



Covenant Christian Church
 (Disciples of Christ)
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**Wake Up and Smell the Cup o' Joe; Mud;
 Espresso; Latte; Mocha...Coffee!**

Regardless of your love or dislike of coffee, the phrase, "Wake up and smell the coffee" serves as a challenge for all of us to "get with it;" "get on board;" to understand the obvious. I've never associated this phrase with anything about God or my relationship with God until I read "God's Coffee." Here it is for your sipping pleasure:

"A group of alumni, highly established in their careers, got together to visit their old university professor. Conversation soon turned into complaints about stress in the work place and life in general. Offering his guests coffee, the professor went to the kitchen and returned with a large pot of coffee and an assortment of cups—porcelain, plastic, pottery, crystal, some plain looking, some expensive, some exquisite. He invited everyone to help themselves to the coffee.

After everyone had a cup of coffee in hand, the professor pointed out, "If you noticed, all the attractive, expensive cups were chosen first; leaving behind the plain and cheap ones on the table. Of course most of us only want the best for ourselves in life. But I have come to believe that this is what lies at the heart of your anxieties and stress.

Obviously the cup itself adds no quality to the coffee. In most cases it is just more expensive and in some cases even hides what we drink. What all of you really wanted this morning was coffee, not the cup. And yet you still ended up choosing the "right" cup. And then even in these few moments following, I could see you eyeing each other's cups.

So, consider this: Life is the coffee; and our work, money, position, material things are the Cups. The Cups hold and contain Life. The type of Cup we have does not define, nor change the quality of Life we live. The Cup does not determine our worth in God's eyes, regardless of other human opinions & prejudices. The Cup also gets washed clean along the way. Sometimes by concentrating only on the cup, we fail to enjoy the coffee God has provided us."

God's busy brewing the coffee...It's time to "Wake up and smell the coffee!" "Celebrate New Life!" This is God's message for us in Jesus Christ...not only at Easter, but throughout all our days. Drink up...Enjoy your coffee!

Blessings, Rev. Joanne

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From the Moderator

Confession time: I am a person who appreciates structure, but I am not a fan of procedural requirements. Ask anyone who's been in a General Board meeting in the past two years and they'll tell you that I am regularly in conflict with Robert's Rules of Order. Sometimes it seems that the procedural constraints get in the way of what we're trying to accomplish.

A few months ago, as required by our Constitution and Bylaws, a group of our members convened to take an objective look at how and what we do here at Covenant. Given what I've just said, you might guess that I was not the most enthusiastic participant! However, when joined by Craig Paul, Kathy Smith, Dick Reaves, Terry White, Karen Nolan, and Rev. Joanne, it soon became clear that this was going to be a positive experience. That group has put in over 60 individual hours to review and make recommendations about revisions to our Constitution and Bylaws, and the proposed changes will be coming to the General Board in April and to the congregation in May.

From time to time, it's good to revisit the way we do things. It helps us to make sure we're conducting our ministry in a way that's consistent with our mission in this faith community and the greater world. It helps us to discern what God is calling us to do and how best to meet the needs we see. And it helps even the most procedurally-resistant among us (yep, that's me) to acknowledge that things generally go more smoothly when there are some guidelines to follow.

Please join me in thanking these folks for their hard work and be on the lookout for the proposed changes coming soon! If you have any questions, please let me know.

Darla Baldwin, Moderator

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Easter Extravaganza and Egg Hunt!



Covenant's annual Easter Extravaganza and Egg Hunt is this Saturday, March 30. There will be lots of Easter crafts, egg hunting, and a special program for the children. Bring your friends, your neighbors, and your family to celebrate with us! Festivities begin at 10 a.m. and will end by 11:30 a.m. For details or how to help, contact Rev. Randy at 919-481-4715.

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Together We'll Go to Jerusalem...

As Holy Week (March 24-30) draws to a close, we would like to invite you to share in the services that take us from Hosanna to Christ is Risen:

Maunder Thursday & Tenebrae Service (Service of the Shadows), March 28, 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday, March 29, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Sanctuary will be open for prayer, meditation and communion

Easter Day, March 31:

Sunrise Service, 7 a.m.;

Potluck Breakfast, 7:30 a.m.

Worship & Cantata, 11 a.m.

NO 9 a.m. Worship; NO Sunday School

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Spring Plant Fundraiser



Spring is right around the corner! Please support Covenant Christian Church by purchasing some beautiful plants and flowers for your garden. We will be selling Knockout Roses and Geraniums in 3 gallon containers, as well as Hanging Baskets with Boston Ferns, Million Bells, Torenia, Angel-Wing Begonias and Bougainvillea!

You must pre-order your plants by Sunday, April 14, 2013. All the plants available for pick-up at the church Saturday, April 20, 9am-12pm

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Don't Say You Haven't Been Warned... Major Conflict Comin' Our Way!

Each year, Spring Daze, one of our important annual fund-raising events, is the same weekend as the NC Regional Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). This year, the Regional Assembly is in Wilson. So we know that everyone will rise to the occasion to make it happen again this year.

Check out the times and # of volunteers needed in the article below. Sign up for a shift in the church entryway or contact the church: [919-481-4715](tel:919-481-4715); covenantcc@bellsouth.net

*Cary Spring Daze at Bond Park!
Saturday, April 27 8a-5p*



This is a major annual fundraiser that helps promote Covenant in the community. We cook, prepare, and sell sausage biscuits, marinated chicken sandwiches and

wraps, Polish sausage sandwiches, and drinks. The more folks we have, the smoother things will run. Please consider donating a minimum of two hours of your time and energy to help us maximize our efforts. All proceeds go towards the general operating budget.

Shift schedule & work assignments are listed below. Children 10 yrs+ may help with a parent; cashiers must be 16 yrs+.

Date	Time	Description of Work	# of People
4/26	7-8:30p	Set-Up Crew: • set up tents and equipment	6 able-bodies
4/27	Shift #1: 7a-10a	• Chop veggies • Ice down coolers • Stock shelves • Cook breakfast sausages & biscuits • Brew coffee • Marinate chicken • Serve as cashier	8
	Shift #2: 9:30-11:30a	• Chop veggies • Cook chicken • Begin to cook Sausages and veggies • Get ready for lunch crowd • Run cashier • Fill drink orders	8
	Shift #3: 11a-1p	Height of the lunch crowd: • Cook food and prepare sandwiches • Fill drink orders • Run cashier • Chop additional veggies	8
	Shift #4: 12:30-2p	same as above	5
	Shift #5: 2-4p	same as above	5
	Shift #6: 3:30-5p	same as above	5
	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 • Wash utensils & equipment • Put everything away	5

You can also help increase our profits by donating any of the drink products listed below through April 25:

- 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

Thanks for making this year's efforts a success!

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Come, Satisfy the Hungry Heart

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Covenant's SCRIP Update

Welcome to our newest members: Dr. Richard (Rick) & Mona Harrison; Laura Harrison who united with us last Sunday. Please give the Harrisons your own words of welcome.

Our Love & prayers are with: Marilyn Williams in the recent death of her great uncle.

Jeff Carroll in the recent death of his mother, Marjorie Carroll. Arrangements are yet to be determined.

Congratulations to: Diana & Rob McCauley in the recent birth of their daughter, Elena Rose McCauley, born March 21, 2013. Elgin & Elaine Fry are the proud grandparents

Recent: Kayla Grennan; Emma Johanssen (Johanssen); Don & Julie Hoffman's family; Bob McConnell (Boone)

Continuing Prayers: Margie Carroll (J. Carroll); Larry Dailey; Deb Nystrom; Art Brothers; Robin & Jeff Miller; Mary Toney; Vicky Vanderford.

Family: Kathy Smith; Donna Jones; **Mothers:** Angie Ballard; Patricia Cadle; Vicky Vanderford; **Fathers:** Karen Nippert; **Daughters:** Cathy Teague; Misty Mowrey; Hoffman's; Maryanna Myers. **Son:** Misty Mowrey; **Brother:** Joe Busby; **Sister:** Patricia Cadle **In-Laws:** Renié Palmer; **Grandmothers:** Amy Rutledge; Vicki Wilkinson; **Grandfathers:** David Williams; Jasmine & James Cowan. **Grandchildren:** Bettyann Christopher; Cathy Teague; **Aunts:** Melanie Bunn; Kim Rivers; Amy Rutledge; Terry White; Greg Stelmack Patricia Mills; Cathy Downs; Marilyn Williams; **Uncles:** Sean Lowers; Ruth Jordan; Marilyn Williams; **Niece:** Misty Mowrey; **Great Nieces:** Nancy Jones; Betsy Mebane; **Nephews:** Nancy Jones; Misty Mowrey; **Cousins:** Jerry Hall; Mary Lou Jackson.

Remembering Others: Scott Snyder; Sue Carson; Debbie Moore; Ron Walters; Susan Seaward; Legette Greer; Loretta Holt; Roy & Margaret Mitchell; Gary & Dotti Barr; Angie Bricker & Kristin Adams; "KK" Krawczyk & her service dog, "JJ"; Barry Crawford; Mitch Rice; Marty Scrivens; Shawn Kocopi; Judy Balotte; Sharon & Dave Garrett; Hudson Mimlitch; General & Regional Church Leaders; DoC new churches.

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Our Gifts & Expenses

March

General Fund Contributions	
Needed Per Month	\$ 16,909
General Fund Contributions	\$ 14,754

YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL:

General Fund Contributions	
through February 28	\$ 26,633
Fundraisers and Other	
Income through February 28	<u>2,849</u>
Total Income through February 28	\$ 29,482
Total Expenses through February 28	\$ <u>34,902</u>
Balance as of February 28	\$ (5,420)

Detailed financial reports are available
 Questions? Contact Kathy Smith: 919-363-313;
ekathys@gmail.com

Covenant's SCRIP program offers a variety of methods for purchasing SCRIP. More and more retailers continue to participate in these different options, so here is a clarification of some of these programs:



ScripNow! – ScripNow! means your scrip purchase is available to you shortly after payment is received. If you choose to pay for your order online, your scrip is available within minutes—you just have to print out the cards. There are detailed directions on these print-outs explaining how to use the gift card if making a purchase online and instructing cashiers how to ring up a sale using this form of gift card.

If you choose to pay for your order by giving the SCRIP volunteers a check, your order will be available for print out Sunday afternoon. Either way, you will receive an email informing you that your ScripNow! purchase is ready. The ScripNow! option also allows you to purchase E-gifts. As you order your scrip, mark that it is a gift. You will be walked through providing the recipient's information. The electronic gift card will then be delivered to your recipient's email on the date you choose.

Reload – If you have purchased a gift card from Covenant's SCRIP program and the retailer participates in Reload, you can go online and add money to that physical card. The new balance will be available on your card in 1-2 business days from the time that payment is received. Again, you will receive an email that says that your reload has been processed and your card reflects the updated balance. Please note, the program will only allow you to add balance to a card that has been purchased through Covenant's SCRIP program.

ReloadNow! – This option allows you to add money to your physical card, but the new balance is updated within minutes of payment being received. Similar to ScripNow!, if you pay online, your new balance is available within minutes, if you choose to give a check to the SCRIP volunteers, your order will be processed Sunday afternoon. You will receive an email that states your order has been processed and your card's balance has been adjusted.

These new options make it easier than ever to participate in the SCRIP program and help Covenant. If you have any questions or need any additional information, please don't hesitate to visit the SCRIP volunteers in the library after either service or to contact Robin Miller at doghowse@msn.com or [919-852-3986](tel:919-852-3986).

Robin & Jeff Miller, SCRIP Coordinators

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Disciples Men Studying @ Working!

The Disciples Men are continuing their study of the History of the New Testament. **However**, the big event we're working on is the Yard Sale on **Saturday 13 April at the church**.

The "Goods" will be just that—something that you would want to buy. Please bring items to the church right after Easter. We will have a drop box in the parking lot; the key is in the office. The following are some of the kinds of items we will accept:

- Household goods (no electronics)
- Toys
- Tools and Yardcare items
- Clothes (clean dresses, suits, no socks or underwear)
- Antiques (things never seen before!)

We'll have fun with this event! We need all men to be available Friday and Saturday to help. Proceeds from the Yard Sale will replenish the Men's treasury after recently buying tables, computers, and stoves, and doing mission work on behalf of the church. Please contact Ted Glasener (557-9512 or tpgontheroad@aol.com) or Bob Kennel (557-0847 or bkennel@aol.com) with questions.

*Ted Glasener, President,
Bob Kennel, Secretary*

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Covenant Women's Ministry Project

Covenant Christian Church's Women's Ministry is planning a new service project for 2013-2014: Supporting those who assist young women and girls rescued from Human Trafficking in North Carolina. Our next meeting is Friday, April 12, at 7pm. It's a dessert potluck with a guest speaker, and the women of Covenant are invited to attend and bring a friend.

Ms. Abbi Tenaglia, Founder/Director of **Transforming Hope Ministries** (and Emma's Home in Durham – a new safe house for rescued trafficked girls aged 12 to 17) will be with us to provide information/awareness about Human Trafficking. She will also share with us about what we as Christian women can do to help combat trafficking and how we might help with their ministry at Emma's Home. For more information, go to www.transforminghopeministries.org.

The Disciples Women's Ministry is collecting items from the Wish List below. We would like to present these items to Abbi Tenaglia on the evening of April 12th.

Please RSVP by calling Nancy Jones at [919-542-1856](tel:919-542-1856) so that we can plan ahead for an estimate of those who will attend. St. Paul's Christian Church, Hillyer Christian Church, and Wake Forest Christian Church have also been invited, and Nancy will need to know how many are coming in order to be certain we have enough refreshments and desserts for that evening.

We hope you will attend this important meeting. If you need childcare, in order to attend, please contact Mary Lou at the church office.

Wish List for Emma's Home

Cleaning Supplies:
Large refill size liquid hand soap
Swiffer wet cloths & wet jet liquid

Household Needs:
Old Disney Movies on DVD
AA and AAA batteries
Scrapbook supplies

Shopping Gift Cards:
Kroger, Food Lion, Trader Joe's
Wal-Mart and Target
Michael's and Hobby Lobby
Staples

Warmly, Nancy J. Jones, Chr.

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"Amazing Grays" Luncheon
 Thursday, April 18, 11:30a
 O'Charley's
 101 Asheville Ave--near WakeMed Cary
RSVP Church Office by April 15

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"CAMP DAY" @ Covenant!



Calling all Kindergarteners through 12th graders!
We will be hosting our 3rd Annual
"Camp Day @ Covenant"

April 21 from 2-3:30 p.m.

If you've ever wondered what it was like to go to summer camp, here's your chance! Our goal is to introduce (or re-introduce) families to the wonderful world of camping in our region. Come out and enjoy some hot dogs and try your hand at making good old fashioned s'mores over an open flame. We'll have stories of current and past campers. We'll sing songs around a camp fire and fill you in on some of the things happening this summer in our region. Mark your family calendars now! For more information or if you have any questions, please to contact Randy at the church office or email him at randy-ccc@bellsouth.net.

As Disciples in North Carolina, we have at our disposal two very unique and beautiful facilities in our state. [Camp Caroline](#) is located just off the banks of the Neuse River in Arapahoe, NC (just down the road from the NC Coast). [Christmount](#) is located in beautiful Black Mountain, NC (minutes from Asheville, NC). Camps for **all ages** (K-12th grade) begin in mid-May and conclude in mid-August. **Registration** forms and more detailed information can be found in the church office.

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Youth News - Calendar!

JYF—3rd-5th Graders

April 6—ZOO Trip! Carpool from church at 9a, return home by 5p! More info coming.

April 21—Camp Day @ Covenant
2-3:30p *All ARE WELCOME!*

May 5—Intergenerational Worship—11a
We Need Your Help!

May 25—Trip to Fort Fisher Aquarium!
8a-6p

CHI RHO—Middle Schoolers

March 30—Easter Extravaganza & Egg Hunt
10-11:30a. *YOUTH HELP NEEDED!*

April 7—Program at Church, 5:00-6:30p

April 13—Morning at Frankies! Bring \$20 & a Friend! Meet
9a at church, back by 1p!

April 20—Moore Square Missions
Meet at church around 3p; back by 6:30p

April 21—Camp Day @ Covenant!
2-3:30p. *All ARE WELCOME!*

May 5—Intergenerational Worship, 11a
We Need Your Help!

May 17-19—"Big Day of Caring" Mission Trip
Roanoke, Va. *More info coming!*

CYF—High Schoolers

April 7—Program at Church: Anti-Theism and the Church
Bring \$4 & a Friend; 6 - 7:30p

April 20—Moore Square Missions
Meet at church around 3p; back by 6:30p!

April 21, Camp Day @ Covenant!
2-3:30p. *All ARE WELCOME!*

May 5—Intergenerational Worship, 11a
We Need Your Help!

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Sunday School Teachers Needed!



There are a TON of things happening at Covenant with our children/youth and not enough volunteers! **We need Faith Partners** (AKA Sunday School Teachers) to help with our Pre-School and 1st & 2nd grade classes. Volunteering as a Sunday School teacher is simple, your commitment is minimal—one or two shadowing sessions and a scheduled rotation for Sunday mornings! Also, with our AMAZING curriculum, "Grow, Proclaim, Serve," minimal prep-work per session is required (roughly 30 minutes to an hour per week)! If you are interested in becoming a SS teacher, or want more information, please contact Randy at the church office: 919-481-4715 or randy-ccc@bellsouth.net.

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Outreach Ministry News Updates...

Church World Service



From April 5 to April 8, 1,000 Christian advocates will convene in Washington, DC at the 11th annual Ecumenical Advocacy Days to seek Food Justice for a Healthy World!

In a world that produces enough food for everyone, EAD will explore the injustices in global food systems that leave one billion people hungry, create food price shocks that destabilize communities everywhere, and undermine God's creation.

At God's Table, all are invited and fed, and the poorest in our midst are given a special place. Together they will seek the abundance and equality that we find reflected in the biblical image of God's great banquet table (Exodus 16:16-18 & Luke 14:12-24). Inspiring speakers will offer a faith-based vision for fair and humane food policies and practices, along with grassroots advocacy training, all culminating with Monday's Lobby Day on Capitol Hill.

Dorcas Ministries



The disposable diaper basket is empty. Please remember to bring size 4 disposable diapers so that we can continue to fill our adopt-a-shelf. There is also a great need for sugar. As you do your grocery shopping during the following months, instead of donating can goods and items that you have been donating, please bring sugar—lots and lots of sugar.

May God continue to bless you, as you reach out to the community.

Renié Palmer, Outreach Ministry Chair

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April Programs at Dorcas Ministries in Cary

Resource Center and JobLink

Weekdays from 10a-1p
Help with job searching, resume preparation, interview skills and more.
Computers and Internet access available. Free.

Step Up Thursday

Thursday, April 4, 1p
Learn more about job training and placement opportunities. Free.

Hope Thursday

Thursday, April 4, 1p
Meet with a licensed counselor for help with personal issues. Free.

Financial Empowerment

Wednesday, April 10, 6-8p
Learn valuable tips on restoring your credit score and recovering from a personal financial crisis. Free.

Computer Basics

Thursday, April 11, 2-4p
Learn basics of the computer—from using the internet to creating documents. Free.

Jump Start Your Resume

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, April 15, 17, & 18, 1-5p
Create a winning resume in this 3-day course taught by Wake Tech Community College. Free to anyone unemployed or underemployed.

Job Networking Group

Wednesday, April 24, 6-7p
Learn tips for the job search and share leads with other job-seekers. Free.

All programs will be held in the Dorcas Training Center of the Crisis Ministry, 187 High House Road, Cary, NC 27511; Register by email: jillstraight@dorcas-cary.org or call: 919-469-9861 ext 201.