New Covenant Connection

New Covenant Presbyterian Church

www.newcov-church.org (302)378-4446

Dear friends,

Having just returned from a fabulous vacation in Florida and in the Bahamas (Freeport, Grand Bahama), I have several thoughts about what I learned on this trip that I want to share with you. First of all, many of you have heard me say that the "beach is my happy place" and it couldn't have been more true than on this trip. But the main thing I want to share is **HOW OUR BLESSINGS ABOUNDED!**

We started by flying into Orlando and then renting a car to drive to Daytona Beach. When we arrived at the Grand Seas Resort (which was a timeshare we rented), we couldn't believe how much the rain and high water how damaged the beach which was directly next to this resort.

Most of the beach had washed away, which would have been disheartening for many, but it didn't sway us from our goal of thoroughly enjoying our oceanfront room which looked down on 2 outdoor pools and a hot tub, which were right next to the ocean.

As you can probably imagine, this was a place that transported me to a stress-free place in my mind, and I intentionally did not take my computer so that I could unplug from work for a couple of weeks. Besides the natural beauty of this place and the perfect weather, I met a new friend who delivered a **BLESSING** to me.

At the pool, I started talking to a woman with whom I had something in common because she was a pastor too. We had several chats while Jay was out trying to catch a wave on his boogie board, and I think we were both **BLESSED** by our new friendship.

2025

A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR ..1

CALENDAR 3

(EVENTS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES)

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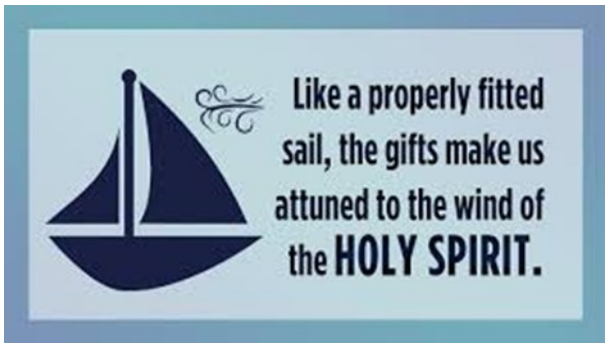
A Note From Our Pastor (Cont.)



We chatted about many things and then my friend decided that she needed to leave early since her daughter was coming for a visit. And lo and behold she gave us her room for an extra night and it was even nicer than our own room. Thank you, God for this **BLESSING**!

Then we drove down to Port St. Lucie to visit with Brian and Landa Lindgren for one night before all four of us flew to the Bahamas for 6 nights. It is always a blessing to renew ties with old friends and we were certainly **BLESSED** by our time together.

When we arrived in Freeport, we saw a lot of devastation of trees and homes which had been damaged by hurricanes and now Hurricane Melissa is devastating much of Jamaica and the surrounding areas. It was also a challenge for Jay to learn to drive on the opposite side of the street. And so I wisely asked Brian to sit up front and help him navigate. Thank you Lord for this **BLESSING**!

We had many wonderful opportunities to enjoy the beach and food and time to relax at the pool and hot tub. And then God delivered **ANOTHER BLESSING** in some friends we met there. We met a couple who were there getting work done on their catamaran in preparation for their trip around the world with their 5 children (ages 13-20). It was fascinating to learn about them and their trip and our new friendship began to flourish.

They learned that things happen at a slow, relaxed speed in the Bahamas so the work they needed done took longer than they had planned and their time at the resort was running out. Then Jay had the idea to share our **BLESSINGS** with them. We had some RCI points which we donated to get them another week at the resort and we hope and pray that it will **BLESS** their endeavors.

There was a shopping area in which we visited an art gallery. The owner/artist was named Leo Brown who is a Christian artist who uses his artwork to share the Good News. While we were waiting to sign up for a Glass-Bottom Boat Trip, he shared his story with us and again, we were **BLESSED.** I hope to share one of his prints with you soon.

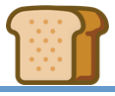
Just before we left for the airport, our new friend with whom we shared some RCI points in order to provide them with a place to stay stopped by for a visit to say THANK YOU for blessing their family. She cried and so did I because I felt privileged to be able to help another of God's children. Another **BLESSED** moment.

Friends, I hope you are keeping your eyes and ears and hearts open to all the blessings that surround us each day. If we aren't open to see and receive them, we could be missing them. So, remember my vacation story and make the most of every day that you have, and I bet that you will **DISCOVER SOME BLESSINGS** because I truly believe that they abound but **WE WILL ONLY BE BLESSED IF WE ARE OPEN TO SEEK, FIND AND GIVE THANKS FOR THEM!**

Your partner in ministry,

Carol

November 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Harvest Party & Daylight Savings Time Change
2	3 Deacons' Mtg@ 10	4	5 Session Mtg 10 am	6	7 Our Daily Bread 	8
9 Trustee Mtg; @ 11:30	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 Stewardship-Celebration Potluck	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 Advent 1 / 30	24	25	26	27	28	39

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)

11/1 Harvest Party at Shield's
11/2 21st Sunday after Pentecost
11/3 Birthday - Bonnie Lawrence
11/3 Deacon's Meeting 10am
11/6 Birthday – Sandy Phillips
11/7 First Friday @ Our Daily Bread
11/9 22nd Sunday after Pentecost
11/9 Trustee Meeting 11:30am
11/14 Birthday - Skip Leeson

11/16 23rd Sunday after Pentecost
11/19 Session Meeting 1pm
11/23 Christ the King Sunday
11/23 Birthday – Russ Morris
11/25 Birthday – Jim Driscoll
11/27 Thanksgiving Day
11/30 1st Sunday of Advent

Reports from the Clerk and Trustees

CLERK'S REPORT

The Session met on September 24, 2025 and approved the minutes from the July Meeting. No meeting was held in August and the October meeting has been rescheduled for November 5th. The Session also approved changing budget line item from "building use" to "property use" to reflect donations from food truck(s) in the parking lot.

The calendar for the Presbytery meetings for 2025 is as follows:

December 3rd (by Zoom only) - Jane Adams & Carol Fisher

At the September 20th Presbytery Meeting, the Assembly approved a 2% increase in the pastors' salary and pension contributions as well as a $500 increase in the Educational Allowance. It was announced that Tracy Keenan, Missional Presbyter will be retiring at the end of this year. Cindy Kohlmann, our Connectional Presbyter and Stated Clerk, will become Lead Presbyter & Stated Clerk, with the eventual hiring of two other presbyters.

NOTE: There will be a **Memorial Service for Frank Cerniglia** to be held at church on November 8th at 11 am, followed by a light lunch. If you wish to donate some food for this, contact Pam Leeson or Pat Wright.

Our membership: remains at 46. Email Addresses: Office: newcov.office2@gmail.com

Clerk: clerk.ncpc24@gmail.com

Yours in Christ,
Pat Wright, Clerk

TRUSTEE REPORT:

The Trustee Meetings are open to all and is normally scheduled each month on the 2nd Sunday after worship. Our next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, 9 Nov 2025.

We are still looking at what we may want to do to increase the security around our property with all the construction going on around us.

We are still in need of some landscaping around the main electrical/lighting connection so we don't hit it with a mower or a car when it pulls up near the building. Still considering ideas for this project.

Still waiting for approval from Blenheim Builders before we order our sign(s) to let people know how to navigate through the new neighborhood next to our church property.

The cleaning out of our storge room in the CE Building is in progress with a few changes to this room to make it a Storage/Conference Room. New lights have been installed and the shelving painted; before long, the walls should be painted, a dividing curtain installed to hide the storage area, and the new blinds and valance installed. Work continues.

A TV has been put up on the wall in the Library, with a remote hanging on the wall right next to it.

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 & Blessing Report

Christian Education Classes

The new Christian Education study, using the book *Making Sense of the Bible; Re-discovering the Power of Scripture Today* by Adam Hamilton, began the last Sunday in October. The first lesson covered the first 2 chapters. This class is offered on Sunday mornings at 8:30 and Tuesdays at 10:30 (also via zoom and recorded).

This promises to be an intriguing and thought/conversation provoking study, so please consider joining us.

Skip Leeson began the New Testament study of the Bethel series following worship, but due to limited participation, this study is currently on hold.

Remember friends that we are called to be DISCIPLES which means “learner” so keep on taking opportunities to grow in your faith!

Jane Adams,

Christian Education Elder

Blessings Abound at NCPC!

Many thanks to the Girl Scouts and Carol L. McBride for decorating our mobile herb garden with fall décor. This planted has been placed outside of the building and it beautifully decorates our entryway for the season. Thanks Carol and your crew!

Mission Report

Our Daily Bread: We served 190 meals on First Friday, in October. The number of meals regularly being served each day has risen significantly in the past several months. This seems to reflect a growing need for some level of food subsidy in our greater community. The good news is that the community itself and the businesses in the community are finding a way to share their excess food with those who are in need of help. Truly this is God at work in our community. The Our Daily Bread Fund, collected each month on the first Sunday, continues to fund the cost of preparing our First Friday meal. We will skip the November ODB special collection, and instead use that communion Sunday to have a special collection for the cost of mailing the Christmas Child Shoeboxes. It takes **$10 to ship each box** and ODB is currently well funded.

Neighborhood House: We continue to collect non-perishable food items for Neighborhood House. At this time there is a particular need for spaghetti/pasta, sauce, and jelly but any non-perishable food item is welcomed with open arms. The hunger and food insecurity in our community has not gone away and there is a constant need for both food and personal items.

Christmas Joy Offering: Our next Offering will be the Christmas Joy Offering. The collections will begin just after Thanksgiving on November 30th and will conclude on December 21st just before Christmas. 100% of this Offering is sent to the PCUSA Mission Fund to support the Board of Pensions and PCUSA affiliated schools and colleges.

We collected $657 for the Peace and Global Witness Offering in September. 25% of that stays with our congregation. Thank you to all for so generously supporting all of our special offerings each year. We can and do make a difference in our community and in our world. We help God's light shine!

Operation Christmas Child: We have had a lot of fun packing our shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child during the Fellowship Hour. So many of you have very generously donated the supplies we needed to fill the boxes. We have an abundance of toys, school supplies, personal hygiene items, t-shirts, and of course the must have soft "stuffie". To date we have packed 83 boxes and our friends in the Korean Church added 12 more. We still have more things to fill more boxes…stay tuned for another packing party! We will be taking an offering to help cover the shipping cost on November 2nd and hope to dedicate the boxes November 16th. They will be sent on their way after that! Thanks, Pam and Skip Leeson

Pat Wright,

Mission Elder

Deacons' & Fellowship Report

Ever consider where the idiom "by the skin of your teeth" came from? It means narrowly. It comes from the Book of Job (19:20) where Job says, "I escaped with the skin of my teeth, meaning he barely survived. Well, we survived our last Deacons' meeting, in spite of the fact that several of our own were not available or needing help. As shepherds, we strive to keep our flocks up to date and to provide care, also keeping the Prayer List current. If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact your shepherd or another deacon.

The Luncheon at the Augustine Tavern was sensational. We plan on having another luncheon at a different location in February and once a quarter thereafter.

The Shields will host a Harvest Party on November 1st. Everyone is encouraged to bring canned goods for Neighborhood House and covered dishes to share with revelers.

On Sunday, 11/16, we will have our annual Stewardship Celebration Potluck meal following worship. This will be after Commitment Sunday during worship, and we will gather in celebration of our upcoming 2026 ministry.

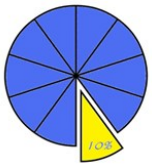
Take note that from Nov 21-23 the Everett offers *A Christmas Story*.

On Dec 14th, we will have our Potluck Christmas Dinner where fried chicken will be provided and everyone is encouraged to bring a side dish or dessert.

Also during November and December, we will be collecting warm clothes, coats, gloves, scarves, hats for a drive going on. It would be nice, if possible, to invite some of our homebound folks and bring them to this celebration. Poinsettias will be shared with them to decorate their homes.

God is always good,
The Deacons

Stewardship & Finance



Financial Update from the Treasurer - Carol L. McBride

September 2025 Financials 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. Donations from the Food Trucks have helped supplement this.
- As the remaining 7% of pledged income is received from October to December, it is anticipated that the financial position will adjust closer to the budgeted loss of approximately $6,582 by year-end.
- We **owe $1,440 for Per Capita and we have only received $420 from some of you.** We owe $30 for each member to support our denomination (New Castle Presbytery, The Synod of the Mid Atlantic, and General Assembly) because we are a connectional church; we are not lone wolves. Please consider doing your part by making a donation for each person in your family.

January - September 2025

REVENUE	**ACTUAL**
Revenue	
General Fund	$132,403,35
Other Income	$750.44
Total Revenue	**$133,153.79**
Expenditures	
Building/Property	22,503.98
Personnel	$74,136.28
Other Expenses	$7,034.44
Net Expenditures	**$103,674.70**
Change to Net Assets	**$29,479.09**

Stewardship Update - Barbara Bookhart

Our 2025 Stewardship theme is: ***Devoted to Generosity***. On November 2nd and 9th we will focus on various biblical passages that highlight stewardship. Then on November 16th we will have ***Commitment Sunday***, when each of us is invited to make our financial commitments for 2026 using the commitment card you all were mailed. We do have extra copies just in case you need one.

This will be followed up with a ***Celebration Potluck Meal*** following worship, and each of you is invited to bring your favorite dish to share. We hope that each of you will be intentional about offering your estimate of giving as part of worship, and joining us for our celebration lunch where we give thanks for all that God has done and continues to do at NCPC that makes a difference in our community.

Worship

ALL SAINTS' DAY 11/1

Every year on November 1, it is good to remember those who have blessed our lives who have died and now are in heaven. While some saints have a particular day named after them, not all do. New Covenant has been blessed by the lives of many saints over the years. We lost one saint - Frank Cerniglia - this past week but we want to take an opportunity to give thanks for the lives of any saints whom we have known and loved, and give thanks for their lives.

COMMUNION OFFERING 11/2 FOR OUR DAILY BREAD

As is our usual custom, we will receive a Communion Offering on 11/2. This offering goes to help cover the cost of food for our once-a-month meal that we provide to Our Daily Bread.

THANKSGIVING 11/27

Thanksgiving, in our country, is celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November since 1941, due to federal legislation. It has been an annual tradition in the United States by presidential proclamation since 1863 and by state legislation since the Founding Fathers of the United States. Traditionally, Thanksgiving has been a celebration of the blessings of the year, including the harvest.

On Thanksgiving Day, it is common for Americans to share a family meal, give thanks for blessings, and view special sporting events. In addition, Thanksgiving is celebrated in public places with parades such as Macy's Thanksgiving Parade in New York City, ABC Dunkin' Donuts Thanksgiving Day Parade in Philadelphia, America's Hometown Thanksgiving Parade in Ply-mouth, Massachusetts, McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade in Chicago, and Bayou Classic Thanksgiving Parade in New Orleans. What Americans call the "Holiday Season" generally begins with Thanksgiving. The first day after Thanksgiving Day - Black Friday - marks the start of the Christmas shopping season. Beginning in the 2010s, a new tradition has emerged to also celebrate Thanksgiving with a meal with friends, as a separate event on a different day or as an alternate event on Thanksgiving Day. This is referred to as Friendsgiving. And so, dear friends in Christ, whether or not you have any blood relatives with which to join on this special day, we have lots of friends who would love to join with you! Gather and Give Thanks!

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY AND ADVENT

The Sunday before Advent begins is Christ the King Sunday. It is the final Sunday of the liturgical year and it encourages believers to live out their faith with Christ as King. This year it is on 11/23 with Advent beginning on 11/30. This is a holy season of 4 Sundays with 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!

Barbara Montazella, Worship Elder

Outreach

When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.
Matthew 26:30

The above verse is the only place in the Bible where it is recorded that Jesus sang. As a boy he was taught to sing in the synagogue during Shabbat and religious festivals. The scene where the above verse was recorded in scripture was in the upper room on the night he was betrayed. Of all the times and places that God chose to have us remember his Son singing, it was when he was led to his death. He was an the brink of great misery, and yet he would have them sing a hymn. Singing aloud songs of suffering can help us follow Jesus' example as we reach out with others.

On Tuesday, October 14, The front page of the News Journal reported - "Twenty Israeli hostages were transferred to the International Red Cross and returned home, according to the Israeli military. Almost 2,000 Palestinian prisoners were released by Israel as part of a cease fire deal. Cheers, cries and Hebrew songs rang out in Tel Aviv's Hostage Square, where thousands of Israelis had gathered to celebrate the homecoming".

While "most popular" can vary by region or survey, "Amazing Grace" is consistently cited as one of the most famous and beloved hymns globally, known for its message of redemption and its iconic status in popular culture and the Civil Rights Movement. Other highly popular and recognizable hymns include "How Great Thou Art," "Holy, Holy, Holy," "In Christ Alone," and "Jerusalem," which was voted the UK's favorite in one poll.

As we sing all the hymns, we are reaching out to one another while praising our Lord and Savior. Sing with intention!

Together We Grow and Meet Needs

Beverly Cook, Outreach Elder

Frog Corner

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

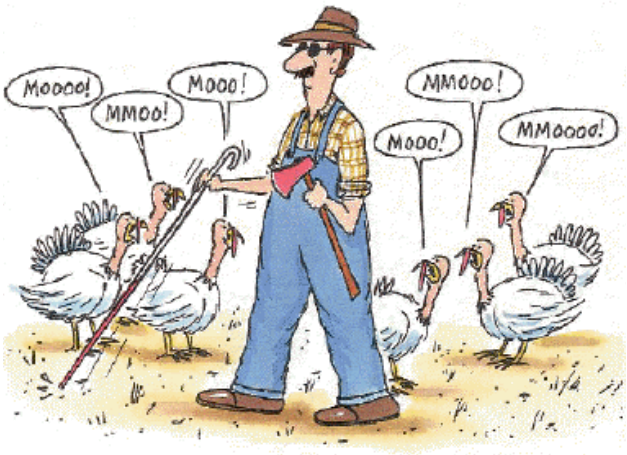
Don't forget the meaning behind the acronym **R I B B I T :**
Revere, ***I***nvite, ***B***less, ***I***nspire, and ***T***rust in the Lord.

Black November - A Turkey's Lament

When I was a young turkey, new to the coop,
My big brother Mike took me out on the stoop.
Then he sat me down, and he spoke real slow,
And he told me there was something that I had to know;
His look and his tone I will always remember,
When he told me of the horrors of ..... Black November;

"Come about August, now listen to me,
Each day you'll be thick, where once you were thin,
And you'll grow a big rubbery thing under your chin.
"And then one morning, when you're warm in your bed,
In will burst the farmer's wife, and hack off your head;
"Then she'll pluck out all your feathers so you're bald and pink,
And scoop out all your insides and leave you lyin' in the sink,
"And then comes the worst part" he said not bluffing,
"She'll spread your cheeks and pack your rear with stuffing".

Well, the rest of his words were too grim to repeat,
I sat on the stoop like a winged piece of meat,
And decided on the spot that to avoid being cooked,
I'd have to lay low and remain overlooked;
I began a new diet of nuts and granola,
High-roughage salads, juice and diet cola,

And as the rest ate pastries, chocolates and crepes,
I stayed in my room doing Jane Fonda tapes,
I maintained my weight of two pounds and a half,
And tried not to notice when the bigger birds laughed;
But 'twas I who was laughing, under my breath,
As they chomped and they chewed, ever closer to death;

And sure enough when Black November rolled around,
I was the last turkey left in the entire compound;
So now I'm a pet in the farmer's wife's lap;
I haven't a worry, so I eat and I nap,
She held me today, while sewing and humming,
And smiled at me and said "Christmas is coming....."