

# New Covenant Connection

## New Covenant Presbyterian Church

“A Church Family – A Church Home”



May 2018 Volume 29

New Covenant Church

### Ministers

The Congregation

### Assistant to the Ministers

Interim Pastor Rev. Jeffrey Howard

Accompanist: Jenny Hugh

Music Director: Ken Hudson

### Session

Skip Leeson, Clerk 449-1942 Clerk  
 Barbara Montazella 845-813-1374 Worship  
 Susan Pedersen 378-0902 Evangelism  
 Carole A. McBride 378-5359 Christian Ed.  
 Sandy Boyce 378-2902 Personnel  
 Paul Willbanks 410-829-9161 Mission  
 Ben Urban 376-844 Stewardship  
 Pam Leeson 449-1942 Congregation Life

### Deacons

Alice Megonigal 2020 376-6172  
 Melissa Padgett 2021 610-554-4488  
 Laura Pedersen 2022 378-0902  
 Don Bauer 2020 378-2317  
 Landa Lindgren 2021 378-0914  
 Kathy Henry 2022 832-5510

### Trustees

Alan Pedersen 2021 378-0902  
 Tom Kimble 2020 376-1770  
 Al Grimminger 2019 378-2252

### Church Information

Church Phone 378-4446  
 Pastor's Home Phone 319-1511  
 CCLI license 649817  
 Treasurer, Cyndi Daniels 299-5373  
 Worship Service 10 a.m. Sunday School 8:45 a.m.

[www.newcov-church.org](http://www.newcov-church.org)



“No one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit”. Corinthians 12:3B



On the Day of Pentecost, we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit descending in a mighty rush of wind and flame to inspire the church's proclamation of Christ's rising and to empower its mission and ministry to the world. (See Acts 2:1-13; see also Joel 2:28-32.)

The notion of Easter as a season of 50 days ending at Pentecost is patterned after the ancient Jewish festival of seven weeks that extended from the beginning of the barley harvest (on the second day after the beginning of Passover) to the end of the wheat harvest at the Festival of Weeks or *Shavuot* (see Deuteronomy 16:9-12). The Festival of Weeks later came to be called Pentecost (“50th day”) by Greek speaking Jews. In Jewish tradition, Shavuot also marks the giving of the law to Moses at Sinai; this liturgical link may inform Paul's discussions of the law and the Spirit (see Romans 8, 2 Corinthians 3 and Galatians 3).

Without the gift of the Spirit, Christ's church dries up and withers away, and we are left with only our broken selves. With the gift of the Spirit, all things are possible. A spirit-filled community of faith opens eyes to needs in the world and sees its missing as God's new people. The Day of Pentecost is the climax of the Great Fifty Days of Easter, celebrating as it does the gift of the Spirit to the body of Christ — the church.

This year Pentecost is celebrated on May 20<sup>th</sup>.

(Source: [www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/christianyear/Pentecost](http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/christianyear/Pentecost))

May 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

**\*Special Dates\***

- \* May 03, 2018 National Day of Prayer
- \* May 10, 2018 Ascension
- \* May 13, 2018 Mother's Day
- \* May 20, 2018 Pentecost Sunday
- \* May 27, 2018 Trinity Sunday
- \* May 28, 2018 Memorial Day



Our annual Progressive Dinner was a great success! Saturday, April 7th, at 4:30 PM we started at the home of Jane and Mike Adams for appetizers and then followed the food assignments for the next levels. It was a wonderful night of fellowship and good food!

The 20<sup>th</sup> annual Church Picnic is scheduled for Sunday June 10<sup>th</sup>. Add this to your calendar and bring a friend or neighbor too! More details are coming later.

*Submitted by Pam Leeson, Congregation Life Team*



**Worship Ministry Team**

April began with the glorious celebration of Easter and the hope of our risen Lord Jesus Christ. The sunrise service, a first for New Covenant Church was attended by 16. Two guitarists provided music and Pastor Jeff preached the Easter message with the sun rising over his shoulder. It was bright and sunny but cool. The celebration continued with breakfast, the Easter egg hunt and the traditional service with communion at 10:00 am. The music program included both choir and bells. The children's drama group under the direction of Cheryl Shields also performed. The paraments for the next 7 weeks are white. A reminder to all of the promise of Easter and the redemptive work of Jesus Christ.

On Sunday April 22 we celebrated Mission Sunday with a program of music and messages from members of the Kenya Students Association and their families of World Mission College of Greater Washington. The service was coordinated by Pastor Grace Howard. After the service we shared experiences over lunch.

April 29, is the 5th Sunday of the month so we will have a second collection for the Deacons special fund.

May will be a busy month with celebrations for our senior members, May 13, Ascension Sunday and Mother's Day, May 20, Pentecost Sunday, May 27, Trinity Sunday and May 28, Memorial Day. May 20 Pentecost is the birthday of the church. It falls on the 50th day after Jesus' resurrection and celebrates the gift of the Holy Spirit to the apostles. Acts 2: 1-4. The color is red which symbolizes the tongues of flames. We would invite everyone in the congregation to wear something red too.

*Submitted by Barbara Montazella, Worship Elder*



**PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE**

The Pastor Search Committee completed our Mission Study which will be used for calling our next pastor. The Mission Study is an extremely comprehensive document that describes our church and community from current and future perspectives. It has been approved by the NCPC Session and by the Presbytery Committee on Ministry. On May 6<sup>th</sup> it will come to the congregation for their approval. The Pastor Search Committee also developed a survey using questions required by the Presbytery *Mission Study Design Guide – Data Gathering for Ministry* document.

This survey is another opportunity for our congregation to be involved in the pastor search process. Your input is vitally important – so please take the time to participate. The survey will be available both electronically and on paper. Please complete only one survey per family.

The survey will be an emailed link sent to those who receive emails from the clerk of session. If you choose to complete the survey on paper - it will be available in the church. Please complete this survey immediately so that the data is received in time to be included.

*Submitted by Donna Casey, Co-Lead Pastor Search Committee*

The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

## BIBLE QUIZ



While in Jerusalem for Pentecost, people from many faraway lands miraculously heard the disciples preaching in their own native languages. Which of the following modern-day places was/were represented?

- A. Egypt
- B. Libya
- C. Crete
- D. Rome
- E. All of the above
- F. A, B and D

(Answer from April: C Both A and B. See John 10:9, 11.)



Sunday April 22<sup>nd</sup> will be Kenya Mission Sunday. A group of Kenyans studying with Grace Howard will travel from the Washington DC area to engage New Covenant in a Kenyan style worship and to present to New Covenant the ongoing opportunities and challenges for spreading the gospel in their home country.

*Submitted by Paul Willbanks, Missions Elder*



## NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

Humongous thank you for your generous support of Neighborhood House. The first quarter of 2018 (Jan, Feb and March) we delivered 21 bags of non-perishable groceries and 48 single serve packages of dry ramen noodles. These will make people's lives easier! We are blessed to be a blessing!

Both the May and June donation schedules are for toiletries and small items for babies. These will be assembled into kits. Place your donations in the Neighborhood House box by the sanctuary coat rack.

*Submitted by Jane Adams, Neighborhood House coordinator*

## Deacon's News



Landra agreed to create a "Welcome to New Covenant Church" document for the visitor bags. Melissa is researching prices for a similar canvas bag but with vinyl lettering for our New Member

bags. Deacons approved the purchase of 200 (minimum) jar openers to be used for our visitor bags. The saying "A gift from God to help you with your struggles" was approved. The church name, address and phone number and website will be included as well.

Don Bauer is still the main contact for transportation and Landa will update the Meals Ministry volunteer list. Melissa will make/update slides for Sunday service.

Alice was given approval to purchase a new gift memorial book. Once it is purchased, all the previous memorial donations and gifts will be updated. Deacons also approved purchase of "Missing You" postcards that will be mailed to congregation members that have missed several services. We want to make contact to ensure them we have missed their presence.

The next Deacons meeting will be held on Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> after Sunday Service.

Reminder: the next Fifth Sunday second offering is on Sunday, July 29<sup>th</sup>.

*Submitted by Landa Lindgren, Deacon Secretary and Alice Megonigal, Deacon Moderator*



5/08	Stephanie Hollick	5/10	Cheryl Bailey
5/14	Jenny Hugh	5/18	Harry Kidd
5/19	James Casey	5/21	Scott Kirk
5/23	Kim Brenton		



5/20	Harry and Pam Kidd
5/22	Bill and Cheryl Shields
5/26	Al and Janet Grimminger
5/28	Justin and Melissa Padgett

**A Merry Heart Doeth Good  
Like a Medicine  
Proverbs 17:22**

At his graduation, a young man tasked with giving a speech began reading from some notes. "I want to talk about my mother and the wonderful influence she had on my life," he said. "She's a shining example of parenthood, and I love her more than words can ever do justice." The graduate then paused, appeared to struggle a moment and looked up at the audience with a mischievous smile. "It's really hard to read my mom's handwriting," he said.

**Q:** Why wasn't the girl afraid of the shark?

**A:** Because it was a man-eating shark.

My mother gave me the greatest gift anyone could give another person, she believed in me.

Lord, thanks for saving me a big oops by reminding me to make sure my shoes matched before I walked out the door.

A little boy was kneeling beside his bed with his mother and grandmother and softly saying his prayers, "Dear God, please bless Mummy and Daddy and all the family and please give me a good night's sleep." Suddenly he looked up and shouted, "And don't forget to get me a bicycle for my birthday!!" His mother said, "There's no need to shout like that, God is not deaf." "No" said the little boy, "but grandma is."

**Q:** How do people who go hang-gliding for the first time end up feeling?

**A:** Soar all over.

A young man agreed to baby-sit one night so a single mother could have an evening out. At bedtime he sent the youngsters up to bed and settled down to watch football. One child kept creeping down the stairs, but the young man kept sending him back to bed. At 9:00 p.m. the doorbell rang, it was the next-door neighbor, Mrs. Brown, asking whether her son was there. The young man brusquely replied, "No." Just then a little head appeared over the banister and shouted, "I'm here Mom, but he won't let me go home!"

If its true that girls are inclined to marry men like their fathers, it is understandable why so many mothers cry so much at weddings.

*Mother to daughter advice:* Cook a man a fish and you feed him for a day. But teach a man to fish and you get rid of him for the whole weekend.

Just for Pun...

1. Every calendar's days are numbered.
2. A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.
3. If you've seen on shopping center, you've seen a mall.
4. Acupuncture is a jab well done.
5. A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.
6. Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?
7. Reading while sunbathing makes you well red.
8. When two egotists meet, it is an I for an I.
9. A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
10. Bakers trade bread recipes on a knead to know basis.

**Actor:** A person who works really hard at never being himself.

**Jake:** Why did the monster's mother knit him three socks?

**Sean:** I have no clue.

**Jake:** She heard he grew another foot.

**Q:** Why is a computer so smart?

**A:** It listens to its motherboard.

Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, "Why is the bride dressed in white?" The mother replied, "Because white is the color of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life." The child thought about this a moment and then she said, "So, why is the groom wearing black?"

**Pete:** Did you know they had automobiles in Jesus' time?

**Harry:** Yes, the Bible says they were all of one Accord

July 10 is the date I set for lunch at my house with my book club, Lord. Why then, did everyone turn up on June 10 when I wasn't even home? Imagine, all those women having the same senior moment at the same time!

**Son:** Mom can I get twenty dollars?

**Mom:** Does it look like I'm made of money?

**Son:** Well, isn't that what M.O.M. stands for?

*"When we feel love and kindness toward others, it not only makes others feel loved and cared for, but it helps us also to develop inner happiness and peace."*

-Dalai Lama



## **From the Pastor's Desk, May 2018**

Dear New Covenant Church,

New Covenant Church is part of New Castle Presbytery. New Castle Presbytery has 51 churches in Delaware and on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. The purpose of the presbytery is the help existing churches and start new churches and ministries. We are also part of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic which reaches from Delaware into North Carolina. And we are part of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

I have the privilege this year of serving New Castle Presbytery as it's Moderator. As Moderator my primary role is to plan and moderate five presbytery meetings each year. I also ordain new pastors and install new pastors in churches. So far I have moderated our last meeting in Ocean City. In February, I led a meeting of the leadership of the presbytery. I lead monthly meetings of our Coordinating Committee. And I have ordained and installed new pastors in Ocean View, Georgetown, and Dover.

New Castle Presbytery is currently undergoing a major reorganization. Our Presbytery Executive, Jim Moseley, will be leaving us this month to serve a church in Virginia. Our Stated Clerk, Bob Schminkey, is retiring this month as well. As we say goodbye to these two, who have served us well for many years, we are now welcoming a new Connectional Presbyter, Jessica Macmillan, who will be working closely with our Pastor Search Committee to help us find a new Pastor. And we are currently looking for a new Missional Presbyter.

The committee structure of the presbytery is also changing. We now have fewer committees and a much simpler budgeting process. Our Pastor Search Committee is working closely with the Committee on Ministers and Congregations. They have already approved our mission study and will assist us as we move forward to find a new pastor.

The Presbytery has launched a new committee called Ignite. The purpose of Ignite is to start new things in the presbytery. These new things might be new missional activities in our communities. They might be new churches. Churches will be encouraged to work together to do God's mission in the world. The presbytery is looking for a new Missional Presbyter to work with churches to ignite new things.

What does all this mean for New Covenant Church? The reorganization of the presbytery means that New Castle Presbytery will be more responsive to needs of churches. It will be helping us search for a new pastor. And my prayer is that they will help us build a new, much needed, sanctuary.

All of this is very exciting. God is at work doing things in Delaware and Eastern Shore of Maryland. And churches will partner together to participate in God's work.

Blessings  
Pastor Jeff



## NEW COVENANT CHURCH NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Everyone has time! How we use that time is a challenge. Some people are always busy, but complain they never get anything done. These people jump from one task to another, start one thing and really never finish anything. Others are busy, they organize their time, finish one task at a time and are always ready to do more because they know how to use their time wisely.

In order to use out time wisely, the first priority should be to spend it with God. Begin the day with prayer. "In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make your paths straight" (Proverbs 3:6). Let God lead you in what you have to do.

Each one of us must decide what is important. List your priorities: Job, family, keeping your home in good order, church work, visiting with friends, hobby or recreation. Begin to make lists and as you finish a task cross it off the list. Always finish one thing before starting another.

If people are overworked, it is possible they can't say no when someone asks them to be on a committee or chair a bake sale, etc. Sometimes we are busy on this committee, that committee, in the community, church, school and this leaves us no time for family. Again, priority of time is important and you can learn to say "NO."

God has given us our life and each day. Each day has 24 hours, each hour has 60 minutes, and each minute has 60 seconds. Make the most of your time and when there is no time left it will be time to go home to God.

*As stewards, we are accountable to Go for our time, talent and treasure. We return to the Lord, the giver of all our gifts, a truly grateful first share of our time, talent and treasure.*

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### MEMORIAL DAY REFLECTION

We who are left, how shall we look again  
Happily, on the sun or feel the rain  
Without remembering how they who went  
Ungrudgingly and spent  
Their lives for us loved, too, the sun and rain?

-Wilfred Wilson Gibson

**Congratulations** to Justin, Melissa and Olivia on their new family addition. **Colten Thomas** was born on March 31<sup>st</sup> and livened the Easter holiday for the whole family.

The **Easter egg sale** was another successful event. \$919.00 was the grand sales total. Thank you to everyone that helped make the handmade delicious eggs. Special thanks to Joyce for sharing her candy recipes and tips.

Carol McBride's sister, **Marilyn**, fell and broke her knee while she was visiting the family. Please keep her in your prayers for a speedy recovery.

The **third banner** was installed in the sanctuary. Many thanks to the nimble fingers who cut and sewed the pieces together. One more banner will be installed to complete the set depicting our church missions and directions.

Our sympathy to **Lois Houston** who recently lost her father and then her husband Sam in a tree trimming accident. Their Virginia address is posted on the sanctuary bulletin board.

The **Kenyan Mission Sunday** on April 22 was a joyous service of sharing. Songs were sung in Swahili and English. Several Kenyans preached or shared their individual faith journeys. A lunch was organized by Rev. Grace Howard afterwards.

The **Governor's Prayer Breakfast** will be held on Thursday, May 3 in Dover. Contact Skip Leeson if you are interested in attending.

A **Congregational Town Hall Meeting** will be held after worship on Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup> to receive the Church Mission Study and hear from the Pastor Search Committee.

**Alan Pedersen** will be having hand surgery again to further repair torn tendons. Keep him in your prayers for healing during the 6 – 8 weeks of recovery.

Congratulations to **Donna Casey and Bill Shields** on finding new career opportunities. We are thankful they will still be living in the area.



### **Drama Ministry:**

Our Congratulations, Thanks and Appreciation go out to all those who performed in the (2) Skits presented on Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday 10:00 am service.

Maundy Thursday: "Passionate Voices"

Voice #1: John Hetterly  
Voice #2: Michael Easter  
Voice #3: Carol L. McBride  
Voice #4: Nancy Hetterly

Easter Sunday: "The Easter Animal Contest"

Bunny: Jacalynn E.  
Chicken: David F.  
Lizard: Emma F.  
Lamb: John E.  
Salesman: Jason Easter, John Hetterly

Last but not least our wonderful Director CHERYL SHIELDS who through her efforts and skills made all of this possible.

MANY THANKS TO THE PARENTS FOR TAKING THEIR TIME AND EFFORTS TO HELP THE CHILDREN LEARN THEIR LINES AND ATTEND REHEARSALS

### **Bethel Bible:**

Bethel Bible has finished the Old Testament study. They will restart in September with the New Testament.

### **Vacation Bible School (VBS):**

This year's Vacation Bible School is based upon the program Shipwrecked and Rescued by Jesus! VBS will run from July 16th to the 20th, with the wrap up being at the Sunday worship on July 22nd.

Who can participate:

Preschoolers (Potty Trained) will be presented with fun filled activities, all supervised in one room.  
First Graders to Fifth Graders will enjoy fun filled activities both indoor and outside.  
Middle and High School students can be crew leaders where they will learn leadership skills.  
Nursery will be provided for VBS volunteers ONLY. A Nursery Leader is still needed.  
Adult Leaders are also still needed.

See included flyer which provides more information.

### **All Sundays**

8:45 a.m. - Christian Education  
Bethel Bible, Adult Bible Study, Adult Sunday School (beginning April 8th, 2018, featuring the Daniel Plan)  
Youth/Nursery care available upon request, contact John Hetterly by phone at 302-383-9263 or Caroline Recla by e-mail @ [carolynrecla@verizon.net](mailto:carolynrecla@verizon.net)

### **The Daniel Plan:**

The Daniel Plan teaches simple ways to incorporate healthy choices into a reader's current lifestyle and helps them understand the kinds of foods God created to keep them fit and strong. The book is categorized around five key concepts for optimal health that promotes success: Faith, Food, Fitness, Focus, and Friends. These concepts encourage readers to deepen their relationship with God and offer inspiration as they make positive choices.

The Daniel Plan meets Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m., Friday at 7:00 p.m., and Sunday at 8:45 a.m.

### **Youth Club:**

Open to third graders through high school age.

Starting June 15th, and meeting the third Friday of each month from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.. Various activities including movies, ice cream socials, mini golf, and bowling are being planned with the goal of attracting new youth to the church in a fun and supportive environment. Cost per person for each event will be around \$20.00. Contact Laura Pederson by phone at 302-354-0935 for more information. Youths are encouraged to bring friends to these events.

The first outing, on July 15th, will be at Putter's Paradise, 130 Commerce Drive, Middletown, DE 19709. In case of rain we will most likely move the event to West Town Movie Theater, adjacent to Putter's Paradise. Please RSVP to Laura Pederson.



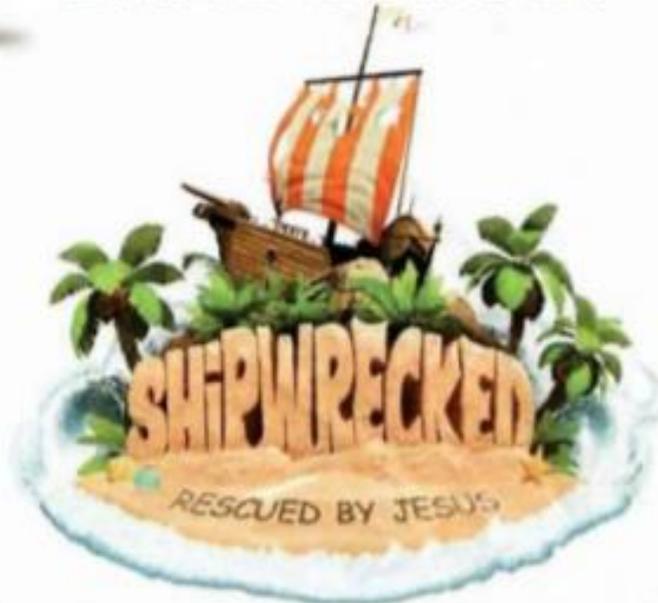
### **Evangelism Team**

Website: [www.newcov-church.org/](http://www.newcov-church.org/)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/New-Covenant-Presbyterian-Church-USA-Middletown-Delaware](https://www.facebook.com/New-Covenant-Presbyterian-Church-USA-Middletown-Delaware)

*The new church directory will be published with the updated photos being taken the weekend of April 28, 29 and 30<sup>th</sup>*



# Vacation Bible School



**New Covenant Presbyterian Church**

(Across Boyd's Corner Rd. from Cedar Lane Elementary School)

July 16 – July 20, 2018

9AM to 12 Noon

Ages 3yr thru 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

No Fee!



Visit: [www.newcov-church.org/vbs.html](http://www.newcov-church.org/vbs.html) Call (302) 378-4446

Text Co-Director Nancy Hetterly at (302) 383-6543

1125 Jamison Corner Rd, Middletown, DE 19709