



Halloween Trick or Treat

There was “Trick or Treating” at the church on Sunday, October 29 after the church service. The kids were so excited and they had a fabulous time! Thank you to everyone who helped to make this fun event a huge success!



Because of Bethlehem by Max Lucado – the movie

Inspired by his bestselling book, *Because of Bethlehem*, author Max Lucado invites you and your family to experience the Christmas story from a different perspective, live from beautiful Nashville, Tennessee. This special live event will remind audiences that the spirit of Christmas is much more than a pretty tree with presents piled up underneath, but a time to reflect on the true Gift of the season. Join Max Lucado and experience the magic and wonder of Christmastime alongside special guests and a variety of star-studded artist performances featuring CeCe Winans, Matthew West, Anne Wilson, Maher, and Evan Craft. This movie is showing December 5, 6, and 7 at 7 PM at the AMC Hickory 15 theaters (2000 Catawba Valley Blvd. SE, Hickory). You can purchase tickets online right now!



New Covenant News

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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:

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1st Thessalonians 5:16-18



Dear New Covenant Family,

November is the month in which we celebrate the holiday we know in the United States as Thanksgiving. Its history is rooted in our past with the earliest settlers in this country and may date back to 1620 or 1621. Even though we may think of Thanksgiving as a secular holiday, we also realize that giving thanks is part of our lives as Christians, and we should give thanks every day, not just one day of the year. The words *thanks* and *thanksgiving* are found in at least 133 instances in the Bible. As St. Paul writes in his letter to the church at Thessalonica, shown above, we are to “give thanks in all circumstances.”

We often think of being thankful for all the good things we have or receive, but we are also to give thanks even in the midst of trials. That is especially important for us in this time when we have witnessed the devastating attacks, brutality, and kidnapping against the people of Israel and the possibility of war that may result. We share a biblical heritage and hope for God’s deliverance with the Jewish people. In Psalm 136:1, we read, “Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.” We thank God for his goodness, his mercy, and his love, and we pray for Israel and for peace in the Middle East.

As we gather with family and friends to share in the Thanksgiving holiday, let us remember that we have far more to be thankful for than just our material

circumstances. We have a loving God who sent his son Jesus to dwell with us. As Christ, our Redeemer, he willingly went to the cross for us to suffer death so that we might know the depth of God's love for us. He was raised from the dead to bring us the promise of resurrection in the life to come, to live with him forever in the glory of his presence. And we have that promise in the feast we share together in our church family, the bread and the wine that are his body and blood, broken and poured out for us for the forgiveness of sin. That is the true Thanksgiving feast.

As I leave New Covenant, I am thankful for the time I have spent here and will cherish the relationships that have supported me and lifted me up in blessing. May we all enjoy our "turkey day" and all the fixings, and may we be safe and experience the love of God through our families and friends, never ceasing to give thanks in all circumstances!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Marty

Members in Need of Prayer

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

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

Pastor Appreciation

A luncheon was held in honor of Pastor Marty Ramey after the church service on October 8th. It was a fun time to share with Pastor Marty how much she has meant to New Covenant. She received many cards and a monetary gift from members of the church. Pastor Marty's last Sunday at New Covenant was October 29th. At the end of the service, New Covenant presented her with two new stoles (see picture). We are thankful for the time she has been with us and wish her Godspeed as she leaves.



Honoring Our Veterans

On Sunday, November 12, we will honor our veterans. Representing different branches of the U.S. Armed Forces, several members made sacrifices to protect our country and freedoms. We are indebted to their bravery, courage, and service in defending our country, freedoms, and our way of life. Because of their service and the service of many others, we are able to worship Jesus Christ our Lord at New Covenant. Thank you!

Member	Branch of Service	Dates of Service
Howy Copenhaver	Air Force	1960-1984
Shawn Keller	Army	2000-2008
David Lange	Navy	1967-1971
John Parker	Navy	1969-1973
Steve Short	U.S. Army Airborne	1967-1970
Jim Tweedy	Army	1969-1971
Helen Wallace	Army	1969-1971
Lloyd Wallace	Army	1968- 1971

A Love Offering will be collected during church on the 12th for the Wounded Warrior Project. If you want more information about this non-profit organization, you can go to www.woundedwarriorproject.org.

Lutheran Military Veterans And Family Ministries, Inc. (LMVFM):

Each year, November 1st marks the beginning of LMVFM's annual Christmas Ornament Adoption Appeal. The annual "Christmas Ornament Adoption Appeal" at LMVFM is a great time to honor or memorialize your loved one who served our country while also paying it forward to a veteran currently in need. These men & women make extreme sacrifices so that we can live in a free country. The ministry of LMVFM was founded on the principle of sharing the love of Christ with those who have served. When you make a gift of any amount to LMVFM between November 1 and January 31, an ornament, made by a veteran or family member, will be hung on LMVFM's Christmas tree. Your donation can be made online at lmvfm.org or by mail to: LMVFM Christmas Appeal, 3480 Stellhorn Rd., Fort Wayne, IN 46815. For more information, there is a brochure on the bulletin board in the front office of New Covenant.

