- from environmental classes on Wednesday nights to canvas bags!

Speaking of canvas bags, the search continues for a slogan to be printed on the bags. Watch for an email listing suggestions that have been submitted. You will have the opportunity to choose your favorite and vote on-line.

An Energy Audit has been scheduled. **Saturday, September 27th , from 10:00-12:00** a representative from N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources will come to the church to conduct a "Congregational Energy Efficiency and Audit Workshop Program." This will include an informational presentation and a walk-through of the church building to determine way we can save money on energy bills while helping to protect the Creation. The information shared is useful to the church but is also helpful for applying conservation ideas at home. Everyone interested is encouraged to attend. Light refreshments will be available.

**Remember to mark your calendar for October 19.** We will have a special speaker who will lead us in a greening workshop during the 10:00 hour and then preach during the 11:00am service.

<><><><><>

### **Green Sunday, October 19**

You won't want to miss this! This will be an informative and inspirational day! During the Sunday School hour at 10am there will be a workshop for adults led by our special guest for the morning, Alice Loyd, an expert on the **Green** Movement and former director of NC . As a leader of North Carolina Interfaith Power and Light, she has worked with congregations across North Carolina. A dynamic speaker, she will then be featured during the 11:00am worship. There will be special "eco-friendly" activities for children. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite guests to come to Covenant – it is their earth too!

<><><><><>

### **"GARDEN of HOPE"**

#### ***Covenant's Community Garden- ADOPT the GARDEN...***

Our Garden of Hope is aptly name and is coming along quite nicely. We continue to seek volunteers for our "adopt the garden" program which allows a person or group to take on responsibilities for the garden for a week. We even offer "hands-on training" so you will feel comfortable about what's expected. If you have questions or would like to sign up to "adopt the garden," contact Tim Stiles (387-0737). We'll send a reminder email the week before your scheduled week with your instructions.

*Thanks for considering this beautiful opportunity  
as we find healing & reconciliation through this sacred ground.*

# Come, Satisfy the Hungry Heart

**Recent:** At home: Denise Loughridge; Shirley Lucey

**Continuing Prayers for:** Barbara Dalberth; Barb Teixeira; Mary Toney; Betty Johnston;

**Parents of:** Ann Hall, Sharon Frost. **Mothers of:** Marilyn Williams; Betsy Mebane; Melanie Bunn. **Fathers of:** Megan Larsen; Debbie Miller. **Son of:** Jim Johnston. **Grandfathers of:** Amy Gaffney; Trey O'Quinn; Liz Grennan; **Grandmothers of:** Greg Stelmack; Carolyn Allen; **Grandson of:** Mary Lou Jackson (at Duke) **Sisters of:** Sharon Garrett; Hazel Brothers; Kathy Smith. **Brother of:** Sharon Frost. **Aunts of:** Betsy Mebane, Dick Reaves; Cathy Downs; Larry Linguist. **Uncles of:** Jeremy Hopkins; Melanie Bunn; **Niece of:** Patricia Mills. **Nephews of:** Melanie Bunn; Joe Busby; **Great-Nephew of:** Barishes; **Cousins of:** Mary Lou Jackson, Elaine Fry; Larry Linguist. **Brother-in-law of:** Shirley Lucey. **Sisters-in-Law of:** Hazel Brothers; Rocio Anderson; Mary Lou Jackson; Betsy Mebane; Patty Cole.

**Remembering Others:** friend of Jeremy Hopkins; Cindy Stephenson; Jane Cox; Elizabeth Pawelka; Chris Bullock, Karen Keel; Cameron Wall; Betty Souders; Hazel Schuller; Woody Liley, General & Regional Church Leaders; Disciples area new church starts.

**Contact the church office: 481-4715 or [covenantcc@bellsouth.net](mailto:covenantcc@bellsouth.net) if you want any of the "remembering others" names to remain on the current list after 2 weeks.**

◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇

*Dear Covenant Family,*

*Thank you for the generous "love offering" that you presented to Casey and me on August 10. We truly appreciate the loving support that you offer us during this time of transition in our lives. That is the greatest gift you offer as a congregation! You will continue to be in our prayers. Peace & Love, Anna & Casey*

◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇

## July 2008 Financial Information

| General Fund               |                |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| Beginning Balance 06.30.08 | \$ (3,504.00)  |
| Receipts                   | \$ 13,568.62   |
| Disbursements              | \$ (18,001.09) |
|                            |                |
| Ending Balance 07.30.08    | \$ (7,936.47)  |

***"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have." (Hebrews 13:16a)***

**Go to [www.CovenantChristianChurch-Cary.org](http://www.CovenantChristianChurch-Cary.org) to see photos of how your contributions support Covenant's programs and ministries of the many programs your gifts help to provide.**

***Thanks for your continuing support!***

◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇◇

## *Here's a Word from Mary Lou...*

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

YOU Count! 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...We need to know when you're here for worship; church school; meetings and events. The names of our guests are important to Invitation Ministry too!

If you have any changes in your address; email contact; phone number, college addresses of your son or daughter; or other important contact information, just let me know so we can keep everything current.

***Thanks Mary Lou, Administrative Assistant***