

## Members in Need of Prayer

Rose Marie and Joe Starr, Sr. and Joe Starr, Jr., Donna Short, Beth Walborn, Shirley Beach, John Parker, Mary Dawn Stuenkel

**Prayer Concerns:** If you have an urgent prayer concern, please contact Kamara Reade at 828-430-0760 or [kay.29@netzero.net](mailto:kay.29@netzero.net). She will send it out to New Covenant members.

## Building Update



Changes have been made at our current site!! The nave has been flipped; the wall where the altar and cross were has been torn down and the altar has been placed on the opposite end of the nave. We have made space for 25 more chairs for a total of 75 chairs. The adult Sunday



school room was absorbed into the nave and was moved to the room where the refrigerator and microwave are located. Folding tables and chairs, along with area carpets, were purchased for both the adult and children's Sunday school classrooms. The



folding tables can be put to the side in order to make room for a nursery in these classrooms if needed. A total of 17 different members helped with this effort. Come see the changes!

## NALC Disaster Relief – Outreach Effort

New Covenant collected 100 bottles of bleach (1/2 gallon or smaller) and over 100 paper towels for the Mission Event on May 20<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for giving from your heart to help the NALC Disaster Relief Efforts. Over 500 flood buckets were assembled during the Mission Event. In addition to the bleach and paper towels, offerings from the Wednesday Lenten services were used to donate \$413 worth of diapers and wipes for NALC Disaster Relief "Stuff the Truck"



effort. This is an amazing amount of donations from such a small congregation with a BIG heart! Thank you!!



# New Covenant News

**Volume 5, Number 2**

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A Monthly Publication of the Congregational Activities of  
New Covenant Lutheran Church in Morganton, NC



**MISSION STATEMENT:** New Covenant Welcomes God's People  
Founded in Faith, United by Love, and Gifted to Serve

## From the Pastor:



*<sup>16</sup>Yours is the day, yours also the night; you have established the heavenly lights and the sun. <sup>17</sup>You have fixed all the boundaries of the earth; you have made summer and winter. Psalm 74:16-17*

## **SUMMER!**

Summer is here, school is out, and it is time for vacation for many of us. The psalmist reminds us that God has created everything, including ordering day and night and the changing

seasons. We love the warmer weather in summer, the grass and trees decked out in green and fullness, the glorious colors of flowers in bloom. Teachers and students enjoy the break from school, and those of us who stay on our jobs in the summer find ways to relax and spend time outdoors or on weekend getaways. All of us certainly need time to be refreshed and renewed.

Even as we appreciate the possibilities of summer, we also need to remember those for whom the change of seasons may not bring respite: our armed forces, especially those deployed in distant lands, whose lives are on the line for us day in and day out; those in developing countries and in economically deprived situations in our own country, whose standard of living does not offer them the same opportunities we have to get away from their everyday struggles; and those who live with devastating illness, depression, or unemployment/underemployment. For them, summer does not hold the promise of relief from toil, pain, or grief. Let us remember them in prayer daily.

While we are away for weekend respite or longer vacations, the needs of the world go on. The costs of maintaining and expanding our ministries do not come to

a halt. It is important to us in our continuing commitment to stewardship to maintain our offerings and to be involved in those summer activities that promote fellowship and spiritual nurture.

May we all find ways to be involved in our life together this summer and committed to growing in our relationship to Christ. Have safe and happy vacations!  
Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Marty

### **Bible Study**

Pastor Ramey is leading Bible study on the book of Revelation. The sessions have been on Thursdays at 10:30 AM at the church but this may change for the summer months. An email will be sent out about any future meeting times.

### **Church Council Meeting**

New Covenant's Church Council meets the second Wednesday of each month at 6 PM. All are welcome to attend. The next meeting is June 14 (this may change but will be announced in church). If you have an item that you want the Church Council to discuss or consider, please contact Eric Stuenkel at [westuenkel@bellsouth.net](mailto:westuenkel@bellsouth.net) or Angela Williams at [3521awilliams@charter.net](mailto:3521awilliams@charter.net)

### **Members Attend Carolinas Mission District Convocation**



Five members of New Covenant and Pastor Marty attended the Carolinas Mission District Convocation in May. On Friday, May 5, the District had representatives of 10 different mission efforts present information about their ministries and how churches could get involved. On Saturday, May 6, there were more ministry presentations, business meetings, a message from NALC Bishop Dan

Selbo (in picture), selection of Deans and representatives to the District Council, and a wonderful lunch. There are plans to have some of the ministries make presentations at New Covenant. Some of the ministries include: Carolinas Lutheran Men, Carolinas Lutheran Women, NALC Disaster Relief, Lutheran Military Veterans & Family Ministries, SMI Haiti, Awakening Lives to World Mission, and Malawi Orphan Care Project. Offerings from the Wednesday Lenten services were used to donate \$100 for the North American Lutheran Seminary (NALS).

### **Upcoming Events from the Church and Community Life Commission**

#### **Father's Day Reception**



New Covenant members are invited to enjoy a special Father's Day Reception after our Sunday church service on June 18<sup>th</sup>. The guys will be treated to an assortment of fruits with dip, veggie tray with dip, cheese ball, and crackers.

We will have water and lemonade for everyone to enjoy. Everyone is invited to *Celebrate* our Fathers at New Covenant. Please bring family and friends too!

### **Burke Pregnancy Center Project**

Starting on Mother's Day, May 14, New Covenant will be collecting money, diapers, wipes, etc. for the Burke County Pregnancy Center. Money, including coins and bills, can be put into "baby bottles" provided by the Pregnancy Center. The bottles will be set out by the church bulletins. You may fill up more than one bottle if you would like. The bottles are located next to the mailboxes. You may place diapers, wipes, etc. in the boxes under/near the mailboxes at the end of the hall. The collection will end on Father's Day, June 18.



### **Prayer Lap Quilts and Prayer Shawls Needed**

Throughout the year we would like to receive Knitted Prayer Shawls and Prayer Lap Quilts to be blessed and given to others who are facing a illness, loss and need the love of the members at New Covenant. Large Ziploc bags and special tags from New Covenant will be provided as these are blessed to share with others. We look forward to sharing our love and support to others we know with this outreach ministry. Two lap quilts/prayer shawls made by Pam Henderson were blessed on May 21 to start this effort.

### **NALC Disaster Relief Quilt Making- from Debbie Little**

At the Carolinas Mission District Convocation in May, they shared about how much handmade quilts meant to the people who had experienced hardships from tornados and flooding. It touched my heart to hear that the people receiving the quilts couldn't believe they were given these quilts and they asked "why people made beautiful quilts just for them" and the man replied, "It's because they care about you and want to share Christ's love with you and their love too." If you can tie a knot...you can help. If you can sew a quilt top for completion at the church...that's great. We have some supplies to get started. I just need to know who is interested. Men or women and youngsters can help too. We will do what we can; maybe one-to-two per month is a good goal for us. So let Debbie Little (828-430-0175) know if you would like to help.

### **Want to Visit The Ark Encounter and Creation Museum?**

Travel to Williamstown, Kentucky to see a life-sized replica of Noah's Ark and share in the imagination of how eight people survived on a "boat" for a year (<https://arkencounter.com>). You will be amazed! There is a zoo and shops to explore while there. Then travel about 45 minutes away to Petersburg, KY to see the Creation Museum (<https://creationmuseum.org/>) where evidence is shared that supports the Bible account of the creation of earth and its inhabitants. Enjoy the beautiful gardens as well. Both sites are handicap accessible and the Gospel is shared in multiple ways in hopes that unbelievers will be brought to Christ. This will be a three-to-four day trip. If you are interested in traveling with other New Covenant members (and friends) to see these sites, please contact Debbie Little (828-430-0175) by June 11. Rick and Beverly Watts have visited both sites and will be happy to tell you more about them or check out the websites.