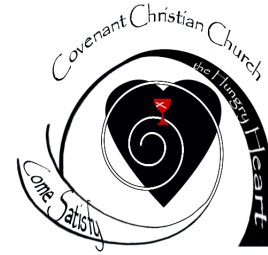


Covenant Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
2911 S.W. Cary Parkway, Cary, NC 27513
Phone: 919-481-4715 Fax: 919-481-4016
Email: covenantcc@bellsouth.net
Web: www.CovenantChristianChurch-Cary.org



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

Volume 24 No.5

April 30, 2010

Show Me Some ID...

Throughout Covenant's 23+ year history, different themes have forged our identity as church and have guided our response to God's leading for this congregation. From the early years of formation we celebrated the faith and determination of Noah and the Ark we attested that...

- "We're in this Boat Together..."

When the waters seemed a bit rough and choppy, God gave us the strength to...

- "Keep this Boat Afloat..."
- We also had times when we were at "The Crossroads," as we discerned God's direction and sought the next steps.

More recently, as we continued to grow, we grew not only in numbers, but also in our understanding of how God was forming us as a community of faith that welcomes all people in the name of Jesus Christ. And we felt called to invite others to

- "Come, Satisfy the Hungry Heart..."

In the midst of Covenant's formation, we walked alongside the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) whose Mission Statement became ours as well,

- "...to be and to share the good news of Jesus. Christ, witnessing, serving and loving from our doorsteps to the ends of the earth;"
- coupled with a Vision based on Micah 6:8 that we share, "...to be a faithful, growing church that demonstrates true community, deep spirituality and a passion for justice..."

And now, this mission and vision continue to shape both the Church and Covenant in particular, as we walk hand in hand together in faith:

"We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the One Body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us..."

So, here we are today, having "come this far by faith, leanin' on the Lord..." about to embark on the next leg of our faith journey as Covenant Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)... From the first day our church's doors were opened, this community of faith has been opening one new door after another, enmeshed in hospitality as we welcome any and all who are seeking to be in a joy-filled, challenging relationship with God in Jesus Christ.

And now God is calling us to open even more new doors so that we may enhance our ministry and mission, reaching out to more and more people as we prepare to enhance & expand our facilities...calling us to a time of deep prayer and careful listening, seeking the strength and courage to step out in faith...

In the name of Jesus Christ, the One who gives us our identity and purpose for the living of these days...Blessing, upon blessing...step by step...together, Rev. Joanne



Opening New Doors...Stepping Out in Faith

Covenant Christian Church is embarking on a journey in faith... to expand our capacity to serve and to meet future ministry needs.

Sunday, May 2, 2010, will be another historic day in the time line for Covenant Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)!! We kick off our "Opening New Doors... Stepping Out in Faith" capital campaign and pray for the campaign, the leaders on the campaign council who will guide us through the campaign period and for the vision set before us as we work together to make that vision a reality. Please plan to be present!

This campaign is about much more than raising funds for a building project. A capital campaign in a congregation is a faith-based spiritual act, as well as a financial effort. We have spent several years in study and discernment to better articulate our mission, beliefs and statement of calling. Through this campaign, we will place our resources in the service of the dream to which we feel God is calling us.

Our spiritual goal: We seek to expand our capacity to nurture the faith development of and to better serve current and future families and individuals.

Our financial goal: We seek to raise \$400,000 over a three-year period to add to the \$150,000 we have received in gifts or saved over the last few years for our next building project. This amount will position us to qualify for the loan which will enable us to embark on a \$1.2 million building project.

Our building goal: We seek to build a free-standing sanctuary that will seat 250 worshippers and a 30-40 member choir, and will include a baptistery, changing rooms, communion preparation room, and rest rooms; additionally, we plan to repurpose our current multi-purpose building for fellowship and classrooms and reconfigure administrative space to better serve our needs.

MAY has been designated Covenant's campaign month. Throughout the month our leaders will guide us in preparation for **Commitment Sunday, May 23rd**... appropriately the day of Pentecost, the celebration of the birthday of the church. On that day we will bring our estimate of giving cards forward to be dedicated. I am pleased to be able to report to you that your General Board and the Campaign Council have already made their commitments to support the campaign and the total dollars raised to date will be announced on *Kick Off Sunday*. *Celebration Sunday* will be held on June 6th with a celebratory cake and punch and the results of the campaign will be announced to the congregation.

I encourage you to prayerfully consider a stretch gift to help make Covenant's vision come true as we prepare throughout the month for Commitment Sunday. How can YOU help us along the stepping stones and across the threshold into our future of worship and service? Won't you join your leaders in *Opening New Doors and Stepping Out in Faith*?

Expectantly,

Karen Nolan

Moderator

Come, Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Welcome New Members!

With great joy, Sunday, April 4, we received into membership:

Kris & Amy Kiser and sons, Sean(5) & Noah(3) Kiser:

100 Silvercliff Trail, Cary 27513, 468-5251. Shepherding Elder: Alan Wilkinson.

Congratulations to Dave Garrett on his new job in Atlanta, GA. Dave and Sharon will relocate there in the near future.

Continuing Prayers: Cameron Jackson & family; Deb Nystrom; Art & Hazel Brothers; Nelson Wakefield; Sharon Garrett; Betty Johnston; Mary Toney;

Parents: Phama Larsen Johnston; **Mothers:** Vicky Vanderford; Laura Holste; Ann Hall; Betsy Mebane. **Fathers:** Jeremy Hopkins; Megan Larsen; Debbie Miller; Mark Huncik.

Son: Jim Johnston; **Grandmother:** Vicki Wilkinson; **Sister:** Gerry Tokanel;

Brothers: 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: Jeanne White; Paul Kessel; Chris Kidd; Sharon Garrett; Terry White;

Jeff Miller; Glenda Hoffman; Elaine Fry; Paul Kessel. **Sisters-in-Law:** Jeanne White; Alan Wilkinson; Terry White; Hazel Brothers...

Remembering Others: Larry Evans (friend of Lynn Wright); Eddie McAteer (Sheila Reaves' brother); Gary Burton (Pam Deardorff's friend) Rev. Dr. James Seale; Dane Smith & family; Davis Family; Chris Westbrook; Patrick Westbrook; Clai Bland; Ron Walters; Don Styles; Magen Rollins, Kelly Canady, Mildred Davis; General & Regional Church Leaders; NC Disciples new church starts...

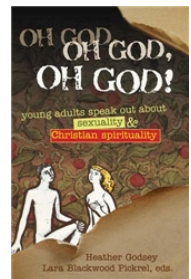
Remember to contact the church office: 481-4715; covenantcc@bellsouth.net if you want any of the above names to remain on the current list after 2 weeks.

Calling ALL Covenant Young Adults (CYAs)...

The time is here! Beginning MAY 19th (for roughly 8 weeks -6:30 PM to 8 PM), Covenant will host a class that will discuss our first book in the new Chalice Press series "Where's The Faith?"(WTF). This program is designed to assist young adults (late 20s – early 40's) with discussing faith, politics, sex, & church. It is a series designed for young adults by young adults. "These aren't slackers. They aren't overgrown adolescents.

Instead of being talked about, or having questions posed about them, young adults are the ones framing the discussion, pushing the envelope, sharing their stories."

Join us as we begin our insightful journey by reading the first book in the WTF series "Oh God, Oh God, Oh God – young adults speak out about sexuality & Christian spirituality". The book can be found on Amazon.com or through Chalice Press. Pick one up today and see what it's all about. I promise you won't be sorry! Now is the time to ask the questions you REALLY want to ask in church!



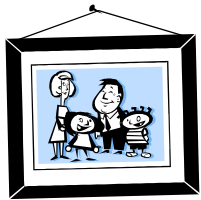


Nursery Volunteers Needed!



To all members, families, & guests of Covenant, we are seeking infant/toddler nursery volunteers to assist our paid staff on Sunday mornings during our 11 AM service. The work does not require any preparation or leadership training. If you have a passion for working with infants & toddlers and are interested in joining a volunteer rotation with this population please contact Randy Holste at the church office or e-mail him at randy-ccc@bellsouth.net.

Covenant's Church Family Day -- MAY 16th!!!



Join us on Sunday May 16th @ 11 AM for Covenant Church Family Day, as we celebrate the many different kinds of families that make up our one Covenant Family. Our children & youth and parents will lead us in worship, so come prepared to be amazed and inspired! We'll be discussing family & God as well as singing hip songs that praise God and encourages spiritual growth. You won't want to miss this day @ Covenant. Sometimes you see our kids in passing, sometimes you see them make their way to front for children's moment or heading back to Worship & Wonder. Now see them in front leading worship! Thanks to Jody Barish and Robin Miller for their hard work and dedication in making this all come together for us!

If you want to know how you can be a part of this exciting morning, or if just want more information don't hesitate to contact Jody Barish, 460-2820 or jodylb23@yahoo.com; OR Randy @ the church office, 481-4715; or randy-ccc@bellsouth.net



The Children's Choir

Prepares for a Celebration!

There's still time! 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 - 10:05a in the first classroom on the left. We are working on songs to sing for Covenant Family Sunday, May 16 during 11a worship.

If you have any questions, contact Jody at 460-2820 or Robin at 852-3986.

Are You Ready To... BLAST OFF!



Covenant's Vacation Bible School is on it's way and
You won't want to miss it!
This year we are going to take
"A COSMIC ADVENTURE IN PRAISING GOD";
It will be out of this world!



Mark your calendars for July 21st - July 24th! We invite all children ages 3 through 5th grade to sign up for this awesome event! Each year we enroll dozens of children, from around the community & church & we anticipate an even larger crowd this year. Come and see what the excitement is all about!

For more information regarding this event or our congregation please contact our church office at (919) 481-4715 or email the Associate Pastor for Children & Youth (Randy Holste) at randy-ccc@bellsouth.net



If you haven't checked out the beautiful shelves adorning the walls of the Children Worship & Wonder room, you need to find your way back to see the handy work of our very own Kevin Sloop and his son, Zack.

All W & W volunteers/participants would like to take this time to say **THANK YOU** to both of them for their tremendous dedication/support of this awesome program. Not only did they use their time & talents to build the shelves, as a family, they donated all of the wood and supplies as well!

Kevin & Zack, your dedication and support to this program & to our church family are greatly valued & appreciated here at Covenant!

MAY 2010

Calendar for Children & Youth



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Birthday – Lily Ivanov
2 Birthday – Skye Moses 5:30 – 7 PM Covenant Youth (\$3)	3	4 Birthday – Ethan Losey	5	6	7	8 Birthday s- Jacob Moses & Carmen Ballard Children/Youth Practice for Family Day–10a
9 Mother's Day	10	11	12	13	14	15 Birthdays– Eli Baldwin & Zack Sloop
16 Covenant's Family Day! 11a Children & Youth Practice-10 AM)	17	18	19	20	21	22 .
23 Pentecost Day! 2:30p Service of Baptism @ St. Paul's CC 5:30 – 7 PM Covenant Youth Meet-bring \$3	24 Birthday- Amanda Hopkins	25	26	27 Birthday – Yavin Hamm	28	29 Birthday – Amelie Harwell
30	31					

*May– TBD: K2K – “World Religions” (Beth Shalom)

*May-TBD:K2K – “World Religions” (Islamic Center)

Upcoming Events

May 16th: Covenant Family Sunday

June 19th: Covenant Youth Day – Frankies Fun Park
(Raleigh)



Covenant's SCRIP Update

Thank you to everyone who has participated in our new SCRIP program. As of the middle of April, we have earned over \$300! We are also starting to carry a few SCRIP cards on-hand as inventory basis, so you can purchase your SCRIP without the wait. Our current inventory includes \$25 Gift Cards for Outback Steakhouse/Carabba's Italian Grill, Panera Bread Company, Red Lobster/Olive Garden, Chili's/Macaroni Grill, Mimi's Café, Red Robin, and Starbucks. We will only have a limited number of cards available for these retailers each week, so get there early!

LOOKING AHEAD

May and June are busy months, with lots of opportunities to purchase SCRIP as gifts or for special events. There is Mother's Day in May, Father's Day in June, high school and college graduations, weddings, anniversaries, and the Memorial Day holiday, just to name a few.

CURRENT SPECIALS AND NEWS FROM THE GREAT LAKES SCRIP CENTER

- ❖ The Great Lakes Scrip Center has just added **The Body Shop** as a participating retailer. Gift cards will be available in a \$25 denomination with an 8% contribution.
- ❖ **Ruth's Chris Steakhouse** is offering a 1% bonus on Ruth's Chris gift cards ordered from April 10 – May 28, 2010, meaning an 11% contribution.
- ❖ **Red Robin, Bath and Body Works, The Home Depot, and Applebee's** are offering bonuses on their contributions on gift cards purchased through Friday, May 7, 2010.
- ❖ **Land's End** is offering a 2% bonus on their gift cards, making their contribution 18% through May 21.
- ❖ GLSC will no longer be offering **VISA** gift cards (to great dismay). This is due to recent federal legislation that affects the duties on the company issuing the cards. **American Express**, though, is run on a different business model and will still be available for purchase.

SCRIP Volunteers will be located in the hallway near the office after each service. Please stop by with questions, to get an order form, to place an order, or to take some of the on-hand inventory home with you. If you are not sure how you can use SCRIP, would like more information about the program, or are interested in helping with the SCRIP program, please contact Robin Miller at doghowse@msn.com or at 852-3986.

Your Scrip Team: Ted & Priscilla Glasener; Robin Miller

It's Almost Time for QUADRENNIAL ASSEMBLY, June 23-27

Koury Convention Center Greensboro

Meet Disciples Women from



around the globe!

Nothing Could be Finer Than to Be in Carolina for Quadrennial

News Flash! Interested but cannot commit to a full 5 days?

We have a Friday-Sunday option! Check out www.quadrennial.org

*BUT if you are NOT able to attend QA and still want to support one or more of our Quadrennial Mission projects, here's how YOU can help us **Awake to the Dance of Mission**:*

- **Donate "Gently Used" Books & Purses**
- **Hygiene Kit Supplies:**
 - **Individually** wrapped bar soap (bath sized),
 - **Individually** packaged single toothbrushes (NO toothpaste);
 - Washcloths AND 16x28 hand towels;
 - Band-aids; wide toothed combs; nail clippers (NO metal files or emery boards)
 - One gallon plastic bags with zip closures.

Boxes will be at the church ready to receive your donations in early June.

Deadline for donations: June 22. Thanks for being a part of Quadrennial Assembly!

Bras for a Cause – No limits to the decorating ideas for this means of support! ☺ Fun examples can be viewed at <http://brasforacause.wordpress.com/>. Registrations are to be submitted to Indy by June 1st and we will hand-deliver our crafts on June 23rd. All monies for this fun project support the Susan G Komen Foundation for breast cancer research.

Attention QA Attendees:

Don't forget to select and bring a special bookmark for our **Bookmark Exchange** that will take place during Wednesday's evening worship. This is an opportunity to meet and share with a global Disciples Sister !

We have 13 attending from our church and the list is growing! How Exciting!

Melanie Bunn & Robin Miller are leading workshops.

Debbie Miller & Deborah Thornton are taking part in the QA Bizarre Bazaar.

Women's Ministries Bible Study

Mark your calendar for May 23 and join us immediately after the 11am worship in the large classroom for our monthly Bible Study. We are exploring the book of Joshua.

Come join us! **AWAKE** to Women's Ministries!

Ann Washington and Marilyn Williams, Co-chairs



Disciples Men Continue to Work, Eat & Play

Thanks to all the men who helped with the Garden of Hope project and for all who volunteered at Spring Daze. We will have our monthly **Breakfast and Program** on the "Historical Christ" at the church on **Saturday, May 1, at 8:15 AM.**

We will also have a Men's outing (also inviting the women & especially children) for a **1:00p baseball game between NC State and Duke on Saturday, May 22.** We'll leave from the church at 12:30p. Interested? Contact: Ted Glasener, President, 557-9512 or TPGONTHEROAD@aol.com OR Bob Kennel, Secretary, 557-0847; or BKennel@aol.com

If you have not been involved with our men, we are a hardy lot with strength of hand, commitment, and character. Come on down, and try us out! *God Bless, Bob Kennel (Secretary)*

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Local Outreach

Interested in a "Hands-On" Outreach Project?

The Helen Wright Center for Women (of Urban Ministries of Wake County) works to reduce homelessness by providing temporary housing and support services. They maintain a transitional shelter for women that provides their basic needs as well as case management to help move them towards independence and permanent housing. To keep this ministry vital many helping hands are needed. One way that churches can become involved is to help in providing evening meals and Saturday lunches. The women of Covenant have the opportunity to provide a Saturday lunch. We would prepare the meal at the church and then take it to the shelter and serve it there. Interested? The date will be determined in coordination with Urban Ministries. If you are interested email Ro at www.rthompsonct@aol.com and she will get in touch with you.

Hints from The Green Team:

Do you opt for paper or plastic when at the grocery store? Neither is a good choice. Twelve million barrels of oil were used to make the 88.5 billion plastic bags consumed in the United States last year. And it takes four times more energy to make paper bags. The best choice is reusable shopping bags made of cotton, nylon or durable, mesh-like plastic. Put a few reusable shopping bags in your car so you have them handy on your next shopping trip. And if you happen to forget your reusable bag (as we all do!), choose paper if you will recycle it or plastic if you will reuse or recycle it. Don't forget there are Covenant Canvas bags for sale for grocery shopping and Covenant nylon bags for others needs!

Stop buying bottled water!

Did you know that it takes 26 bottles of water to produce the plastic container for a one-liter bottle of water, and that doing so pollutes 25 liters of groundwater? Don't leave a trail of plastic water bottles in your wake! Stop buying bottled water. Use reusable water bottles instead made from materials like stainless steel or aluminum that are not likely to degrade over time. If you choose a plastic water bottle, check the number on the bottom first: Plastics numbered [3, 6 and 7](#) could pose a [health threat](#) to you, so look for plastics numbered 1, 2, 4 or 5.

Stop Receiving Unwanted Catalogs

Each year, 19 billion catalogs are mailed to American consumers. All those catalogs require more than 53 million trees and 56 billion gallons of wastewater to produce -- and many of us don't even know how we got on so many mailing lists! So grab that stack of catalogs piling up on your coffee table and clear out the clutter. Visit www.CatalogChoice.org to put a stop to unwanted catalogs. Within 10 weeks, your mailbox will be empty of unwanted catalogs. A less cluttered mailbox means less pollution, less waste and less of the pollution that causes global warming.

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. Simply contact me by email: ekathys@gmail.com or 363-6313. And a few copies will continue to be available on the entryway table.

Also:

Coming to a mailbox near you...even yours! ☺

You will soon receive a letter with further information re: our current financial situation.

Look for your copy... *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, May 14