



Covenant Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
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June 28, 2013

Volume 30 Issue 7

Where Did the Time Go?

October 1988, I began a series of interviews for the position of Organizing Pastor with a fledgling congregation that began in June 1986. The image with which I approached this ministry was that of a baby bird just about to leave the nest under the watchful eye of its mother. The Mama Bird chirping some last minute flight instructions, words of encouragement, followed by a few gentle nudges of her beak. Of course she didn't anticipate that her baby would suddenly soar like a majestic eagle; all she hoped for was a moment or two per take-off before safely returning to the ground...trying to get the hang of it, all the while gaining confidence with each attempt.

I even imagined some of the birds who had long-since graduated from flight school, taunting the baby bird and wondering why it took so long to grow into its reason for being. But every parent comes to know and understand how much time it takes to impart guidance and wisdom, allowing for times of trial and error, as one matures in order to soar and capture the winds of the Spirit...

As I reflect on our time together I sometimes find myself lingering at the corner of "Why did it take so long?" and "Where did the time go?" only to realize during these past 24 and half years there have actually been at least four congregations that have brought us along the way to becoming the dynamic community of faith we are today:

- We had the Pioneers of the Founding Era who captured God's vision for Covenant; who soon made way for their adventurous spirit as it attracted some Settlers along the way; never losing sight of that vision and excitement; followed by those who came to know the importance of a bit of brick and mortar; allowing still others to know Covenant Christian Church was here to stay in this transient yet fast-growing community of Cary and surrounding areas.
- The flight plan then called for a way to serve the growing number of children and youth among us; leading the then current congregation to add more classrooms and that long-awaited playground. And it wasn't long before God gave us a new ministry that included student ministers from Duke Divinity School to gain experience by working with our young people; which then led us to be a place of welcome for several ordained and licensed ministers among us.
- And it seemed that we were off and running...all the while paying close attention to how God was calling us into God's future...as a community of believers growing in faith, open and welcoming to all of God's children and how we can best serve the needs of others. Through the past 7-10 years we have gathered together, sustaining the commitment and dedication of members and guests that has allowed us the needed time to grow in leadership.
- And now, look around you, people of God: We continue to heed God's flight instructions; we hear God's words of encouragement and feel God's gentle and not so gentle nudges as we read God's flight pattern before us; urging

us to always be flexible and open to take off to new heights, remembering to land from time to time to regroup and prepare for yet another take-off...

We not only are standing on holy ground, the ground beneath us is pliable yet stronger than ever...we're poised and ready to soar to higher heights with the depths of faith within us. We know how to be Church... the church God continues to call us to be as we dare to capture the winds of God's Spirit...thanks for allowing me to soar to great heights with all of you...*with a heart filled with love & gratitude,*

Rev. Joanne

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From the Moderator

I awoke earlier than usual this morning, made a cup of coffee, grabbed the computer, and headed to my favorite morning spot at home—the rocking chair on the front porch. It's a beautiful early summer morning, not too hot and not too cold. It's a new day, and the signs of life are abundant! The birds are singing, the sun is rising, and people are starting to appear, some already hard at work, sweating from a morning run, others groggily fumbling for their keys headed to work. This is a day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice, and be glad in it.

June kicks off the summer and all the fun activities that go along with it, and here at Covenant June marks the end of one program year and the start of another. It's a time at Covenant where we stop to thank the leaders that have served our faith community over the last several years, and it's a time we welcome our new leadership. So, it's a new day for Covenant, too.

I am immensely thankful for the leadership that has paved the way to where we are today. My thanks, and the thanks of our congregation go to Darla Baldwin, our outgoing moderator. Darla has volunteered countless hours and shown true dedication to this congregation over the past several years. Darla, we thank you. I'm also thankful for each and every one of the leaders of the congregation, our volunteers, ministers, staff, Elders, Deacons, and especially thankful for you, the congregation of Covenant Christian Church. So I say to all of you, "Well done, good and faithful servant!"

Guess what, though?? It's a new day at Covenant, and our job is not finished. Just as this new day begins, we welcome, and pre-emptively thank, our new leadership, our continued volunteer work, our staff, ministers, Elders, Deacons, and all of us that make this place great. Yes, a new day is upon us at Covenant. God has blessed us with many good days before and I trust God will continue to bless us in the days ahead.

One thing that I believe makes Covenant such a strong and healthy congregation is our spirit of community. We bond together through the difficult times, and rejoice together in times of celebration. It's that community that makes this new day at Covenant special. I am honored to serve as your moderator for the coming year, and I truly look forward to serving with you at Covenant in each new day ahead.

Jeremy Hopkins, Moderator

Congratulations to the New Leadership!

Congratulations to our newly selected 2013-14 Officers & Leaders! During the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services on Sunday, June 23, we recognized everyone whose terms ended and installed the newly selected Officers & Leaders, listed below.

2013-2014 Officers & Leaders

Moderator Jeremy Hopkins
Vice-Moderator Marilyn Williams
Clerk Judy Swanser
Historian Elaine Kennel
Treasurer Kathy Smith
Assistant Treasurer Sean Lowers

Elders	2014	2015
	Melanie Bunn	Joe Busby
	Ted Glasener	Carol Carson
	Bob Kennel	Pam Deardorff
	Karen Nippert, Chr.	Dick Reaves

Deacons	2014	2015
	Shawn Anderson	Angie Ballard
	Andrew Chin	Nathan Harwell
	Kevin Eldridge	Ruth Jordan
	Sean Lowers	Paul Kessel
	Kelley Richardson	Maryanna Myers
	Terry White	Betty Nicholson
		Susan Zerkle

Youth Deacons: Katherine White Carmen Ballard

Trustees
 Debbie Miller 2014
 Karen Nolan 2015
 Dennis Duryea 2016
 Jeremy Hopkins 2017
 Craig Paul 2018

Personnel Committee	2014	2015	2016
	Kim Rivers	Renie Palmer	Andrew Chin
	Kevin Sloop	Ann Washington	Shirley Kennedy

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Come, Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Recent: At home: Rick Harrison; Chris Kidd's mother, UNC Hospital;
Continuing Prayers: Alex Rivers moved to WakeMed Raleigh Rm 6B 28; Robin & Jeff Miller; Bettyann Christopher; Mary Toney; Barry Crawford;
Family: Roxie White; Donna Jones; **Mothers:** Dick Reaves; Sandy Kidd; Patricia Cadle; Vicky Vanderford; **Fathers:** Paul Dalberth. **Daughters:** Hartman's; Misty Mowrey; Maryanna Myers. **Son:** Misty Mowrey; Rocio Anderson **Sisters:** Patricia Cadle **In-Laws:** Renie Palmer; **Grandmothers:** Amy Rutledge; Vicki Wilkinson; **Grandfathers:** David Williams; Jasmine & James Cowan. **Grandchildren:** Cathy Teague; Hall's; Bettyann Christopher; **Aunts:** Melanie Bunn; Kim Rivers; Amy Rutledge; Terry White; Greg Stelmack Patricia Mills; Cathy Downs; Marilyn Williams; **Uncles:** Eric Skinner; Marilyn Williams; **Niece:** Misty Mowrey; **Great Nieces:** Nancy Jones; Betsy Mebane; **Nephews:** Nancy Jones; Misty Mowrey; **Cousins:** Jerry Hall; Mary Lou Jackson.
Remembering Others: Rita Bennett & daughter, Kristine; Tina & Avery Kalk; Brandy Rhue; family of Jo McCanty; Elaine Lang; Susan Shadle; Dick Peterson; Scott Snyder; Sue Carson; Ron Walters; Susan Seaward; Gary & Dotti Barr; Angie Bricker & Kristin Adams; Sharon & Dave Garrett; Hudson Mimplitch; General & Regional Church Leaders; DoC new churches.

Our Gifts & Expenses

June
 General Fund Contributions
 Needed per Month \$ 16,909
 General Fund Contributions
 through June 23 \$ 15,084

YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL:
 General Fund Contributions
 through May 31 \$ 72,067
 Fundraisers and Other
 Income through May 31 8,004
 Total Income through May 31 \$ 80,071
 Total Expenses through May 31 \$ 93,161
 Balance as of May 31 \$ (13,090)

Is your giving up-to-date? Thanks for your generosity!

Detailed financial reports are available
 Questions? Contact Kathy Smith: [919-363-6313](tel:919-363-6313);
ekathys@gmail.com



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**Thank You
 for Your Support!**

We want to thank all who purchased additional stories for our Children Worship & Wonder program. The children are so excited to hear the new stories!

- Jesus Feeds the 5000 *The Hopkins Family
 In Honor of the Children of Covenant*
- Jesus & the Paralytic and Follow Me *Ann & Jerry Hall
 In honor of the Children of Covenant*
- Jesus & the Storm *Jeff & Beth Kearney
 In Honor of Ethan, Drew & Carter Kearney*
- The Most Important Commandment *The Jackson Family
 In memory of Cameron Jackson*
- Peter, Follower of Jesus *The Harwell Family
 In Honor of Amelia Harwell*
- Gift of the Poor Widow *Patricia Mills
 My Mother, Lillian Madison &
 All the infants, toddlers in the Nursery*
- Transfiguration of Jesus *Sue DeVaul
 In Honor of All the Worship & Wonder Storytellers*
- Who is the Greatest; *Andy Nystrom
 In honor of Shirley and Charlie Nystrom*
- Jesus appears to Thomas *Andy Nystrom
 In memory of Deb Nystrom*
- Jesus Appears to the Disciples by the Sea *Andy Nystrom
 In honor of Reverend JoAnne VerBurg and her service to
 Covenant Christian Church*

Your generosity helps make this program possible!

*Thanks again,
 Worship & Wonder Team*

**Share Your Thoughts with
the Worship Committee**

Members & Guests,

The Worship Committee still welcomes and covets your comments. We encourage you to please take a moment and fill out the Worship service(s) evaluation questionnaires and submit them to the church office. We really do appreciate and value your opinion. Copies are available in the church's entryway. Or, Mary Lou can send you the questionnaires through email, if you tell us your email address.

Thank you so much,
Carol Carson, *Worship Committee chair*

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Women's Ministry: Quadrennial Assembly



The Disciples Women's Ministries group is taking a few months off for the summer, but look for more information in the fall when programming starts back up.

In the meantime, start saving now to go to Quadrennial Assembly. We had lots of our Covenant women attend the 2010 Assembly in Greensboro. It is not always held so close to us, so let's enjoy it while it is on our side of the U.S. Perhaps we can take several carloads or a van or two!

Starting in September, we will be hearing from some of our women who have attended in the past so ladies who have not been before will have an idea of what to expect. There is a limited amount of scholarship money available at CCC for this event.

Quadrennial Assembly is a Disciples Women's Event
sponsored by
**Disciples Women of the
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**

Plan to gather with old friends, meet new friends
and share together at QA 2014.

Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel ♦ June 25-29, 2014

Our Daily Themes:

- I see you through **Eyes of Grace**
- I see you through the **Voice of Compassion**
- I see you with **Hands of Justice**
- I see you with a **Heart of Joy**
- I see you **Whole**

QA Mission Statement

Awakened by Christ's compassion and love, Disciples Women extend the hospitality of the table to all sisters to invite them to join us in celebration and mission. We stand together in solidarity of mind, heart and spirit proclaiming "I see you" to one another and to sisters and brothers in domestic and global communities who often are unseen.

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We All Scream for Ice Cream
**Churchwide Ice Cream Social: Sunday, July 14,
3-5p**

Let's get together for a church-wide ice cream social! Plan to beat the heat and join the fun and create some awesome ice cream sundaes. Please bring your favorite ice cream flavor and/or topping to share. A sign-up sheet will be located in the entry in the coming weeks. **Bring a Friend!**

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Covenant's SCRIP Update

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 options:



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, and 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.

More and more retailers are participating in these new options, making it easier than ever to participate in the SCRIP program and help Covenant. For the month of July, the SCRIP poster in the hallway across from the office lists all the retailers that currently participate in these programs, so you can see how many of them you regularly use. If you have any questions or need any additional information, please visit the SCRIP volunteers in the library after either service or contact Robin Miller at doghrowse@msn.com or 919-852-3986.

Robin Miller, SCRIP Coordinator

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"Amazing Grays" Luncheon

Thursday, July 18, 11:30 a.m.
TASU
2007 Walnut Street, Cary
*In shopping area with Home Depot,
Office Depot and Target*

RSVP Church Office by July 15.

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