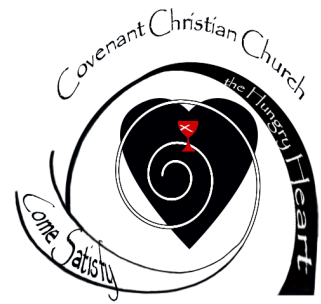


Covenant Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
2911 S.W. Cary Parkway Cary, NC 27513
Phone: 919-481-4715 Fax: 919-481-4016
Email: covenantcc@bellsouth.net
Web: www.CovenantChristianChurch-Cary.org



Sundays
Worship: 9:00am & 11:00am Christian Education for All Ages: 10:00am
Childcare provided for Sunday Mornings & All Programs & Activities

Volume 23 No.7

June 29, 2009

"If Ain't One Thing, It's Another or It's Always Somethin'!"

Early last week I heard a woman bemoan, "I was really looking forward to summer. Even though I will not necessarily be on vacation much, it's the laid-back attitude that most people seem to adopt during the summer, that I enjoy the most--a chance to take things a bit more slowly--Ha! I've just learned that I will have surgery and will need to take most of what's left of the summer in order to recover...

I also was in conversation with someone who was looking forward to sharing more family time with an aging parent...making and taking time to be with him; doing some things he really enjoyed but never got to do during the rest of the year...and the parent suddenly died...

Then I recently learned about a couple having marital issues; both have been in counseling off and on during the year and the wife was really looking forward to having more time for fun and play with her husband. And the subpoena arrived today...

And then there came the tragic news about Roland Letchworth, 54 years old and one of Covenant's founding members; returning from a Camp Counselor Training Meeting ; he and his wife were driving separately; and he is killed in an accident before ever reaching home to Farmville...

And my thoughts go out to many within our church family whose care and concern for a loved one has invaded what used to be a fairly simple and routine lifestyle. Of course each of the above scenarios bring a wide variety of emotion and aftermath with them. But in every case, something has come along in life and alters one's life and all concerned, in one way or another. And prayers for healing ascend to God.

Oh, if we would but remember how Jesus taught us about God's promise to take on all our burdens; to make the load lighter; to give us needed rest. But most of us tend to want to do all that we can do, forgetting this promise, until we fall exhausted and pray that God will help pick up the pieces of our emotionally spent lives.

Walt Wangerin's ***The Ragman***, reminds us quite descriptively in a story about a man, who went around shouting, "Rags! Rags! New Rags for old! I'll take your tired old rags!" And as he traveled through town pushing a cart filled with bright and clean rags, he encountered different people with different sorrows and concerns. He took the tear-stained rag of a broken-hearted woman; a blood-soaked bandage from a young girl's head; a jacket from an unemployed man who couldn't find work because he only had one arm; and an old blanket that covered a very sick older man who was unconscious.

And in exchange he offered them a clean rag; a bright yellow hat; a jacket that took 2 arms; and new clothes. And the Ragman went to the top of the landfill outside of town, laid down to die...only to find new life; no signs of sorrow or bleeding; whole and healthy...the Ragman, the Ragman, the Christ!

No matter what comes our way, let us remember that the Spirit of the Living Christ takes on our pain, our fears, our guilt, our sorrows and bids us to rise up from whatever is sick or troubling or dead in our lives, so that we might be set free by faith to have hope and to know of God's forgiveness and unconditional love...***Blessings, Rev. Joanne***



New Members!

In recent weeks, we have been blessed with many additions to our church family:

Sunday, May 31:

- Randy & Laura Holste and son, Tate:
1604 McLaurin Ln. Fuquay-Varina, 27526; 919-368-2428(Randy's cell);
919-363-04831 (Laura's cell);
Email: randy-ccc@bellsouth.net; lauraholste@hotmail.com

Church Membership Class: Tom Evett; Becky Layko; Andrew Stiles & Katherine White.

Sunday, June 14:

- Sandy & Chris Kidd:
339 Commons Dr. Holly Springs, 27540; 919-387-3882
Email: lt2mad@aol.com (Sandy) bigredcek@aol.com (Chris)

Sunday, June 28:

- Rev. Pat Cadle(dual-standing with the UCC) & Nancy Jones:
429 Henderson Tanyard Rd. Pittsboro, 27312; 919-542-1856
Email: pcadle@unch.unc.edu; njones@castleworldwide.com
- Tracy Bowden & Brack Brown
108 Summer Days Ct. Apex, 27502; 276-971-1999 (Tracy's cell);
276-701-6678 (Brack's cell);
Email: tbowden13@gmail.com; lbrown24@gmail.com
- Rev. Cynthia & Richard Wilson:
8733 Springhouse Lane; Raleigh, 27617; 919-787-9620; candybwilson@aol.com
Rev. Wilson is currently on staff at Tabernacle Baptist Church and has sought dual-standing through our Region via Covenant Christian Church.

Please offer them your own word of welcome to our church family!

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"Take Me Out to the Ballgame! Take Me Out to the Crowd!

Sunday, July 26

Buy me some peanuts and Cracker Jacks...I don't care if I ever get back..."

All members and guests are invited to root, root, root for the home team-the Durham Bulls vs. the Norfolk Tides and schmooze with Woolly Bull and Diego. It's a Pepsi Kids Run the Bases night, which is always fun for the children. The tickets are \$9 for all ages—

We plan to purchase tickets on Tuesday, July 6; sign up NOW by contacting Randy at the church office, 481-4715; or randy-ccc@bellsouth.net If we need to purchase additional tickets the group sales office will get us whatever available seats are closest to the original 20 seats. Go to www.durhambulls.com for more info about DBAP.

Director of Music Ministries Takes a Summer Break!

At the General Board meeting last month, the Personnel Committee reported that Dr. Carole Tyler had requested an unpaid leave during July and August. Carole has been our Director of Music Ministries since February, 1990! So this is a much welcomed break for her.

She has worked hard planning for a wonderful summer music ministry in her absence; knowing that it is in the capable hands of many of our talented vocalists and instrumentalists. (related article below). You will see her in worship from time to time during July and August, just not up front directing the adult choir. Look for her in a seat near you! ☺

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2009 SUMMER MUSIC SERIES

Don't miss the special music planned for the 11am services in July and August. Some new and many familiar voices are already preparing special music to enhance our worship experiences. You can look forward to solos by Nathan Orendain, Robin Miller, and Darla Baldwin. Jim and Phama Johnston will sing a duet in August and the DeHart Sister Trio (Karen Nolan and her two sisters) will sing in July. This Summer Music Series also will include musical offerings by Vacation Bible School participants and a men's quartet.

Yes, it is true you can enjoy music by The Gathering Musicians every Sunday at the Early Worship (9am). However, these singers, along with instrumentalists Lynn Lee, Kevin Eldridge, Pat Cadle, Carol Carson and Becky Stiles, will offer their arrangement of "Drop Me Down Into the Water" at the 11am worship service on August 2. How blessed we are to know so many talented people who are willing to share their musical gifts with us.

There will be NO weekly choir practice in July and August, but the choir will continue to sit together and lead congregational singing. This informal gathering provides a great opportunity for those of you who have always wanted to be in a church choir to sit in the choir loft and sing along.

Come on down!

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

SUNDAY, JULY 19 DURING 11am Worship

Special Recognition of Outgoing Officers & Leaders &
Installation of All 2009-10 Officers & Leaders

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SATURDAY, JULY 25, 8:30a-12:30p

ANNUAL CHURCHWIDE PLANNING EVENT

ALL Covenant Members & Guests are invited to help plan for the upcoming program year!
Continental Breakfast/Childcare provided

This is a great time to get acquainted with other members and guests and to learn more about Covenant and our ministries in the process. Join with us and voice an idea or two about activities and programs you would like us to consider in the new program year and to hear what others have to say. So...what's your idea? Plan now to attend!

Come, Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Our love and prayers are with the family of Roland Letchworth who was killed in a car accident last week. You may send cards to his wife, Libby and her children, Lauren and Jared: 3477 Moyer Turnage Road; Farmville, NC 27828. Roland was a founding member of Covenant.

Congratulations and Best Wishes to: Tracy Bowden and Brack Brown, who will be married on August 29 in VA.

Recent: Betsy Mebane (surgery July 8); Rev. Essie Thompson;

Continuing Prayers: Nelson Wakefield at Neuro-Rehab at Wake Med Raleigh- NO visitors-

Let's continue the card shower to Nelson: 107 Odessa Ct. Cary, 27513;

Don, Cathy & Timothy Downs; Mary Toney; Betty Johnston.

Parents of: Ann Hall **Mothers of:** Phama Larsen Johnston; Mark Huncik; Teresa DeMartin; Vicky Vanderford.

Fathers of: Jeremy Hopkins; Patty Cole; Megan Larsen; Debbie Miller; Bob Nolan; **Daughters of:** Ken & Glenda Hoffman; Sally Shelly. **Sons of:** Jim Johnston; Kathy Smith; Donna Jones. **Grandfathers of:** Jon Gaffney; Trey O'Quinn.

Grandmothers of: Greg Stelmack; Carolyn Allen. **Sisters of:** Jack Reilly; Gerry Tokanel; Hazel Brothers.

Brothers of: Jeremy Hopkins; Art Brothers; Rocio Anderson; **Aunts of:** Melanie Fagert; Larry Linguist.

Uncles of: Darla Baldwin; Jeremy Hopkins. **Nephews of:** Gerry Tokanel; Joe Busby; Melanie Bunn; Terry White.

Great-Nephew of: Barishes; **Cousins of:** Lynn Wright; Glenda Hoffman; Mary Lou Jackson, Elaine Fry;

Brother-in-law of: Patty Cole; **Sisters-in-Law of:** Renie Palmer; Hazel Brothers.

Remembering Others: Kevin Strane; Neil Spector; General & Regional Church Leaders; NC Disciples new church starts.

Contact the church office: 481-4715 or covenantcc@bellsouth.net if you want any of the above names to remain on the current list after 2 weeks.

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Garden of Hope...

Have You Seen our New Sign on the Garden Fence?

Pretty Impressive, huh?

Does it make you wanna play in the dirt?

Come, Help Tend the Garden ...

Sign up in the church entryway

Help weed, harvest & clean-up the Garden ...

As the produce is picked, it goes on sale in the entryway.

All donations go to support the Interfaith Food Shuttle Ministry!

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THE GREEN FUND

Are you looking for a special way to honor a friend? Maybe you want to celebrate an important occasion ...an anniversary or graduation. Or you want to give a gift in memory of a loved one. **THE GREEN FUND** is an excellent way!

A special **GREEN FUND** was established to help Covenant begin to reduce our carbon footprint as well as our energy costs. (Thank you to the Men's group for their initial grant of \$500.) This fund allows the Green Team to take our slogan "Caring for God's Green Earth" from just words to action steps that truly make a difference!

Please indicate your support by remembering the fund c/o Covenant Christian Church and earmarking regular or special contributions for **"THE GREEN FUND."**

Your Outreach Coordinators, Marian jimarian@nc.rr.com & Ro rtompsonct@aol.com

Use this calendar as a reminder of all the fun that's planned for
Children, Youth & their Families!

July 2009

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 CYF –Mission Trip Forms Due- ----- | 4 Happy 4 th of July  |
| 5 VBS Volunteer Training 12 p to 2 p | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 Birthday – Nathan Grennan & Austin Mantz 6:15p Summer- Time Kids Family Pool Party | 10 | 11 |
| 12 VBS – 2:30 p – 5:00 p | 13 VBS - 6:30 p – 8:30 p | 14 VBS - 6:30 p – 8:30 p | 15 VBS - 6:30 p – 8:30 p | 16 VBS - 6:30 p – 8:30 p | 17 | 18 <u>Chi Rho Lite</u> – Day trip to Fort Fisher Aquarium & Beach – 9 a to 6:30 p |
| 19 <u>CYF Lite:</u> New Orleans Mission Trip Orientation 3p – 6p | 20 | 21 Birthday – Carmine Anderson | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 <u>Durham Bulls</u> Everyone Welcome! Meet @ church – 4 p | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

Upcoming August Events:

August 1-8: CYF Mission
Trip (New Orleans, La.)

August 22: Lazy Daze 12 yr
olds-adults

September 13: Kick-Off
Sunday!





IT'S HERE...
Are you ready for an ADVENTURE?
Brace yourselves; "CAMP EDGE" has arrived!
CHECK IT OUT!

Where:

Covenant Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Dates:

July 12 through July 16

Times:

Sunday (July 12): 2:30 PM to 5:00 PM

Monday - Thursday (July 13- 16) 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM.

To register or to find out more about CAMP E.D.G.E. call the church office:
(919) 481-4715 or visit the church website: covenantchristianchurch-cary.org

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For All VBS Volunteers...



There will be an *OPTIONAL training/orientation for all volunteers for this year's VBS on Sunday July 5th immediately following the 11 AM worship. It will be geared toward those of you who need/want to know more! It will be designed to explain the layout of the program and what it will look like at Covenant! I am very excited about the group of individuals we have signed up this year, I know it will be an awesome experience for all participants.

*Those of you who are unable to attend, but want more information/guidance may come by the church at any time (Monday- Thursday, July 6 - 9) to obtain basic information about VBS!

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU!

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Children's Worship & Wonder
Children's Worship & Wonder
Simply Amazing!



Thanks to the love and support from all of you, Our Children's Worship & Wonder stories **ARE GONE!** We are truly blessed to have such a gracious/friendly/ & supportive church family! Thank you, Thank you, Thank you! In just over a month, you rallied around this ministry and purchased the 36 available stories - WOW! Through your generosity and support this well designed and theologically sound program can and will transform the lives of our children.

Don't Worry - If you missed out on purchasing a story - its not too late to help: donations for program support are still being accepted! We still have a number of projects that can use your help! (i.e. shelving, decorations, and miscellaneous supplies!)

Greeters Needed!

Are you trying to find a way to "fit in"? Are you seeing all the cool happening in Children's Worship & Wonder and saying "I wish I could be a of that?" Here's your chance! Beginning in September, WE NEED FAITH PARTNERS (A.K.A. - GREETERS) to help with our Worship & Wonder ministry!



things
part

As a Greeter you will be right in the middle of all the action! Your commitment is minimal - one 3 hour training in the fall and a scheduled rotation for Sunday mornings! No teaching or prep-work required! If you are interested in becoming a greeter, or want more information, please contact Randy at the church office: 919-481-4715 or randy-ccc@bellsouth.net

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Kids/Youth @ Covenant

What's in Store for July?

Summer = All Fun - All the Time!



- **"CYF Lite"** - Our mission trip to Louisiana is fast approaching! Its time we sit down and center ourselves. Sunday July 19 @ 3 PM - we're going to take some time and prepare ourselves for the journey! Destination unknown, but it will be within 30 minutes of Raleigh!

"Chi Rho Lite" - DAY TRIP! Who wants to take a break On July 18th - we are going to check out Fort Fisher Aquarium sand/sun/surf for a while! Registration forms are available at office and need to be returned in by July 12 - 12 PM to spot!



from Raleigh?
& play in the
the church
reserve your



• **"Summertime Kids" - Cookout/Pool Party Anyone?**

Thursday, July 9, the Barish's are hosting a pool party at Scottish Hills Swim Club, 1423 Tarbert Dr. (off Cary Pkwy between RR tracks & Lake Pine Dr.)

for all families of young children (infants to 5th grade); 6:15-9p. We'll also be "building your own ice cream sundaes!"

Please reply to Randy, randy-ccc@bellsouth.net by July 7.



Women's Ministries News...

A "Delightful Dozen" are headed to Christmount!

Friday, August 7th - Sunday August 9th

We are very excited that twelve women from our church will be heading to Black Mountain next month! Women representing Disciples of Christ and Disciples Assembly Churches from all points of North Carolina will convene to explore our '09-'10 theme ***Mind Spirit and Body*** under the capable hands of our Keynoter, Rev. Ailsa Gonzalez, the Associate Minister at First Christian-Wilmington.

Want to know more? Ask one of our trekkers-Elaine Kennel, Elaine Fry, Robin Miller, Ro Thompson, Priscilla Glasener, Renie Palmer, Karen Nolan, Phama Larsen-Johnston, Kathy Smith, Mary Lou Jackson, Marilyn Williams and Ann Washington. What an opportunity to renew our mind spirit and body (not to mention have a few dozen laughs) as we gather at 'our' mountain!

Women's Ministries to Take on the **Green** Challenge

What can Women's Ministries do to embrace the **GREEN**? We would like to hear your ideas! Let's take a conscientious look at the current way in which we use our resources for our monthly Bible Study and our Quarterly Breakfasts. Together, we can make a difference!

Looking Ahead...

Mark your calendar now! Our 1st Quarterly Breakfast meets on **Saturday, September 12.**

Our monthly Bible Study.... A new day and time will be announced

I look forward to the coming year! Our study theme is ***Joshua: A Journey of Faith***

Continue to save your Campbell's product labels for Christmount.

We look forward to delivering these personally!

Ann Washington and Marilyn Williams, Co-Chairs

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Disciples Men Have Great Plans!

Disciples Men begin the coming year with Mike Joyce – President and Bob Kennel – Secretary.

We have great plans for Summer & beyond:

- In **July** we will have a planning meeting for the rest of the year with emphasis on including and involving the younger men of the church.
- In **August** we will have a program by Drew Kidwell on his summer ministry program in Florida.
- In **September** we will participate in the Regional Men's retreat at Christmount.
- In **October** we hope to participate in the Rocky Mount YAM-JAM and the Fall Yard Sale/Antique Sale.

Disciples Men begin the year with approximately \$2000 and no debts.

Bob Kennel, Secretary



**Fall Plant Sale & Pancake Breakfast
Fund Raiser
Saturday, September 5, 8am-11am**



BIG gorgeous MUMS, beautiful delicate PANSIES, and delicious PANCAKES will be featured at Covenant's Fall Plant Sale & Pancake Breakfast Fund Raiser.

In order for this to be a successful fundraiser, we need YOU to place your own order and to also start selling those mums and pansies NOW to all of your neighbors and friends.

All of the plants MUST BE PRE-ORDERED.

A minimum of 50% of the total amount accompanying the order but the entire amount would be even better! Order forms will be available at the church.

All orders must be received at the church by Sunday, August 30, 2009

Prices are:

Mums, various colors – these will be very large florist-shop quality mums!

1 mum for \$10

4 mums for \$40 and get one free! (i.e. - \$8 per mum)

8 mums for \$70 and get two free (i.e. - \$7 per mum)

Pansies – flats with a variety of colors

1 flat for \$15 or 3 flats for \$35

Be sure to also plan to eat breakfast with us when you pick up your plants. An ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKE Breakfast will be available for \$7 per person or \$5 per child under 12 years old. Your Breakfast Plate will include 2 pancakes, 2 pieces of sausage or bacon, and a serving of fried apples. While additional pancakes will be free the side orders will be available for \$1.50 - \$2.00 each.

MARK your calendar NOW!

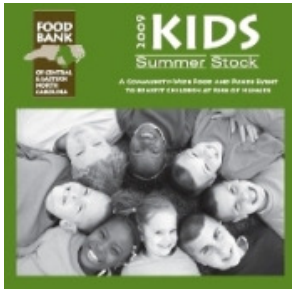
Saturday, September 5 (Labor Day Weekend) 8 am – 11 am

If you or friends are going to be away Labor Day Weekend, we will be glad to keep your plants available for pick up during the next week.

PS We are going to need help on Friday night setting up for both the plant distribution and the pancake breakfast. We will also need help on Saturday for both events. Please let either Dennis Duryea or Betsy Mebane know when you will be able to help.

THANKS and start selling those plants!

Outreach Ministry News



It is that time again.....the wonderful summer season in North Carolina. For many kids it means swimming pools, catching fire flies, picnics in the park and lime popsicles.....the things that make good memories. However, for 250,000 children in 34 counties in the state, the memories are not so good! Summer is a time when they cannot depend on regular meals. No longer at school where they get free or reduced price breakfasts and lunches, they face hungry days and nights.

Each summer the Food Bank responds to this crisis for children by sponsoring the **Kids Summer Stock Campaign**. The campaign allows us to help fill the shelves at the food bank with wholesome, nourishing food and other needed items. Last year we at Covenant responded to this need very generously. This year the need is even greater and your help is needed again.

Take a look at the “most needed items”. You could even cut out the list and take it with you to the grocery store so you know just what to buy. Get your children or grandchildren involved; this provides a wonderful opportunity for them to learn that they can make a difference in the lives of other children. Let’s fill the baskets to overflowing!



FOOD DRIVE

MOST NEEDED ITEMS

NO GLASS, Please!

| | |
|--|--|
| Canned Meals Stews, Soups, Tuna, Ravioli, etc. <i>Pop-top cans a plus!</i> | Hygiene Items Toothpaste, Feminine Products Shaving Items, Soap, etc. |
| Peanut Butter | Infant Products Diapers, Wipes, Formula, Infant Cereal |
| Cereal | <small>Please - No loose glass or plastic jars of baby food as they will have to be discarded due to health regulations.</small> |
| Canned Fruits and Vegetables | Paper Products Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, etc. |
| Rice, Pasta and Dried Beans | |

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

May Financial Information

| General Fund | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$ (6,783.56) |
| Receipts | \$ 18,383.61 |
| Disbursements | \$ 19,422.73 - |
| | \$ |
| Ending Balance | \$ (7,822.68) |

Thanks for your generous support for Covenant's ministries throughout the year.

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A Note from Your Treasurer...

Beginning July 1 please be sure to get all check requests to the church office by Sunday evening to allow for payment and signature first thing the following Monday morning. Due to my work schedule, check requests turned in after I've been by the office Monday morning will most likely have to wait until the following Monday.

Thanks for your help in this! *Kathy Smith, Treasurer* ekathys@yahoo.com

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Automatic Bill Pay...A Convenient Way to Regularly Make Your Tithes & Offerings

We also want to encourage any members/guests to setup **automatic bill pay** with their bank so that a check is sent to us each week or month, whether or not you are able to be in worship. The information that you need when setting up an automatic payment is as follows:

Biller Name: Covenant Christian Church Account number: GENERAL FUND
Biller Address: 2911 SW Cary Parkway Biller City, State, Zip: Cary, NC 27513-8902
Biller phone number: 919-481-4715
The account number can be GENERAL FUND/NEW BUILDING FUND/or MEMORIAL FUND.
Questions? Contact Kathy Smith, Treasurer ekathys@yahoo.com

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Now Here's a Word from Mary Lou...

Updated Membership Directories 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...the usual, "one more thing"...All Staff, Officers, Leaders and Ministry Chairs:

Please have your August Newsletter articles to me by **July 20, 2009**