New Covenant Connection

New Covenant Presbyterian Church
www.newcov-church.org (302)378-4446

Dear friends,

I have never been very good at geography or history, and yet, when I picked up a book that I purchased long ago, its name caught my attention. The book is written by Barbara Brown Taylor and its name is *An Altar in the World - A Geography of Faith*. I had never thought of geography and faith being paired together, but I was glad that I delved into this book.

Many of us have learned that our world is becoming less tied or interested in "religion" or "religious institutions." But many people <u>are interested</u> in growing in their spirituality. Taylor shares that many people want to grow closer to God, but they find ways of doing this outside of the church. People seem to like collecting bits of wisdom from the four corners of the world which they use like a cook who has a pantry full of varied spices.

People seem to **"long"** for MORE meaning/ more feeling/ more connection/ more life. And many find this "MORE" in nature, love, art and even grief. And some even visit places where this MORE is supposed to be found, but all they seem to find are meaningless rituals.

This includes some of us "religious" people who are also vulnerable to this kind of longing. Some of us who are part of a community of faith have learned to be patient with the shortcomings of the institutional church, but we still have the sense that there's got to be **MORE.**

Many people have looked high and low for this MORE - through prayer, visiting holy sites or participating in a mission trip. It seems that the **LAST place** we want to find that **MORE is right under our feet** - in the everyday activities and encounters in our lives.

2025

A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR ..1

CALENDAR 3

(EVENTS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES)

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A Note From Our Pastor (Cont.)

No one seems to long for what he or she already has. And yet, accumulated insights suggest that the reason so many of us cannot see the **red X** that marks the spot is because we are standing on it. So, we don't need to travel all over the world to find that for which we are seeking. All that is needed is a willingness to imagine that we already have everything we need. We just need to learn to value right where we are.

Taylor speaks of a priest who asked her to come and talk with his church in Alabama. When she asked what he wanted her to speak about, his response was - **"Come and tell us what is SAVING your life now."** And this invitation cleared Taylor's mind and spirit to do some exploring and discernment.

Taylor shared that **What is Saving Her Life** changes with time, but when she wrote her book, her answer was - **"the conviction that there is no spiritual treasure to be found apart from the bodily experiences of human life on earth."** And that means that she recommends engaging in the most ordinary physical activities with the most careful attention we can give them.

This might mean to ignore the distinctions between the **sacred and the secular - the physical and the spiritual - and the body and the soul** because God can be found in all places. Taylor says that what is TRULY saving her life is **BECOMING MORE FULLY HUMAN** - TRUSTING THAT THERE IS NO WAY TO GOD, APART FROM REAL LIFE IN THE REAL WORLD.

Taylor uses her book to share insights on various practices that help her (and can help us) to live out our longing for MORE. This includes practices like Visioning - Reverence - Incarnation - Groundedness - Wilderness - Community - Vocation, etc. And she points out that many of these practices require our physical bodies to be involved, and they bring pleasure without being particularly holy. Even so, these practices can change our lives little by little, just like how dripping water can change a stone over time.

It is Taylor's hope, and mine as well, that we will take the time to purposefully participate in some of these practices, because they have the power to save us as individuals, and save the church which seems to be running out of breath. Maybe we need to consider reading such books in hopes that they might help us recognize some of the altars in the world - ordinary-looking places where human beings have met, and may continue to meet up, with the **divine MORE that they sometimes call God.**

I close with Taylor's premise that "Wherever you are, you live in the world, which is just waiting for you to notice the holiness in it. So, welcome to your own priesthood, practiced at the altar of your very own life. The good news is that you have everything you need to begin."

Happy Advent and Merry Christ-mas, dear friends -

Your partner in ministry, *Carol*

December 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Deacons' Mtg@ 10	2	3	4	5 Our Daily Bread	6
7	8	9	10	11 Session Mtg 10 am	12	13
14 Cong. Mtg. & Trustee Mtg-11:30	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Wor-ship 7 pm	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

PLEASE NOTE *TIME & DATE CHANGES:* DEACONS NOW MEET ON THE MONDAY FOLLOWING THE 1ST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH AT 10 AM (with some exceptions); TRUSTEES CONTINUE ON THE 2ND SUNDAY FOLLOWING WORSHIP; SESSION NOW MEETS ON THE WEDNESDAY FOLLOWING THE 3RD SUNDAY AT 1 PM (with some exceptions)

EVERY SUNDAY - WORSHIP AT 10 AM; FELLOWSHIP 11AM; CHRIST. ED - SUNDAY(8:30 AM) AND TUESDAY (10:30 AM)

12/1 Deacon's Meeting 10am

12/5 Mike Easter's Birthday
First Friday @ Our Daily Bread

12/7 Advent 2 Worship with Communion
Carolyn and Paul Stoecker's Anniver.

12/8 Jordan Fitch's Birthday

12/9 Ivonne Bernal's Birthday

12/10 Al Grimminger's Birthday

12/14 Advent 3 Worship
Congregational Meeting
Trustee Meeting 11:30am

12/16 Jacalynn Easter's Birthday

12/17 Session Meeting 1 pm

12/20 Elizabeth Harlan's Birthday

12/21 Advent 4 Worship

12/24 Christmas Eve Worship

12/28 1st Sunday of Christmas
Danielle Sawyer's Birthday

Reports from the Clerk and Trustees

CLERK'S REPORT

The Session met on November 5, 2025. The minutes of the Stated Meeting of September 24th were approved and the next Stated Meeting is scheduled for December 11th. The Session voted to officially remove Paul Willbanks, Nancy Carol Willis and Donna Casey from the membership rolls because they have informed us that they have joined other congregations. It was determined that new keypad locks would be put on the doors of the Office and Conference/Storage Room because there have been some incidences of unauthorized use of the rooms by people other than our congregation. A Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday December 14th immediately following worship to elect the slate of officers for 2026 and to elect the 2026 Nominating Committee members.

Treasurer: treasurernewcov@gmail.com Pastor: pastornewcov@gmail.com

Yours in Christ, Pat Wright, Clerk

TRUSTEE REPORT:

The Trustee Meetings are open to all and they are normally scheduled each month on the 2nd Sunday after Worship. Our next Trustee Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, 14 Dec 2025. We are looking at what we may want to do to increase the security around our property with all the construction going on around us.

We still need some landscaping around the main electrical connection so we don't hit it when mowing the grass, or moving vehicles around that area. This may have to wait until spring

Still waiting for approval from Blenheim Builders before we order our sign(s) to let people know how to get into our church more easily. Approval should come shortly.

The cleaning out of our storage room in the CE Building **IS COMPLETE** finally!. Much progress has been made to make it a Conference/Storage Room. Painting is done and the blinds are hung. We added another shelving unit, hung blinds and installed a large curtain to separate the meeting area from the storage area. Hallelujah - we're done! Make use of this space because it has a frig (with freezer), a microwave, coffee maker and a cabinet to store food and/or supplies. Thanks to all for your help!

The Bindu Bhetalam "Indian Food Trailer" is on hold because of some issues between the partners. They also tried to serve lunch, but that did not work out for them.

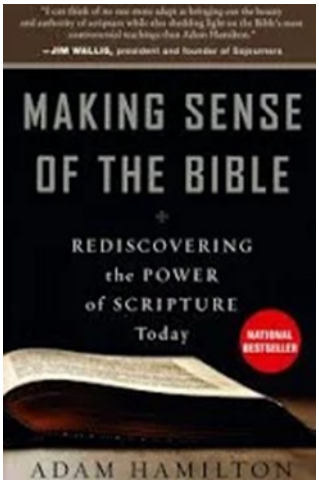
If there are any questions or comments you would like to make, please let us know. You can use my e-mail address: al.grimminger@icloud.com

Your Friendly Trustees,

Al Grimminger, Bill Shields, & Bob Megonigal

Christian Education Report

Christian Education Classes



We have a great group of folks enjoying classes based on Adam Hamilton's *Making Sense of the Bible - Rediscovering the Power of Scripture Today*. We have covered the first 3 sections of the book (The Nature of Scripture, the Old Testament, and the New Testament) and we have a lot more to which to look forward.

Hamilton invites us into an honest conversation about the Bible and the book helps to address some very common questions. Class members find Hamilton's approach to be very inviting as they begin to better understand and appreciate often misunderstood biblical themes. Come one and all to join in the learning and fun!

Jane Adams,
Christian Education Elder

INTERESTING CHRISTMAS TRIVIA

* A surprising fact about Christmas is that the song "Jingle Bells" was originally written for the Thanksgiving holiday in 1857 and later became a popular Christmas song. Additionally, the tradition of eating KFC for Christmas is surprisingly popular in Japan, while Christmas was banned in both England and colonial Boston at different points in history.
* This claim is true: *Jingle Bells* was not originally a Christmas song. It was written by James Lord Pierpont and published in 1857 under the title "One Horse Open Sleigh" and is believed to have been composed for a Thanksgiving celebration, possibly in Medford, Massachusetts. The song's association with Christmas came later, decades after its initial release.
* Christmas was made illegal in England and colonial Boston due to the Puritan belief that the holiday was a wasteful, pagan celebration with no biblical justification. English Parliament banned it in 1647, and the Massachusetts Bay Colony followed suit in 1659, penalizing those who observed it through feasting or by not working.
* Did you know that the "X" in Xmas is religious because it is a stand-in for the Greek letter Chi (X), which is the first letter of the Greek word for Christ, *Christós*. Therefore, "Xmas" is a religious abbreviation that reverently shortens the word for Christ.

Mission Report

Our Daily Bread: We served 180+ meals on First Friday in November. This seems to be the new normal number. This was the 3rd straight month with 180+ meal. ODB continues to assist us with some of the ingredients and supplies for the meal. If anyone is interested the "Saturday Sandwich" program is ongoing. It only requires 1-1.5 hours on a Saturday morning to make some sandwiches to be placed in the Community Refrigerator for the weekend. Contact Pat Wright or ODB directly at ourdailybread.2016@gmail.com

Neighborhood House: We continue to collect non-perishable food and personal care products for Neighborhood House. There is a constant, increasing need for assistance in our greater community.

Winter Warmth for Others: We are collecting gently used or new warm clothing through **Dec. 6th.** Winter is upon us and there are those in our community who are in need of coats, gloves, hats and scarves for the winter. So check the backs of your closets for those items that you have forgotten were there and you do not use anymore. Someone out there will be able to use them.

Christmas Joy Offering: This offering began Sunday November 30th which is the first Sunday of Advent. Through the Christmas Joy Offering, we reflect God's perfect gift to us, with support of church leaders past, present and future, who have pointed us to God. We honor and celebrate leaders like retired pastors, church workers and their families who have faithfully guided and led us but who now find themselves in critical financial need. We honor and celebrate emerging leaders like students in schools and colleges equipping communities of color, who develop leadership skills as they pursue their education and prepare to bring their gifts in service to the world God loves so much. This offering is split equally between the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and the Presbyterian-related schools that equip communities of color (Menaul School, Albuquerque, NM; Presbyterian Pan American School, Kingsville, TX; Stillman College, Tuscaloosa, AL)

Operation Christmas Child: On November 16th we dedicated 100 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes from our congregation and the Korean church so generously gave for children around the world. The Leesons delivered them to Connections Church which is our area's Operation Christmas Child collection site. From there they will be brought to the processing center in Baltimore where they are checked to be sure they don't have anything that's not allowed. They will be divided by age group and gender and boxed accordingly. The next step in the journey is shipping them out to children all around the world. Special thanks to all who donated, packed and contributed to the shipping costs. What an amazing accomplishment for our congregation! We are blessed to be a blessing to others!

Pat Wright, Mission Elder

Personnel Report

CHRISTMAS LOVE OFFERING FOR OUR STAFF

As the season of giving is upon us, we take time to remember those who do so much for all of us. Our Pastor, Carol Fisher, is our spiritual leader who guides our congregation in a very efficient, loving way. Jenny Hugh, our Pianist and Bell Choir Director, amazes us with her musical talent and her ability to gather volunteers to provide bell music for worship. Pat Wright, our Office Administrator, manages to pull together our worship slides and helps with the monthly newsletter PLUS a whole lot of other things! In addition, Pat is also our Clerk of Session.

We are so fortunate to have this staff who goes above and beyond what we ask of them. So, we want to show our appreciation and say "thank you." Won't you consider a special monetary gift so we can share some love with all of them? There are inserts and envelopes at the rear of the sanctuary for this purpose, or you can use the form at the bottom of this page to indicate how you want your offering designated. Please turn them in to Pam Leeson or Judy Cooke (our Personnel committee members) **no later than December 21st** so that we can share our gifts with the staff on Christmas Eve. Thanks to all for your generosity!

Pam Leeson,

Personnel Chairperson

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I wish my donation to be divided in the following manner:

Amount

$_____ Carol Fisher

$_____ Jenny Hugh

$_____ Pat Wright

$_____ **Total Amount of Offering**

(Checks made out the NCPC)

Ministry of Fellowship

The Shields held a Harvest Party on November 1st. Everyone was encouraged to bring canned goods for Neighborhood House and covered dishes to share with revelers. Fun was enjoyed by all.

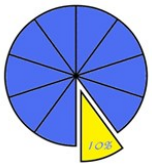
Then, on Sunday, 11/16, which was our Stewardship Commitment Sunday, we enjoyed a Celebration Potluck meal following worship. Since we had Frank Cerniglia's memorial service the day before, and we had food leftover, we all enjoyed a delicious meal. Thanks to all who made 2026 Financial Commitments so that the Session can begin to budget for the coming year.

Don't miss out the fun and fellowship at the **Christmas Potluck Dinner** on **12/14 at 5:30 pm.** It is a "pot blessing" meal with fried chicken provided. Everyone is invited to bring a side dish, salad or dessert to make this a festive, tasty evening meal. PLUS, there will be entertainment to delight you and to get you in the Christmas spirit. Please sign up at church or call Cheryl (302-602-1638) to provide a head count. You can even bring a friend but please SIGN UP. Can't wait for the fun, fellowship and great food!

Join the Fishers for an Open House
202 Aberdeen Way, Townsend, DE

December 21st 2-5 PM

Stewardship Report



It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery. **Galatians 5:1**

Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices – mint, dill and cumin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law – justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former. **Matthew 23:23**

Behind Christian stewardship is the notion of **RESPONSIBILITY**. Unlike its close relatives – ***duty and obligation*** (weighty words that tend to bog us down and suggest that life is a series of things we have to do), responsibility has a different meaning. A combination of ***response*** and ***able***, responsibility means "capable of response." A responsible person is someone who is capable of responding. A responsible person is free to decide the appropriate thing to do.

Jesus warned the Pharisees about their legalistic attitude toward the tithe. They were intent on tithing everything, from spices in their kitchen spice racks to the ketchup, mustard and soy sauce on the inside of their refrigerator doors. This was tithing in the extreme that sapped stewardship of its joy.

The antidote to such legalism is Christian freedom. In Galatians 5, the apostle Paul describes the nature of freedom in Christ. It is not simply the freedom to do whatever we want. Instead, it is about internalizing the rules for spirited, graceful living. To experience something fully, you have to internalize its rules, making them part of your constitution.

Here is one example. Novice skiers are obsessed with control. They hold their bodies stiff, moving with awkward, wooden motions. When they come to a steep downhill, they tighten everything up, virtually guaranteeing that they will fall. They need constant encouragement: "Loosen up. Let your legs move with the bumps and dips. Stay low and let it flow."

At first the rules are external. It is not until novice skiers begin to internalize the feel of skiing, the motions, the sense of balance and relaxed control, that they are able to experience the joy and freedom to go where the trail leads.

That is the kind of freedom that characterizes Christian stewardship. We need to internalize the patterns of living in Christian freedom. Those patterns need to become such a part of us that we do them without even having to think about them.

Occasionally we meet someone for whom the rules of Christian living seem to come so easily. But the very ease with which they are able to live out those internalized rules is the result of months (perhaps years) of making them part of themselves. Usually, such people are not obsessed with being in control of their lives. They are far more concerned with responding obediently to the life God gives them.

For freedom Christ has set us free, which includes stewardship. Christ opens a gate for us and invites us in. But it is not a trackless wilderness filled with the danger of losing our way or becoming ensnared in pitfalls. The Spirit marks a path. The environs are lush and lively where opportunities abound. So, do not be afraid to seize them with all your heart.

Barbara Bookhart
Elder for Finance & Stewardship

Treasurer's Finance Report

Key Points:

- Cash flows in Jun, Aug and Sept were in a negative position but overall Cash flow is favorable.
- Operating expenses average around **$11,000 per month**.
- Approximately **92% of pledged donations** have now been received, supporting the current surplus.
- As the remaining 7% of pledged income is received in December, it is anticipated that the financial position will adjust closer to the budgeted loss of approximately $6,582 by year-end.

Financial Summary YTD 2025		**Jan-Nov**
Operating Revenue:		
Revenue:		**148,633.18**
Expenditures:		
Build/Prop	25,267.97	
Personnel	88,670.78	
Other Exp	8,507.79	
Net Expenditures		**122,446.54**
Net Operating Rev		**26,186.64**
Other Revenue (aka Funds):		
Income		
Fund	3,677.05	
Passthrough	343.89	
Net Other Revenue		**4,020.94**
Change to Net Assets (aka Prof/Loss)		**30,207.58**

Note: Actuals include In Kind Donations and Expense

Note: Net Other Revenue is the change to Fund Bals this year. Total Fund balance is $60,352

Hello Congregation,

You may recall I took over as Treasurer in January of this year from Paul Willbanks. Though I do have experience as a corporate Controller by day, I found I had to educate myself on some specific rules around accounting for a Non Profit organization. One of the major changes we made was tracking In-Kind donations. I thought I'd share with you what I learned. Please feel free to ask me to explain any of this in person to you. Yours in Christ, Carol L. McBride (Jr.)

Understanding Financial Statements:

Differences Between Companies and Non-Profit Organizations

Financial statements provide vital information about an organization's financial health and performance. While companies and non-profit organizations both prepare financial statements, the nature and terminology of these statements differ significantly due to their distinct missions and reporting requirements.

1. Key Financial Statements and Their Names

For Companies:

◊ **Balance Sheet:** Also known as the *Statement of Financial Position*, it outlines the company's assets, liabilities, and shareholders' equity at a specific point in time.
◊ **Income Statement:** Often called the *Profit and Loss Statement*, it reports revenues, expenses, and the resulting profit or loss over a period.

For Non-Profit Organizations:

◊ **Balance Sheet:** Also called the *Statement of Financial Position*, it shows assets, liabilities, and *net assets* (equivalent to equity but with different classification).
◊ **Statement of Activities:** Instead of a profit or loss, this statement reports revenues, expenses, and changes in net assets over a period.

2. The Core Difference: Profit and Loss vs. Change in Net Assets

◊ **For Companies:** The income statement measures *profit or loss*, which indicates whether the organization made money or lost money during the period. The bottom line is net income, which increases shareholders' equity.
◊ **For Non-Profits:** The *Statement of Activities* reports *changes in net assets*. These net assets are similar to equity but are categorized into *unrestricted*, *temporarily restricted*, and *permanently restricted* net assets. The focus is on how the organization's assets have changed, not on profit.

Treasurer's Report (Cont.)

3. Revenue and Expenses: Operating Results and Fund Accounting

In a Business:

◊ Revenue minus expenses equals net income. This net income can be distributed to owners or shareholders.

In a Non-Profit (e.g., a Church or Charity):

◊ The organization distinguishes between *operating activities* and *fund accounting*.

Net Operating (Operating Activities):

◊ This area includes revenues from donations, member contributions, or service fees minus expenses related to the core mission. Donations can be cash or "In-Kind". The difference (Revenue - Expenses) is called *Net Operating* and reflects the organization's core activity performance to run the church.

Other Revenue (Fund Accounting and Pass-Throughs):

◊ Other *revenue* includes grants, pass-through funds, or unrestricted contributions that are not part of the core operating activities. Pass-through funds are collected by the church and remitted to a third party. An example would be "Our Daily Bread" donation or the "Peacemaking" offering that goes to the Presbytery.

◊ Non-profits often have multiple funds to track restrictions or purposes of specific donations (e.g., building funds, scholarship funds).

◊ Revenues and expenses tied to these funds are reported separately but contribute to overall changes in net assets.

Combining the Results:

◊ The *Net Operating* result plus *Other Revenue* (from funds and pass-throughs) together equal the *Change in Net Assets*.

◊ This comprehensive figure shows the overall increase or decrease in the organization's net assets during the period.

4. What Is an In-Kind Donation?

An **in-kind donation** is a contribution of goods or services rather than cash. Examples include donated furniture, equipment, or professional services such as legal or medical assistance. In-kind donations are an important source of support for non-profits, especially when cash donations are limited.

Accounting for In-Kind Donations:

Recognizing in-kind donations ensures the organization accurately reflects the total value of resources received, which supports transparency and accountability

◊ In-kind donations are recorded as both revenue and an expense (or asset) at their fair market value.

◊ For example, if a company donates office furniture valued at $5,000, the non-profit records this as *In-Kind Revenue* and an *Asset* (like furniture or equipment).

5. Summary: Key Takeaways

Aspect	Company	Non-Profit Organization
Main Financial Statement	Income Statement (Profit & Loss)	Statement of Activities (Change in Net Assets)
Core Measure	Profit or Loss	Change in Net Assets
Balance Sheet Term	Statement of Financial Position	Statement of Financial Position
Revenue Recognition	Sales, services, investments	Donations, grants, program revenues
Expenses	Operating expenses	Program expenses, administrative expenses, fundraising
Special Focus	Profitability	Sustainability and ability to sustain mission

6. Conclusion

While both organizations prepare similar financial statements, their purpose and terminology differ. Companies focus on profitability, with net income as the key measure. Non-profits emphasize changes in net assets, reflecting their mission-driven nature and reliance on donations and grants. Recognizing these differences is crucial for understanding nonprofit financial health and for accurate reporting and analysis.

Worship

ADVENT—A SEASON OF HOPE AND EXPECTATION
HAPPY ADVENT TO ONE AND ALL!

We began this holy season on Nov. 30th and will enjoy 4 Sundays of special Advent liturgy and messages. Please seriously consider joining in this important season as we prepare for the birth of our Lord. Each Sunday of Advent we will have lay readers do our Call to Worship and Light the Advent Wreath. What a great time of year this is, when we see many friends taking part in worship!

Several people joined together to help **decorate the sanctuary tree with chrismons as well as our sanctuary on Nov. 29th and on 11/30.** If you are fairly new to New Covenant, you may not have had the opportunity to learn about and enjoy these decorations. The word is a combination of "Christ" and "monogram (meaning symbol). The basic idea is of telling the story of Christ through ornaments to be hung on a Christmas tree. Since Christmas celebrates the birth of the Son of God, it certainly makes sense to share the Good News, not only about Christ's birth, but about his whole life. If you haven't received a Chrismon booklet previously, there are a few copies at the rear of the sanctuary. Learn and enjoy!

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU!

Plan on joining with your church family and any family and guests whom you would like to invite to worship on Christmas Eve. We will have a Candlelight and Communion Service of Lessons and Carols which begins at 7 pm. You will have two opportunities to give thanks and praise to our God on Christmas Eve as you worship with those you love!

NCPC CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS

If you would be interested in having a New Covenant Christmas ornament, we have some available. Just ask and we will give you one. You might consider making a donation as a way of saying "thank you." Any donations would be appreciated.

Barbara Montazella
Worship Elder

Outreach

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift you have. *1 Peter 4:10*

Each Sunday, we begin worship by *Sharing Our Vision*. It is always posted on the bulletin and monitor, and it is also displayed on a large banner on the front church wall. Nancy Carol Willis designed the banner and contributed to the wording of the vision along with a committee and session. The message is one of faith and commitment for loving and caring for the world. And yet, do we sometimes say it without paying attention to the words? Congregations are constantly changing as new members join and others leave. Repeated messages ensure that everyone, including newcomers, hears and understands the congregation's core vision.

A memorial service was held on November 15th for Frank Cerniglia. As Elder for the Outreach committee, I was grateful for his creative ideas and assistance. He was instrumental in designing a reusable tote bag with the church's name, logo and a brief message. The message is, "It's Building Faith Through Community." Frank also suggested we have a church "business" or "ministry" card to hand out as a sort of invitation to join us at New Covenant. Now, when someone in the grocery store inquires about the church, I hand them a church ministry card. At Frank's memorial service, several folks told of his creative ideas and the actions that resulted. Frank was a man of faith. We rejoice that he is eternally united with Christ, but we will surely miss him in our midst.

Together We Grow and Meet Needs,
Beverly Cook,
Outreach Elder

Frog Corner

F.R.O.G. CORNER: ***Forever Rely on God***

Don't forget the meaning behind the acronym **R I B B I T :**
Revere, ***I***nvite, ***B***less, ***I***nspire, and ***T***rust in the Lord.

A Four Year Old's Description of Creation:

In the beginning, which was close to the start, there wasn't anything except God, darkness and some gas. The Bible says, "The Lord, thy God, is one," but I think he has to be much older than that. Anyway, God made the world and then he said, "Give me some light," and somebody gave it to him. God split an atom and made Eve. Adam and Eve didn't wear any clothes, but they weren't embarrassed because God hadn't invented mirrors yet. Adam and Eve sinned by eating one bad apple and they were driven out of the Garden of Eden. I'm not sure what God drove them in because he hadn't invented cars yet either. Adam and Eve's son, Cain, hated his brother as long as he was Abel. After a while, all of the first people died, except Methuselah, who lived to be, like, a million years old.

Q: What do you call a sleep walking Nun?
A: Roamin' Catholic!

Q: What did the church mice preachers proclaim to the lost mice?
A: 'Get Cheesus!'

A Man Praying to God:

A man is praying to God, saying that he follows all the commandments. Then he adds, "I don't live in vain, so could you please grant me one wish?" God responds, "What would you like, my son?" And the man asks God to build a bridge from California to Hawaii and back. Then God says "That's kind of a tall order. Can you give me something easier? Then the man says "Okay, God tell me everything there is to know about a woman, and why she thinks the way she does." And then God says, "So do you want a two lane or a four lane bridge!?"

Nativity Puns:

- "No room for negativity. Only LOVE in this Inn."
- "Frankly, these gifts are incense-ational."
- "Holy Cow! This stable scene is udderly amazing!"
- "Fleece Navidad - Because shepherds rock!"
- "Glow ahead and let your light shine like the Star of Bethlehem."