

New Covenant News

A publication of

CHURCH of the NEW COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH U.S.A.

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October 2007

EXTRAORDINARY HOSPITALITY

"The remarkable explosion of Christianity in the first century was due not only to the proclamation of the Gospel, but to the *extraordinary quality of Christian hospitality.*"

--Mortimer Arias

Let's do it folks, let's make Church of the New Covenant the most inviting place in Doraville! We've got lots of great things going on here – fascinating Bible studies, interesting and entertaining small-group activities, vibrant worship experiences, delightful celebrations, and passionate mission. There is only one more thing we need to make these activities even better: invite more people!

Friends, neighbors, strangers, young, old, middle-aged, gay, lesbian, trans-gendered, Guatemalan, Korean, Chinese, African, Canadian, Mexican, laborers, accountants, cooks, teachers, grave diggers, professors, lawyers, custodians – people of every type and stripe live all around us. Jesus welcomed *everybody* into fellowship with him. How can we do less?

Offering extraordinary hospitality requires nothing more than a smile and a willing heart.

So take to heart the famous slogan: *Just do it!*

In Christ,
Rick

SPOOKS, SAINTS AND SINGERS

Join us on October 28th for a night of festivity, fellowship and fun!

- Vespers Service at 5pm
- Recital of Seasonal Music, including Bach's Toccata and Fugue in D Minor, performed by Jerrold Tidwell, Organist
- Potluck Dinner at 6pm with Hymn Sing—bring a covered dish!
- Dress in costume as your favorite spook, saint or singer!



SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICE NOVEMBER 4TH

The CNC Book Club met this summer to read and discuss Jack Rogers' powerful book entitled *Jesus, The Bible and Homosexuality: Explode the Myths, Heal the Church.*

The group is so excited about what they learned and experienced that they want to share it with the congregation! Members of the book club are planning the worship service for November 4th. Erin Swenson will be participating in the service and will host a lunch and learn on transgender terminology and experiences.

After this informative discussion we will be better prepared to welcome all who come through our doors in an accepting way.

To learn more about Erin Swenson, visit her website at www.erinswen.com. Mark your calendars, and we'll see you there!

Church of the New Covenant

3330 Chestnut Drive
Doraville, GA 30340
Ph: 770-455-8117
Fax: 770-455-8553

Email: newcovenantpcusa@bellsouth.net
Website: www.churchofthenewcovenant.org

Pastor

Rev. Rick Neale

pastorcnc@bellsouth.net

Music Director/Organist Administrative Assistant

Jerrold Tidwell

newcovenantpcusa@bellsouth.net
Jerrold.Tidwell@gmail.com

Office Hours: Mon-Thurs, 9 am-2 pm

Session Members

Class of 2008

Bill Bower (Clerk of Session)
Suzanne Holton (Witness)
Nancy Meinersmann (Fellowship)

Class of 2009

Scott Holton (Stewardship & Finance)
Jeannie Jones (Spiritual Growth)
Richard Russ (Building & Grounds)

Class of 2010

Ashley DeVore (Worship)
Curt Schroeder (Witness)
Gretchen Turner (Worship)

Newsletter Submissions

New Covenant News is a monthly publication printed by Church of the New Covenant, PC U.S.A., Doraville, Georgia. If you have news you would like to share of upcoming events, please email or call the church office: newcovenantpcusa@bellsouth.net, 770-455-8117. Deadline for monthly submissions is the last week of the month.



October-November Lectionary Readings

- October 21** Jer. 31:27-34; Psalm 119:97-104; 2 Tim. 3:14—4:5; Luke 18:1-8
- October 28** Joel 2:23-32; Psalm 65; 2 Tim. 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14
- November 4** Hab. 1:1-4, 2:1-4; Psalm 119:137-144; 2 Thess. 1:1-4, 11-12; Luke 19:1-10
- November 11** Hag. 1:15b-2:9; Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21; 2 Thess. 2:1-5, 13-17; Luke 20: 27-38



The Clifton Night Hospitality volunteers this month are:

- October 10—Frank Wright
October 13—Ted and Suzanne Mikalsen
October 20—Bob & Pauline Weaver, Jan Kepic and Sandy Bond

(If you would like to learn more about Clifton, please click on the icon



- | | |
|------------|-------------------|
| October 1 | Vicki Castleberry |
| October 2 | Nikki Cook |
| October 7 | Suzanne Mikalsen |
| October 8 | Annette Washburn |
| October 10 | Kenneth Riviere |
| October 11 | Scott Holton |
| October 13 | Joanna Wheeler |
| October 14 | Nancy Berlin |
| October 16 | David Davis |
| October 18 | Marty Riviere |
| October 21 | Jill Ellison |
| October 21 | Teri Peterson |
| October 25 | Judy Ashley |

BECCA CALLED TO VIRGINIA



On Sunday, Oct. 7, the congregation of Suffolk Presbyterian Church of Suffolk, VA, voted unanimously to call Rebecca Lesley as their full time solo pastor. Suffolk Pres. is similar in size to CNC, with

an average Sunday attendance of about 80-85 people. Suffolk is near the coast, just west of Portsmouth and Norfolk and VA Beach. Turns out that one of CNC's own used to be a member there. Ask Jeannie Jones about it!

We hope to be moved by the middle of November. My first Sunday will be the first Sunday in Advent. What a symbolic time for new beginnings! I'm hoping to schedule my ordination and installation for Dec. 30, though that needs to be firmed up with the presbytery still.

Thank you all for your prayers and support as we have gone through this process. It's exciting to begin this new chapter in our lives.

Grace and peace,
Becca, Patrick and Laura Lesley

LITURGICAL MURAL

We are so close to having our beautiful mural done and we just need a few more hands. Come paint some gold stripes and do some touch ups on Wednesday November 7th at 6 pm. Play bells? Stay after practice. Sing in the choir? Come early and chip in. Don't ring or sing? Come paint!



Presbyterian Women
Christmas Gathering
December 2nd, 3-5pm
at the home of Carol Payne

SURVEY TIME

The Worship Committee is wanting your opinion on the time of the worship service. Do you love it at 10:30 am? Wish it were 9:00 am, 11:00 am, or even 4:00 in the afternoon? Please send your thoughts to Pat Bower at bpbower@comcast.net.



PRAYERS FOR OUR TROOPS



Karen Barber of Alpharetta set up a website in response to a request from her son, Chris, who is stationed in Iraq. He prays with his troops before every mission and told his mom, "I'm running out of things to say. Could you email me some good prayers?" You can log on to www.militaryprayers.org and submit a prayer for Chris and other members of our military to use.

This month in the Spirituality Center check out the book "Sleeping with Bread" and practice the examen.

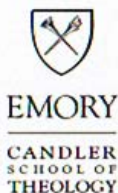
MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The Blend meets on the first and third Fridays of Nov at 7pm (Location TBA)



Reformation Day at Emory

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2007



Each year Candler School of Theology celebrates Reformation Day with special events that conclude with an evening concert.

The twentieth-annual Reformation Day at Emory program will take as its theme, "Luther and the Arts," and include a rich array of lectures by Martin Marty and others, and music, culminating in an evening concert featuring the Jaeckel organ, a fourteen-ton, custom-built instrument with 3,605 pipes, in the Schwartz Center for Performing Arts.

MIDVILLE MISSION

After thirty some years of taking Christmas gifts, groceries and used clothing to children and elderly folks in Midville, Ga., still the most impoverished area in our state, the Witness Committee voted to discontinue this mission outreach project. In recent years our congregation provided gifts for 60 children and 25 older and disabled people. Mrs. Bettye Jackson, our contact person in Midville, continually tells us how much the community appreciates and thanks us for our many gifts. "Some have quoted scripture on how thankful they are to receive a gift," wrote Bettye. Other folks indicate that our gift was the only gift that they received. So it is with mixed feelings that we close this relationship and move forward in other directions with our church ministry. We are thankful to have had the opportunity to serve these unfortunate families for so many years. Many of our membership have felt that our mission projects are spread too wide and too far. We hope to be more active in the community surrounding our church.

It was difficult to tell Bettye of our committee's decision. She responded. "That's fine. Your church has helped us for so many years and we are so grateful." We need to commend Bettye for all her time, talents and willingness in making our mission possible. She wrote, "It is a lot of work, but it is something I enjoy and feel within my heart that it is one of the missions that is mine."

Having made the decision not to send gifts, the Witness Committee voted to offer Bettye the \$600 that had been budgeted to Midville. The committee suggested that Bettye use the money for a Christmas Party for the children or toward a tutoring program. We knew that she was trying last year to get a grant to erect a building on her family's farm property for "children's activities including tutoring." When Bettye heard of the money, she was so excited! "Let me tell you what has happened," she replied. She explained that she, her husband and friends in Midville put some money together to build this dream. Soon after the siding and the roof were completed, they experienced a "severe storm with strong winds" that blew off and damaged the roof. They had no insurance at this point. The cost of replacing the roof is \$1200. Bettye exclaimed, "If you all can send us that much money to help replace the roof, I will give the children a Christmas Party at my own expense." What a deal!

We want to thank Jeannie Jones for supplying a resource that might help Bettye secure money for her tutoring program. This was a new resource for Bettye. She wanted the information right away over the phone! It will be interesting to learn if Bettye is successful in receiving aid. We will be in touch.

Submitted by Pauline Weaver

NEW TEAM AT CNC

There is a new group hard at work at CNC. It's the PR team! Jason Clay and Scott Pieper are heading up this team that is charged to help get the word (and The Word) out about CNC in our neighborhood and beyond. Mandy Davis, Susan Goslin and Lucy Jordan round out this dynamic group of hard workers.

CNC offers so many fellowship activities, special worship services, lunch & learns, Sunday school classes, mission projects, small groups - the list goes on and on. We need to make sure our neighbors know about each of these meaningful activities.

To facilitate this important goal, each team member has been assigned a committee in order to keep communicating about up-coming events as easy as possible: Jason Clay - fellowship; Scott Pieper - worship; Susan Goslin - administration; Mandy Davis - Witness; Lucy Jordan - spiritual growth. The team members will be contacting the committees on a regular basis to get all the pertinent information on up-coming events. We look forward to trying new avenues and forging new pathways to publicize our church.

CNC ANNUAL FALL HIKE



The annual CNC Fall Hike will be on Saturday, November 10. We have been invited by Susan & John Willson to visit Big Canoe & hike one of their trails.

It is a beautiful setting and should be a good time to see some foliage.

The hike is an easy to moderate 3 mile trail that starts near the Willson's and winds through woods, meadows and around a lake.

If you are interested, please contact [Jeff. Davis](#).

AIM BASKET UPDATE

Last week we delivered 8 containers of oil, 17 cans of fruit, 8 bottles of soap and detergent, 1 bag of meal and 1 carton drink!

The October AIM item is **48oz. Canola Oil**. November is **16oz. Rice**. Keep up the good work!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 SDAC-7-9pm	3	4	5 SDAC 8-9pm	6 SDAC 9-2pm, 5-7pm
7 Music & Wor- ship Meeting 12pm	8	9 1pm Crochet- Library SDAC 7-9pm	10 6:30 Asbell Ringers 7:45 Adult Choir	11	12 SDAC 8-9pm	13 SDAC 9-2pm, 5-7pm
14 Session Meet- ing 7:00 pm	15	16 1pm Crochet- Library SDAC 7-9pm	17 6:30 Asbell Ringers, 7:45 Adult Choir	18	19 SDAC 8-9pm	20 SDAC 9-2pm, 5-7pm
21	22	23 1pm Crochet- Library SDAC 7-9pm	24 6:45 Asbell Ringers 7:45 Adult Choir	25	26 SDAC 8-9pm	27
28 Pres. Wm Meeting 12pm Vespers/Spooks, Saints & Sing- ers/Dinner 5pm	29	30	31 Spiritual Growth meeting 5:30pm			