



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

**2911 S.W. Cary Parkway, Cary, NC 27513**

**Phone: 919.481.4715 Fax: 919.481.4016**

**E-mail: [convenantcc@bellsouth.net](mailto:convenantcc@bellsouth.net)**

**Website: [www.CovenantChristianChurch-Cary.org](http://www.CovenantChristianChurch-Cary.org)**

**July 31, 2011**

**Volume 25 Issue 8**

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**Three Weeks and 2,010 Miles Later...**

...from Cary, NC to General Assembly in Nashville, TN...  
to hometown, Columbus, Ohio...to Chautauqua Institute in NY  
...to Cleveland, OH and home again...covered a lot of miles  
and time away jam-packed with experiences that will last a  
long time, providing many upcoming sermon illustrations and  
fun memories...And through it all there were some common  
threads of worship & celebrations filled with all kinds of music.

Music...the universal language...from listening to cds in the car;  
enjoying music and singing hymns & songs with 5000voices  
during General Assembly; to more cds in the car; to symphony  
performances and yes, even Opera ☺...to a concert featuring the Rascals and The Shondells!  
Over the past 3 weeks my ears and heart were treated to music by the classical masters &  
hymn tunes of the 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> centuries to the classic popular music of the 1960's...Whew!

The week at Chautauqua was filled with worship, lectures, drama & music that expressed the  
theme for our week: *Art & Soul*. Dr. Welton Gaddy, Pastor for Preaching & Worship,  
Northminster Baptist Church, Monroe, LA was the guest preacher each morning; presenting us  
with messages centered on *The Art of Faith and the Faith of Art*. One of his messages, *Sing Me  
a Song*, included a story about a group of Afghan children who had never before heard music—  
not because they were hearing impaired; they simply had not ever heard music. Can you  
imagine? Never having heard music of any kind...Perhaps it would be easier to understand if you  
and I had never heard music in the first place. But how sad and empty I feel thinking about  
anyone living without the gift of music.

Music...the universal gift that has the capacity to rise above all our human differences and allow  
us to celebrate our diversity...united the gathered spirits at both General Assembly and  
Chautauqua. It's music that re-confirms my belief in the innate goodness of human creation;  
that we have the same basic needs; the same basic desires; the same basic hopes for the  
future and all people around the world...Music is a gift from our generous God, providing us with  
pleasure that transports us to a higher plain...

And then to return home and be dropped smack-dab in the throes of Vacation Bible School, only  
to see and hear the gathered spirits of our children singing songs that celebrate the goodness of  
God, the beauty of our diversity and oneness as God's sons & daughters...every night dancing &  
singing from the souls of their feet all the way beyond the tips of their little fingers up to the  
heavens...

And then to have them join us for morning worship, only to once again share God's love in song  
and dance with us...a sermon unto itself to be sure...the innocence of childhood with crystal  
clear voices, expressive faces & gestures; smiles and joy-filled eyes, reminding us to fill our  
lives with the joy of music...God's gift to a weary and hurting world; God's gift that blesses our  
pain & suffering; that causes our spirits to soar to greater heights, rising above our human  
differences, to see the face of God...*Blessings, Rev. Joanne*

## *News from Our Moderator*

Is it August already? The hottest month of the year is here, and I find myself wanting to slow down. Maybe it's the heat or maybe it's trying to stretch the summer out just a little bit longer, but sometimes it feels like things are moving in slow motion...

Not so at Covenant Christian Church! On the heels of a wonderful and successful Vacation Bible School, we head quickly into preparing for the new program year, which starts in September. This is a time filled with forward movement.

The first step? Our annual Churchwide planning time on Saturday, August 6, 8:30a-12:30p (childcare provided). It's a time for sharing new ideas, collective brainstorming, and coming up with different and better ways of carrying out our ministry. Over the years, this meeting has been the starting point for our current Children & Ministries; Adult Sunday School & Study programs; the 9a & 11a worship; fellowship activities and many other events and programs that are now a big part of what we do. Light refreshments are provided. You won't want to miss the fellowship and creativity of this fun morning, so I hope you'll plan to be there to share your ideas and energy! *Darla Baldwin, Moderator*

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## *Disciples Women's Ministry News*

Did you know that ALL Covenant Women---members & guests alike—are a part of Covenant's Women's Ministry? This means **YOU!** All our women are encouraged and invited to share in any and all of our activities throughout the year. Now you know! So check out what's happening next:

### *Women's Ministry Retreat...*

Let's Carpool! The Disciples Women's retreat is scheduled in Black Mountain, NC from August 12 through August 14. If you're going (and I hope you are), let Renié Palmer know at [Rpalmer123@nc.rr.com](mailto:Rpalmer123@nc.rr.com) or 919-481-2121.

### *Disciples Women's Quarterly Breakfast...*

Hungry for some good food & fellowship? Join us for the first quarterly Women's Breakfast September 10, 9-10:30a. Our guest speaker will be **Lynice Williams**, the Executive Director of NC Fair Share. (I attended a workshop that she conducted at the NC Council of Churches 2011 Legislative Seminar). She will be presenting a program on Health Care Reform and a faith-inspired vision for health care. It's a subject that affects us all. Mark your calendar now; invite a friend; and plan to be with us as we are challenged and inspired. *René Palmer*

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## *Gather! Play it! Sing it!*

Choir practice will resume this **Thursday, August 4 at 7:30p** in the sanctuary. August is a great time to get back together and to welcome newcomers to Covenant's music making experiences (Auditions are NOT required. Having fun IS required).

Upcoming opportunities to enhance our worship services and strengthen our community of faith include getting ready for more 25th anniversary celebrations, All Saints Day, Thanksgiving, Advent, and yes, before you know it, Christmas! (Yikes-only 146 days!)

How good to know that this will all take place in air conditioned space-'til it's time to crank up the heat...Hallelujah, Amen.

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## *The Countdown Continues...3 months 'til our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Weekend!*

...planned for November 12 & 13! Until then...mark your calendars for our next Anniversary celebrations with special guests: September 11: Ron Degges, President of our Disciples Home Missions; October 23: Dennis Landon, President of Higher Education Ministries.

***Don't forget the 25/25 Anniversary Fund (\$25 for 25 years)!—Thanks!***

# Come, Satisfy the Hungry Heart

**Congratulations to:** Tracy & Brack Brown (former members) who are expecting their first baby.

**Our prayers are with:** Sandy & Chris Kidd; Cindy Magliocca, Thomas & Joseph in the recent death of their father-in-law & grandfather...

**Recent:** Raynell Cheek (Mary Lou Jackson);

**At Home:** Vicky Vanderford; Art & Hazel Brothers; Deb Nystrom

**Continuing Prayers:** Cameron Jackson & family; Al Palmer; Rev. Essie Thompson & family; Elisa, Mark & Anastasia Huncik; Mary Toney at The Laurels of Forest Glen, 1101 Hartwell Street, Garner, NC 27529.

**Parents:** Phama Larsen Johnston. **Mothers:** Vicky Vanderford; Patricia Mills; Don Downs; Melanie Bunn; Lesley Richardson; Don Brooks; Teresa DeMartin; Ann Hall; **Fathers:** Jeremy Hopkins; Megan Larsen; Debbie Miller.

**In-laws:** Renié Palmer; Cindy Magliocca. **Daughters:** Jack Reilly; The Hoffman's **Sister:** Kevin Eldridge;

**Grandmothers:** Angie Ballard; Kelley Richardson; Cindy Magliocca & Roxie White; Vicki Wilkinson

**Grandfather:** Dana Kropf **Grandson:** Sally Shelly. **Brothers:** Marilyn Williams; Don Brooks; Vicki Wilkinson; Jim Hartman; Chris Kidd. **Aunts:** Vicky Vanderford; Jeff Miller; Glenda Hoffman; Melanie Bunn; Ann Washington

**Niece:** Patricia Mills **Great Niece:** Nancy Jones; **Nephews:** Diana Stelmack; Melanie Bunn; Terry White.

**Great-Nephew:** The Beaufort's; Barishes. **Cousins:** Mary Lou Jackson; Jeff Miller; Ted Glasener; Terry White;

Glenda Hoffman; Elaine Fry. **Sisters-in-Law:** Terry White; Hazel Brothers. **Sons-in-law:** Misty Mowrey &

Kennel's; **Brother-in-law:** Misty Mowrey

**Remembering Others:** Kanoy family; Dempsey Adams; David Lloyd; Bunnie & Bob Merckle; Erin Hall family; Steve Browne; Liz Delmer; Cheyenne Craven-Crozier; Rev. Dr. Kay Northcutt; Christine & Sara Bronson; Ron Walters; Kelly Canady; General & Regional Church Leaders; NC Disciples new church starts.

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

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*Hungry for Some Adult Conversation? Check out the Summer Opportunities!*

*Sunday Mornings, 10-10:45a Everyone's Welcome!*

*New Summer Study for Curiosity Seekers!*

THE JESUS DIARIES is a collection of 9 entries by United Church of Christ clergy who call themselves the Stillspeaking Writers' Group because they believe God is still speaking today. In their short book, each describes a process of learning how to think about and talk about who Jesus is. All agree that the process is an on-going challenge and they invite others (you and me) to listen to their conversations and struggles.

So, come on down the Education hallway to the last room on the left; and join whoever's there waiting for YOU. Feel free to stop in or stop out at any point during the series, but do attend at least once, if for no other reason than to satisfy your curiosity...

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*Disciples Class Explores the Scriptures through The International Lesson Series*

We meet in the Library (off the Sanctuary entryway) each Sunday morning. Come enjoy exploring the books of the Bible as we dig deep and discover new meaning for our lives.

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*New "Hot Topics" Study Coming in September!*

Many "mainline" and "progressive" Christians are much clearer about what we do not believe than about what we do believe. The "Hot Topics" discussion group will begin a new book study on September 18. **What's the Least I Can Believe and Still Be a Christian?: A Guide to What Matters Most**, by United Methodist pastor, Martin Thielen. Join us in the Sanctuary as we consider real life current issues from a Christian perspective. If you would like a book ordered (\$10-reimburse the church as you're able); or if you have other questions, contact Kathy Smith: [ekathys@gmail.com](mailto:ekathys@gmail.com) or 363-6313.

*And now a word from our Treasurer...*

Preliminary figures for July indicate that GF contributions are down, with a shortfall of \$5K for the month. While this is not unusual for the summer, we ask that you make every effort to remember Covenant, even when vacation plans keep you out of town. We will continue to monitor monthly expenses. Questions? Comments? *Kathy Smith, Treasurer* (363-6313; ekathys@gmail.com)

Our Gifts & Expenses		
	<u>Monthly Needs</u>	<u>June</u>
Gifts	\$19,700	\$ 19,319
Fundraisers & Other	<u>\$ 1,100</u>	<u>\$ 338</u>
Total	\$20,800	\$ 19,657

**July**  
**Current figures**  
**available in**  
**August 7 bulletin**

  

Year to Date Actual:	
Total Income through 6.30.11	\$107,840
Less Expenses through 6.30.11	<u>\$122,630</u>
General Fund shortfall through 6.30.11	(\$ 14,790)

## YOUR REQUEST IS OUR COMMAND!

Check the pocket in the back of the chairs in the Sanctuary. Offering envelopes have been placed there for your convenience. Notice the options given on the front of the card about how you want your contribution to be used: General Fund, Building Fund. There's even a place to write in your desire to have your contribution used for some "OTHER" purpose.

Then, by putting your name on the envelope, your contribution will be noted as a part of your giving record which lists all of your tax deductible gifts to Covenant. Boxes of these envelopes can be made available to those who would like to use them on a regular basis. Contact the church office if you want a box: 481-4715 or [covenantcc@bellouth.net](mailto:covenantcc@bellouth.net).

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## Bargain Hunters for Covenant

**Help! Our latest fundraiser depends upon YOUR participation!**

We are challenging everyone to find some NEW way to save a few dollars each week or each month, and to contribute those NEW savings to the church. This is all about doing something that you don't already do, and allowing Covenant to benefit.

Here's one possibility: Look for our new Bargain Hunters "coupon basket" in the church entranceway. Contribute coupons you can't use (watch your paper and mail for these), and take coupons from the basket for items you regularly purchase. Or, check out: <http://www.susies-coupons.com/> for free printable coupons. Then give the money you save using those coupons to Covenant. That's NO extra money out of your pocket, and only a few minutes of your time!!

Contact Kathy Smith (363-6313; ekathys@gmail.com) with your favorite money saving tips: We will pass on the info you provide, such as websites, stores that offer discounts, whatever . . . . If we combine our efforts, we can make a difference.

**Please be sure to mark your check or envelope "Covenant Bargain Hunters"** so we can watch the results of our efforts grow and ease the budget crunch at Covenant.



## Abraham Build Habitat for Humanity Jews, Christians & Muslims... We're Building a House Together!

Ground breaking for the Abraham Build project sponsored by Habitat for Humanity (Christians, Jews & Muslims working side by side) is scheduled for August 28. \$38,000 must be donated before the project can be started on August 28. Many churches & individuals are being asked to donate to this worthy cause. A jazz festival and silent auction fund raiser is being held on August 13. Tickets are available on line at <http://www.habitatwake.org>. for \$35. Please help by purchasing tickets or making donations. Flyers describing the fundraiser are also located on the table in the entryway.

So far, the following Covenant people have signed up to help the Abraham Build Interfaith project become a reality: Jody & Jay Barish, Don Brooks, Carol Carson, Kathy & Jim Gheen, Liz Grennan, Bob Kennel, Mary Lou Jackson, Jim & Phama Johnston, Patricia Mills, Renié Palmer, Catherine Sisson, Mike Smith, Rev. Joanne.

There is still time to sign up, so "Come on down!" Contact Renié Palmer, Ruth Jordan or Becky Stiles to indicate your interest.



### Covenant's SCRIP Update

Have you tried the new online ordering program for SCRIP? It is called ShopwithScrip and it allows you to order your SCRIP online. (Don't worry – we will continue to provide the on-site inventory for immediate purchase and the ability to submit orders in person – this is just another avenue for you to participate in SCRIP.) Several families have already starting using the program – they have been able to submit orders even when they aren't at church and purchase SCRIP instantly through ScripNow! (a part of ShopwithScrip).

For those of you who have been using ShopwithScrip, the shopping cart is now "persistent" – meaning the items in your shopping cart will be saved until the next time you log in and/or until you submit your order. You no longer have to fill your shopping cart and pay for it all in the same session. For additional information about ShopwithScrip or the new "persistent" shopping cart feature, see the SCRIP volunteers after each service or contact Robin Miller at [doghowse@msn.com](mailto:doghowse@msn.com) or 919-852-3986.

Wal-Mart recently announced that until September 30, you can get a 10¢/gallon discount when you use a gift card to fill up at participating Wal-Mart gas stations. The only Wal-Mart gas station participating in our area is on New Bern Avenue, but this is a national program. To get more information about this offer and to see which Wal-Mart gas stations are participating, go to [www.glscrip.com](http://www.glscrip.com) (or [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com)) and click on "What's New".

*Robin Miller, SCRIP Coordinator*

## It's Almost Time for Cary's Lazy Daze: Saturday, August 27

One of Covenant's major fundraisers is our food booth at Lazy Daze. Over the past 24 years we have gained a fine reputation for serving delicious Polish sausage/peppers & onion sandwiches and marinated chicken sandwiches. The profit supports Covenant's annual operating budget...a great way to help without asking you to dig a little deeper in your pocket!

Thanks always to Glenn Thornton, Ken Hoffman & Lynn Wright's organizational and managerial skills; not to mention their time and energy. They've got it down to an "almost exact" science—doing the purchasing, checking & replacing equipment; transporting it all to the site.

We know that the usual August heat and the crowds at Lazy Daze actually keep some of you from helping. But once again shifts are only 2 hrs long and they overlap so that we will have the optimum # of people on hand at all times—when we begin to get in each other's way, some can go shopping & check back in. We need a minimum of 38 people to make this run smoothly without over working anyone. **How 'bout YOU?**

Sign up for a shift in the church entryway or contact the church office to do so.

You can help by donating some of the needed PEPSI ONLY drink products:

- PEPSI- 8 cases total
- DIET PEPSI- 8 cases total
- CAFFEINE-FREE PEPSI-4 cases total
- MOUNTAIN DEW- 8 cases total
- AQUAFINA BOTTLED WATER- 25 cases total

You may bring your donations to the church kitchen now and until Thursday, August 25.

Shift schedule & work assignments (Children 10 yrs+ may help with a parent; Cashiers must be 16 yrs +):

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Description of Work</u>	<u># of People</u>
<u>Friday 8/26</u>			
Set-Up Crew	7-8:30p	meet at site or carpool from church Booth #9 behind Ashworth Drugs (maps will be available soon) /set up tents and equipment	6 <u>Able-bodies</u>
<u>Saturday 8/27:</u>			
Shift #1	7a-10a	chop veggies/ice down coolers/ Stock shelves/Cook breakfast sausages/biscuits Brew coffee/marinade chicken/cashier	8 people
Shift #2	9:30-11:30a	chop veggies/cook chicken/begin to cook Sausages and veggies/get ready for lunch crowd/cashier/drink orders	8 people
Shift #3	11a-1p	Height of the lunch crowd/cooking & Preparing sandwiches/drinks/cashier Additional chopping veggies	8 people
Shift #4	12:30-2p	same as above	5 people
Shift #5	2-4p	same as above	5 people
Shift #6	3:30-5p	same as above	5 people
Shift #7	4:30-6p	begin to shut down & tear down booth	5 <u>Able-bodies</u>
Shift #8	6-8p	Clean up at the Church/washing utensils & equipment/putting it all away	5 people

*Thanks for making this year's efforts a success!*



# Island Odyssey To Juneers...



**Because of YOU, we found Paradise!**

*Special Thanks to...*

*Laura Holste –( Island Odyssey Director)*

Rev. Randy Holste	Jody Barish	Kelley Richardson
Melanie Fagert	Jessica Harwell	Suzanne Hopkins
Phama L.-Johnston	Kevin McHarg	Karon McHarg
Chris Grennan	Liz Grennan	Misty Mowery
Melanie Bunn	Mary Lou Jackson	Ann Hall
Carmen Ballard	Peyton Barish	Katherine White
Terry White	Roxie White	Paul Kessel
Renie Palmer	Ken Hoffman	Glenda Hoffman
Michael Smith	Melissa Smith	Joe Busby
Patricia Mills	Rocio Anderson	Cathy Teague
Kathy Smith	Amy Rutledge	Anna Boone
Claire Sisson	Robin Miller	Rev. Joanne VerBurg

**Thank  
You!**



## **BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS!**

**Students, Teachers & Administrators too!**

**Sunday, August 21, 9a & 11a Worship**

Just a simple reminder...School is back in session for some & soon for others, so it's time for us to BLESS THOSE BACKPACKS & the young people who wear them; teachers & administrators too, as we bless all of you on your journey thru

the new school year!

We're also sharing in Wake Co. Project School Buddies: a Covenant outreach opportunity to bring backpacks & school supplies for students who need our help. You can begin bringing your donations to church now and we'll bless them on the 21<sup>st</sup> too:

**Backpacks ; Paper; Pens & pencils; Highlighters; Report Covers ; 3-ring binders ;Notebooks Scissors; Crayons; Erasers; Folders; Tissues; Paper Towels; Weekly Planners; Calculators; Gel Hand Sanitizer**  
**Don't forget: You can buy your school supplies on Tax-Free Weekend, August 6 & 7 !**

Contact the church office or email Rev. Randy @ [randy-ccc@bellsouth.net](mailto:randy-ccc@bellsouth.net)

## Who's Ready for a POOL PARTY?



**Tuesday, August 16 6:30-9 PM!**

### **For All Covenant Families of Children & Youth!**

The Barish's are hosting a pool party @ the Scottish Hills Recreational Facility in Cary on August 16! There will be fun for everyone – parents & children! They have 2 slides & 2 diving boards. Festivities begin at 6:30 PM. For directions contact Scottish Hills Club directly at (469-8109)! Enjoy desserts and all the fixin's to make a scrumptious ICE CREAM Sundaes! What's more fun than an evening by the pool – eating ice cream and desserts? Bring your friends too! Pool admission is \$3 per person. Need a head count by Monday afternoon the 15th. RSVP Randy: 919-481-4715; e-mail (randy-ccc@bellsouth.net) ASAP! See you there!

## **THE BEACH!**



Calling all CHIRHO YOUTH (6th – 8th graders)...Who wants to take a break from Raleigh? On August 26-28 we're going to THE BEACH to play in the sand/sun/surf! We'll head out around 4p Friday afternoon & return Sunday afternoon around 3p. Registration forms will be e-mailed to you and are available in the church office. Return them to Rev. Randy no later than August 17 to reserve your spot! More info coming soon!

## **Kick-Off Sunday IS Just Around The Corner**

The summer has come and gone and it's time for us to BLAZE into a new year! **September 11** is our CHURCH-WIDE kick-off Sunday as our new programs year begins! It all begins with our annual Talent/Un-Talent Night!

We've got so much planned for you this year! From Worship & Wonder to Covenant Youth, and dozens of things in between, Covenant is prepared to be a part of your spiritual formation & journey! Stay tuned for this year's events and how you can be involved! For more information/questions/suggestions: contact Rev. Randy: (919) 481-4715; [randy-ccc@bellsouth.net](mailto:randy-ccc@bellsouth.net)



## **Program Alert!**

### **\*Transitional Worship**

Beginning Sunday, September 11, all 3<sup>rd</sup> graders are invited to join Rev. Randy after the Children's Moment in the big Sunday School Class for Transitional Worship! This program helps guide those who have graduated Children W & W to make the transition to adult worship. **\*Want to know more? An Information Session is planned for parents, September 4, immediately after 11a worship.** Questions? Contact Rev. Randy @ the church office or [randy-ccc@bellsouth.net](mailto:randy-ccc@bellsouth.net).

## **CYF News Calendar for Grades 9-12!**

**Sunday, August 7 – Bowling Night!**

Let's put on some funny shoes, throw a ball, & eat pizza! (\$10)

**Sunday, September 11 – KICK OFF-SUNDAY-Talent/Un-Talent Nite!**

**TBD – BEACH TRIP! – (More Info Coming Soon)**