



Covenant Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

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"I Need a Moment..."

Call me crazy...I know I am...call me insane...I'll admit to that as well...but I absolutely LOVE Vacation Bible School at Covenant and other congregations I have served! I know first-hand from my experience in ministry, especially those many years when I was more directly responsible for Children & Youth ministries... so determined to have just the right folks in just the right slots, sharing their gifts and talents in order for the children to have the best time ever learning the stories, singing the songs, creating the crafts and of course, enjoying the refreshments! Maybe it comes from all those summers attending VBS as a child at the five different churches surrounding my neighborhood! The Methodists had the best refreshments; and the Presbyterians played such fun games! ☺

Now that I am more an observer of the children as I try to take in all the fun they're having, I find myself taking on the older kids, aka...the adults; leaving me very little one-on-one time with the children...But I know God is always asking me (us) to watch...take notice...be alert and aware of my surroundings...for God is the God of good surprises. And on Tuesday night of VBS, just as all the children were running into the sanctuary to sing songs and get ready for the evening program, I glanced at the playground and just inside the gate, sitting on the cement Noah's Ark bench, was one of our 6 yr. old boys...hands framing his little face; rocking back and forth a bit while staring at the ground.

I entered the gate, sat down on the black frame around the mulch, waited a bit and then asked,
"Are you okay?"

"Yes...I'm just sad." (Well, that certainly tugged on my heart strings).

"Can you tell me what makes you so sad?"

The night before, he was sad because he missed his mom, but that wasn't the source of his sadness this night...

"I miss my uncle...my mom's brother." "He died, you know." And my mom is very sad today...

"Yes." "I remember...we had your family on the prayer list when your uncle died. We prayed for you...to let you know that God was your friend and that God was always with you to help you especially when we are sad..."

"Not sure what that means..." "But I'm still quite sad..."

"Do you want to go in with the other children and see the video before you go to class?" "That might make you feel a little better."

"Well," he said as he turned his hands palms up, extending his arms away from his face as if to explain it all...

"...To tell you the truth...*I just need a moment...*"

I smiled. I was really struck by this 6 year old child, telling me that he needed a moment! Wow! How did he even know to say this?

"I can understand that...may I just sit with you for a while; at least until you're ready to join the other kids?"

"Sure...it's just too loud in there for me tonight" "Don't get me wrong", he said..."I like the songs, but *I just need a moment...*" There, he said it again...(trust me, this is a child who only has 2 speeds...full throttle and deep sleep! So I was still a bit thrown off... ☺

But I guess he finally had his moment or two...he stood up and we played a quick game of "Let's see if can I wear this old woman out with a game of tug of war?" And soon he was ready to go on in to see the video...

I wouldn't trade those "moments" with him for anything...how privileged I feel that he let me into his 6 yr. old world for those brief moments; in which he shared and entrusted me with his sadness and his understanding of what it means to be sad.

We all "*need a moment*" don't we? Sometimes to just sit on a bench; hands cupping our face; rocking back and forth; staring at the ground; and letting our feelings out...knowing that God is there to listen and give us whatever we need so that we can join the others as together we sing, "*I depend on You, I depend on You, Jesus. I put my faith and my trust all in you. Whatever I face, you'll see me through. Lord, guide my steps...I depend on You...*" Here's hoping when you need a moment, you'll take it...*Blessings, Rev. Joanne*

News from the Moderator...

We always think of our church as a safe place, don't we? It's the place we come to on Sunday mornings to get renewed and refreshed for the week ahead, and we don't really think about who makes sure the building gets locked up after worship or making sure that the classroom doors get checked before we leave. In many ways, that is as it should be. After all, this is a church, a place of openness and sanctuary for anyone who needs it. Certainly that's the spirit with which we try to conduct ourselves here at Covenant.

In the past months, we have had a few incidents of people being in the church during the week who were unknown and whose intentions were not immediately clear. Thanks be to God, no one has been harmed and no serious damage done, but the time has come to take a closer look at what we can do to make our property more secure, while still maintaining our open and welcoming spirit.

To meet this balance, the Property Committee has identified some areas that could be improved. We'll put new procedures in place so that there is a designated person responsible for locking up on Sunday mornings after worship, and our staff members will make some changes in the ways they monitor our building.

We will also be having the exterior doors of the building re-keyed for the first time in over a decade, and we have installed an alarm system to help monitor the building when it's empty.

You can help, too. If you come to the church during the week, please enter and leave by the door next to the office. When you come in, notify the staff that you're there, and tell them that you're leaving as you head out. If you find yourself chatting for a while after worship, go and check the doors before you leave for the week.

These steps will go a long way toward making sure we provide a safe and secure place of worship for all, so please watch for more updates in the coming weeks. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact me, or Ken Hoffman and Dick Reaves, our Property co-chairs.

Darla Baldwin, Moderator

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Director of Music Ministries Search: Update

The Search Committee for our new Director of Music Ministries has been hard at work. We have posted advertisements in a number of locations and begun to receive resumes from interested applicants.

We are planning to begin interviewing applicants in late July, so please pray for God's guidance as we seek the right person for this important part of our worship and our ministry.

Darla Baldwin, Moderator

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Help Wanted:

We have two program vacancies that need to be filled by August 1:

- 1) **The Casserole Ministry Coordinator:** someone who will contact volunteers who have already agreed to make casseroles to be placed in the church freezer for members & guests who could benefit from not having to cook during times of illness; recovery or bereavement; and to recruit new cooks when needed. Instructions and a plan for this important act of hospitality are already in place...all we lack is someone to provide oversight to make the program efficient and effective...**AND**
- 2) **Kitchen Guardian Coordinator:** someone who will give oversight to the needs of keeping the church kitchen looking nice and well-organized so that we can all find the kitchen supplies when needed during certain churchwide functions. The guidelines are already in place for this position too.
And we already have 3 Kitchen Guardians who stop by the church one day each assigned week to check on what needs to be done to keep the kitchen presentable and functional. **WHICH THEN MEANS WE NEED:**
- 3) **2 additional Kitchen Guardians:** to accept one day during an assigned week to help keep us organized.

Interested in serving any of the above positions? Questions? Contact the Church Office: 919-481-4715 or covenantch@bellsouth.net and someone will be back in touch with you...**Thanks, The Management** 😊

July Pray & Play Program Beginning Sunday, July 1
For 3 year olds –Grade 2

Worship & Wonder will be taking a break during the month of July; and will resume August 5. Our Education Ministry is offering a new program, "Pray & Play," that encourages children to learn and enjoy the stories of the Bible in a different format.

Each Sunday in July, following the Children's Moment at the 11a worship, children 3yrs old-2nd grade are invited to participate in "Pray & Play" - an interactive program that shares a bible story/a related activity & songs designed for 3yr olds-2nd graders. Come join us in July!

Thank these volunteers and let them know we are a grateful church:
Becky Sterling, Vicki Wilkinson, Staci Mantz, Laura Holste, Diana Stelmack; Dick Reaves and Beth Kearney...

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Upcoming July Events from Membership & Hospitality...

Calling All Adults, Children & Youth!

We're Having a Church-wide Family Game Night & Pizza!

Friday, July 13, 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 or even Scrabble your mind or turn out to 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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You Scream...I Scream...

We All Scream for Ice Cream!



Churchwide Ice Cream Social
Sunday, July 29, 3-5p

Let's all get together for a church-wide ice cream social! Plan to beat the heat and join the fun & create some awesome ice cream sundaes. Please bring your favorite ice cream flavor and/or topping to share!

Bring a Friend with You!

Come, Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Welcome Church Membership Class as our newest members who united with Covenant, June 10, by Confession of Faith & the Sacrament of Baptism:

- Eli Baldwin, son of Darla & Brad Baldwin;
- Jordan Barish, daughter of Jody & Jay Barish;
- Jackson Beaufort, son of Jennifer & Todd Beaufort;
- Matthew Bunn, son of Melanie Bunn;
- Carmine Anderson-Falconi, son of Rocio & Shawn Anderson-Falconi;
- Fabrizio Anderson-Falconi, son of Rocio & Shawn Anderson-Falconi;
- Jackie Stelmack, daughter of Diana & Greg Stelmack;
- J.D. Sterling, son of Becky & Mike Sterling;
- Gabe Swanser, son of Lynn & Kole Swanser.

Love & prayers are with: Wally Teto & family in the recent death of his wife, Ellen. The Memorial Service was held on Sunday at Weatherstone Spring Apartments, Please continue to keep Wally & his family in your prayers.

A Special Thank you....

Many, many thanks to all who attended the Memorial Service for Ellen Teto; and a special thank you to the following who helped organize, provide refreshments, helped set up and clean up: Debbie Miller; Ann Hall; Lindsay Brooks; Carole Tyler; Fatima Falconi; Ruth Jordan; Lynn Lee & Kevin Eldridge; Jim & Marian Hartman; Jim & Kathy Gheen; Chris & Liz Grennan; Terry White; Kathy Smith; Shirley Kennedy; Brad Baldwin.

It all came together quite nicely and I am so glad we had it at the Weatherstone Springs Apartments. Wally & his family, along with the other residents, were delighted and thanked us for being so thoughtful of them. Sometimes I think we are at our best when we must respond with only a brief notice. Thanks for doing what families do-all that we can, especially when we need to! Blessings, Rev. Joanne

Recent: Campers returning from church camp; Mavis & Paul Holyfield, (M. Williams); Bob Kennel, surgery on July 10; John Kemp (T. White) Jessie Morris' grandfather (Eli Baldwin); The Grennan Family...

People in the path of the wildfires from Montana to New Mexico and those in the aftermath of Tropical Storm, Debby—**Want to help? Donate to Week of Compassion (100% of your \$\$ goes to disaster relief); make checks payable to: Covenant Christian Church-earmarked WoC Wildfire disaster relief or Flood disaster relief.**

Continuing Prayers: Wally Teto; Ann Messick at Duke; Deb Nystrom; Caleb Morton (Teague); Art Brothers; Mike Hopkins; Jeff Miller; Terry White; Vicky Vanderford.

Mothers: Patricia Cadle; Brad Baldwin; Vicky Vanderford; Don Brooks; Ann Hall; **Father:** Debbie Miller; **Daughter:** Sally Shelly; **In-Laws:** Renié Palmer; **Grandmothers:** Déjà & Dionna Francis; Vicki Wilkinson; **Grandchildren:** Cathy Teague; Sally Shelly; **Brothers:** Patty Cole; Don Brooks; **Sister:** Kathy Smith; **Aunt:** Cathy Downs. **Uncle:** Angie Ballard; **Nieces:** Sally Shelly; **Great Niece:** Betsy Mebane; Nancy Jones; **Nephews:** Stelmack; Misty Mowrey; **Great-Nephew:** Barishes. **Cousins:** Angie Ballard; Jerry Hall; Elaine Fry; Mary Lou Jackson...

Remembering Others: Tracy Hewitt; Rock Hood; James & Bonnie Purvis; Landon Snyder; Joy Stuart; Rev. Raye Feltner-Kapornyai; Pat Davis; Tim Edwards; Jacob Stallings; Angela Cerveney; Ellie Busby; Sandra Collins; Suzie Broddle; Jeff Mandler; Hudson Mimlitch; Ryan Woodyard; Carolyn Lester; Vince Fox; Krista Johnson; Ron Walters; Suzanne Newell; Cheyenne Craven-Crozier; Rev. Dr. Kay Northcutt; General & Regional Church Leaders; DoC new church starts...

"Amazing Grays"

**July Luncheon Thursday, July 19, 11:30a
T.G.I.Friday's Tryon Rd. at Kildaire Farm Rd
(Crescent Commons/Walmart)**

RSVP Church Office by July 16

Our Financial Information

YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL:

General Fund Contributions through May 31	\$78,550
Fundraisers and Other Income through May 31	<u>6,233</u>
Total Income through May 31	\$84,782
Total Expenses through May 31	<u>\$86,535</u>
Balance as of May 31	\$(1,753)

Detailed financial reports are available upon request. Contact Kathy Smith: 363-6313 or ekathys@gmail.com

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With Summer Vacations Upon Us Want a Great Way to be in Worship When You're Away? Consider Automatic Bill Pay...

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:

Billers Name: Covenant Christian Church Account number: GENERAL FUND
Billers Address: 2911 SW Cary Parkway Billers City, State, Zip: Cary, NC 27513-8902
Billers 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

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Covenant's SCRIP Update

One of the greatest aspects of the SCRIP fundraising program is that it allows you to earn money for Covenant with items that you were already going to purchase. Clothes, shoes, books, groceries, prescriptions, lawn care needs, health and beauty supplies, and gas can all be purchased using SCRIP and consequently, earn Covenant money. Orders placed one Sunday are ready for pick up the following Sunday. If the retailer you are purchasing from participates in ScripNow!, you could even have your SCRIP in minutes – no need to plan and place your order a week ahead!

Not sure of how to get started using SCRIP? Look at what brick and mortar or online retailers you use for frequent, regular purchases over one week or one month. See if any of those retailers participate in the SCRIP program. Purchase a small denomination gift card for one of those retailers – most retailers start at \$25 denominations, if not smaller. As you go about making your regular purchases, use your SCRIP card. When it runs out, place an order for another card.

Common retailers that participate in the SCRIP program are Barnes and Noble, Best Buy, Michael's, AC Moore, Jo-Ann Fabric, Walmart, Target, Gap, CVS, Rite Aid, Walgreens, Shell, BP, Exxon, Dick's Sporting Goods, Amazon.com, Overstock.com, Groupon.com, Foot Locker, Lowe's Home Improvement, Home Depot, Lowe's Foods, iTunes, REI, Sam's Club, Bath and Body Works, Kohl's, JC Penney – as you can see the list goes on and on.

You can also check out our inventory, available each week on a first come, first served basis. By purchasing a card from our inventory, there is no wait. Current inventory stock includes Bath and Body Works, Best Buy, Bed Bath & Beyond, Chili's/Macaroni Grill, Regal Cinemas, Olive Garden/Red Lobster, Outback/Carrabbas, Target, Walmart, Panera Bread, Starbucks, Shell, Mimi's Café, Lowe's Home Improvement, Barnes and Noble, and Lowe's Foods. Purchasing from the inventory is a great way to get your feet wet and start using SCRIP right away.

However you want to participate, the SCRIP volunteers are here to help. You can find us in the hallway across from the office after each service on Sundays, or you can contact Robin Miller: doghowse@msn.com or 919-852-3986.

Robin Miller, SCRIP Coordinator

Worship & Wonder Needs YOU!

Worship & Wonder is an important part of Covenant's Ministry with our younger children-ages 3yrs-2nd grade during 11a worship. Through this Montessori influenced program, children learn about God as they experience God; allowing them to enter into the stories and form responses out of their own life experiences.

Did you know that it takes THREE adults -one "Storyteller" and two "Greeters" - to staff Covenant's "Children Worship and Wonder" program each Sunday? Currently, we are very short on staff.

- Greeters need only a 1-1/2 hr. training to become familiar with the format, schedule, and expectations of the children; and willing to be a part of the scheduled rotation for Sunday at 11a. Training will be offered late July/Early August.
- Storytellers need a week-end training of 12-15 hours. We are hoping to "host" a training event at Covenant in the Fall. Potential storytellers are encouraged to first serve as a greeter until their training is available.



We would like to have enough trained workers to assure that no one has to work more than once every 6-8 weeks. Will you help us? Please contact Kathy Smith: 919-363-6313; ekathys@gmail.com or Mary Lou Jackson: 919-362-6506; maryloujackson@nc.rr.com or Rev. Randy: randy-ccc@bellsouth.net

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Children/Youth News - Calendar!

JYF (Rising 3rd-5th Graders)

July 14th - AM hours - Putt-Putt @ Frankies w/ McDonalds (\$15)

July 29th - 6 PM - Bowling & Pizza @ Buffaloe Lanes (\$6)

August 5th - 5 PM - Durham Bulls Game! (Tickets = \$15)

August 13 Pool Party/Ice Cream Social- Scottish Hills Swim Club, Cary – Bring \$5 & a friend – 6p

September 9th – KICK-OFF SUNDAY! Talent/Un-Talent Night!

CHI RHO (Middle Schoolers)

July 15th -7p Come see Becky Layko in NC Theatre's presentation of "Oliver" (\$15)

July 27-28th – Camping Trip to Jordan Lake! Bring a Friend & \$20 for camping & food for the weekend.

August 5th – 5p- Durham Bulls Game! (Tickets = \$15)

August 13– Pool Party/Ice Cream Social- Scottish Hills Swim Club, Cary – Bring \$5 & a friend – 6p

August 25th – A Morning @ Frankies! (All rising 6th – 8th Graders Invited)

September 9th – KICK-OFF SUNDAY! Talent/Un-Talent Night!

CYF (High Schoolers)

July 12th – [Oak City 7](#): Local Bands in Downtown Raleigh! 6p to 9:30p – Check out [videos](#) of the bands!

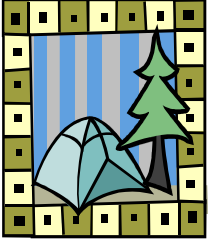
August 3rd – Movie Night: "Inception" - @ Church 5p!

August 11th -12th – Trip to Asheville & Unity Church in Fletcher, NC

August 13 – Pool Party/Ice Cream Social- Scottish Hills Swim Club, Cary – Bring \$5 & a friend – 6p

September 9th – KICK-OFF SUNDAY! Talent/Un-Talent Night!

Let's Go Camping!



Covenant youth (6th – 8th graders) are invited to join us July 27-28th for a camping trip to Jordan Lake! Bring your camping gear/outdoor attire for a fun-filled day & night on the Lake!

We'll cook hot dogs by the fire, roast marshmallows, make S'mores, tell scary stories, & HAVE FUN! I couldn't think of a better way to spend the Summer!

For more information, or if you have any questions, please contact Rev. Randy@ randy-ccc@bellsouth.net!

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Pool Party August 13 at 6p! All Covenant Families Welcome!



Who's ready for a POOL PARTY? The Barishes are hosting a pool party @ the Scottish Hills Recreational Facility in Cary on August 13! There will be fun for everyone – children/parents and grandchildren! They have 2 slides & 2 diving boards. Festivities begin at 6:00p. For directions contact Scottish Hills Club directly at (469-8109)!

There will be desserts and all the fixin's to make a scrumptious ICE CREAM Sundaes!!! Bring your friends/family and enjoy an evening by the pool – eating ice cream and desserts!

Pool admission is \$3 per person and we would like to have a head count as the date gets closer. RSVP to Rev. Randy: 919-481-4715 or randy-ccc@bellsouth.net) ASAP! See you there!

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Durham Bulls Game

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME!

ALL COVENANT MEMBERS & GUESTS...YOUNG & OLD...ARE INVITED!



You've gotta love Baseball! It's "America's Favorite Past-time"! Join Covenant as we "root-root-root for the Home Team" at the Durham Bulls Athletic Park! Sunday night, August 5 ALL are welcome to join us for a fun-filled evening where tickets are \$10 and the fun/fellowship are free!

If you want to caravan from the church - we'll be leaving around 4 PM - those of you who want to drive separately we'll meet you there! **We will be ordering 25 tickets together & so those of you who are interested please contact Randy at the church office ASAP to reserve your seat today for it will be first come first served (481-4715 or randy-ccc@bellsouth.net)!** Tickets can be ordered at a later date, however, those who are late MAY NOT be able to sit with the rest of us! Check-out www.durhambulls.com for more information regarding the night's festivities and events for children!

Outreach Ministry News

Some of Our Wake County Brothers & Sisters are Hungry...

...and the summer months are especially challenging. Children who receive subsidized meals during the school year are at home, and families in need have their resources stretched beyond their means. The Food Pantry has experienced a spike in demand over the last few weeks and urgently needs your help! 45,000 pounds of food are needed each month; 40+ families receive food from Urban Ministries, M-F each week!

We realize that many of you will be vacationing this summer, but the need continues. So, let's continue to help feed the hungry in Wake County! And get in the habit of picking up a few items EVERY WEEK to put in the food baskets in the entryway:

**Canned meats: tuna, chicken; Canned fruits;
Canned vegetables (NO green beans OR corn)
Canned soups; Canned beans (black, kidney, pinto)
Breakfast cereals; grits; Powdered or boxed milk;
Dried beans; Mac & cheese; Peanut butter and jelly; Pasta: dry and canned pasta meals; Rice;
Juice; juice boxes...**

Interested in reaching out to serve the challenging needs of people in our community? Then Covenant has the ministry for YOU! Contact Renié Palmer: 919-481-2121 OR rpalmer@nc.rr.com for the many different ways to help. We're always looking for fresh ideas and new energy. So, prayerfully consider being a part of the Outreach Ministry Team during this new programming year.

Hmmm...maybe I need to ask some of you directly – face to face ☺ Renié Palmer, Outreach Chr.

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Disciples Men Slow but Good

Some of our Disciples Men leaders are traveling this summer but will get their act together for several late summer activities. One will be a book study at a member's home. Second is a function with all the young men in the church (growing number). We will also be working on a separate Yard Sale this Fall. Keep the faith!

Ted Glasener, President, and Bob Kennel, Secretary

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Women's Ministry News

Hooray!

We have a new Women's Ministry chair. Please extend a hearty welcome to Nancy Jones who has so graciously agreed to chair the ministry for 2012 and 2013. She will need our help. Nancy will be scheduling a meeting of the Steering Committee in the near future. We are still in need of one more woman to serve on the Steering Committee. Interested? Contact Renié Palmer through the end of July and Nancy Jones thereafter. We are certain that 2012-2013 will be great years for us. We are looking for your participation, so...COME ON DOWN!

A "Delightful Few" are headed to Christmount!

Friday, August 10- Sunday August 12

We are very excited that Karen Nolan, Kathy Smith, Mary Lou Jackson, Marilyn Williams & Ann Washington will be heading to Christmount in Black Mountain for the CWF/Disciples Women retreat in August. Women representing The Christian Church (DoC) and The Churches of Christ, Disciples of Christ, International (aka The Assembly Churches) from all over North Carolina will convene to explore our 2012 theme "**Connecting**," led by our own Rev. Marilyn Williams as the guest speaker. It will be a great opportunity to renew our mind, spirit and body (not to mention have a few dozen laughs) as we gather at "our" mountain!

Renié Palmer, Outgoing Women's Ministry Coordinator