



**Covenant Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)**

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The Emmys...the Oscars...the Country Music Awards...

...pale by comparison to the accolades that this community of faith called, Covenant deserves! And I mean that with all my being. All throughout my many years of ministry here among you, I have never worried about being away no matter how long or for what reasons. Whenever I pull out of my driveway or taxi down a runway, I am able to leave knowing that whatever surfaces or whatever is ongoing at the time, the leaders and this church family in general, will rise to the occasion. And such was the case a couple of weeks ago as I left for some continuing education mixed with visiting family and friends.

And yet, I have to admit, I experienced the greatest of challenges even trying to get outta town! Not only was I sick and had to postpone leaving for 3 days, there were a few folks or their family members in and out of the hospital with serious illnesses; those who were dying and their loved ones caught in the early stages of loss and grief. And I recalled my time as a student chaplain, moving from one situation to another with little time for reflection and assessment...just lots of prayer...

And yet, I had to leave and I knew that I *could* leave...knowing and trusting that in the words of the ancient mystic, Julian of Norwich, "All shall be well...and all manner of things shall be well..."

And well it all was...from the responsive leadership of our Moderator, Vice-Moderator and other congregational clergy, who responded to the "anticipated" surprises, filling in the blanks that yielded a seamless time of worship for all present; to those who filled the pulpit during both services each week; to the visits and attention of the Elders and others to those in great need; to the staff who kept many things going; especially Randy, who, in the midst of his own personal struggles, so ably responded with pastoral care to many; to the love and support this church family showed forth to Laura & Randy in their own time of great need when death came as a most unwelcomed guest in their lives.

How wonderfully gratifying it is to be in relationship, in ministry, with all of you as this strong, faithful, loving and caring church family; people who rise to any occasion, trusting God is right there with them, equipping them and blessing them to do the ministry set before them...

It's a privilege to know you and to serve with you...**Blessings, Rev. Joanne**

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Dust Off Your Top Hat! Put on Your Dancin' Shoes! It's Time for Talent-Un-Talent Night!



Please join us for an evening of family fun as we kick-off a great new season at Covenant Christian Church! We will be hosting our annual Talent/Un-Talent Night, Sunday, September 12, 5-7pm, along with other activities for the entire family (childcare for infants-4 yr. olds).

This year we will be extending our categories to include a variety of talents such as: **performing arts; cooking; baking; photography; art work; wood work; crafts or any other talent you choose to share! Please sign-up in the entryway or contact the church office: 481-4715; or covenantcc@bellsouth.net to bring your favorite dish for our potluck dinner and/or to showcase your hidden talents!**

So get your family & friends together and come on down to enjoy an evening of fun! Questions? Contact: Ro Thompson RThompson@aol.com or 367-0257; Suzanne Hopkins 372-9353 or Suzanne@hopkins-family.org; Mary Lou Jackson, covenantcc@bellsouth.net or 481-4715.

A Note from..your Moderator

As we prepare to say goodbye to the dog days of the hot North Carolina summer, many activities are set to begin at Covenant. There are many opportunities to experience fellowship and explore our faith together:

- Suzanne & Jeremy Hopkins are leading a 13-week Financial Peace seminar for members and guests that focuses on getting out of debt, budgeting and saving.
- Sunday School classes for adults, youth & children will begin their new programs;
- and our choir returns from a month's break to complement our worship services.
- Our Kickoff Sunday to mark the beginning of the fall programs and the always entertaining Talent / Un-Talent Night will take place on September 12.

The other new beginning to highlight comes from our Building Committee, which after many interviews and much thoughtful deliberation has selected an architect that will work with us on the next phase of our building expansion. The architectural firm, [ADW](#) out of Charlotte, has designed several churches in the Cary area and will be working with the committee in the coming weeks and months to deliver a set of drawings to help us visualize our future as we grow.

Finally, as we wind down the vacation season let's remember what draws us back to each other and back to Covenant. Whether it's the worship experience, a particular ministry or fellowship group, outreach with the Garden of Hope, or a favorite Sunday school class, the one common thread across Covenant is an openness in the spirit of the people who we share the experience with. That welcoming spirit doesn't exist everywhere. Let's embrace it as we reconnect, and let's talk to others about it so folks outside Covenant can start a new beginning for themselves.

Thank you for all that you do to make Covenant an open, caring, and energetic place to explore our faith together.

Derek Rutledge, Moderator

It's Official! We're Named & Claimed:

"The Amazing Grays" 😊

(for those over 50 yrs old and willing to admit it)!

**Next Luncheon Meeting
Thursday, September 16 at 11:30a
(place to be determined)**

Come, Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Our love & prayers are with:

Laura, Randy, Tate & Avery Holste in the recent death of Laura's mother, Linda Stone.

Mary Lou Jackson in the death of her cousin, Carol Bell;

Gerry Tokanel in the death of her sister, Faye Tepedino;

Ann & Jerry Hall in the death of her uncle, William Wood.

Congratulations to: Sharon & Howie Rosen (our Nursery worker) in the birth of their daughter, Brianna Emily Rosen; born Wednesday, August 18.

Recent: Hazel Brothers; Marian Crowe's daughter, Denise Lovold; Anna Stelmack (Greg's grandmother); Faye Snow (Teresa DeMartin's mother); Jennifer Oakley; David Wimsey & family;

At Home: Rev Duryea; Vicky Vanderford.

Continuing Prayers: Rev. Essie Thompson & family; Nelson Wakefield; Mary Toney; Cameron Jackson & family; Betty Johnston; Sharon Garrett. **Parents:** Phama Larsen Johnston;

Mothers: Ann Hall; Vicky Vanderford; **Fathers:** Debbie Miller; Vicki Wilkinson; Megan Larsen;

Mark Huncik **Sons:** Jim Johnston; Joe Busby; **Grandmothers:** Cindy Magliocca; Vicki Wilkinson;

Grandfather: Jon Gaffney; **Sister:** Sally Shelly. **Brothers:** Chris Kidd; Phama Larsen Johnston;

Art Brothers; **Aunts:** Melanie Bunn; Ann Washington. **Uncles:** Chris & Liz Grennan.

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

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

Remembering Others: Misty Mowrey's friend, Charles; Birger Schantz family; Christine & Sara Bronson; Cindy Whitmore; Jim Ott; Rocia Jackson & Odessa Sanders; Dauberman Family; Bud McCarty Family; Chris Westbrook; Patrick Westbrook; Ron Walters; Don Styles; Magen Rollins; Mildred Davis; Sondra Chitwood; General & Regional Church Leaders; NC Disciples new churches.

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

Our Gifts & Expenses

Needed Monthly Gifts	\$20,543
August Receipts through 8.21.10	14,629
July Receipts	12,956
June Receipts	21,993

Income through 7.31.10	\$ 119,648
Expenses through 7.31.10	<u>136,856</u>
General Fund shortfall through 7.31.10	17,208
Proceeds from 2008 refinance transferred to GF	<u>19,613</u>
Net change to the GF through 7.31.10	\$ 2,405

Also...please note when sending in your Capital Campaign donation make sure it is marked for Capital Campaign so it will be posted correctly.

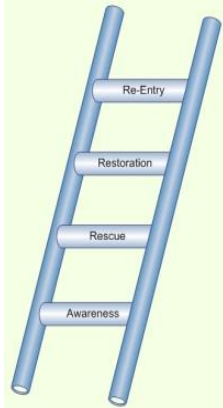
Complete financial reports including all funds through July 31 are available at the main entrance to the sanctuary or upon request. Please contact your church treasurer, Kathy Smith, at ekathys@gmail.com or 363-6313 if you have any questions.

"...For where your treasure is, there your heart will be

*Tending the Garden of Hope
Is Winding Down...*

Many thanks to all of you who have helped in any way in the garden this year and also purchasing the veggies that have been produced in our garden. We have had a bumper crop again this year. All monies go to support the Inter-Faith Food Shuttle. Together it makes a real difference! Questions? Check with Tim or Becky Stiles: 919-387-0737.

Women's Ministries News...



Women's Ministries Quarterly Breakfast
Saturday, September 11th
8:30-10:30 AM
ALL Covenant Women (members & guests) are invited!

Guest Speaker - Sandra Johnson
President and Founder of **Triad Ladder of Hope**
"Breaking the Chains of Human Trafficking"

Childcare is available UPON REQUEST-Contact the church office, 481-4715; or covenantcc@bellsouth.net; by Friday, September 3 to reserve a space for your child(ren).

Save the Date:

Our Annual Fun(d) Raising Day is Saturday, October 16!

Attention all good bakers and crafters! Women's Ministries will manage the Bake Sale and Craft Fair as part of this church wide event. We are seeking volunteers to provide baked goods (that do not require refrigeration) and creative handmade crafts. This is a great day for fun(d) raising and fellowship. More information to come...

In the meantime, pull together those favorite recipes and craft ideas!

Discover Women's Ministries! Ann Washington and Renie Palmer, co-chairs

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**DISCIPLES
MEN**

Disciples Men are Here for Covenant!

Our Disciples Men are alive and kicking after a hot summer of helping with cleanup around the church and out to Cary Parkway. This fall we will be getting back to regular breakfasts and programs as we hear from some of our investments in ministry with Drew Kidwell and at Camp Caroline.

We also plan to contact and include some of our younger men in our programming including a football and basketball game field trip.

God Bless, Ted Glasener, President, Bob Kennel, Secretary

THANKS & WELCOME BACK

Thanks again to Robin Miller, Misty Mowery, the Men's Quartet (Sam Evett, Jim Johnston, Chris Kidd and Jeff Miller), Karen Nolan and Glenda Hoffman for the beautiful music you provided for the 11 am worship services in August. We appreciate your willingness to share an extra measure of your time and talents to enhance the worship experiences for all who were there to hear you.

Also, we hope that everyone enjoyed singing songs from Chalice Praise during July & August. Now when you stop by at 9am on Sundays you will already know some of the songs that are sung so joyfully there.

Now we invite others to join you in filling up the choir loft to enjoy the special music planned for the future. **Thursday night, September 2 at 7:30pm will be our first choir rehearsal since the summer break.** We hope to see some new faces among the familiar ones when we gather to warm up for the fall program. Need childcare? You need to first contact Carole Tyler, Director of Music Ministries to arrange this: 720-4311; ectyler@nc.rr.com

For those of you who may not be able to attend this first practice, there's always next Thursday (and the next, and the next) to add your voice to the mix. This is the season when we look forward to preparing music for Anniversary Sunday (Covenant's 24th), Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas. Come and hear what God can do with us.

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**"Everything I am, Everything I Have, Everything I Can, I Bring to You!"
People are Gathering to Get a Better Handle on Their Finances!**

Join us as we learn to better manage the money and resources that God has provided us. a 12 week adventure to unpack myths and truths about money and how to obtain Financial Peace, that started on August 27 and will end on November 12.

We really can experience more peace in our homes, our relationships and our lives once we get our finances under control. The course is Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University. No matter where you are financially right now, this class has something for you. And it's FUN too!

During our 12 week journey we will learn about saving, relating with money, budgeting, getting out of debt, and dealing with collectors, bargaining, insurance, and investing. The series ends with a powerful lesson on giving which is a good thing because by the end of the course we should all be in a better position to give like we've always wanted to give. During the 90 days of the course the average family pays off more than \$5300 in debt and saves \$2700! Interested yet?

For more information contact either Jeremy or Suzanne Hopkins by email or phone: Jeremy@Hopkins-Family.org; Suzanne@Hopkins-Family.org; or 919-372-9353.



Covenant's SCRIP Update

Hard to believe it is already September!! So far, Covenant has earned more than \$800 through the SCRIP program! If you haven't yet tried out the SCRIP program, or if it has been a while since your last order, now is a great time to purchase those SCRIP cards. Stop by and see what new retailers are participating in SCRIP program.

Some of you may be wondering what exactly is SCRIP? Well, 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, from both physical stores and online shopping.

You can place an order with the SCRIP volunteers located in the entryway after either service on Sunday or purchase SCRIP from one of our 10 retailers that we keep in inventory each week. If you place an order, it is available to be picked up by the next Sunday! The SCRIP volunteers are also available to answer any questions you may have about the program in general, or how you specifically can participate. The SCRIP volunteers for the month of August are Jeff and Robin Miller.

Ideas for SCRIP in the month of September

- Lawn Care and Household Maintenance (those final projects of the summer):
Lowe's, Home Depot, ACE Hardware, Wal-Mart
- School Supplies: Office Depot, Office Max, Staples, Wal-Mart, Kmart, Barnes & Noble, Borders
- Back-to-School Clothes: Belk's, JC Penney, Gap, Express, Gymboree, Kohl's, Wal-Mart, Kmart, Sear's, Land's End, Eddie Bauer, Payless Shoes, Zappos.com
- Sporting Equipment: Bass Pro Shops, Champs Sports, Dick's Sporting Goods, Nike, REI Sporting Goods, Sports Authority, Wal-Mart, Foot Locker
- Cold Treats: Baskin Robbins, Cold Stone Creamery
- September birthdays and anniversaries

If you are not sure how you and your household can participate in the SCRIP program, please contact Robin Miller, Covenant's SCRIP Coordinator at doghowse@msn.com or 919-852-3986. You can also visit with the SCRIP volunteers in the entryway after each service. We will be happy to help!

Robin Miller, SCRIP Coordinator

SEPTEMBER 2010

Calendar for Children & Youth



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6 Labor Day (Office Closed)	7 Birthday – Carter Kearney	8	9	10	11
12 KICK OFF SUNDAY! Talent/Untalent Night! Birthday – Grayden Beaufort	13	14	15	16 Birthday – Matthew Bunn	17	18 Birthday – Josh Hopkins
19	20	21	22	23 Birthday(s) – Tate Kennel & Jackson Beaufort	24 Birthday – Ashley Mantz Chi Rho Fall Retreat)	25 9-10:30a Kids2Kids Church Clean- Up Day! Birthdays- Hannah Stiles & Seth Baldwin Chi Rho Fall Retreat)
26 <u>Covenant Youth</u> 5:30 – 7 PM (Chi Rho Fall Retreat)	27	28	29	30 Birthday – Kayla Grennan	31	

Upcoming Events

*September 24th – 26th—Chi Rho Fall Retreat!

* October 24th: TRUNK OR TREAT!!

*November 21st: Disciples Day @ Barton College – All Youth



NEW Program Alert for 3rd & 4th Graders!

We've got a NEW CLASS we want you to know about...It's called **Transitional Worship**

All 3rd & 4th graders are invited during 11 AM worship (after children's Moment) to join Pastor Randy in the big Sunday School Class for Transitional Worship beginning September 12 for several weeks!

This new program is offered to help children who have graduated Children's Worship & Wonder but need added guidance before entering worship in the sanctuary on a regular basis.

***For the FIRST CLASS ONLY on September 12 - parents are invited to join the students for this class.** For more information or questions contact Randy randy-ccc@bellsouth.net

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Kick-Off Sunday IS HERE!

September 12th is our CHURCH-WIDE kick-off Sunday! This is where our new programs year begins. The summer has come and gone and it's time for us to BLAZE into a new year! We kick it all off on Sept. 12th at our annual Talent/Un-Talent Night and don't look back until we hit Summer 2011!



We've got so much planned for you this year! From Worship & Wonder to Covenant Youth, and the dozens of things in between, Covenant is prepared to be a part of your spiritual formation & journey! Stay tuned for all the details about this year's events and how you can be involved! For more information or questions, don't hesitate to contact the church office (919) 481-4715

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Children's Worship & Wonder Resumes September 12! Greeters Needed!

You've heard a lot about Children's Worship & Wonder by now. However, I'll bet you've not experienced it yet! Have we got an opportunity for you! Here's your chance to be a part of the action!

WE NEED GREETERS to be a part of our Worship & Wonder ministry! As a Greeter you will be right in the middle of all the action as you assist the children when needed during their worship time. There will be a brief introductory training session and then you will be part of a flexible Sunday rotation for all volunteers. No teaching or prep-work required! The time commitment is completely up to you. If you'd like more information, contact Amy Rutledge amyrutl@yahoo.com; or 629-2334.

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Welcome All Children Kdgn-4th Grade!

Let's start off our season by nourishing our own spiritual community. Please join us on Saturday, September 25, from 9:00-10:30 a.m. to work on the Garden of Hope and our prayer bench.

Please wear old clothes and bring work gloves, if you have them. We're looking forward to seeing you there!

Questions? Please contact Jay or Jody Barish at 460-2820 or jodylb23@yahoo.com.



HEROES

Chi Rho Youth Retreat! September 24-26

The Regional Chi Rho Youth Retreat will be here before you know it! All youth 5th through 8th grades are invited to Camp Caroline to experience the fun and fellowship of "Heroes" weekend retreat September 24-26! Enjoy meeting Disciples youth from all over North Carolina.

The event is hosted by Camp Caroline our Disciples Camp located on the NC Coast! We'll enjoy a keynote speaker, activities, food, games, & TONS of FUN! If you've never been to Camp Caroline & experienced a retreat with 100s of youth from around North Carolina – Check it out! I CAN'T WAIT!

Registration forms available in the church office; or e-mail Randy: randy-ccc@bellsouth.net

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What's New for Children & Youth this Fall? Beginning Sept. 12!

- **9 AM Worship**

- Infant/Toddler Nursery - Paid staff

- **Sunday School: (10 AM Hour)**

- Toddler/Infant Nurseries (Newborn to 3 yrs. old)

- Preschool (Ages 3 & up)

- Early Elementary (Grades K - 1)

- Middle Elementary (Grades 2 - 4)

- Chi Rho - AM (Grades 5 - 8)

- CYF Experience (Sr. High Youth)

- **Children's Church (11 AM - Worship)**

- Infant Nursery (Newborn - 18 mos. old)- Paid Staff/volunteer

- Toddler Nursery (18 mos. & up) - Paid Staff/volunteer

- Children's Worship and Wonder (Ages 3 - 2nd grade)

- Transitional Worship (Sept - Dec. -3rd & 4th grades)

- **Additional Activities:**

- Kids 2 Kids - Monthly SERVICE projects for all K-4th graders

- Chi Rho - Activities for all Middle School Youth (Bi-weekly programs)

- CYF - Activities for all Sr. High Youth. (Bi-weekly programs)

