

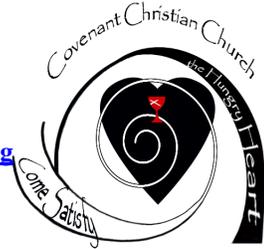
Covenant Christian Church

(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:

9:00am & 11:00am Worship

10:00am Christian Education for All Ages

(Childcare provided for All Programs & Activities)

Volume 24 No.4

March 30, 2010

Easter Weekend at Covenant

Saturday, April 3,

10-11:30a: Easter Activities & Egg Hunt for Pre-School-grade 4

Sunday, April 4, Easter Morning

7:00am Sunrise Service & Potluck Breakfast;

11am Celebration of Christ's Resurrection /Cantata

NO Sunday School;

No 9am worship

Childcare available for all services except Sunrise

Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen, Indeed!

This is how the early Christians greeted the dawn of Easter morn. But the first disciples who accompanied Jesus throughout his earthly ministry didn't wake up on that first Easter morning, excited or even hopeful. They were filled with despair; such overwhelming sadness. The One they believed to be the Messiah, the Anointed One, the Chosen One of God, was crucified right before their very lives; dead and buried in a borrowed tomb...what was there to celebrate on that third day?

But it didn't take long for there to be dancing in the streets, joyfully sharing the good news in the breaking of the bread...He is alive! He lives! Christ is risen, indeed!

Some among us may be a bit jaded by it all, 20 centuries this side of God's miracle of Christ's resurrection. And yet,

who among us doesn't have reason to celebrate the presence of the Risen Christ among us. With eyes to see and ears to hear, we are able to meet the living Christ in our lives, bringing us hope even in the midst of deep sadness; bringing us joy in the midst of suffering and pain in our lives and in this world; bringing us comfort and healing for all that is broken. Not Celebrate? How could we NOT celebrate the gift of the Living Christ who brings us life eternal? So, come, let us celebrate and bask in the gladness of Easter morning with all who will gather to shout and sing our Alleluias! **Blessings, Joanne**

"LOVE IS COME AGAIN"

An Easter Cantata by Covenant's Adult Choir

11:00 am Easter Sunday, April 4

Just when we think all is lost, we are called to remember the life of Jesus. The story of God living with us, both in biblical times, and in the daily routine of the present is a mystery and a mind-stretching miracle. We have to hear it over and over again to grasp its meaning for us. Easter Sunday, we will have the opportunity to review, believe and give thanks for the joy of this reality, a reality that is made available for each of us and even "those people."

The Easter Cantata, "Love is Come Again" begins "In the beginning" when we hear that the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us (John 1:14). As the choir sings through this amazing story, we are reminded that there is life and hope beyond all that appears to be impossible and "Empty Now." So, come let us worship together and remember how unconditional love has and will come to us again, and again, and again. **Alleluia!**

And Now a Word from Your Moderator

New Building Updates

Following the unanimous vote of the congregation at the Congregational Meeting on February 28 to move forward with the recommendations of the Facilities Evaluation and Planning Team (F.E.A.P. Team) to proceed with the \$1.2 million Phase I of Covenant's three-phase building plan and a \$400,000 capital campaign to help fund it, lots of activity has taken place to position us to do just that.

Phase I includes a new 250 seat sanctuary with baptistery, changing rooms, a communion preparation room, additional men's and women's rest rooms and changes to the administrative office area. This will temporarily allow us to re-purpose existing worship space for multi-use space, to serve as fellowship hall and classrooms defined by movable divider panels until we are in a position to build Phase II.

Two new committees were immediately appointed and they have been hard at work during March preparing for the capital campaign and making pre-building plans such as preparing a request for proposals to hire an architect and receiving bids for the core drilling work that needs to happen as a first step. These persons have eagerly agreed to serve on behalf of the entire congregation in the following capacities:

Building Committee

Don Downs, Chair
Brad Baldwin
Jody Barish
Brack Brown
Elgin Fry
Ken Hoffman
Gary Hunter
Jim Johnston
Debbie Miller
Dick Reaves
Amy Rutledge
Kathy Smith
Ex Officio, Karen Nolan, Joanne VerBurg & Randy Holste

Capital Campaign Committee

Executive Committee:

Campaign Chairperson, Derek Rutledge
Campaign Secretary, Tim Stiles
Board Moderator, Karen Nolan
Ministers, Joanne VerBurg & Randy Holste
Church Secretary, Mary Lou Jackson
Advance Pledge Committee Chairperson, Carole Tyler
Publicity Committee Chairperson, Tracy Brown
Faith Foundations Committee Chairperson, Darla Baldwin

Continued on next page

Campaign Council:

Executive Committee Members (above)
Follow Through Committee Chairpersons, Ted and Priscilla Glasener
Meals Committee Co-Chairpersons, Ginny Evett, Ann Hall, Mary Lou Jackson
Capital Fund Treasurer, Kathy Smith (ten.)
Team Leaders, Debbie Miller and Phama Johnston
Team Co-Leaders, Chris Grennan and Karen Nippert

Additional Campaign Committee Members:

- Publicity Committee:
Tracy Brown, chair; Cathy Downs, David Hamm, Sandy Kidd, Sally Shelly
- Faith Foundation Committee :
Darla Baldwin, chair; Marilyn Williams, Renie Palmer, Jeanne White, Dick Reaves
- Meals Committee:
Ginny Evett, Ann Hall, Mary Lou Jackson
- Advance Pledge Committee:
Carole Tyler, chair; Debbie Miller, Phama Johnston, Bob Kennel

When you see these folks, please join me in saying *thank you* for their huge commitment to serving Covenant Christian Church in this way. If you have questions or suggestions along the way, feel free to approach any one of these committee members.

A Brief Word About Our Financial Resources

While Covenant is going into this building project with some savings for building purposes and in a strong financial position, it will take all of us pulling together to make this happen and not affect our current programming and cash flow for our budgetary needs. Please remember to keep your annual pledge or estimates of giving current and pledge to enthusiastically support our fund raising projects, as well.

That said, do be thinking and planning for what you and your family can do monetarily over a three year period (really a 3 ½ year period - June 2010 through December 2013) to support Covenant in its upcoming capital campaign for \$400,000 to provide this opportunity to expand Covenant's capacity to serve others through our various ministries. The campaign will be held during the month of May. Someone will be calling you to issue your personal invitation to help make our shared long-time dream become a reality... Together we can turn,
*"We think we can... We think we can" into "with God's help... **WE KNOW WE CAN!"***

With excited anticipation,
Karen Nolan
Moderator

Women's Ministries Quarterly Breakfast
Saturday, April 10 8:30-10:30 AM
Guest Speaker: Robin Miller
Using Music to Awaken Our Spiritual Journey
A babysitter is available.
Call Church office to make reservations
All are Welcome!

Come, Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Love & Prayers with: Hazel & Art Brothers in the recent death of her sister, Opal Watkins in MO.

Recent: Bob Nolan, at home; Cameron Jackson & family; Christopher Downs; Betty Johnston (Jim's mother) at Wake Med Cary; Art & Hazel Brothers...

Continuing Prayers: Nelson Wakefield; Sharon Garrett; Deb Nystrom; Mary Toney; the people of Haiti & Chile...

Parents: Phama Larsen Johnston; **Mothers:** Laura Holste; Vicky Vanderford; Ann Hall; Betsy Mebane; **Fathers:** Jeremy Hopkins; Megan Larsen; Debbie Miller; Mark Huncik. **Son:** Jim Johnston; **Son-in-law:** Hoffman's;

Grandmother: Vicki Wilkinson; **Sisters:** Gerry Tokanel; **Brothers:** Mark Huncik; Phama Larsen Johnston; Art Brothers. **Aunts:** Melanie Bunn; Ann Washington;

Uncles: Jeremy Hopkins, Chris & Liz Grennan. **Niece:** Joe Busby;

Nephews: Gerry Tokanel; Terry White. **Great-Nephew:** Barishes;

Cousins: Paul Kessel; Chris Kidd; Sharon Garrett; Terry White; Jeff Miller; Glenda Hoffman; Elaine Fry; **Sisters-in-Law:** Alan Wilkinson; Terry White; Hazel Brothers...

Remembering Others: Dane Smith & Family; Davis Family; Chris Westbrook; Clai Bland; Betty Souders; Don Styles; Magen Rollins, Kelly Canady, Mildred Davis; General & Regional Church Leaders; NC Disciples new church starts.

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



One Dream, One Church
163rd Regional Assembly
of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in NC
April 16-18 2010
Wilmington, NC

Disciples from all over NC will gather soon in Wilmington to celebrate, "One Dream, One Church," as we celebrate our diversity as followers of Jesus Christ. We are focusing on "Disciples in NC-Three Strands, One Tapestry" by exploring our unique history as Disciples of Christ: The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ); the Piedmont Convention; and Church of Christ, Disciples of Christ). More than likely you didn't realize that 3 different groups of Disciples of Christ share the same historical beginnings. This Regional Assembly will afford us the opportunity to know more about each other and the traditions that have developed among us.

There promises to be uplifting music; inspiring preaching, good food and time for making new friends and renewing friendships. It's so exciting to know that Covenant youth will also be there along with many adults from our congregation. It's not too late to register and make plans to carpool or share a room. Meal registrations for Women's, Men's & Youth luncheons MUST be in by Wednesday, April 7. Interested in attending? Registration forms are outside the church office.



**Cary Spring Daze
Saturday, April 24 at Bond Park
8a-5p**

Cary's Spring Daze is one of our annual major fundraisers that puts Covenant out there in the community. As one of the event vendors, we sell sausage biscuits; marinated chicken sandwiches; Polish sausage sandwiches & drinks. Glenn Thornton has graciously once again agreed to coordinate this important event for us...It takes a lot of folks to make this run smoothly.

You can help by signing up:

- to setup on Friday night;
- to work for a few hours between 8am and 5pm;
- to help cleanup
- or to take down the booth at 5pm.
- donate canned Pepsi Products, including Aqua-Fina water

Signup to work or to donate Pepsi products in the church entryway beginning April 4 or contact the church office : 481-4715; covenantcc@bellsouth.net

EVERY DAY SHOULD BE EARTH DAY!!!



Every day should be EARTH DAY but there is one day a year set aside as the official Earth Day... Wednesday, April 22nd. And this year is the 40th anniversary of Earth Day! Forty years! To some of us there has always been Earth Day and then others still remember that first celebration back in 1970! A day set to honor our planet Earth, to become more informed on ways to care for her and to be involved in that care.

There will be a festive and informative event for all ages, at the Museum of Natural Science in downtown Raleigh on Saturday, April 17, 11am-5pm, rain or shine!

" PLANET EARTH CELEBRATION - RESPECT YOUR MOTHER "

Admission is free and there will be food, live music, eco-tainment, gardening demonstrations, expert advice on greening your home, and more. Why not join in for a green Earth Day festival! More information is available at www.planetearthcelebration.com.

And

**Covenant Will Celebrate Earth Stewardship Weekend
with Activities on Saturday & Sunday, April 24 & 25
Plenty of opportunities to get involved!**

Kids2Kids will have their garden project Saturday, April 24, 9a-11a, painting stepping stones & working on the Prayer Bench as we get ready for Earth Sunday.

Sunday, April 25 following the 11am worship there will be activities for everyone!

Happy Earth Day! Get involved!



SCRIP FUNDRAISER!!

We are a few weeks into our new fundraising program, Scrip, and we have had fantastic interest in the program! Many people have stopped by the Scrip table to ask questions, figure out how they can participate in the program, take an order form home, and even place an order. As of March 15, 2010, we have earned \$115.13!

Scrip is a fantastic program where you purchase Scrip (substitute money) from Covenant Christian Church in the form of gift cards and gift certificates. Covenant has cards and certificates available from literally hundreds of retailers, local and national, physical stores and online shopping. Place your order with the Scrip Volunteers after either service on Sunday. The next Sunday your order will be available to be picked up!

Here are a few suggestions for helping you to figure out how you can participate. Do you or someone in your household use medication regularly? We offer Scrip from pharmacies such as CVS, Rite Aid, Sam's Club, Walgreen's, and Wal-Mart. Purchase your Scrip from Covenant ahead of time, and use that to purchase your prescription at the drug store. Do you frequently purchase your gasoline at the same gas station? We offer Scrip from BP Gas, Circle K, Exxon, Mobil, Sam's Club, Sheetz, Shell, and Texaco, just to name a few.

CURRENT SPECIALS AND NEWS FROM GREAT LAKES SCRIP CENTER

- ❖ iTunes is temporarily increasing their contribution from 5% to 8%! This offer is good for scrip purchased between March 20, 2010 and April 16, 2010.
- ❖ Casual Male XL is increasing their contribution from 6% to 9%. This is a permanent change, effective on scrip purchased after March 27, 2010.
- ❖ The Great Lakes Scrip Center closes every year for one week in the spring for all their employees to take vacations. The GLSC will be closed from April 5 - April 9. **This means that orders placed at Covenant on April 4 will not be available until April 18.** This is the only time of the year that GLSC closes.

The Scrip Volunteers will be located in the hallway near the office after each service. Please stop by with questions, to get an order form or to place an order. If you are not sure how you can use Scrip, or would just like more information, please contact Robin Miller at doghowse@msn.com.

The Scrip Team: Robin Miller, Kathy Smith, Ted Glasener, Priscilla Glasener



Women's Ministries News

QUADRENNIAL ASSEMBLY (QA) June 23-27

Koury Convention Center Greensboro

Meet Disciples Women



from across the globe!

Did you know...

This is the 1st time this International Disciples Women event has come to NC. This international event takes place every 4 years. Our 1st was held in 1957. We have 11 attending and the list is growing! Melanie Bunn & Robin Miller are conducting workshops. Debbie Miller will take part in the QA Bizarre Bazaar.

Check out our website www.quadrennial.org

We have scholarship funds to share with our Covenant families.

The time is drawing nigh.... Make your plans now to join us!



Women's Ministries Bible Study

Join us Sunday, April 25, as we further examine the book of Joshua.

Bible Study meets directly after the 1100am service as a

BYOL(bring your own lunch).

We look forward to seeing you there!

AWAKE to Women's Ministries!

Ann Washington and Marilyn Williams co-chairs



Disciples Men Keep Their Hands Dirty

Following our outing for Warmth for Wake in February and then the clearing out between the church and Cary Parkway in March, our Disciple Men are ready for Easter beautification and helping with the Garden of Hope. In May we will resume our Saturday breakfasts with planned study sessions. Thanks to all the men for their time, tools, and trimming toward Cary Parkway. President Ted Glasener's breakfast was not "trimming" yet Covenant is now more VISIBLE again!

God Bless, Bob Kennel (Secretary)

APRIL 2010

Calendar for Children & Youth



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:30 P-Maundy Thursday Service	2 Good Friday Office Closed	3 10-11:30 AM Easter Egg Hunt
4 EASTER – NO 9 AM service OR Sunday School!	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 5:30 – 7 PM Covenant Youth (\$3)	12	13	14	15 Birthdays Owen & Gus Rutledge	16 5 PM: Regional Assembly – leave church	17 Birthday Alex Dalberth Regional Assembly All Day
18 3 PM Regional Assembly - home	19	20	21	22	23	24 8 AM Covenant Youth – Mission – Wake Co. SPCA.
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Upcoming Events

***May**– TBD: K2K – “World Religions” (Beth Shalom) ***May**-TBD:K2K – “World Religions” (Islamic Center)
 ***May 16th**: Children/Youth Sunday ***June 19th**: Covenant Youth Day – Frankies Fun Park (Raleigh)

*Check Out the following pages to see
 What's Up with Our Children and Youth!*



Easter Extravaganza and Egg Hunt!

Covenant's annual Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Extravaganza is fast approaching! Go ahead and prepare yourself for lots of Easter crafts, egg hunting, and a special program for all children (members and guests) of Covenant Christian Church. Bring your friends; bring your neighbors, and your family to celebrate the Easter season with us! Festivities begin at 10AM and end by 11:30AM this Saturday, April 3. Parents wanting to know more about

this event or want to inquire about volunteer opportunities don't hesitate to contact Randy Holste @ 481-4715 for further details.

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RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD... & Covenant's Kids

Thanks to the endless efforts of Jody Barish, our Kids2Kids group has begun its quest to look at the BIG picture among our friends from religions represented in the Triangle area—to travel to their places of worship, learn about their faith traditions and for them to visit Covenant and learn about our Christian traditions. Our day with families from Morrisville's Hindu Temple and our joint participation in a "Project Linus" service project was well received and extremely successful. Covenant's sanctuary was simply electric as all the children & their families came together to share our faith stories and to get better acquainted as friend. We hope to soon trek north to Raleigh and visit our Islamic neighbors as well as east to work with our Jewish friends. Plans are being made for future events/projects.



Kids to Kids

Last month, we served in our local community by working at the Food Bank. Nineteen of us, with some other groups, packed enough rice and black-eyed peas to feed 2,200 families. Yeah!

This month we're going to serve our own spiritual community by working in our Garden of Hope.

Please plan to come to the Garden, Saturday, April 24, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

We will paint stepping stones and work on our praying bench in preparation for Earth Sunday.

If you have any questions, please contact Jay or Jody Barish at 460-2820.

It's Time for Spring & the Children's Choir!



If you have a Preschool or Elementary student who loves to sing, please join Robin Miller and Jody Barish on Sunday mornings, from 9:45 - 10:05 a.m., starting April 11. We'll be working on songs to sing for Family Sunday, May 16. If you have any questions, contact Jody at 460-2820 or Robin at 852-3986.



Regional Assembly IS HERE!

Calling all Covenant Youth!

We are headed to Wilmington (April 16th-18th) for this year's Regional Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Get ready for Food, Fellowship, & Fun!

This will be my first trip and I am stoked about it - I hope you are too! We'll meet Disciples youth from all over North Carolina. We'll play games, worship, and eat together all weekend long. There will be a Keynote speaker for the weekend and plenty of songs and skits for all. If you looking to try something new and are tired of the same-old, same-old **THIS IS THE TRIP FOR YOU**. You'll see friends you met at St. Paul's during our January Lock-In and make new ones as well!

For more information contact Randy @ 481-4715 or randy-ccc@bellsouth.net

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It's Mission Time!

On Saturday, April 24' Covenant's youth are going to assist Wake County's SPCA. In today's economy pet owners are having difficulties keeping dog and/or cat food in their pantry. With such hardships some are forced to relinquish ownership of their pets because they cannot properly care for them.

The SPCA of Wake County has developed a monthly "food-drive" that allows animal owners who are struggling in today's world. During these food drives families can pick up a month's supply of dog and/or cat food. The SPCA wants to keep these animals in loving homes - not their shelter.

Join us on April 24' @ 8 AM as we assist the SPCA of Wake County with handing out food and supplies to struggling pet owners. For more information please contact Randy at the church office or e-mail him at randy-ccc@bellsouth.net

Treasurer's Report

We will continue to provide a monthly summary of our income and expenses in the bulletins and newsletters. Board members automatically received full reports on a monthly basis, and anyone else in the congregation who is interested in receiving those reports can be added to that distribution list. Again, just contact me by email: ekathys@gmail.com or 363-6313.

Our summary report for February, 2010:

*Needed Monthly Income: \$20,543
Contributions Received for February \$18,518.
Expenses for February \$19,942.

Total Year to Date General Fund Income: \$31,567
Total Year to Date General Fund Expenses: \$38,186
Net (\$ 6,619)

*The "needed monthly income" represents the average amount necessary to cover our budgeted expenses. That is, since we anticipate that our total expenses for the year will be \$246,512, we need to average \$20,543 on a monthly basis to break even at year end.

Kathy Smith, Treasurer

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And Now a Word from Mary Lou...

Updated Membership Directories are always available via email; 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 submit your articles by Friday, April 16**