

Covenant Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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Volume 24 No.6 June 1, 2010

"Time Flies When We're Having Fun...right?" (If that's the case, then I'm having more fun than the law would allow!©)

The passage of time in *Through the Looking Glass* (aka: *Alice in Wonderland*) is significant as Alice comments, "In our country...there is only one day at a time." The Red Queen responds, "That's a poor thin way of doing things. Now here, we mostly have days and nights two or three at a time, and sometimes in the winter we take as many as five nights together - for warmth you know."

Ahh...can you imagine having time like this? I'd like to think that I would use this kind of time more wisely, especially if I had bigger chunks of time to deal with. But alas, you and I both know once we get used to something new and different, it doesn't take long to fall into our routines of familiarity that all too quickly turn into ruts.

Lately, as you might surmise, I've given some thought to the passage of time...which goes by all too slowly for those who wait and all too quickly when we're having fun; and also when we are bombarded and overwhelmed by deadlines and everything else that comes at us. And when this happens I feel like Tillie Olsen as she writes, "The clock talked loud. I threw it away, it scared me of what it talked." Oh, how I wish I could control time like this...just throw the clock across the room and be gone with it! ©

If I were having this discussion with Randy, he would politely listen and then comment, "It's all good, you know..." Sometimes though, I simply want to rant and rave about not having enough time! I know all too well that time is an equal-opportunity giver, it just doesn't seem that way...

But Randy's right...it *IS "all good"* around here. Time may have tried ever so mightily to get the best of me, but as I reflect on the last 6 weeks, time actually has been very good to me and to us as a church family:

- The onset of the Capital Campaign: *Opening New Doors...Stepping Out in Faith*, for our latest building project—the organizing, the planning, the designing of the brochure; the mailings...
- The beginning of work for the Building Committee and the selection process for our architectural candidates:

(both of the above teams together involving 60+ people volunteering countless hours of time, energy and creativity—not to mention patience);

- The ongoing fun and challenging questions from Carmen Ballard & Alex Dalberth, students in the Church Membership Class;
- Family Day as we celebrated the many different configurations of family that are a part of the One Family of God here at Covenant; the children, the music...gifts from God for the people of God!
- Pentecost Day Celebration and the wonder-filled sanctuary decorations (thanks to Darla & Brad Baldwin); as we celebrated Pledge Dedication Day;
- The Dedication of Joshua David Hopkins, son of Suzanne & Jeremy Hopkins...

And June brings us more and more time for celebrations:

- Each week as we gather for worship to praise God in Jesus Christ for life itself and much, much more!
- Sunday, June 6: Carmen & Alex make their Confession of Faith and will be baptized;
- Sunday, June 13, 3p: the Ordination to Christian Ministry for Karen Kelly here at Covenant.

Thanks be to God for the gift of Time...gotta a minute?

Blessing, upon blessing...step by step...together, Rev. Joanne

A Note from...your Moderator

A great big THANK YOU to the 50 people who have worked on the *Opening New Doors... Stepping Out in Faith* campaign and on the Building Committee over the last three months. You have all been amazingly creative, thoughtful, inspired, dedicated and tireless in your various roles. And thanks to everyone who has made a pledge and/or prayed daily for the campaign, campaign workers, and Building Committee.

Here's where we are currently with the Campaign and Building Committee Efforts...you will be kept informed frequently on our progress:

Campaign pledges were received and dedicated during both services on Sunday May 23. Since everyone could not be in worship that day, we are still receiving pledges in the church office daily and as well as Sunday, June 6, when you can put your pledge card in the offering plate.

This Sunday, June 6, is Celebration Sunday! ... a time to celebrate the pledges that have been received and the growing dollar amount the pledges represent toward our building project. There will be a special cake and punch following each worship. The pledge total will be announced for the first time during our time of celebration and weekly thereafter until all pledges are received.

The Building Committee issued a Request for Proposals from five architectural firms several weeks ago and received proposals from four of the five who are interested in working with Covenant on our new sanctuary and minor renovation project. During their May 13 meeting, the committee reviewed the four proposals and determined more information was needed before deciding which architects they wanted to invite for a personal interview.

A follow up email format questionnaire was sent to them to be returned to the committee by May 28. The committee will meet on June 2 to review the additional information and select the firms they will interview, with interviews occurring during June.

- Another heart felt thank you to the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 General Boards, Officers, Elders,
 Deacons, Trustees and Ministry Leaders, Committees, and to the ministers, staff and members of the
 congregation and guests who have worked and worshipped side by side these last two years serving
 each other, our church and others in our community, region, nation and world in the name of Jesus
 Christ.
- I thank YOU for allowing me to serve these past two years as your Moderator. As the incoming 2010-2011 officers and leaders join the outgoing 2009-2010 officers and leaders for a *joint General Board meeting on Sunday, June 13* immediately following the second worship service, we will be in prayer for you and each other as we all *step out in faith to open new doors of worship and service.*

Gratefully and sincerely,

Karen Nolan, Moderator

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Does AARP define you as a Senior...or does Medicare? In other words, Are YOU over 50? ©

If you can answer **YES** to either of the above questions, then consider yourself invited to the inaugural luncheon for Covenant Seniors & Guests (Dutch-treat) planned for Thursday, June 17 at 11:30a, at the **newest** Brigs Restaurant at Tryon Village: 1040 Tryon Village Dr. at the East corner of Tryon Road and Walnut Street; 859-2151.

We want to test the waters as to your interest in being part of this special lunch bunch. So, mark your calendars, NOW and plan to meet your friends or bring your friends with you on June 17. If you are working outside the home, hopefully, you could still join us for lunch.

Brigs is planning to seat us all together in their designated meeting area, we need you to let us know if you can attend or not by contacting the Church office, 481-4715 or covenantcc@bellsouth.net

Even if you cannot attend this particular lunch, contact us anyway to let us know if you're excited about the formation of this new group...

Come, Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Our love and prayers are with: Elaine Fry and family in the recent death of her aunt; Sharon & Dave Garrett(Atlanta, GA) and Jon & Amy Gaffney(Lexington KY) as they move to their new positions & homes.

Recent: Marian Crowe at Wake Med-Cary; Susan Hunter at home; Andrea Jackson...

Continuing Prayers: Adam & Nathan Bull; Cameron Jackson & family; Vicky Vanderford; Deb Nystrom; Rev. Nan Cheek; Nelson Wakefield; Betty Johnston; Mary Toney; the oil spill in the Gulf...

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

Son: Jim Johnston. Grandmother: Vicki Wilkinson; Grandfather: Jon Gaffney; Sisters: Nancy Jones; Gerry Tokanel. Brothers: Phama Larsen Johnston; Art Brothers; Sheila Reaves. Aunts: Melanie Bunn; Ann Washington. Uncles: Jeremy Hopkins, Chris & Liz Grennan. Nieces: Nancy Jones; Joe Busby. Nephews: Gerry Tokanel; Terry White. Great-Nephew: Barishes. Cousins: Jeanne White; Chris Kidd; Sharon Garrett; Terry White; Jeff Miller; Glenda Hoffman; Elaine Fry. Sisters-in-Law: Jeanne White; Alan Wilkinson; Terry White; Hazel Brothers.

Remembering Others: Laura Kulich; Danielle McGinnis; Denise & Dennis Lovold; Larry Evans; Rev. 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.

Contact the church office: 481-4715 or <u>covenantcc@bellsouth.net</u> to continue listing any of the above names after 2 weeks.

Mark Your Calendars...Saturday, June 5, 6:00p YUM! It's a Pig-Pickin' at the Home of Jerry & Debbie Miller!

We'll serve BBQ, green beans, potatoes, slaw, hushpuppies, tea & dessert...all for \$10.00 per plate. Eat-in and enjoy the fellowship or Take-out!

YOU'LL NEED A TICKET... Contact the Church office to make reservations and purchase your tickets or email your order: covenantcc@bellsouth.net. Make checks out to Covenant Christian Church & earmark: BBQ. Proceeds benefit the ministries through our congregation! **Deadline for ordering tickets is June 2.**

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You are Cordially Invited...
To the Ordination of Karen Kelly
Sunday, June 13 at 3p (reception following) at
Covenant Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Let us celebrate with our Sister in Christ who has heard God's Call to serve in full-time Christian ministry. Karen is the 9^{th} to be ordained here among the 42 other ordained, licensed and student ministers who have claimed Covenant as their church home during our 23+ years as a congregation. We hope you will be here to lend your support and blessing of Karen.



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 our children, please contact Randy Holste at the church office or e-mail him at randy-ccc@bellsouth.net.

QUADRENNIAL ASSEMBLY (QA) June 23-27

Koury Convention Center Greensboro

Meet Disciples Women

Nothing Could be Finer



from across the globe!

Than to Be in Carolina

for Quadrennial!

Interested but can not commit to a full 5 days? We have one-day options!

Check out our website www.quadrennial.org

Women's Ministries of Covenant is well represented! The "Fabulous 13" include:

Melanie Bunn-Workshop Presenter, Robin Miller-Workshop Presenter, Debbie Miller -Bizarre Bazaar, Deborah Thornton-Bizarre Bazaar, Marilyn Williams-IDWM Exec Committee member, Rev. Joanne VerBurg, Elaine Fry, Priscilla Glasener,

Elaine Kennel, Patricia Mills, Karen Nolan, Ro Thompson and Ann Washington.

Don't forget to select and bring a special bookmark for the

Bookmark Exchange that will take place during Wednesday's evening worship.

The time is now....and it is <u>not</u> too late to join us! Call or email Ann Washington or Marilyn Williams for full details

Can't go but want to show your support to Women's Ministries International? Help QA Awake to the Dance of Mission with these donations!

Gently used books and purses

Hygiene Kit items:

- Individually wrapped bar soap (bath sized),
- Individually packaged SINGLE toothbrushes(NO toothpaste),
- Washcloths; 16x28 hand towels,
- Band-aids, Nail Clippers(no metal files or emery boards); wide toothed combs,
- one gallon plastic bags with zip closure

Items may be brought to the church no later than Tuesday, June 22nd. Thank you!



Time passages....

It is hard to believe that another program year is drawing to a close! Our national service project, Breaking the Chains, is a mission to help abolish human trafficking globally as well as in our own backyards. This year, we are proud to sponsor the non-profit organization, Triad Ladder of Hope, whose purpose is to rebuild lives of those abused through Awareness Rescue Restoration and Re-Entry. This faith-based organization is located in High Point and reaches out to those in need across our state. Want to learn more? Visit www.triadladderofhope.org and discover how Triad Ladder of Hope is making a difference in the lives of others one step at a time! A WAKE to Women's Ministries!

Ann Washington and Marilyn Williams, Co-Chairs Disciples Men Are Good to Have Around!



Our Disciples Men had a good month of May with more cleaning out of the brush between the church and Cary Parkway; a great program from "Campus Outreach" with Drew Kidwell; and good fellowship at a Duke-NC State Baseball game late in the month. We also contributed \$200 to **Campus Outreach** again this year.

The next breakfast meeting will be **Saturday June 12** at the church with a brief program and planned **completion of the brush cleaning** for greater visibility of this wonderful church home at Covenant. Questions? Contact Ted Glasener: TPGONTHEROAD@aol.com; or Bob Kennel: BKennel@aol.com

God Bless, Bob Kennel, Secretary



The time is here! Wednesday evenings, (throughout June) @ 6:30 PM Covenant continues to host a discussion, led by Randy Holste, of the first book in the new Chalice Press series "Where's The Faith:" "Oh God, Oh God, Oh God – young adults speak out about sexuality & Christian spirituality". It's designed to assist young adults (late 20s – early 40's) with issues of faith, politics, sex, & church. There's still time to join us on this insightful journey.

CHILDCARE CAN BE PROVIDED FOR THOSE WHO REQUEST THIS SERVICE!

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! Questions? Contact Randy: randy-ccc@bellsouth.net

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IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!

The time is quickly approaching when more than 250,000 children in our 34 counties move from the security of free and reduced breakfast and lunch programs at school.....to no food security at all!

KIDS SUMMER STOCK is community-wide goods and funds drive sponsored by the Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC, that provides additional food needed to support these children, as well as supporting summer meals programs. Last year, Kids Summer Stock provided more than 1.75 million meals to those families and children suffering from hunger in our communities. And, last year the folks at Covenant responded enthusiastically to the call for support! Let's do it again this year!

During the month of June bring your food donations on Sundays.....the items most needed are listed below:

Grains:

Graham and/or Animal Crackers; Whole Grain Cereal/Granola Bars; Individual Cereal Boxes; Light Popcorn

Fruit: Canned Fruit/Fruit Cups in light syrup; Dried Fruit: Raisins, Plums, Cranberries

Protein: Spaghetti & Meatballs; Ravioli, Beefaroni, Lasagna **Miscellaneous:** Fat-Free Sugar Free Pudding Cups; 100% Juice

POP TOP ITEMS or MICROWAVE CUPS PREFERRED - NO GLASS, PLEASE

Children and Youth Ministry News

After several weeks of classes, we are preparing to welcome the Church Membership Class as our newest members, this Sunday, June 6 during the 11am worship:

Carmen Pearl Ballard, daughter of Angie & Derek Ballard; Sponsor, Karen Nippert and **Alexander Dennis Dalberth,** son of Barbara & Paul Dalberth; Sponsor, Renié Palmer.

Carmen & Alex will make their Confession of Faith at the close of the worship and will share in the sacrament of Baptism at 3pm at St. Paul's Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). 3331 Blue Ridge Rd. Raleigh. Debbi & Matt Layko; Sponsor, Jody Barish; **Andrew Wesley Stiles**, son of Becky & Tim Stiles; Sponsor, Dick Reaves; were received into membership by Confession of Faith and were baptized.

They have begun to understand that they cannot nor will not grow in the faith without the love and support of God in Jesus Christ and the love and support of their families and this loving church family. Please make a special effort to be here this Sunday for worship and for the Baptism.

Let them know how proud you are of them and uphold them with your love and prayers...it's what church families do, you know...@

RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD & Covenant's Kids









It's not a stretch to say that at Covenant, we strive to be active participants in our community and world. We encourage our families to look at the "BIG picture" and fully understand what it means to be Christian and what it means to ACT like a Christian. As Disciples we don't stop at a textbook definition of what it means to believe – we ask the hard questions and strive to find the answers.

At Covenant we believe our children benefit from similar practices. Therefore our Kids 2 Kids (elementary aged children) service-oriented program have been dedicating several months to focusing on Religions of the World.

Our goal is 1) to educate Covenant's children to the diverse nature of our culture and our world; & 2) to expound upon their understanding of our own Christian beliefs.

Our adventure concludes this month, Saturday, June 5 @ 12:30 as the children make their way to the Islamic Society of Raleigh and participate in a mid-day prayer service and tour the society's facilities. We hope you can join us as our journey comes to a close! All are welcome! If you want more information or have any questions don't hesitate to contact Jody Barish (jodylb23@yahoo.com) or Randy Holste (randy-ccc@bellsouth.net) for more details.



Covenant Youth --- It's Time for FRANKIE'S!

Okay Youth, who's ready for some Summertime FUN!?!?! This year we are kicking off our Summer - O -FUN tour @ Frankie's Fun Park in Raleigh. They've got "Go-Karts", "Putt-Putt", "Laser Tag", "Batting Cages", "Arcade Games", & the list just keeps going & going! Bring your friends, family, & neighbors! All are welcome!

We'll meet @ the church at 11 AM and head on over to FRANKIES for hours of FUN! Parents can meet us back at the church around 3 PM! In between drop-off & pick-up, I promise you'll have FOOD & FUN! Bring \$20 with you and you won't have to worry about anything (food will be included in this price, arcade tokens will be limited as well).

For more information about this event or if you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Randy Holste @ randy-ccc@bellsouth.net for more details.

Are You Ready To... BLAST OFF?

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

REGISTRATION OPEN

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Mark your calendar for: July 21st - 24th (Wednesday-Saturday)

Get ready for a *GALACTIC BLAST: A COSMIC ADVENTURE PRAISING GOD!* in Vacation Bible School. Cadets will board the Starship Galactic Praise to learn more about our wonderful, incredible, amazing, magnificent, awesome GOD and universe in a whole new way. The fun begins Wednesday, July 21st with three nights of "galactic missions," 6:30-8:30p followed by a Super Saturday session, 10a-1p and our church-wide celebration on July 24th during 11a worship.

Register NOW! Invite your friends, neighbors and cousins by the dozen! Forms available in the weekly bulletin; on the entryway table and the table outside the church office.

We Also Need Volunteers! If you can help make VBS a huge success by giving your time, talents, or supplies/donations, please fill out the Volunteer form in your weekly Bulletin and drop it in the offering plate or leave in the church office. If you have questions, contact Angie Ballard at afballard@gmail.com or (919) 219-0328; or Randy at randy-ccc@bellsouth.net

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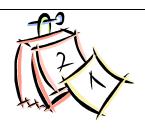




Those of you who were present in worship on May 16 as we celebrated our very first FAMILY DAY, you were blessed to see our children/youth/families singing and sharing thanks to God for planning for us to live as family. If you weren't able to be with us, you really missed something special! The music, the Children's Choir, Children's Worship & Wonder, and the worship-filled sanctuary was MAGNIFICANT!

We were truly blessed to have witnessed such an array of talent, beauty, & dedication! To all the families, children, & youth involved – THANK YOU! For those who supported our children/youth on this day – THANK YOU! And finally, a HUGE & HEARTFELT THANK YOU goes out the creative masterminds who produced & directed this event! – Jody Barish & her sidekick Robin Miller! Without either of them this day would not have been so special. Events like Family Day are what make Covenant Christian Church a wonderful place to be!





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5 Birthday – Christopher Downs K2K – Tour – Islamic Society 12:30 – 3 PM
5:30 – 7 PM Covenant Youth (\$3)	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 Birthday – Michael Stelmack	18	19 11 AM – 3 PM Covenant Youth FRANKIES FUN PARK! (\$20)
20 Birthday – Megan Larsen	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

* July 21st - 24th: Vacation Bible School

* July 16th

Church-wide Planning

* July 30th - August 1st: BEACH TRIP - Covenant Youth!



Covenant's SCRIP Update

The SCRIP program continues to grow. The Inventory Program started last month is working well and new retailers have been added! Our current inventory of \$25.00 cards include Barnes & Noble, Chili's/Macaroni Grill, Mimi's Café, Outback/Carrabas/Bonefish Grill, Panera Bread, Red Lobster/Olive Garden/Bahama Breeze/Longhorn Steakhouse, Red Robin, Regal Entertainment, Starbucks, and Wal-Mart/Sam's Club. If there is retailer you would like to see added to the on-site inventory, let Robin Miller know. As of the middle of May, Covenant earned over \$400 through the SCRIP program as members use SCRIP to make everyday purchases!

Are you interested in participating in SCRIP, but have trouble planning far enough ahead to make an order? Would you like to be a part of the program, yet are concerned with purchasing a card you will never use? Don't worry – you are not alone. Think about where you shop each month. Choose a store that you know you frequent at least once a month – the drug store where you get your medications, the restaurant that you eat at once a week for lunch, or the gas station where you generally purchase your gas.

Order a low denomination SCRIP card for one of these retailers. Use your SCRIP card when you shop at this retailer. Then, when your card runs out, place an order for a replacement. As you continue to use SCRIP cards, you will feel more comfortable with how to best use the system, and you will help support the many ministries of Covenant! If you have any questions or concerns or need help finding a retailer, please see one of the SCRIP volunteers.

LOOKING AHEAD

June and July are full of events and holidays to utilize the SCRIP program. Think about purchasing SCRIP for Father's Day gifts, wedding/anniversary/graduation presents, or supplies for outdoor projects and picnics. Planning a trip to a Six Flags Theme Park this summer? Use SCRIP for your trip. Six Flags Theme Parks has just joined with the Great Lakes Scrip Center to provide single day admission at ANY Six Flags Theme Park at an 8% contribution. The tickets cost only \$30.00...You save \$20 on an Adult Admission!.

CURRENT SPECIALS AND NEWS FROM THE GREAT LAKES SCRIP CENTER

- ❖ L.L. Bean is increasing their contribution to 17% through June 11.
- ❖ T.G.I. Friday's is offering a 1% bonus on gift cards ordered through June 11, 2010, meaning a 10% contribution.
- ❖ **Applebee's** is offering a 2% bonus on their gift cards, making their contribution 10% through June 11.

SCRIP Volunteers will be located in the Narthex after each service. Please stop by with questions, to get an order form, to place an order, or to take some of the cards already on-hand for purchase. 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 (Secretary)

Your 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. A few copies will continue to be available on the entryway table.

Please do all that you are able to do to help remain current with your contributions to the General Operating Budget. Summertime is fast approaching. Attendance may be sporadic but the work of Covenant goes on...

Help us continue our mission and ministries during the upcoming months.

Thanks, 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 Wednesday, June 16