



Covenant Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
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Volume 24 No. 7

June 30, 2010

A Call to Be Wisdom Bearers

I would like to think that I am a Wisdom Seeker...not looking for advice when needed, but wisdom. Advice never ceases to be in abundance; with lots of folks lurking around every corner; simply ready to offer advice at any given moment, whether asked for or not. And more often than not, while the advice may be free, it comes with an even greater price! People tend to offer advice without much thought and if you dare to follow it, it may not be exactly what you need.

Advice may be based on one's experience; one's accumulated learning; but it is not necessarily wisdom. Wisdom is more than this because it also involves the ability to discern inner qualities and relationships...Wisdom is related to intuition...a sense of knowing...

Wisdom in the scriptures is found in the Book of Proverbs and the Wisdom literature of Solomon. In the Book of Proverbs, Wisdom is a woman: "The Lord created me at the beginning of the Lords work. (Prov. 8:22). She was there when the Lord made the heaven, the sea, the earth..." Wisdom includes imagination; a matter not only of the mind but of the intuition and heart..." (Frederick Buechner, *Whistling in the Dark*; pg. 112)

Over the last few months I have been actively involved in discerning God's wisdom; seeking God's will for us as Covenant Christian Church. The Spirit is alive and well and at work among us and within us; the obvious signs of growth have been present among us for quite some time; excitement abounds as we prepare to expand our space so that we can expand our ministries as we live out God's mission in Jesus Christ in our community and around the world.

God uses so many people and experiences to teach and impart wisdom to us in a variety of ways, if only we will pay close attention. Recognizing that God's voice can be heard through the lives of others, I have sought and received wisdom from many sources:

- Gathering a few weeks ago with **our new Sr. Adult group**; to listen to their hopes for our congregation and the roles they play in guiding us into the future.
Wisdom abounds!
- Several of us have relied on the wisdom shared by **Rick Reisinger**, our consultant with Church Extension as we continue to fulfill the goals of our Capital Campaign.
Wisdom abounds!
- I have also sought the wisdom of **Jim Powell**, President of Church Extension, who has been involved with Covenant since its infancy and who continues to share wise thoughts for our days ahead...
Wisdom abounds!
- And as my dear friend and mentor since seminary days, **Dr. James Seale**, began to decline in health and now has died, I have spent much time reflecting on our 32 years of shared experiences in ministry. He has guided me from those early days until now, with insight and guidance in areas of ministry that "they" just don't get around to teaching you in seminary! And he's never failed me; even during those times when I didn't want to listen! **Wisdom lives on in my bones!**

And Wisdom lives on in all our bones! Let us continue to seek God's wisdom for our own lives and for this community of faith we hold dear as we strive to **Open New Doors and Step Out in Faith.** Blessings, Rev. Joanne

A Note from...your Moderator

Greetings! The month of July marks the time when we transition officers and leaders at Covenant, and this month will be my first as Moderator. I am excited about serving in this position as the momentum our congregation has generated within our ministries and through the capital campaign will bring us new opportunities in the coming weeks and months. These opportunities will help us grow closer together spiritually as we attempt to expand our church's physical capacity to serve.

I want to take a moment to thank Karen Nolan for her tremendous contributions to the life of Covenant over the past year and a half as our Moderator. With Karen's guidance and leadership, we have made great strides in so many areas, and I think I speak for many when I say that her dedication and tireless efforts are greatly appreciated. Thank you Karen!

A brief update on the capital campaign and Building committee progress over the past few weeks...

- Celebration Sunday was held after both worship services on June 6 as we celebrated the pledges made to the campaign for a new sanctuary and existing space renovation. Contributions continue to come in, and as of mid-June we have received 79 pledges totaling \$236,000+ over three years. Thank you very much to those who have given to the capital campaign; and for those who are prayerfully considering their gift!
- The Building Committee has completed face-to-face interviews with four architectural firms that are interested in Covenant's building project. The committee will now evaluate each of the firms, check references, and ultimately recommend an architect with whom we should work on our building project. A decision from the committee is expected in early July.

As work continues on the building expansion front, we also have an important meeting coming up in which everyone in the congregation is encouraged to participate.

On **Saturday, July 17 from 8:30a-12:30p** we will be holding our annual Churchwide Planning meeting at the church. This meeting sets the direction and goals for the coming year for each of Covenant's ministries -- Education, Invitation, Membership & Hospitality, Outreach, Property, Stewardship, Worship as well as the Men's and Women's ministries.

The more people we have participating in this planning discussion, the clearer our direction becomes as we all come together to share our talents and gifts with one another and our community. I encourage you to take part and participate in setting the direction for the ministries if you are able. Childcare is available upon request.

Thank you for all that you do to make Covenant an open, caring, and energetic place to explore our faith together.

Derek Rutledge,
Incoming Moderator

Come, Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Welcome New Members!

With great joy, we recently received into membership:

Paul & Barbara Dalberth, sons, Alex (by Confession of Faith & Baptism) and Wyatt, age 5; 107 Bergeron Way, Cary, 27513; 363-8091.

Also by Confession of Faith and Baptism: Carmen Ballard, daughter of Angie & Derek Ballard, 3905 Durnford Dr, Apex, 27539-8811, 773-1096. Bill Rivers is the Shepherding Elder for both families.

Please extend a warm Covenant welcome to all!

Congratulations to: Karen Rice Kelly who was ordained into Christian Ministry, Sunday, June 13.

Love & prayers are with: Karen Kelly in the recent death of her uncle

Recent: John Hargett(A. Hall's nephew); Mickey Waller(V.Vanderford's mother); Camilla Mills as she takes the MCATS; Christine and daughter, Sara (M. Barber friends);

At Home: Vicky Vanderford; Deb Nystrom; Betsy Mebane...

Continuing Prayers: Boyd Kidwell; Rev. Essie Thompson & family; Marian Crowe at Oaks of Carolina; Sharon Garrett; Eli Kravitz (D. Miller's father); Cameron Jackson & family; Nelson Wakefield; Betty Johnston; Mary Toney; the oil spill in the Gulf..

Parents: Phama Larsen Johnston; **Mothers:** Laura Holste; Ann Hall; Betsy Mebane.

Fathers: Jeremy Hopkins; Megan Larsen; Mark Huncik. **Sons:** Jim Johnston; Joe Busby;

Grandmothers: Cindy Magliocca; Vicki Wilkinson; **Grandfather:** Jon Gaffney;

Sister: Gerry Tokanel; Sally Shelley. **Brothers:** Phama Larsen Johnston; Art Brothers;

Aunts: Melanie Bunn; Ann Washington. **Uncle:** Chris & Liz Grennan. **Nieces:** Nancy Jones;

Nephews: Gerry Tokanel; Terry White. **Great-Nephew:** Barishes. **Cousins:** Chris Kidd;

Terry White; Jeff Miller; Glenda Hoffman; Elaine Fry. **Sisters-in-Law:** Alan Wilkinson; Terry White; Hazel Brothers.

Remembering Others: Dauberman Family; Bud McCarty Family; Larry Evans; Chris Westbrook; Patrick Westbrook; Clai Bland; Ron Walters; Don Styles; Magen Rollins; Kelly Canady; Mildred Davis; General & Regional Church Leaders; NC Disciples new church starts.

Contact the church office: 481-4715 or covenantcc@bellsouth.net to continue listing any of the above names after 2 weeks.

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PRAISE GOD'S NAME

"**Praise God's Name**" is the title of a contemporary song we will be singing this summer during the 11am worship service. Those who attend THE GATHERING are well acquainted with this selection. Now, in July and August, you who regularly attend the 11am service will have a chance to learn and enjoy this and other songs found in the CHALICE PRAISE HYMNAL (the purple book). We look forward to seeing and hearing you make a new, refreshing, joyful noise to the Lord through the melodies and messages of this music.

Carole Tyler, Director of Music Ministries

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***Does AARP define you as a Senior...or does Medicare?
In other words, Are YOU over 50? 😊***

Some of us were daring enough to answer YES to one of the above questions and we gathered for lunch as planned. We had so much fun we decided to try it again...hoping to capture the attention of those who were unable to be with us. Suggestions were made for future meals; attending events and daytrips. We will meet again on **Thursday, July 15 @ 11:30a** at the **newest** Brigs Restaurant at Tryon Village: 1040 Tryon Village Dr. Join us for your lunchbreak!

Contact the church office: 481-4715 or covenantcc@bellsouth.net by July 13 so we can reserve your seat! Even if you cannot make it, let us know of your interest in the group.



KIDS SUMMER STOCK FOOD BANK OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN CAROLINA

Thank you so much for your continuing, generous support of the Kids Summer Stock food drive. This annual food and fund drive is held to raise awareness of childhood hunger as well as to support summer feeding programs. These programs are designed to help meet the nutritional needs of children at risk of hunger during the summer when they don't have access to free and reduced meals they receive at school. You've already filled several baskets to overflowing with food that will provide meals as well as snacks for these children. These foods have been delivered to the Food Bank and are already being put to good use!

Let's keep up the good work. Continue to bring your donations through July and we will help summer feeding programs throughout the summer.

Suggestion: Print out this list so you'll have it with you when you go to the grocery store:

Grains: Graham and/or Animal Crackers; Whole Grain Cereal/Granola Bars; Individual Cereal Boxes; Light Popcorn

Fruit: Canned Fruit/Fruit Cups in light syrup; Dried Fruit: Raisins, Plums, Cranberries

Protein: Spaghetti & Meatballs; Ravioli, Beefaroni, Lasagna

Miscellaneous: Fat-Free Sugar Free Pudding Cups; 100% Juice

POP TOP ITEMS or MICROWAVE CUPS PREFERRED - NO GLASS, PLEASE

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Garden of Hope
Needs Volunteers

Our garden is producing profusely! (Check out that zucchini)
And we are in great need of YOUR help...

Can you come by and pick the vegetables and weed during the week?

Here are the weeks we need help:

June 28 - July 4; July 12 - 18; July 19-25; July 26 - August 1.

The Sign up sheet is located on the vegetable table in the entryway to the Sanctuary.
All monies from the vegetables sold are sent to Inter Faith Food Shuttle.

Check with Tim or Becky Stiles if you have questions...919-387-0737

JULY 2010

Calendar for Children & Youth



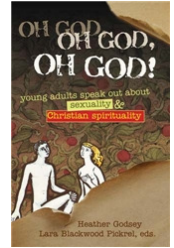
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 	5 (Church Office CLOSED)	6	7	8	9 Birthdays– Austin Mantz & Nathan Grennan	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 *Church-wide Planning (8:30a – 12:30)
18	19	20	21 Birthday – Carmine Anderson *VBS 6:30 – 8:30 PM	22 *VBS 6:30 – 8:30 PM	23 *VBS 6:30 – 8:30 PM	24 *VBS 10a – 1p (Picnic @ 1p)
25 VBS Celebration 11a Worship	26	27	28	29	30 Youth – BEACH TRIP! (Leave @ 4 PM)	31 Youth – BEACH TRIP!

Upcoming Events

* **August 14th:** Kings Dominion – Covenant Youth
* **August (TBD):** Pool Party! (ALL CHILDREN/FAMILIES)

* **August 28th**—Lazy Daze
* **September 12th:** Kick-Off Sunday

YOUNG ADULTS - YOU'RE INVITED!!



Wednesday evenings, (throughout July) from 6:30 -8:30 PM Covenant continues to host a discussion group based on the first book in the new Chalice Press series "Where's The Faith". This program is designed to assist young adults (late 20s - early 40's) with discussing faith, politics, sex, & church.

It's a series designed for young adults by young adults. Join us as we continue our insightful journey by reading the first book in the "Where's The Faith" series "[Oh God, Oh God, Oh God - young adults speak out about sexuality & Christian spirituality](#)". The book can be found on Amazon.com or through Chalice Press. Pick one up today and see what it's all about. I promise you won't be sorry! Now is the time to ask the questions you REALLY want to ask in church!

CHILDCARE IS AVAILABLE!



THE BEACH!

Calling all YOUTH...Who wants to take a break from Raleigh? July 29 - August 1, we're going to THE BEACH to play in the sand/sun/surf! We'll be heading out around 4 PM Friday afternoon and returning on Sunday afternoon around 3 PM.

Registration forms will be e-mailed to you and are available in the church office. They will need to be returned to Randy no later than July 14th @ 12 PM to reserve your spot on this trip! More information will be heading your way so keep your eyes peeled.

Sunday School Teachers Needed!

Are you trying to find a way to "fit in"? Are you seeing all the cool things happening with children's ministry and saying "I wish I could be a part of that?" Here's your chance! WE NEED FAITH PARTNERS (AKA - Sunday School Teachers) to help with our Pre-School & K-1 classes (Beginning THIS FALL)! As a teacher you will be right in the middle of all the action!



Your commitment is minimal - one or two shadowing sessions this summer and a scheduled rotation for Sunday mornings beginning Sept. 12th! Also, with our AMAZING curriculum minimal prep-work per session required (roughly 30 minutes to an hour per week)! If you are interested in becoming a SS teacher, or want more information, contact Randy: 919-481-4715 or randy-ccc@bellsouth.net

For All VBS Volunteers!



There will be an ***OPTIONAL*** orientation for all volunteers for this year's VBS on Sunday July 11th immediately following the 11 AM worship. It will be geared toward those of you who need/want to know more! It will be designed to explain the layout of the program and what it will look like at Covenant! I am very excited about the group of individuals we have signed up this year; I know it will be an awesome experience for all participants.

*Those of you who are unable to attend, but want more information/guidance may come by the church at any time (Monday-Thursday, July 12th - 16th) to obtain basic information about VBS!

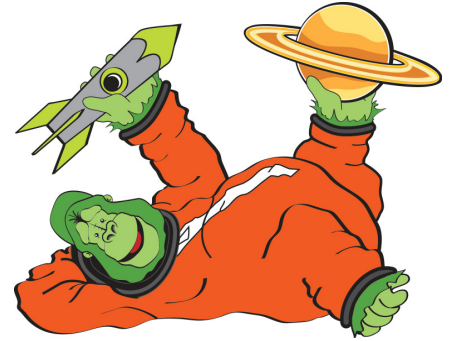
THANKS TO ALL OF YOU!



IT'S HERE...

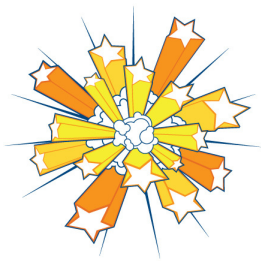
Are you ready to

BLAST OFF?



Brace yourselves; "Galactic Blast" has arrived!

CHECK IT OUT!



Where:

Covenant Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Dates:

July 21st through July 24th.

Times:

Wednesday - Friday (July 21st - 23rd) 6:30-8:30 PM

Saturday (July 24th): 10 AM-1 PM (Picnic for ALL children/families @ 1 PM)



To register or to find out more about GALACTIC BLAST call the church office:
(919) 481-4715 or visit the church website: www.covenantchristianchurch-cary.org

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THANK YOU!

After 3 L-O-N-G & fully committed years as Sunday School teachers for Covenant's Pre-School & K-1 classes, Brad & Darla Baldwin and Melanie Bunn have decided to step down from their posts as Sunday School aficionados. Their commitment and dedication to Covenant's Sunday School program has been refreshing & well received! It has truly been a blessing to have them as mentors, leaders, & friends to our children. Please join Covenant as we say

THANK YOU Melanie, Brad & Darla for your years of energy, passion, & enthusiasm!



Covenant's SCRIP Update

In the first three months of the SCRIP program at Covenant, we are averaging \$143.13 earned each month. That average puts us on track to earn over \$1400 this year alone! More than \$8,000 of SCRIP has been purchased by 23 households, either by placing an order or purchasing the on-site inventory. Thank you to everyone who has already participated!! SCRIP is an **on-going** program at Covenant - so it is not too late to give it a try. SCRIP volunteers will be staying after the Church-wide Planning Meeting on July 17 to answer questions and help fill out orders for anyone who is interested.

LOOKING AHEAD

Summer is a great time for cold treats. Baskin Robbins and Cold Stone Creamery both participate in the SCRIP program. There are numerous drug stores, like CVS, Walgreens, and Rite Aid for bug spray and sunscreen for those outdoor activities.

Travelling this summer? Over 25 hotel chains participate in the SCRIP program, including Marriott Hotels and Hyatt Hotels. Don't forget school starting again this fall - now is the time to plan ahead for those back-to-school supplies (like Kmart, Walmart, Staples, Office Depot, Office Max) and back-to-school clothes (like Kohl's, Walmart, JCPenney, T.J. Maxx, Belk).

SCRIP Volunteers are located in the Narthex after each service. Please stop by with questions, to get an order form, to place an order, or to take some of the on-hand inventory home with you. If you are not sure how you can use SCRIP, would like more information about the program, or are interested in helping with the SCRIP program, please contact Robin Miller at doghowse@msn.com or at 852-3986.

Your Scrip Team: Ted & Priscilla Glasener; Robin Miller (Secretary)



Your Treasurer's Report...

We will continue to provide a monthly summary of our income and expenses in the bulletins and newsletters. Board members automatically received full reports on a monthly basis, and anyone else in the congregation who is interested in receiving those reports can be added to that distribution list. Simply contact me by email: ekathys@gmail.com or 363-6313. A few copies will continue to be available on the entryway table.

Please do all that you are able to do to help remain current with your contributions to the General Operating Budget. Summertime is here. Attendance may be sporadic but the work of Covenant goes on...Help us continue our mission and ministries during the upcoming months.

Treasurer's Report as of May 31, 2010

General Fund:

Income	\$ 84,463
Transfers	\$ 19,613
Total Income and Transfers	\$104,076
Expenses	\$ 99,109

Complete financial reports including all funds through May 31 are available at the main entrance to the sanctuary or upon request. Please contact your church treasurer, Kathy Smith, at ekathys@gmail.com or 363-6313 if you have any questions.

Also...please note when sending in your Capital Campaign donation make sure it is marked for Capital Campaign so it will be posted correctly... *Thanks, Kathy Smith, Treasurer*