

New Covenant Connection

New Covenant Presbyterian Church

www.newcov-church.org

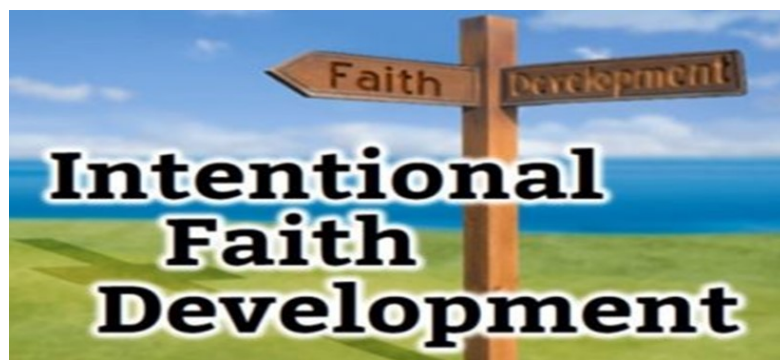
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Growth and Development

Dear friends,

It is that time of year when we begin thinking about education. It's September and, for most of us, we are thinking of it in terms of our kids, grand-kids, or neighbors heading off to a new year in school. But what I want you to spend a moment reflecting on is your own SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT.



Just like your body changes and develops over time, and your mind does the same thing, do not forget that your spiritual life needs time and attention as well. And it simply doesn't happen if we are not INTENTIONAL about it. So, let's spend a few minutes thinking about our won faith development.

~continued on next page ~



September 2022

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John Westerhof, a Christian educator, says that in our faith development, we go through various styles of faith before we call a faith our own. He names 4 styles of faith.

The 1st is **EXPERIENCED FAITH** in which faith is not so much a theological affirmation as it is an affective experience. It may not be so much the words children hear spoken as much as it is the experiences connected with those words – experiences of trust, love and acceptance that encourage them to respond to and explore the Christian faith.

A 2nd style of faith is **AFFILIATIVE FAITH** – faith expressed through affiliation with a faith community. There is much to be gained in developing one's faith as we explore, question, and learn with others.

A 3rd style of faith is **SEARCHING FAITH** in which one feels a need to test one's faith tradition. It's a bit like we're "kicking the tires of faith," and unfortunately, many Christians don't like their tires kicked. Some are threatened by a critical attitude, and so some individuals leave the church at this point, feeling unwelcome or challenged in a way that is uncomfortable.

And finally, the last style of faith is that of **OWNED FAITH** – the culmination of Christian nurture, when we are willing and able to stand up for what we believe. We have worked what we believe and we can affirm it boldly.

As you can see, there is much to work on in terms of faith development. It can take a lifetime, and this is WHY Christian education is so important. It shouldn't end when you graduate into adulthood, and don't feel the need to attend "Sunday school." It is up to each of us to explore many avenues for deepening our faith. But the **bottom line is: MAKE IT A PRIORITY**, so that when you get to the end of your life, you will be able to stand tall and firm, being proud of the faith you have developed. Plus, it will make the journey of life so much more exciting and rewarding!

Making a commitment to grow in your faith isn't always easy, but there is no more rewarding thing you can do. It generally is more complicated or frustrating when you try to go it alone, so why not **join with your sisters and brothers in faith** and give it a try.

NCPC offers more than 1 option to help you develop your faith. So, read about your options in this newsletter and make a commitment to nurture your spiritual self. We offer classes in-person on Sunday and Tuesday mornings and during the evening on Tuesdays.

YOU are VERY IMPORTANT to GOD so BE PROACTIVE IN NURTURING YOUR SPIRITUAL SELF! Choose a class or study on your own but **DO SOMETHING TO GROW** and realize what a **GIFT** it is!

Remember that you are a "disciple" of Jesus Christ and "disciple" means **LEARNER**, so make learning a priority and let me know if you need any help or suggestions.



Blessings from your partner in ministry,

Carol



September 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Our Daily Bread	3
4 "Aloha Summer" Deacons' Meeting	5 Labor Day	6	7	8	9	10
11 Trustees' Meeting	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Session Meeting Ice Cream Social	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

02—First Friday @ Our Daily Bread

Fisher Anniversary

04—Deacons' Meeting

20—Donna Casey's Birthday

05—Barbara Bennett's Birthday

James Casey's Birthday

07—Janet Glaser's Birthday

18—Session Meeting

09—Bob Megonigal's Birthday

Ice Cream Social

10—Pat Deverell's Birthday

23—Cheryl Shields's Birthday

McBride/Easter Anniversary

26—Paul Willbanks's Birthday

11—Trustees' Meeting

30—Pamela Kidd's Birthday

Ken Hudson's Birthday

Donna Casey Anniversary

12—Schafer Anniversary

15—Rita Morris's Birthday

"Aloha Summer" - Please come in your Luau attire to help us say "Aloha" to the summer season!

Clerk's Report

On June 19th, the Session and the congregation were privileged to accept 2 new souls into the community of God with the Sacrament of Baptism for Beth Kramer and Jim Inners. It was a wonderful service and happy day for everyone.

Trustee, Fred Noll, attended the June meeting of the Session to present the recommendations of the Trustees pertaining to the new signage for the church. Investigations discovered that there were no permits for the current signs and that those signs were out of compliance with New Castle County zoning regulations. Our property is permitted only 1 sign and that sign should not exceed 20 square feet (4'x5'). We currently have 3 signs that are 4'x8'.

Although it is unlikely that the county would force us to remove our current signs unless there is a complaint, putting up brand new signs, that are also not in compliance with the regulations, could result in the county taking action. Fred's recommendation was that we go ahead with the new signage, but that we install a single double sided sign that is in compliance with the size regulations and the sign be placed at the entrance to the church on Jamison Corner Road. The advantages of these recommendations are that it will be less costly for our budget, we would be in compliance with regulations, and we would be free to issue complaints about any objectionable signage that might be built in the area around us as the area continues to develop. The Session agreed with the recommendations and voted to approve them.

The Session did not meet in July but they did meet on August 28th. Normal business items were handled including the transfer of membership for Carolee Burkey to her new church in South Carolina. Carol highlighted the Inquirers' Classes she offered during the summer which allowed quite a few folks to learn more about NCPC and the PCUSA and she encouraged one and all to nurture their spiritual lives by choosing one of the CE classes offered or doing some reading/study on their own.

A discussion was held about a new change: Lay Leaders will be invited/encouraged to not only lead the congregation through the first part of worship, but to stand with Carol after the service to answer any questions of visitors and possibly hand out First-Time Visitors bags. We want to do our best to make everyone feel comfortable and included.

One last tidbit: We have created a new Expense Voucher Form which can be found in a folder in the office in Paul Willbanks' (Treasurer) mailbox. Everyone is strongly encouraged to fill one out whenever you want to turn in receipts for expenses either for reimbursement or simply to allow the Treasurer to have a good estimate of our actual expenses. Please help us get a handle on what it costs to run this church, even if you are generously donating items for our ministry.



Yours in Christ,

Pat Wright, Clerk of Session



Mission Report

Our "First Friday" meal service at Our Daily Bread has been expanding in volume. We served over 100 meals on July 1st and 148 meals on August 5th. The need for food supplementation in our community has been rising, due a lot to the rising cost of food. With your help and God's grace we will continue to provide this much needed service to our neighbors in need.

Our mission to Neighborhood House also continues. Currently they are specifically requesting donations of Cereal, Soup, Peanut Butter and Jelly. These food items are in particular demand and short supply right now. Please check the expiration date on all food items!



Our Peace and Global Witness offering will begin Sunday September 4th and continue until World Communion Sunday on October 2nd. This year's Theme is "Led Forth in Peace: Critical Areas of Engagement for Peacemakers". They have identified 4 areas of critical concern: (1) Climate Change, (2) Nonviolence, (3) The Intersection of Poverty and Racism, (4) Immigration/Migration. 25% of this collection stays with our congregation for us to use in our community. 25% goes to the mid-councils and the remaining 50% goes to the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Funds have been used to fund educational assistance for veterans, to sponsor International Peacemakers to meet with congregations and mid-councils to discuss peace and justice in their areas, and to support the work of mission workers.



Nancy and Paul will give a presentation on their Mission to Kenya on Sunday September 18th at 6pm at the church. I encourage everyone to come. It will be a delightful, educational and inspiring evening.

Peace and God's Blessings to everyone,
Pat Wright, Mission Elder

FLAG FACTS

Happy Labor Day!

- The United States Flag, adopted on June 14, 1777, is the fourth oldest national flag in the world. Denmark's flag, adopted in 1210 is the oldest.
- A flag expert is called a "vexillologist".
- Since 1834, the U.S. flag has flown continuously next to the grave of the Revolutionary War hero, the Marquis de Lafayette, near Paris, France.
- June 14 was proclaimed Flag Day by President Woodrow Wilson in 1916. It did not receive its official Congressional designation until 1949.

Alice Megonigal

Buildings & Grounds

A wonderful donation of a quality keyboard was given to the church by Norma Dunn. This will replace the old piano as an alternative instrument for future use. We are purchasing a protective case that will keep our new addition from harm.

A Clean Up and Beautification Day is being planned for October. This will be a Saturday event and we will need plenty of hands to make quick work of all tasks. Stay tuned for a date and list of items to be addressed.

The New Entrance Sign has arrived. We await county approval of our permit application.

Fred Noll

Trustee Secretary



Ticks and Tick Disease

Did you know ticks are active all year long in this region? From late spring through early fall is the time of year when they are most active. It is important to take precautions to avoid a tick bite and the possibility of resultant tick disease - all year long.

Ticks commonly found in the northeastern area of the United States include the deer tick, lone and star tick, American dog tick, and the wood tick. Ticks are most commonly found in woods, marshy places, bushes, leaf litter and tall grass. Many tick borne diseases can be contracted simultaneously from one tick bite, but not every tick bite transmits disease. Some ticks are extremely small - the tick that transmits Lyme disease may be smaller than a sesame seed.

In order to enjoy the outdoors and at the same time avoid tick bites, wear long pants, and pants and long sleeves to help keep ticks off of your skin. Tuck your shirt into pants, and pants into socks to keep ticks on the outside of clothing. Wear light colored clothing to help you spot ticks more easily. Spray insect repellent on clothes and exposed skin; consult your pharmacist for the best type of repellent. Also talk to your vet about tick control products for your pets .

And remember, ticks can be found in your own backyard!

For more information visit <https://extension.umd.edu/hgic/topics/ticks-maryland>

Alice Megonigal

Fellowship

August

PUTT PUTT

The Putt Putt on August 12th was a great time. We are interested in doing this again!

POOL PARTY

Our August pool party was a great turnout and a fun time to spend with friends.

September

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

On the 18th we invite you to join us for an Ice Cream Social here, 6pm @NCPC. We will be having a wonderful PowerPoint presentation of Africa, provided by Nancy Carol Willis and Paul Wilbanks from their trip to Kenya.



Christian Education



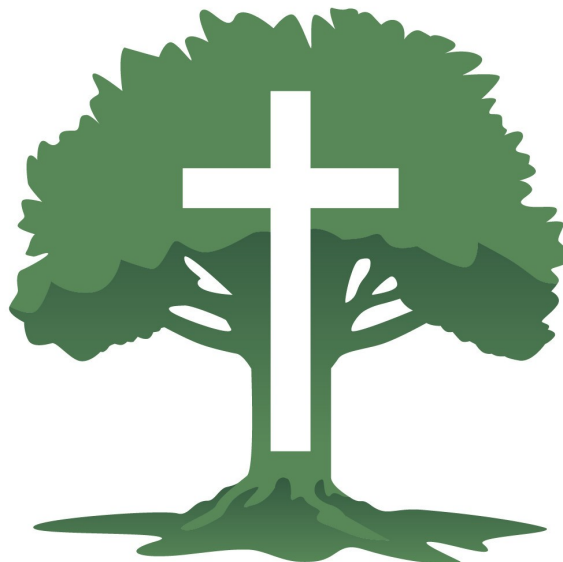
Our Adult Education classes have been on a summer break but it is now time to get back to nurturing our spiritual lives. Our classes begin the week of Sept. 11th. You have several different choices offered at NCPC:

Sunday mornings 8:30 AM and Tuesday mornings at 9:30 AM

- We will continue our study of Tim Mackie's (The Bible Project) series on Spiritual Disciplines
- These classes are offered in-person, but the Tuesday morning class is also offered online. Teacher – Carol Fisher

Tuesday evenings at 7:30 PM

- We will be doing an online study of Proverbs. The curriculum is a 12 week study by Crossway publishing, author – Lydia Brownback and Dane Ortlund. Teacher – Donna Casey



Technology Update

As my final semester at UDel begins, I would like to inform you of my updated hours: **Tuesdays from Noon- 2:30, Sundays after church on appointment.** Feel free to meet with me to address any of your tech needs on the spot or drop devices off for service. A call ahead is always appreciated, and you can reach me at (302)300-9049 or TechNewCov@gmail.com. I'd like to remind you that this service remains "name your price" but all proceeds are now going directly to me to help fund this unexpectedly expensive semester.

Some common needs that I have addressed are as follows (Does this sound like you?)

- "My computer is too slow" - I'll scan for viruses, fix how much junk is running in the background, and potentially upgrade you to a newer hard drive.
- "I bought this and need help setting it up" - Easy, just bring your old device and a computer.
- "___ will not connect to Wi-Fi/Bluetooth anymore" - I can usually fix this as long as it is not a printer, printers are the bane of my existence and bad for my blood pressure.
- "My phone/computer has too much junk on it" - With your computer present, we can back-up your phone and delete whatever is taking up space. We can delete or move files on your computer
- "I cannot access my email" - Could be because any number of reasons, but I can figure it out.
- "Something upgraded and now I can't find anything" - That is a pain. With a phone I can help you find the new location of things, and with a computer I can roll you back to your old Operating System.

Common Scams and How to Avoid Them:

- If someone calls you, NEVER wire transfer them money or buy them gift cards. The voice on the phone could be telling you there is an emergency with someone you know. Hang up and call them back on their cellphone.
- If a utility (internet, phone provider, etc) is calling you and says you owe an amount you were not aware of, hang up and call customer service from their number online.
- If your computer or cellphone says VIRUS or MICROSOFT SUPPORT, close out of everything you have open and restart your device. It is likely a pop-up ad that you clicked on by mistake. Feel free to contact me if this one happens and I can run a virus scan.

How You Can Support Your Church

Financial donations to church can be made by either:

1 - Mailing them directly to the church at:

New Covenant Presbyterian Church
Attn: Treasurer
1125 Jamison Corner Rd
Middletown, DE 19709

2. Contact your bank, and they can set up an automatic payment schedule so the donation can be sent to the church (at the address above) on a certain day each month – most banks offer this as a FREE service. This will save you a stamp and no need to remember if you sent in your offering.



3. We are also looking at accepting donations via PayPal – the only downside of that is that PayPal takes 2.2% of the donation (i.e. with a \$50 donation, the church gets \$48.90). Although I completely understand the ease of



PayPal, if you want 100% of your donation going to the church, it's best to have a check sent to the church. With PayPal you can make a one-time donation or automatically donate on a certain day each month.

Thank you for supporting the work and mission of New Covenant Presbyterian Church with your donation.

Yours in Christ,



Do you shop with Amazon? There is an easy method to have Amazon donate 0.5% (that is ½ of 1%) of your purchases to New Covenant Church. There is no charge to you and no increase in the price. I know 0.5% is not a lot of money but over time, if most of the church family uses smile.amazon.com, the money will add up. So if you are already using Amazon, why not have Amazon donate some money to us.

To quickly register to support the New Covenant Presbyterian Church [Click Here](#)

Then remember to use smile.amazon.com instead of amazon.com

Reach out to me if you need any assistance.

—Ben Urban