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September 30, 2010

Volume 24 No. 10



World Communion Sunday

Sunday, October 3

9:00 am & 11:00 am Worship

On this special day, as Christians all around the globe gather at the Lord's Table, we will celebrate the diversity of God's children as we share the Living Bread and Cup of Blessing; united us as one in Christ Jesus.

When World Communion Day comes 'round each year, I wonder what it must be like for our brothers and sisters in the faith who do not observe Holy Communion, the Eucharist, every Sunday. Is it more mysterious or is it an observance that we put back on the shelf before the next Sunday rolls around? Or does it leave you longing for that "something more" that reminds us of our relationship with God in Jesus Christ?

Some say that those of us who do celebrate each Sunday, most certainly must grow weary of the frequency; that it somehow takes the icing off our cake, so to speak. To which we can reply, "How often is TOO often to communion with the Spirit of the Living God?

No matter one's view or the frequency of ritual, I believe that the meaning and significance lies with how we enter into this sacrament of Bread & Cup. Do we come seeking God's presence? God's companionship? God's healing?

As we take a morsel of bread and sip of juice; as we swallow each, can you imagine these tiny servings travelling through your body, permeating your very being; as we are reminded of God's presence in our lives at that very moment? And then I am left wondering, how something so small and seemingly insignificant, grow within us and fill us up with all we ever need; giving us the strength and the courage to move on into the next week; greeting the dawn of each morning in hope and gratitude.

And then the mystery of it all, is multiplied millions of times over on this upcoming World Communion Day when we envision countless numbers of Christians in every nook and cranny of Planet Earth; from children to wisdom bearers; people of every hue and language; gathering with 2 or 3 or thousands of others, to remember how on that one night so long ago, Jesus took, blessed, broke and shared the Bread; and likewise poured the Cup, giving us a ritual of remembrance; a ritual teeming with hope for this life and the next...Thanks be to God...**Blessings, Rev. Joanne**

> "The Amazing Grays" (Over 50 and willing to admit it)! Next Luncheon Meeting Thursday, October 21 at 11:30a O'Charley's in Cary behind WakeMed Hospital

Come, Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Congratulations and Blessings to: Rev. Randall W. Holste, our Associate Minister with Children & Youth, who was ordained to Christian ministry at Covenant, September 19;

Randy, Laura & Tate Holste on the dedication of their daughter & sister, Avery Caroline Holste .

Rev. Karen Kelly who has been called to serve as Sr. Minister of First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Williamston, NC. Karen was ordained at Covenant in June.

Love and prayers to: the Duryea family in the death of Revenol Duryea, September 16; the Memorial Service is October 2 at 11am at Covenant; also to: Karen Nolan in the recent death of her uncle;

Recent: Hazel Brothers, Glenaire #5424; Megan Larsen's father;

At Home: Jerry Hall; Vicky Vanderford

Continuing Prayers: Nelson Wakefield; Cameron Jackson & family; Betty Johnston; Mary Toney.

Parents: Phama Larsen Johnston; Mothers: Teresa DeMartin; Ann Hall; Vicky Vanderford; Craig Paul Fathers: Don Downs; Debbie Miller; Mark Huncik; Vicki Wilkinson In-laws: Renié Palmer; Cindy Magliocca . Sons: Jim Johnston; Joe Busby; Grandmothers: Cindy Magliocca; Vicki Wilkinson; Brothers: Craig Paul; Chris Kidd; Phama Larsen Johnston; Art Brothers Aunts: Ann Washington; Melanie Bunn; Uncles: Chris & Liz Grennan. Nephews: Gerry Tokanel; Terry White. Great-Nephew: Barishes. Cousins: Carole Tyler; Terry White; Jeff Miller; Glenda Hoffman; Elaine Fry;

Sisters-in-Law: Alan Wilkinson; Terry White; Hazel Brothers.

Remembering Others: Emerson Roberts: Brady Dauberman; Christine & Sara Bronson; Chris Westbrook; Patrick Westbrook; Don Canady; Raynell Cheek; Kelly Canady; Ron Walters; Mildred Davis; Sondra Chitwood; General & Regional Church Leaders; NC Disciples new churches.

Please Contact the church office: <u>covenantcc@bellsouth.net</u> or 481-4715 to continue those under "Remembering Others" after 2 weeks.

Needed Monthly Gifts\$20,543September Gifts to Date11,917August Receipts16, 463July Receipts12,956June Receipts21,993Income through 8.31.10\$ 139,389	Our Gifts & Expenses	
July Receipts12,956June Receipts21,993	September Gifts to Date	11,917
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Expenses through 8.31.10156,350General Fund shortfall through 8.31.10(16,961)Proceeds from 2008 refinance transferred to GF19,613Net change to the GF through 8.31.10\$ 2,652	Expenses through 8.31.10 General Fund shortfall through 8.31.10 Proceeds from 2008 refinance transferred to GF	<u>156,350</u> (16,961) <u>19,613</u>

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. Questions? Contact Kathy Smith, Treasurer, ekathys@gmail.com or 363-6313.

"...For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also..." (Matthew 6:21)

Thank You

I would like to thank all members of the Hospitality committee (especially Suzanne Hopkins for her delicious cakes), Rev. VerBurg, the Choir, the Elders, Covenant members, guests, & staff for the beautiful service, gifts, & prayers during this AMAZING time in my life. Thanks to you my ordination service was wonderful! I am truly blessed to be a part of the wonderful community.

Peace & Thanks to All, Rev. Randy Holste



A Wake Up Call

Our eyes were opened just a bit wider as we examined the realities of human trafficking at the September Quarterly Breakfast. Sandra Johnson, President and Founder of Triad Ladder of Hope, had us step away from our comfort zone for the moment as she shared her story. The statistics say it all; NC currently ranks 5th in the US for this injustice! Today, Triad Ladder of Hope is making a difference. Their tiered program helps to rebuild the lives of trafficking victim's one step at a time. If you did not have the opportunity to join us and want to know more, an online link or a hardcopy of the PowerPoint presentation may be yours for the asking! Contact either Ann: annpwashington@gmail.com or Renie: rpalmer123@nc.rr.com

Fun(d) Raising Saturday is quickly approaching! Make plans now for Saturday, October 16, 8a-2p

All types of baked goods (that do not require refrigeration), handmade crafts, 're-gifts' and yard sale items are needed. Set up will take place on Friday, the 15th and the Fun(d) Raiser 'officially' begins at 8:00am the following day. Come when you can! This is a major fundraiser for Women's Ministries and the church. We look forward to working and playing together for a great cause.

The October Special – Celebrating Diversity

When: October 20 and 27 **Time**: 7–8:30pm **Place**: At the church - 1st classroom on the left Renie Palmer will be our Facilitator. We look forward to having you join us!

Looking ahead...

Wednesday, November 10, 7pm- A Meeting of the Minds aka Exploring Possibilities An open forum to discuss the desires/needs of our Wednesday night specials in 2011. Saturday, December 4, 9am December Quarterly Breakfast Guest Speaker-Rev. Sèkinah Hamlin: Steps Toward Reconcilation

Come discover Women's Ministries! Ann Washington and Renie Palmer, Co-chairs



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Disciples Men Are Good to Have Around !

Covenant's Disciples Men have the rest of the year pretty well figured out:

- October 16, 7a-2p We'll be supporting the Fun(d) Raising Day, with cooking/yard sale/antique sale.
- November 6, 8:15a we will have a breakfast meeting at the church and begin a study on "Chasing Francis."
- A fellowship event at an early season NC State Basketball game in November
- **December 4** we will join our Disciples Women's Ministry for a special breakfast program with Rev. Sèkinah Hamiln as their guest speaker: **Steps Toward Reconciliation.**

So why are Disciples Men so good to have around? "WE BRING COMPLETENESS TO ALL THOSE AROUND US" AMEN ! God Bless, Ted Glasener, President, Bob Kennel, Secretary

JOIN THE CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS!

Put the following Christmas music rehearsal dates on your calendar: Thursdays, 7:30-9pm:

"Seasonal Singers" are needed starting October 7, 14, 21, 28. The fun continues through November and early December: 11/4, 11/11; 11/18; (Thanksgiving Break) 12/2; and 12/9 Saturday, December 11, 10 a.m. – 12 Noon Sunday, December 12, 9-10:30am

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 11AM - CANTATA/WORSHIP SERVICE

Invitation Ministry needs YOU!



Our new church year is up and running and Invitation Ministry (IM) needs you to make our year a success.

What can you do, you ask?

- Invite a friend to ANY and EVERY event that Covenant hosts.
- Speak to someone you don't know EVERY Sunday.
- Look for someone sitting alone on Sunday mornings and sit on their aisle.

We are also looking for some more greeters and some hosts/helpers for our quarterly Invitation Ministry dinners. Please let us know if you think you can help! (lauraholste@hotmail.com/it2mad@aol.com)

Our first event is the church's *Pig Pickin'* fundraiser on October 2. All CCC visitors will receive a personal invitation, but the more the merrier-INVITE A GUEST! Another great family event, *Trunk-or-Treat*, is coming up on October 24th so start thinking about who you can invite.

Stay tuned for info on our *Festival of Friends* Sunday coming in November. *Laura Holste & Sandy Kidd, IM Co-Chairs*





Saturday, November 6, 8a-11a

We're having a work day at church! We would love to have every available, man, woman, youth and children join us for the morning! Our new property co-chairs Todd & Jennifer Beaufort, have some wonderful plans for our church, but they can't do it by themselves, nor should they.

It's OUR church home and the way we take care of it, shows how much we appreciate how much it means to have a building and yard that enhances our worship, our outreach and our fun times. We all need to help keep the building and property looking great and functioning at its best all the time, but especially as we prepare for our Anniversary Sunday and the upcoming holidays. Stay tuned for more information about this event; but mark your calendar, NOW!

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Welcome All Children Kdgn-4th Grade!

KIDS TO KIDS - DOWN ON THE FARM

Get ready to put the hands God gave you to work for needy families in Raleigh. Kids to Kids are going to the Inter Faith Food Shuttle Farm and Garden on Saturday, October 16, from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. We'll receive a tour of the farm and then they'll put us to work raking, mulching, or picking vegetables. The address is 4505 Tryon Road, Raleigh, NC 27606.

Please wear work gloves, closed-toed shoes, and bring your own water. More details will be provided closer to the event, but we hope to see you there! If you have any questions, please contact Jay or Jody Barish at 460-2820 or jodylb23@yahoo.com.

Outreach Ministry Needs YOU!

We, the members of the Outreach Ministry (Ruth Jordan, Renié Palmer, and Becky Stiles) need your help. As we look at the remaining months of 2010 and through July 2011, there are many opportunities for Covenant Christian Church to reach out to the community. We will continue to participate in the Angel Tree (thanks Barish family and Ro and Harvey Thompson for agreeing to help with this effort), the CROP Walk; the Garden of Hope (the Barish family has agreed to help with this effort also), and food and school supply donations.

We need several people to help us continue our support of Fair Trade—its products & the various issues that concern this organization that promotes fair wages and direct financial support to farmworkers around the world. The primary duties involved in this Fair Trade project are; planning, promoting, and holding fair trade sales at church , writing church newsletter articles that make us aware of a variety of fair trade issues and explore new possibilities for fair trade programs.

We would also like to reach out to 1 or 2 more local community organizations and need your feedback. Please let Ruth, Renié or Becky know how interested you would be in supporting 1 of the following: *Adopt-a-Highway* (collect trash along 1-mile stretch of roadway in Cary on a quarterly basis); *Habitat for Humanity* (help build a house in Cary, stock the "ReStore" facility, provide lunch for people working on the house, or strip kitchen cabinets and salvage other materials for the ReStore), *The Carying Place* (Furniture move teams available on weekends to pick up donations, and to help families move into their new homes, yard maintenance teams for triplex and Clay Street, painting apartments as needed and/or organizing the storage unit) and *Covenant's Green Initiative* (educating the congregation, delivering used computer toner, recycling ink cartridges & batteries and other recycling efforts).

Sign-up sheets are located in the entryway for the next few Sundays. This is our opportunity to serve God's people in new and exciting ways. Please join the Outreach Ministry by supporting one of the efforts named above as we join together to bring to fruition Jesus' prayer "...that they all may be one..."

Renié Palmer & Ruth Jordan, co-chairs

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Covenant's SCRIP Update

September was another great month for the SCRIP program. More and more people are placing orders trying to figure out how they can use SCRIP in their daily purchases. Thank you! As of September 15, our year to date earnings for the SCRIP program was \$874.79.

Have you checked out the new SCRIP poster? It has up-to-date information on what retailers are running specials, new or discontinued retailers, how much Covenant has earned, and ideas on how you can participate in the SCRIP program. With schools back in session and the Christmas season approaching, many retailers are offering specials so keep checking the display board and the Weekly Update email for the latest information.

It's not too early to start planning Christmas presents and how you could use SCRIP to help with those gifts. Travelling over the holidays? Don't forget that gas stations, hotel chains, airlines, and rental car companies also participate in the SCRIP program. And double check your calendar for those October and November birthdays and anniversaries.

You can place an order with the SCRIP volunteers located in the Narthex after either service on Sunday or purchase SCRIP from one of our 10 retailers that we keep in inventory each week (first come, first sold!). 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, how you specifically can participate, help you check to see what retailers participate in the program and in what denominations. You can also contact Robin Miller, Covenant's SCRIP Coordinator at <u>doghowse@msn.com</u> or 919-852-3986. The SCRIP volunteers for October are Jeff & Robin Miller.

YOUTH FUNDRAISER

On **Saturday October 16th**, we need help from all our $5^{th} - 8^{th}$ graders! It's time our church-wide annual Fund-Raising Day. And it's the perfect time to kick-off our "Butter Braids" fundraiser! We need each of you to pick a one hour shift and help us sell some "Butter Braids" & "Cookies".

All proceeds will be placed in a fund that will be used for our up-coming Mission Trip! So mark your calendars and be ready to help out on this date. For more information please call Randy at the church office or email him at <u>randy-ccc@bellsouth.net</u>.





Are you ready for a treat? On October 24, 4 -7pm, Covenant will be hosting it's annual Trunk Or Treat! This is a great time for everyone to have a great time. Some of us will wear costumes; some will not and everyone who has a vehicle is encouraged to decorate the trunk or truck bed and hand out treats to all the young goblins!

Join us in your best Halloween costume and enjoy pizza, games, tattoos, CANDY, raffle(s), a Cake walk, other fun activities of course TRUNK or TREATING! You won't want to miss it—Bring your friends, neighbors, & family members for a night of family-friendly fun. More information? contact the church office; Rev. Randy @ randy-ccc@bellsouth.net.

Children's Worship & Wonder

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! <u>WE NEED</u> <u>GREETERS</u> 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. More information? Contact Amy Rutledge (amyrutl@yahoo.com or 629-2334).



October 2nd: (6pm) Church-wide "Pig Pickin" (Optional) – but would love to see you all there!

October 10th: (5:30-7p) Meeting @ Church

October 16th: (9a –1p) Fundraiser "Butter Braids & Cookies"

October 24th: (4p–7p) Trunk Or Treat Halloween Carnival– WE NEED YOUR HELP!

November 6th :(8a-11a) Church-wide Workday – We need all youth & families to HELP!

November 7th: (5:30 – 7p) Meeting @ Church

November 21st: Disciples Day at Barton College for all Middle School & High School Youth; more info later...