

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 Website: www.CovenantChristianChurch-Cary.org September 30, 2011 Volume 25 Issue 10

The "Circle of Life" Meets "Hakuna Matata"...

OK...I admit it...I'm a Disney junkie at heart. Maybe it's my refusal to totally grow up. But I like to think it's my desire to celebrate life and to know that we do not simply move from one age or stage to the next without carrying a part of the previous one with us into the future—hopefully carrying more joy than sorrow with us as we go.

I just learned that the Lion King is returning for a 3D visit! Not sure it can get any better than the original release or the stage musical, but time will tell...When I recall the songs and yes, I do sing along, I usually start out singing the words to "*The Circle of Life:"*

It's the Circle of Life And it moves us all Through despair and hope Through faith and love Till we find our place On the path unwinding In the Circle...The Circle of Life...In the Circle... the Circle of Life...

And before I know it, I hear myself singing, "Hakuna Matata:"

Hakuna Matata! What a wonderful phrase Hakuna Matata! Ain't no passing craze It means no worries for the rest of your days It's our problem-free philosophy Hakuna Matata! Hakuna -It means no worries for the rest of your days

It's as if Elton John & Tim Rice were writing music & words to Psalm 151...a Psalm for a New Day...a Psalm for you and me. As we move through this life, we don't go it alone...God is always there as our constant companion; accompanying us through "despair and hope; faith and love; till we find our place...every last one of us...no matter what...in the Circle of Life.

To be sure, we live in interesting times that present us with good cause for feeling lost, insecure and uncertain of what the future holds. But our faith reminds us of who holds that future; who gives us coping skills from minds that think and hearts that feel; the One who calls us out of our comfort zones to be faithful; to sacrifice; to take risks.....to turn lose of all fear...trusting and believing (that's always the catch, isn't it)? "that all shall be well and all manner of things shall be well..."(Julian of Norwich).

Finding our place on the path of unwinding in the Circle of Life allows us to shout from the mountain top, Hakuna Matata!-no worries for the rest of our days...

May it be so, O God ... May it be so ... Blessings, Rev. Joanne

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Let Us Pray...

Everyone is invited to a weekly 30 minute time of prayer; EVERY Thursday, 7-7:30p; Uniting our spirits as we discern God's leading for our congregation.

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News from Our Moderator

It can't be October already! I haven't even finished up the list of things I needed to accomplish in September...or even August! Unfinished and incomplete tasks, I will admit, drive me a little crazy. I am a person who likes to be able to check stuff off my to-do list. For the list-checkers among us, I am happy to report that there are a couple of opportunities this month that will allow us to address our to-do lists:

The first is our annual **"Fun-D-Raising Day", Saturday, October 15**. There are lots of ways you can help, so please sign up to help and plan to come. We'd like to beef up the yard sale this year, as the proceeds from this event go toward operating expenses. So, clean out your attic, your closets, your garage and basement, and bring it to the church. You'll have more space at home, we'll sell your unwanted stuff, and you will have helped the church you love. Need help transporting your stuff? Call the church office and we'll arrange pick-up.

The second opportunity is to help out at the **NC State Fair October 13-23.** St. Paul's Christian Church has a full-service restaurant every year at the Fair, and they need our help. They pay Covenant per shift worked. By signing up for a shift, your time contributes directly to Covenant's operating expenses. Plus, you get free Fair admission, so you can ride the Ferris Wheel on your way in or out! Sign-up online: <u>http://www.stpauls.net/?page_id=2171</u> or in the church entryway. If you signup online, please also signup in the entryway, so we will have a correct list.

So, let's check a couple of things off our lists:

- ✓ Clean out closets, attics, basements, garages
- ✓ Go to the State Fair
- ✓ Log some volunteer time
- ✓ Help out Covenant
- \checkmark Feel good by giving back to the faith community we love

Whew! I feel better already. Darla Baldwin, Moderator

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Calling All Adults, Children & Youth! We're Having a Church-wide Family Game Night & Pizza!



Friday, October 7, 6:30-8:30p (ChildCare for infants & toddlers)

You're On!

Monopoly, anyone? Do you have a Clue how to play? Or will you just sit around and feel Sorry for yourself? It could Boggle your mind or be a real Twister. It's up to you how you play your hand! Just bring your favorite game and join in the fun while we eat pizza!

Invite your friends & neighbors!

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DISTPLES MEN BIG ON THE "FunD Raising Day"! Saturday, October 15

Our Disciples Men will be playing a big part in the FunD Raising Day at the Church. Our three main functions will be the YARD SALE (Chrs: Alan Wilkinson & Don Brooks), ANTIQUE SALE (Chr. Bob Kennel), and HELP WITH THE BBQ Lunch (ALL).

We also need to help with the set-up on Friday-any time from 9a on. We can start bringing yard sale items to the parking lot POD Saturday, October 1, 9a-noon; any M-F, 9a-1p; or on Thursday evenings, 7p.

Questions? Call Ted Glasener, President: 557-9512; or Bob Kennel, Secretary: 557-0847.

"The Amazing Grays" ©

October Luncheon Meeting Thursday, October 20, 11:30a O'Charley's on Tryon Rd.

Behind Wake Med Cary

RSVP Church office by October 17

Our Anniversary Celebrations Continue!

(Only 43 Days 'til our 25th Anniversary Weekend-November 12 & 13!)

Until then...our next Anniversary celebration is upon us. Sunday, October 23, we will welcome Rev. Dennis Landon, President of the Higher Education Leadership Ministries (HELM) of the Christian Church (DoC) to share with us at a variety of times that morning; beginning at 9a during Gathering Worship; followed by refreshments; and 10a when all adults & youth will meet with Dennis to tell us more about the ministry and mission of our Disciples Higher Education, located in St. Louis, MO; & then at the 11a worship when he will bring us God's Good News for the Church!

Covenant's Invitation Ministry is also using this special Sunday as another "Festival of Friends" Day...a great time for all of us to invite others to experience and enjoy being at Covenant Christian Church! So if you have been wanting an opportunity to invite someone, those with or without a church home, October 23 is your shining moment! Think about that friend or neighbor, colleague or family member you will invite...**We'll all be glad you did...** ©

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Diversity Lunch Group Meets Every First Sunday of the Month

Around here we find different ways celebrate the diversity among us as God's people. On the first Sunday of each month, beginning November 6, everyone is invited to get together for lunch after 11am worship. Hang out at the piano following 11a worship and meet up with Nancy Jones and we can all decide where we'll eat lunch. Questions? Contact Nancy: njones@castleworldwide.com or 919-542-1846.

And on those other Sundays when...

...your stomach growls all thru worship..and you just don't want to go home and fix lunch...get together with other church folks and go out to eat. Meet around the piano each Sunday following 11a worship to see others who also want to go out to eat.

The same is true following 9a worship to go out for coffee. Want to do brunch following the Education Hour? Meet in the hallway outside the church office at 10:45a.

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Covenant's CASSEROLE MINISTRY

In the past we have had a casserole ministry which was used by the Elders to provide a meal to people of the church family during a time of need (i.e. death in family, hospitalization, sickness) We would like to provide this service again. If you would be interested in making a casserole to help with this ministry, contact Phama Larsen-Johnston: home 919 460-6961,; cell 919 219-5220 or by e-mail at james0345@att.net Thank you.

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Christmas is Coming... It's Time to Prepare for the Christmas Cantata!

Sing the Songs of Bethlehem, by K. Lee Scott Cantata Sunday, December 11, at 11am

Practices Begin Next Thursday, October 6, 7:30-9p - Yes it's time!

Come and Sing with Us!

Come, Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Welcome to our newest members:

Jennifer Layton: 2416 B Gazebo Drive, Morrisville, 27560, 417-0376. Shepherding Elder: Marilyn Williams.

Marcus, Jen, Nicholas & Ian Miller-Hogg: 508 Satinwood Dr, Apex, 27502; 925-360-4865; jmillerhogg@aol.com. Shepherding Elder: Renié Palmer

Please extend a warm Covenant welcome to all of them.

Love & prayers are with: Camilla & Kieshonta Mills in the death of their father, Cam Mills; Nancy Barnhardt & family in the death of Charles Barnhardt (M. Mowrey's brother-in-law).

Recent: Jerry Miller, Sr. (home); Kelly Hurley; Frances Adams (Ann Hall's mother); Susan Bull & Lindsay Bull (Kennel daughter & granddaughter)...

Continuing Prayers: Cameron Jackson & family; Art & Hazel Brothers; Deb Nystrom; Mary Toney; Matthew Shipley (S. Shelly grandson)...

Parents: Phama Larsen Johnston. Mothers: Vicky Vanderford; Patricia Mills; Lesley Richardson; Don Brooks; Teresa DeMartin; Father: Debbie Miller; Grandmothers: Kelley Richardson; Vicki Wilkinson; Grandfather: Dana Kropf; Brothers: Don Brooks; Jim Hartman. Sister: Kathy Smith; Aunts: Vicky Vanderford; Jeff Miller; Glenda Hoffman; Melanie Bunn; Ann Washington; Nieces: Baldwin's; Patricia Mills; Terry White; Great Niece: Nancy Jones; Nephew: Terry White. Great-Nephews: Beaufort's; Barishes. Cousins: Jerry Hall; Elaine Fry; Mary Lou Jackson; Terry White; Sister-in-Law: Terry White; Son-in-law: Misty Mowrey

Remembering Others: Mike Canup (Wilkinson); Sherwin Chua (McHarg); Kenard Weaver (Kennel); Brandon & Jamie Jackson; Chad Bates; Emory Dowling & family; Denise Hull & family; Dewey Bruce Cheek; Raynell Cheek; Don Davis; Marvin Woodcock; Vera Taylor & Gene Davis: Dempsey Adams; David Lloyd; Cheyenne Craven-Crozier; Rev. Dr. Kay Northcutt; Christine & Sara Bronson; Ron Walters; Kelly Canady; General & Regional Church Leaders;

NC DoC new church starts.

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Financial Picture

	Our Gi	fts & Expenses	8	
Gifts Fundraisers & Other Total	<u>Monthly Needs</u> \$19,700 <u>\$ 1,100</u> \$20,800	<u>July</u> \$ 15,600 <u>\$ 210</u> \$ 15,870	<u>August</u> 12,977 <u>283</u> 13,260	<u>September</u> 12,331
Year to Date Actual: Total Income through 8.31.11 Less Expenses through 8.31.11 General Fund shortfall through 8.31.11		\$137,001 <u>\$162,791</u> (\$ 25,790)		
of our church familyt	•	•	•	ntinue to support the ministrie

Questions? Comments? Contact: Kathy Smith, Treasurer: 363-6313; ekathys@gmail.com

And Don't Forget the \$25/25 Anniversary Fund (\$25 for 25 years)!

The Anniversary Fund continues to grow...but we still need YOUR SUPPORT. Our goal is to have 100% support from our own church family. And we know you want to play a part in celebrating this milestone in our church's story. So if you haven't had the chance to contribute \$25 or any amount you choose, please do so by putting your donation in one of the special envelopes in the back of the sanctuary chairs; or mail it to the church office. Earmark your check, "\$25/25." Thanks, Your 25th Anniversary Committee; Pam Deardorff & Marian Hartman, Co-Chrs

Annual Fun-D Raising Day! A Craft Sale; Bake Sale; Yard Sale; Antique Sale & BBQ Lunch Rolled Into One Fun Day! Saturday, October 15

Read all about it, and then do something about it! We need our help to make this the most successful sale we've ever had. So...what do we need from you?

- Sign up to help! Volunteer sign-up sheet located in the entry way. Here's how YOU can help:
- Baking goodies; chicken pot pies, etc.
- Making Craft items
- Setting up the sanctuary (Friday); "restaurant" in the back parking lot & yard sale area early Saturday am.
- Working as cashiers & hosts
- Pricing sale items all day Friday, October 14
- Delivering dinners to businesses on Saturday
- Cleaning chickens (yes, if Glenn Thornton and Ken Hoffman can do all of that cooking, we can certainly clean 'em ☺ I'm begging...please help!
- Bring your "stuff" for the yard sale & antique sale... And so much more...

The storage POD arrives Saturday, October 1. You can bring items beginning then, 9a-noon; or during regular office hours (M-F, 9a-1p); or Thursday evenings, 7-7:30p) *Renié Palmer, Chr.*

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State Fair Booth with St. Paul's Christian Church (DoC), October 13-23:

For 18 years we shared in the people-power and the profits with St. Paul's, who own a restaurant booth at the Fair. In the past 4 years a handful of Covenant folks have continued to work a number of shifts for which Covenant received so much money per shift that is filled.

This year, St. Paul's need for more volunteers meets Covenant's need for fundraising! We need to fill 30 time slots during the 11 days of the Fair. Volunteers are also needed to set up (October 12); and clean up (October 24).

- All Adults & High School youth needed to help prepare & serve food for 3 meals per day/take orders, etc.;
- Middle School youth to staff the drink section & bus tables ONLY; MUST BE accompanied by an adult.
- Children 8-11yrs old can ONLY bus tables (for safety reasons); MUST BE accompanied by an adult.

The shifts are as follows:

6:30a-11:30a

11a-5:30p

5-10p

You can fill an entire shift or more; or part of a shift, i.e. if you can serve 6:30a-9a...someone else can serve from 9a-11:30a. Or maybe you can help out while your children are in school by working 10a-2p. You get the idea...**How many ever it takes to fill one shift...just know that we are receiving \$\$ for each shift; NOT each volunteer worker.** All volunteers get free Fair passes and a free meal-before or after your shift. A signup sheet's in the entryway each week thru October 9.

Or go to <u>http://www.stpauls.net/?page_id=2171</u> and you'll be directed to a page on the St. Paul's website. At the bottom of the page is a green button that states "Sign Up Now!" and follow directions to do so. Sign-up for any of the shifts and as often as you would like to work.

When you choose the shift/position that you want to work, click the "Sign Up" button. If this is the first time that you have used this program, you will need to set-up a login with a valid email address so you can receive a reminder 2 days prior to your chosen shift.

Please note these requests when you are signing up to volunteer:

Remember to type COVENANT in the "MY COMMENT" box beside the job chosen. If you sign up electronically, we still need you to sign up on the sheet in the entryway, so we can keep track and to check on the split-shifts...

Outreach Ministry News

CROP Walk

You can help "end hunger one step at a time" Sunday, October 2. by participating in this 5K or 10K walk, either as a walker or as a sponsor of a walker. Covenant youth usually participates in this walk as a group. We are also vigorously recruiting adults. So come on. Put some pep in your step and join the walk!

• Habitat for Humanity Abraham Build Interfaith Project

Hopefully by now you know about Abraham Build the first area Interfaith Project with Habitat for Humanity. Volunteers from the Christian, Jewish & Islamic faith traditions will be working together in the months ahead to build a home for a deserving family. Ground breaking for the house took place, August 28.

Construction begins Saturday, October 22 and work will continue every Saturday and one Sunday a month.

Stay tuned for Covenant's upcoming specific work days & food days!

• Did you know that Habitat is opening a "Restore" facility in Cary? Anyone can purchase and/or donate material and goods to be used for repairing/updating your properties. The store will open October 1 and is located in the new Christian Community in Action Complex near the bowling alley on High House and Maynard Rd.



• Urban Ministries Food Bank

Urban Ministries is still in need of non perishable food items. Please bring food items to the church each Sunday. Wallet sized cards listing needed items have been placed on the table in the entry way.

Let's fill the entryway with food to celebrate World Food Day, October 16: Five million children die each year because of hunger and malnutrition, and nearly 1 billion people go hungry. There is a critical window of opportunity in the 1,000 days from pregnancy and age two during which nutrition can have a measurable, lasting impact on growth, brain development, incidence of disabilities and susceptibility to disease or infection. The impact of malnutrition during the first 1,000 days is irreversible-but these consequences are preventable.

We can help end hunger by bringing food to church each Sunday—especially October 16; and by investing in the worlds small-scale farmers, many of whom are women. With access to resources like land, credit, water and appropriate technology, they can feed their families and help ensure a healthy and nutritious food supply for generations to come.

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Bargain Hunters for Covenant

Be sure to mark your donations for this fundraiser "Bargain Hunters". Remember, this is about finding NEW ways to save and giving that new savings to the church. Please share YOUR ideas on ways to save! Contact Kathy Smith <u>ekathys@gmail.com</u> or 363-6313

Help us replenish the coupons. These will be clipped, sorted and old coupons discarded on a weekly basis. All you have to do is place new coupons in the bottom of the basket, and pull some you can use out of the envelopes.



Covenant's SCRIP Update

September was another great month for the SCRIP program. As of the end of September, the SCRIP program had earned over \$2200! In case you have been wondering, SCRIP is an ongoing fundraiser that uses "scrip", or substitute money. Here's how it works: You purchase gift cards from one of the retailers participating in the SCRIP program at full face value – a \$25 card costs you \$25. When Covenant purchases the gift cards from the Great Lakes Scrip Center (GLSC), Covenant is able to purchase the cards at a discounted price – and then the church keeps the difference.

Orders are placed each week, so there are plenty of opportunities to participate. If you have any questions about the SCRIP program at Covenant, or if you want to find out more information, you can go to www.glscrip.com, contact Robin Miller: (dognose@msn.com; 852-3986 or ask a SCRIP volunteers – NOW in the hallway outside of the church office following each Sunday worship.

Can you believe October is already here? In addition to your usual household and outdoor projects, it isn't too early to start thinking about how you can use SCRIP to help in your holiday shopping. Plan now for the many ways you can use SCRIP for your budgetary or gift-giving needs for birthdays and anniversaries, Halloween, Thanksgiving & Christmas!.

Robin Miller, SCRIP Coordinator

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Education Ministries News

What's Happening with Education Ministry...

After three wonderful years, Amy Rutledge is stepping aside as our Worship and Wonder Coordinator. She has led a great team and served the children well. So now we need a new WORSHIP AND WONDER COORDINATOR. Responsibilities include making the schedule for storytellers and greeters, keeping track of supplies and the general order of the room, supervising the boxes containing the stories, selecting books for use during summer, and conducting meetings for storytellers and greeters. We would also love to add more folks to the greeter and/or storyteller volunteer list!

We could also use more volunteers to help with Children's Sunday School: 3yr olds-Kdgn; grades 1 & 2; 3-5; 6-8. If you're interested, please let us know where you would feel comfortable and we'll find a place for you! Easy to follow & teach material is provided.

Suzanne & Jeremy Hopkins and Darla & Brad Baldwin did some fantastic maintenance and organization with the Kids' Worship Bags in the entryway. We want to be sure that this program is serving the congregation appropriately. Please let us know if you NEED a bag for your child. If your child NO LONGER NEEDS a bag, please take it home.

Don't Forget TRUNK OR TREAT is coming up on Sunday, Oct. 30, 4:30 – 7:00p. Please plan to join us. You may choose to 'decorate' the trunk of your car and/or hand out candy to our costumed young ones that will 'trick or treat' at your vehicle. There will be food and games and good times for everyone!

For more information, contact: BETH KEARNEY (919)545-0052; <u>bethanne805@hotmail.com</u> REV. MISTY MOWERY: <u>MissT75@alumni.wfu.edu</u> REV. RANDY HOLSTE (you know where to find him) **Peace, Beth**





Are you ready for a treat? On Sunday, October 30 @ 4 PM, Covenant will be hosting it's annual Trunk Or Treat! Join us in your best Halloween costume and enjoy pizza, games, tattoos, CANDY,

raffle(s), a cake walk, hit the minister with a pie contest, & of course TRUNK or TREATING! You won't want to miss this event - bring your friends, neighbors, & family members for a night of family-friendly fun.



*Pizza, chips, drink, & dessert - \$3 per person (or \$10 per families of 4 or more) *Cheesecake Raffle Tickets - \$1 per ticket *Cake Walk Tickets - \$1 per ticket *Smash The Minister In The Face With A Pie Ticket - \$500 per ticket! (Actually they are only \$.50 – but I think they should be \$500)

For more information regarding this event, please contact the church office or email Rev. Randy @ randy-ccc@bellsouth.net.



On **Saturday October 15th**, we need help from all our 5th – 8th graders! The church-wide Craft, Antique, Yard, & Bake Sale will be happening on this day and it is the perfect time to kick-off our "Butter Braids" fundraiser! We need youth to pick a one or two hour shift and help us sell some "Butter Braids". Mark your calendars and be ready to help out on this date. For more information please contact Rev. Randy at the church office or randy-ccc@bellsouth.net.



CHI-RHO (6th-8th grade)

October 2nd – CROP Walk – Meet @ 1:45 PM @ Christ The King Lutheran, over between 3:30 & 4 PM. October 9th – Chi Rho Program! Bring \$4 & a friend. (5:30 – 7 PM) – Bullying – Officer Macario **October 15^{\text{th}}** – Butter Braids Fundraiser 9 AM – 2 PM – email me with your volunteer time slot! October 16th – Canoe Trip Training (Bond Park) 1 PM. Bring \$4 for canoe rental fee & an adult chaperone!

October 22nd – Canoe Trip (River TBD). Meet @ church around 7 AM. Adult chaperones needed! October 29th – Rain Date for Canoe Trip October 30th – Trunk Or Treat!!! We need your help! 4 PM.

November 5-6th – District Wide Lock-In – Hillyer Memorial – "The Fast That Lasts" November 20th Disciples Day @ Barton College

CYF $(9^{th} - 12^{th} \text{ grade})$

October 2nd – CROP Walk – Meet @ 1:45 PM @ Christ The King Lutheran, over between 3:30 & 4 PM. October 15th – Fishing Trip @ Wrightsville Beach. 9 AM – 7 PM (\$8 reel rental & \$\$\$ for 3 meals) October 30th – Trunk Or Treat! We need your help! 4 PM.

November 5-6th – District Wide Lock-In – Hillyer Memorial – "The Fast That Lasts" November 20th Disciples Day @ Barton College in Wilson