



## Covenant Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

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### Back to the Future

While this might evoke memories of an enjoyable film, it also has significance for us here at Covenant as we look back to our earliest of beginnings and at the same time take courage as we move into the future that God has in store for us. The yearlong celebration of our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary began on January 23 in grand style. A special thanks to the Anniversary Committee for making all of this possible.

At 10a, we spent time listening & asking questions as Glenn Carson, President, shared stories and information about the Disciples of Christ Historical Society. DCHS is the general unit of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) that is responsible for collecting and safe-guarding the history of the Disciples of Christ from its frontier founding in the early 1800's; and the stories of each congregation and region.

During 11a worship, Glenn Carson and I enjoyed sharing an interview-style message of how the hallmarks of the Disciples of Christ have unfolded here at Covenant from our earliest of years. Some of those we explored were:

- Christian Unity—our desire to cooperate and serve with other denominations as well as other faith traditions; the welcoming spirit and acceptance of ALL of God's children to worship and share life together; our oneness in Christ as we gather about the Table--believing that Christ is the host at God's Welcome Table; and ALL are welcome!
- Celebrating diversity;
- Our generosity as we serve those in need here and around the world;
- Growing in our understanding of prayer and spirituality as we seek God's wisdom and guidance for this community of faith;
- and last but not least, our ability to enjoy God and to enjoy one another.

Later on that same day, we gathered to share and hear stories about the first 2 years of our founding. We were hosts to 20+ folks who came to touch base with their initial investments of faith, time, talent and money as they sought then to capture God's vision of beginning the first new church in our region in over 25 years. They reminisced about how we went from being a gleam in the eye of our regional leaders and congregations to the demographic study that chose the Cary area as the site for this new church start; to the calling of Rev. Bob Mooty as the Pastor-Developer; to the first gathering of friends and soon-to-be members who laid the foundation for what we now call Covenant Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

What a great evening of delicious food; lively conversation and the sharing of so many stories...what a wonderful testimony of faith and commitment as living witnesses of all that continues to shape us as this faith community, even now.

Words from two pieces of music offered so beautifully by our choir that morning sum up Covenant's journey of faith thus far along the way. From the opening chorus: "We've come this far by faith, leaning on the Lord..." and from the anthem by Pepper Choplin: "I'll declare with every breath: Your love is sure through every test...You are strong through every test...I'll make known Your faithfulness...to every generation..."

We celebrate a great legacy of faith as Covenant Christian Church. And I am grateful for everyone who has come our way, leaving footprints, large and small, member, guest or a die-hard fan, for a few months or a few years or many years. I am grateful for YOU and how GOD continues to richly bless us, revealing God's ongoing vision; giving us all that we need and exactly when we need it...

The celebration has begun...and it's going to get better and better...Come be a part of it all...

**Blessings, Rev. Joanne**

**PS. Our next Anniversary event is Sunday, February 13,** when we will welcome Brandon Gilvin to Covenant. Brandon is the Associate Director of the Week of Compassion. At 10a he will share with us about the Week of Compassion, its ministry and how Covenant's support of this special offering is at work on behalf of all Disciples of Christ. During the 11am worship, Brandon will bring a message filled with God's vision and hope for the Church in these challenging times.

# Come, Satisfy the Hungry Heart

**Our love & prayers are with Angie Ballard & family**, in the recent death of her father, Bobby Fullington. Memorial Service is February 5, Thomasville, NC.

**Congratulations to:** **Chris & Sandy Kidd**, who are expecting their first child in August;  
**Lynn Lee**, who recently retired after 41 years of public school teaching.

**Welcome to our Newest Members:**

**Paul Kessel**, 136 Chatham Woods Dr, Cary, 27511; 696-3991;

Shepherding Elder: Bill Rivers;

**Andrew Chin** (Judy & 1 yr. old Andy), 301 Potomac Grove Place, Cary, 27519; 962-4116;

Shepherding Elder: Renié Palmer;

**Michael & Melissa Smith** (Lily-4yrs old & Bridger-age1) 307 Trimble Ave, Cary 27511; 461-3905;

Shepherding Elder: Jeremy Hopkins.

**Please extend a warm Covenant welcome to these families**

**Recent:** Pam Deardorff; Kayla Grennan (outpatient surgery); Anne DeHart, (mother of Karen Nolan); Dave Lloyd...

**Continuing Prayers:** Cameron Jackson & family; Helen Lott; John Taylor & family; Rev. Essie Thompson; Everts & Erskine families;

At Home: Sheila Reaves; Deb Nystrom; Art & Hazel Brothers; Vicky Vanderford; Mary Toney; Billie Watkins, mother of our General Minister & President, Dr. Sharon Watkins;

**Parents:** Phama Larsen Johnston; **Mothers:** Teresa DeMartin; Ann Hall; Vicky Vanderford; **Fathers:** Mark Huncik; Jeremy Hopkins; Megan Larsen; Debbie Miller; Vicki Wilkinson. **In-laws:** Cindy Magliocca.

**Daughters:** Mary Lou Jackson; The Hoffman's; Donna Jones. **Grandmothers:** Cindy Magliocca; Vicki Wilkinson;

**Brothers:** Phama Larsen-Johnston; Jim Hartman; Chris Kidd; **Grandsons:** The Kennel's; Donna Jones.

**Aunts:** Glenda Hoffman; Ann Washington; Melanie Bunn. **Uncles:** Jenny Miller; Patricia Mills.

**Nephews:** Melanie Bunn; Gerry Tokanel; Terry White. **Great-Nephew:** Barishes. **Cousins:** Ted Glasener;

Carole Tyler; Terry White; Glenda Hoffman; Elaine Fry; **Sisters-in-Law:** Terry White; Hazel Brothers;

**Remembering Others:** Jill Day; Glenn Stoffregen; Trey Snyder; Zeb Moseley; Bill Lewis; Christine & Sara Bronson; Chris Westbrook; Patrick Westbrook; Ron Walters; Raynell Cheek; Kelly Canady; Mildred Davis; Don Canady; General & Regional Church Leaders; NC Disciples new church starts.

Contact the church office: [www.covenantcc@bellsouth.net](mailto:www.covenantcc@bellsouth.net) or 481-4715; to continue listing those under "Remembering Others" after 2 weeks.

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Disciples Women's Ministry at Covenant

Come and See!

**Women's Ministries Quarterly Breakfast**

**Saturday, February 5 8:30-10:30a**

**Our Guest Speaker is Melissa Zeph**

**Managing Director of *The Justice Theatre Project***

The Morning Theme: *Families and Communities*

***The Justice Theatre Project*** is a Raleigh based professional theater company that focuses on social justice and advocacy. Their mission is to use dramatic arts as a way to call public attention to the needs of the poor, the marginalized and the oppressed. *We look forward to having you join us!*

***Discover Women's Ministries!***

**Ann Washington and Renié Palmer - Co-Chairs**

**"The Amazing Grays" ☺**

(Over 50 and willing to admit it)!

**Next Luncheon Meeting**

**Thursday, February 17 11:30a**

Longhorn Steak House,

1411 Beaver Creek Commons, Apex

RSVP Priscilla Glasener (557-9512) by February 15

## Membership/Hospitality Info



We would like to thank everyone who participated in the church directory photo shoot in December. If you were unable to participate, please submit a picture by **February 6** to Ro Thompson, Suzanne Hopkins or Mary Lou Jackson to be included in the directory.

Still want your pictures? Maybe you didn't buy enough or could not decide ... no worries you can still order your pictures. Olan Mills has your entire photo shoot on record. Call Tony Lanford at 1-800-596-3731 (press #5) to request your proofs to order.



## OUTREACH MINISTRY NEWS

**Thanks! Thanks! Thanks!**

Because of you, 2010 was a GREAT year for Covenant Christian Church's outreach efforts.

This is how you made a difference:

1. You purchased \$100 worth of Dominos gift cards for the Helen Wright Center for Women.
2. You provided gifts for 41 "angels" for the Salvation Army Angel Tree Ministry.
3. You donated much needed can goods and packaged goods to the Urban Ministries Food Bank
4. You purchased 4 live Christmas trees totaling \$220 donation to the Avery Co. WeCare Christmas Tree program
5. You purchased Fair Trade coffee and \$400 of SERRV craft and food items.
6. You purchased Urban Ministries Holiday Honor Cards and raised \$105 for families in need in Wake Co.
7. You walked or supported walkers in the annual CROP Walk.

Let's keep it going in 2011! Let's continue participating in the following on-going activities:

- ◇ Recycling and other "going green" activities.
- ◇ Bring your donations to the church and leave in the entryway on the 1st. Sunday of each month. Deliver donated canned and package goods to the Urban Ministries Food Bank.
- ◇ Purchase Fair Trade coffee (fair trade coffee is available for sale on the table outside the church office) and goods from the SERRV catalog. The catalog is also kept on the table outside of the church office.

### First Quarter 2011 Calendar of Events

**Month of February: Week of Compassion Offering Emphasis**  
**"Sharing Resources...Changing Lives"**

We'll have promotional activities beginning February 6 and also on the 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>

February 13, Brandon Gilvin – Associate Director of the Week of Compassion will speak with all interested adults and youth at 10a in the sanctuary; and will preach at the 11a worship.

March – "Share our Shoes," a shoe charity dedicated to recycling shoes for those in need. More info later!



### "Hot Topics" Sunday School Class Update...February 20: Discussion of Islam

Please join us at 10:00a February 20 for a discussion of Islam, based on Ch 1 from "God Is Not One" by Stephen Prothero. Dr. Prothero is a professor of religion at Boston University and he explains the eight rival religions in the world, according to impact. If you would like to purchase a book (\$16) please contact the church office.

Reading the chapter is helpful but not a prerequisite for joining the discussion. We will alternate discussing each chapter, which focuses on a different religion, with "hot topics," so feel free to join us any week. **Thanks, Barbara Dalberth**



**General Board Meeting Sunday, February 20**  
**immediately following 11am worship**  
(childcare provided)

## Youth Ministries

### SOUPER BOWL OF CARING 2011



Covenant's youth are transforming Super Bowl weekend (FEBRUARY 6), with other young people from all 50 states & Canada into the largest youth-led weekend of giving through the Souper Bowl of Caring. This event encourages people of all ages to care for hungry neighbors.

We will be collecting monetary donations and canned soup-100% of which goes directly to Urban Ministries of Wake County. Souper Bowl of Caring is endorsed by NFL owners and has seen over \$50 million given to neighbors in need.

Come this Sunday with some spare change and more and place your donations in one of the 3 soup pots in the entryway: The Pittsburgh Steelers/The Green Bay Packers or the "I Don't Care-but I want to feed the hungry!"

***Join us as we work hard to fight hunger in our community!***



### Week of Compassion – Youth Symposium

Have you looked in the newspaper, watched the today? Hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, mudslides, Disciples we are called to act. We are called to they are, where they are from, or what they are refugee and development mission fund of the States and Canada. They seek to equip and through disaster response, humanitarian aid, mission opportunities.

Brandon Gilvin, Week of Compassion's Associate introduce our youth to the true meaning of "service"!



news, or paid attention to what's happening in the world etc... seem to frequent the headlines all too often. As assist. We are called to serve others, no matter who experiencing. Week of Compassion is the relief, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United empower disciples to alleviate the suffering of others sustainable development and the promotion of

Director, is coming to town & he is prepared to Please join us...

When...

**Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011 (12 – 2 pm)**

Where...

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

Who...

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

### YOUTH CALENDAR

**February 6<sup>th</sup>**- Souper Bowl Of Caring! Help us raise \$\$\$ for Urban Ministries of Wake County! (Immediately Following the 9 AM & 11 AM Worship)

**February 12<sup>th</sup>**- Covenant Youth will be hosting a Week Of Compassion Symposium (12-2 PM). (All youth from around the Raleigh/Cary area are invited!)

**February 27<sup>th</sup>**- Youth Program @ the church – Bring a friend & \$3 for food!

**March 6<sup>th</sup>**- BOWLING NIGHT!(\$10 should cover 2 games & shoe rental) – 4 PM – 6 PM



## Our Gifts & Expenses for 2010

Needed Monthly Receipts	\$ 20,543
December Gifts	28,639
Christmas Offering	1,195

### 2010 Year End Report:

Income through 12.31.10	\$ 224,231
Expenses through 12.31.10	<u>243,844</u>
General Fund shortfall through 12.31.10	(19,613)
Proceeds from 2008 refinance transferred to GF	<u>19,613</u>
Net change to the GF through 12.31.10	\$ .00

Questions? Contact Kathy Smith: 363-6313; [ekathys@gmail.com](mailto:ekathys@gmail.com)

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## Prepare Now for the New Year:

### Automatic Bill Pay...A Convenient Way to Regularly Make Your Tithes & Offerings

We also want to encourage any members/guests to setup **automatic bill pay** with their bank so that a check is sent to us each week or month, whether or not you are able to be in worship. The information that you need when setting up an automatic payment is as follows:

Billor Name: Covenant Christian Church                      Account number: GENERAL FUND  
Billor Address: 2911 SW Cary Parkway      Billor City, State, Zip: Cary, NC 27513-8902  
Billor phone number: 919-481-4715

The account number can be GENERAL FUND/CAPITAL CAMPAIGN/or MEMORIAL FUND, in the memo line

Questions? Contact Kathy Smith, Treasurer: [ekathys@gmail.com](mailto:ekathys@gmail.com)

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## Another Reminder About Covenant's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Events:

Below you will find the calendar of events. Each time we have a special guest for the 11a worship there will be a "Meet & Greet" time at 10a to learn more about their special ministries:

- February 13: Brandon Gilvin, Week of Compassion
- March 20: "M & M Singers"
- April 10: Randy Johnson, Vice President for the SE Zone of the Christian Church Foundation
- May (TBD) Covenant celebrates Christian Family Month
- June 12: Jim Powell, Sr. Advisor for Advancement for Church Extension
- July 31: Covenant's Summer Ice Cream Social
- September 11: Ron Degges, President of Disciples Home Missions
- October 23: Dennis Landon, President of Higher Education Leadership Ministries
- November 12 AND 13: THE Great Weekend Celebration!

Any comments? Questions? Contact any member of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee"

Pam Deardorff & Marian Hartman, Co-Chrs; Ginny Evett; Sam Evett; Karen Nolan; Becky Stiles; Ro Thompson; Ann Washington; Rev. Holste; Rev. VerBurg