



**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](mailto:convenantcc@bellsouth.net)  
 Website: [www.CovenantChristianChurch-Cary.org](http://www.CovenantChristianChurch-Cary.org)

May 23, 2013

Volume 29 Issue 6

**“The Answer, My Friend, is Blowin’ in the Wind...”**



As I type this title, I do so while the headlines of every major newspaper in the U.S. and all the major TV news programs remind us of the devastation and destruction caused by the recent tornados in Oklahoma; most especially this day, the one in Moore, OK. And while the first responders and others continue “search and rescue” for the living among the dead while photos and videos stream before our very eyes and ears of the many homes, schools, churches and other structures that have been damaged, many beyond recognition.

And here we are, geographically removed, yet with prayers ascending for all who were in harm’s way and in the heartbreaking aftermath. Here we are among the faithful who, just two days ago, gathered in worship to celebrate the Day of Pentecost...the time when God’s Spirit, coming as Holy Wind and Flame upon the earliest followers of Jesus...literally blowing them out into the streets of Jerusalem.

The Spirit empowered them with just the right words; as they dared to speak on God’s behalf God’s message of love and hope to all within hearing distance...

And yet they were filled with confusion and apprehension about what all of this meant. Pandemonium ruled the day! After all, the God we worship cannot be tamed or trivialized. And the power of God’s Spirit has been unleashed on the world since the beginning of Creation...the Spirit that moved over the deep of Creation, is the same Spirit that came upon those gathered in Jerusalem when the early church was born. And it’s the same Spirit that comes upon each of us as we continue to be the Church wherever it is found; empowering us to be bold; to be creative and daring.

When God sends forth God’s Spirit, amazing things happen:

- barriers are broken; communities are formed and sustained;
- unity is established; diseases are cured; addictions are broken;
- cities are renewed; races are reconciled;
- ALL people are accepted for who they are as God’s creation; hope is alive;
- people are blessed; and Church happens!

You and I are the Church! And I believe that God is up to something in our lives and in this community of faith called Covenant! The promises of Holy Wind & Flame; new vision; new dreams; are giving us the power to say and do things yet experienced or imagined...

Life experiences teach us that most of what we know can affect us for good or for ill. And such is the power of wind that has presented us most recently with opportunities to help. People in need meeting up with the faithful who are empowered to pray; to show compassion and to share what we have with those who need it most...and we can do no less!

*The Answer, My Friend, is Blowin’ in the Wind..*  
*Blessings, Rev. Joanne*

**From the Moderator**

For the past two years, it has been my honor to serve as the Moderator of this congregation. In a nutshell, that means I have been part of a lot of meetings and recruited people to serve in various ways. I’ve also been in a unique position to observe a lot of what happens in a church over the course of a couple of years: the budget process, the behind-the-scenes stuff, the comings and goings.

We use the word **community** to refer to ourselves a lot around here, so I looked it up. It means “a unified body of individuals.” Hmmm. Really? That sounds nice and all, but it also sounds like perfection. Maybe that’s not us at all. Just ask a question sometime and you’ll probably get as many different responses as there are people in the room! We are far from perfect.

So where’s the **unity** in this **community**?



I have seen some amazing things happen at Covenant over the past two years. We’ve had baptisms, weddings, funerals, baby dedications, and celebrations of all kinds. We’ve cared for one another in good times and bad. We’ve made some hard decisions. We’ve laughed and cried, disagreed and reconciled, talked and listened.

And that’s where the unity is...

It’s in our belief that we’re called by God to show one another compassion and caring, to share in one another’s hurt, to rejoice in one other’s happiness, to lift one another up, and to reach out to one another when we find ourselves in need. I know because I’ve had the opportunity to see it firsthand, time and again. It’s a holy moment to witness—a glimpse of the divine in our imperfection.

So, yeah, this is a community! And it’s one I’m proud to be a part of. Thanks to each of you for all you’ve done to enrich my life, for the times you’ve said yes when I asked you to help, for the prayers and hugs and support you’ve offered me during the past two years. I look forward to continuing in ministry with each of you for a long time to come, and I am blessed to be a part of this **community** of faith.

*Darla Baldwin, Moderator*

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**The Changing of the Guard**

As per Covenant tradition, there will be a combination General Board Meeting, **Sunday, June 2, at noon for all outgoing members of the General Board and all continuing and newly elected members of the General Board:** Moderators; Vice-Moderators; Clerk; Treasurer; Historian; Assistant Treasurer; All Elders; Outgoing/Incoming Chr. of the Deacons; All Trustees and All Staff Members.

Also, **Tuesday, June 25, at 7 p.m.,** there will be a **combination Elders' Meeting** for all outgoing, continuing and newly selected Elders.

**Congratulations to the New Leadership**

Congratulations to our newly selected 2013-14 Officers & Leaders! Sunday, June 23, during the 9 a.m. & 11 a.m. services, we will recognize all whose terms are ending and install 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

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

<b>Deacons</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
	Shawn Anderson	Angie Ballard
	Andrew Chin	Nathan Harwell
	Kevin Eldridge	Ruth Jordan
	Sean Lowers	Paul Kessel
	Kelley Richardson Chr.	Maryanna Myers
	Terry White	Betty Nicholson
	Mike Sterling	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**

<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
Kim Rivers	Renie Palmer	Andrew Chin
Kevin Sloop	Ann Washington	Shirley Kennedy

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**Step Right Up...Come One, Come All!**



Join us as God's World comes together at Covenant's VBS, "Everywhere Fun Fair"  
**June 12-15: Wednesday-Friday, 6:00-8:00**  
**Saturday, 10-1, including a picnic for all families**

VBS promises to be packed with fun, learning, and new surprises. We need your help to make that possible. If you can volunteer in any way, please let Laura Holste know by email, [lauraholste@hotmail.com](mailto:lauraholste@hotmail.com), or phone, 919-363-4831. Also invite...invite...INVITE...friends, family, neighbors! With your help, we can make this year's VBS the best!

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**Calling All Campers!!!!**

We want to know about **ALL** of your endeavors and intentions for CAMP this SUMMER! On **June 9 at Covenant's 11 a.m. worship**, we want to recognize and bless **ALL** camp participants, no matter where you're going, the length of time you'll be there, or what your activities are focused on. We want to celebrate the return of summer and the wonderful experience that is CAMP! Please contact the church office at 919-481-4715 or [randy@covenantcc-cary.org](mailto:randy@covenantcc-cary.org) before Tuesday **June 4** to let us know your summer plans so we can include you, or your child(ren), in the day's activities.

**High School & College Grads!!!!**

On **June 2** during the 11 a.m. service, we want to recognize **you!** Tell your family and friends to save the date! However, before we recognize you, we need your info...

- \* What school are you graduating from?
- \* What was your primary course of study?
- \* What honors/recognitions (if any) did you receive in school?
- \* Were there any monumental experiences you encountered while in school? (Mission trips, volunteer experiences, special internships, a group you affiliated yourself with)
- \* What are your aspirations for the future (i.e. type of work, more schooling, etc...)?
- \* Any specific plans yet? (Specific job lined up, school you've been accepted to, etc...)?

Please send your information to the church ([randy@covenantcc-cary.org](mailto:randy@covenantcc-cary.org)) no later than Wed., **May 29**.



**A SHOUT OUT!!!**

**Covenant's Elementary School Grads are...**  
**Fabrizio Elijah Anderson-Falconi**  
 West Lake Elementary

**Elijah (Eli) Walker Baldwin**  
 Douglas Elementary

**Sara Camille Ballard**  
 Fred A. Olds Elementary

**Matthew Franklin Bunn**  
 Hunter Elementary

**James Orrice Cowan**  
 Fox Road Elementary



**Covenant's Middle School Grads are...**  
**Carmen Pearl Ballard**  
 Leaving: Centennial Campus MS Entering: Athens Drive HS

**Rebecca (Becky) Evelyn Layko**  
 Leaving: Apex MS Entering: Apex HS or Longleaf School of the Arts



**Covenant's High School Grads are...**  
**David Jordan**  
 Leaving: Green Hope High School Entering: UNCA

**Alex Rivers**  
 Leaving: Green Hope High School Entering: NCSU



**Covenant's College Grad is...**  
**Madison Lee Rivers**  
 Graduating from UNC-CH

**CONGRATULATIONS Graduates!!!!**

# Come, Satisfy the Hungry Heart

**Our love and prayers are with:** Walter Brothers and Stan Brothers and family in the recent death of Art Brothers, May 22. A memorial service is planned for Wednesday, May 29 at Noon; also with Joe Busby & Melanie Fagert in the recent death of Joe's brother-in-law.

**Recent:** All those who are affected by the destruction of the tornados in Moore, OK; Rev. Patricia Cadle (UNC Hospital); Sal Dalberth (Paul Dalberth's father); Joseph Magliocca (Roxie White's nephew);

**Continuing Prayers:** Jeff Carroll; Robin & Jeff Miller; Mary Toney...

**Family:** Jeremy Hopkins; Donna Jones; **Mothers:** Dick Reaves; Sandy Kidd; Patricia Cadle; Vicky Vanderford; **Daughters:** Hartman's; Misty Mowrey; Maryanna Myers. **Son:** Misty Mowrey; **Brother:** Rocio Anderson **Sisters:** Roxie White; Patricia Cadle **In-Laws:** Renié Palmer; **Grandmothers:** Amy Rutledge; Vicki Wilkinson; **Grandfathers:** David Williams; Jasmine & James Cowan. **Grandchildren:** Hall's; Cathy Teague; 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:** Elaine Lang; Susan Shadle; Dick Peterson; Scott Snyder; Sue Carson; Ron Walters; Susan Seaward; Loretta Holt; Gary & Dotti Barr; Angie Bricker & Kristin Adams; "KK" Krawczyk & her service dog, "JJ"; Barry Crawford; Marty Scrivens; Shawn Kocopi; Judy Balotte; Sharon & Dave Garrett; Hudson Mimitch; General & Regional Church Leaders; DoC new churches.

## \*Week of Compassion and Responding to Tornados in Oklahoma

Week of Compassion (WoC), our denomination's disaster relief agency, is responding to the tornados that recently struck the Oklahoma City metropolitan area. WoC staff has been in touch with the Oklahoma Regional Office, and is currently working with them to assess needs affecting Disciples, and will-as always-work with our churches and Disciples Volunteering to discern the best way to contribute to the long-term recovery of affected communities across Oklahoma City and beyond.

At this point, only skilled first-responders are permitted to enter affected areas. If you would like to help out, the best thing you can do is to **Pray, Pay, and Stay:**

- **Pray** for those affected;
- **Pay:** contribute to immediate needs by reaching out through [Week of Compassion](#) knowing that unlike most of the disaster relief efforts, through WoC **100% of your donation will go directly to the victims.**

You can do so online putting "Covenant Christian Church, Cary NC as your congregation; or by check to Covenant Christian Church-earmarked: WoC OK Tornado...

- **Stay:** where you are. The time for volunteers will come, but it is not today!

Continue to keep Moore, OK and all areas affected by disasters in our prayers. Thank you for all of the ways you partner with us and support those in need.

## Our Gifts & Expenses

### May

General Fund Contributions	
Needed Per Month	\$ 16,909
General Fund Contributions	\$ 11,714
	Through May 19

### YEAR TO DATE ACTUAL:

General Fund Contributions	
through April 30	\$ 57,557
Fundraisers and Other	
Income through April 30	<u>8,048</u>
Total Income through April 30	\$ 65,605
Total Expenses through April 30	\$ <u>74,681</u>
Balance as of April 30	\$(9,076)

**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](mailto:ekathys@gmail.com)

## Worship Evaluation: Share Your Thoughts

Hello everyone! I have a request as we head into summer.



One of the functions of the worship committee is to try and think of ways to improve and enhance the worship services. Now we'd love to hear from you. By the end of the month, we will distribute an evaluation to the congregation and guests via email, as well as on paper, which will be available in the church entryway.

Basically, we want to know your thoughts, impression, wishes and ideas about both the early and late services. We'd like you to be honest about what you do and do not like about each service.

Please help us learn what's important to you about worship services and how to make the experience better. We look forward to hearing your suggestions. Thank you in advance.

*Carol Carson, Worship Committee chair*

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## Covenant's SCRIP Update

Summer is almost upon us, and for a lot of people that means getting away from their usual routine with vacations, travel teams, camping trips, family reunions, or weddings. Fortunately, with the growth of the ScripNow!, Reload, and ReloadNow! programs in our SCRIP fundraiser, you can still help Covenant even while you are on the go.



These three programs allow you to purchase SCRIP from your home computer, tablet PC, or even your smart phone.

The two Reload programs allow you to add money to an already purchased card through the SCRIP program, and ScripNow! allows you to access your gift cards within minutes.

If you go to [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com) and click on the "Shop" button on the menu bar that runs across the top of the screen, you will be able to see which retailers participate in each of the programs, simply by clicking on the program that you are interested in. You can also click on "Get Started" to find explanations of how the programs work and what you need to do to participate.

Want more information? Contact Robin Miller at [doghowse@msn.com](mailto:doghowse@msn.com) or [919-852-3986](tel:919-852-3986) or stop by and visit the SCRIP volunteers in the library after either service—they can answer your questions and walk you through the process.

*Robin Miller, SCRIP Coordinator*

## Disciples Men

The Men's group has recently committed funds for the Property Ministry to get the parking lot re-stripped. We are currently finishing a video study on the History of the New Testament. We are in the beginning stages of planning a summer date for the Yard Sale. Please contact Ted Glasener (919-557-9512 or [tpgontheroad@aol.com](mailto:tpgontheroad@aol.com)) or Bob Kennel (919-557-0847 or [bkennel@aol.com](mailto:bkennel@aol.com)) with any questions.

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## Youth News - Calendar!

### JYF—3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Graders

**June 2** – JYF Advisory Board Meeting! 4-5:30 p.m.

**We need your input!**

**June 12-15** – Vacation Bible School!!! W-F: 6-8 p.m.;  
Saturday: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

### CHI RHO—Middle Schoolers

**June 2**– Chi Rho Advisory Board Meeting! 5:30-7 p.m.

**We need your input!**

**June 12-15** – Vacation Bible School! W-F: 6-8 p.m.;  
Saturday: 10 a.m.–1 p.m. **We Need Your Help!**

**June 29-30** – "A Day @ Bush Gardens" – Join us for a day/night in Williamsburg, VA. More info coming!

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## Mission Complete—For Now!

To Our Covenant Christian Church families, members, & guests...Our middle schoolers embarked on a unique journey and represented you well! On the weekend of May 17-19, a group of four youth and two adult chaperones spent time in and around Roanoke, VA, to work alongside children, youth, and adults from across the United States for "One Big Day of Serving!"

We helped to clean up a community that continues to struggle with economic hardship and despair. None of this would be possible without the continued support of the Covenant community and youth, thanks to all of you, and your financial support through the purchase of "Butterbraids." Your commitment and dedication helped to truly transform the lives of our youth and the Roanoke community. We will keep you posted as we move forward in other mission-minded opportunities!

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## A VBS Request for ALL!!!!

We are going to transform Covenant into a "Big-Top Circus." Please notify the church office immediately if you can donate or let us borrow any of the following supplies:

- long rolls of plastic solid-red table cloth
- long rolls of plastic solid-white table cloth
- large stuffed animal bear
- large stuffed animal lion
- large stuffed animal tiger
- stuffed animal monkeys
- rolls of red paper streamers
- rolls of white paper streamers
- large orange poster boards
- large red poster boards
- large yellow poster boards
- yellow latex balloons
- red latex balloons
- white latex balloons
- blue latex balloons
- a frilly parasol



**We need to know what supplies you can donate or provide by Wednesday, May 29. The supplies need to be at church by Sunday, June 9.** Thank you so much!

## "Amazing Grays" Luncheon

Thursday, June 20, 11:30 a.m.  
Longhorn Steak House  
1411 Beaver Creek Commons Drive, Apex

RSVP Church office by June 17

## Outreach Ministry News Updates...

### Church World Service

#### CWS Emergency Cleanup Buckets



Heavy precipitation from early 2013 storms and floods has resulted in widespread and severe flooding in Illinois and other states. We have an opportunity to assemble CWS Emergency Cleanup Buckets to help those in need. Outreach would like to collaborate with other ministries/groups (Youth, Sunday School classes, Amazing Grays etc.) at Covenant to assemble these buckets. We could select a day to work together or your group can work independently.

**We would like to collect the buckets the third week in July** so that we can deliver them to the local CWS office shortly thereafter. CWS has shipped nearly 1,500 CWS Emergency Cleanup Buckets to Illinois for flood-affected households and expects to ship thousands more.

"The CWS Emergency Cleanup Buckets are giving hope and help to survivors," said Barry Shade, CWS associate director for U.S. disaster response. "With needs assessment ongoing, CWS expects to respond to additional requests from Illinois and other states for buckets. When we do, we hope to be able to respond without delay."

As the 2,500th CWS Emergency Cleanup Bucket arrives in flood-ravaged Illinois, Church World Service is appealing urgently for people to replenish its rapidly dwindling supply. Only about 2,600 CWS Emergency Cleanup Buckets remain in the agency's warehouse in New Windsor, MD, Shade said. Cleanup-up Bucket value: **\$56**

Contents of the buckets and instructions for assembling the buckets can be found in the entryway. You may contact a member of the Outreach Ministry: Shirley Kennedy, Renié Palmer, or Becky Stiles to let one of us know of your interest.

### Immigration Reform

Church World Service is also very involved in immigration reform. If you would like to know more about what our denomination is doing to support immigration reform, pick up one or both of the articles located on the table in the entryway.

### Dorcas Ministries Adopt-A-Shelf



Because of your generosity, we donated 211 disposable diapers and four 5lb. bags of sugar to Dorcas Ministries during the month of May. As mentioned in the last newsletter, we are collaborating with VBS to collect additional bags of sugar. We will sponsor "Sugar Sunday" on June 16 at the conclusion of VBS. By the way, June 16 is Father's Day. How about donating a 5lb. bag of sugar in honor or memory of the men in your life—your father or one who has acted as a father-figure?

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

*René Palmer, Outreach Ministry Chair*