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COVENANT CHURCH
UNITED METHODIST

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Monthly Newsletter of Covenant Church

JUNE 2023

On May 6th, at a called meeting of the Western North Carolina Conference, 192 churches (around 20 percent of our churches) disaffiliated from the United Methodist Church. Over the past few years, but particularly over the last year, disaffiliation has been a key word in some United Methodist churches. But what does that mean for us at Covenant? What does this mean for you in particular?

First, I want to assure you that Covenant is going to be fine. When churches and people are talking disaffiliation, with some even voting to disaffiliate and leave, it can cause panic and concern. It can raise many questions in our mind. It can leave us uncertain for our very own future. I understand those emotions very much. Whenever there is uncertainty, there are always more questions than answers, and fear can set into our lives.

As I mentioned from the pulpit and by video, I will be talking about what all of this means for Covenant at various town halls. The first will be on Wednesday, June 7 at 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary. The second will be on Sunday, June 11 at 4:00 PM in the Sanctuary. I also will be offering a Zoom town hall on Monday, June 12 at 6:30 PM. I will be talking about how the United Methodist Church got to where it is and what that all means for Covenant Church United Methodist. As someone who cares greatly for the future of Covenant (just as you do) I want to take some of the uncertainty and fear away from what is going on in the larger denomination.

Most of all, I want you to be excited about Covenant! While these matters can be confusing and frustrating, it allows us to come together to do the best thing that Covenant does: and that is to be the church! For six years, I have watched you transform the world. More than anything, Covenant is about serving the world. And that will never change!

I hope you will join me for what I feel will be informative and beneficial sessions. And know that no matter what is going on outside of our walls, God is not only watching over Covenant, God is leading us down amazing and transformative paths. If we are there for one another, not only will we get past this moment in time, God will transform us into the people, and the church, that God is calling us to be. I look forward to seeing you at one of these meetings in June! And never forget: GOD'S GOT THIS!

Faithfully,

Darren

FAITH FRIENDS CAMP
SMALL GROUP SWAP! POTLUCK / MEET
AND GREET
VBS
FALL CONSIGNMENT SALE
HOMECOMING SUNDAY

Coming
Soon

STAY TUNED!
WATCH YOUR
EMAILS, OUR
FACEBOOK PAGE
AND
NEWSLETTERS
FOR MORE
DETAILS



Sunday, June 4, 2023 is Graduation Sunday. If you are a graduating high school senior or know of one within our Covenant family please contact Andrew Huff at Andrew@covenantchurchhighpoint.com or 423-328-4436. We will recognize our graduating seniors during both services. Please send to us 3 to 5 photos of the graduate and we will place them in a slide show which will be shown at both services on June 4th. The photos can be of the graduate as an infant, a toddler, middle and high school years and a graduating photo in their cap and gown, if you have it already. If you have a photo of the graduate participating with children's ministries or a youth program while at Covenant Church that would also be good. All photos can be scanned and emailed to Andrew Huff at Andrew@covenantchurchhighpoint.com or bring to the church office no later that May 26. A breakfast for the families of the graduates will be served at 10am.

Names suggested for the prayer list will remain on the list as long as the person making the request wishes. After 30 days, the name will be removed unless there is an additional request for the name to remain on the list. Please contact Michelle Higgins in the front office (michelle@covenantchurchhighpoint.com) or Ellen Coppley Florian (ellen@covenantchurchhighpoint.com) with any additions, deletions or corrections.

Prayer and Praise

- We welcome our newest Covenant Church baby, **Emily Grace Quiroz**, born 5-9-2023 to Heidi Noriega and Gerald Quiroz!
- Prayers for Andrew Huff's uncle, Tim Henry, who has stage 3 cancer.
- Prayers for Mike Bodnar, Cynthia Bodnar's husband, as he is experiencing health concerns.

Lord in your mercy hear our prayers.



Backpack Ministry is led by Trina Sampson and Leslie Hawn. Please reach out via email to get in touch with them. Trina Sampson is available at foursampsons@yahoo.com and Leslie Hawn is available at lwhawn@gmail.com with any questions or to get involved.

OUR MISSIONS

Northwood Community Center is our mission campus located at 2409 Ambassador Ct. in High Point. At Northwood, we offer a monthly community meal, food pantry, and clothing closet as well as special outreach events for the community. We are always accepting donations of clothing or non-expired food to serve our neighbors! Food can be delivered to the Covenant Gathering area and clothes can be donated in the blue box outside of Northwood. This month the food pantry has been busy remodeling are storage area. Removed old cabinets and installed new racks. Ready to receive more food as we grow. For more info or to get involved, please reach out to Gale Vitamvas (gale.vitamvas@gmail.com).



Covenant Community Garden

Like to garden? Did you know Covenant Church has a community garden in the back of our property and we have some spaces available? You can help get the beds ready for or take a bed for the summer. Plant whatever you like. You keep a percentage and the rest goes to Ward Street and Northwood's food pantries. If you are interested or want more information contact the church office.

Ward Street Community Resources has regular needs of boxed milk, canned goods, plastic and paper bags, and other items. Remember that hunger is not seasonal. Please deposit donations in the large gray bin under the coat rack in the hallway near the gathering entrance, or in one of the marked bins at the drive-through portico on the left side of the church. For more info please contact Judi Marshall at jmmread@aol.com.



We're Going Digital!

In an effort to keep our community up-to-date on every detail of what happens here at Covenant Church AND to be more environmentally conscious, we are GOING DIGITAL this fall. You have until July 1 to "resubscribe" if you'd like to keep receiving a mailed paper copy of the newsletter. If you'd still like to receive a printed newsletter, please call the church office at 336-841-3242 and let Michelle know you wish to continue receiving a mailed paper copy. If you are ready to receive a digital version of the newsletter please subscribe at: www.covenantchurchhighpoint.com/newsletter

**First Mondays at
Northwood Community Center**
5:00PM-7:00PM
FREE COMMUNITY MEAL
CLOTHING CLOSET
FOOD PANTRY

Northwood Community Center 2409 Ambassador Court, High Point, NC 27285

Town Hall Meetings with Pastor Darren

You are invited to join Pastor Darren for an information session and discussion regarding the future of the UMC and the future of Covenant Church. These town hall meetings will be offered:

- Wednesday, June 7 at 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary
- Sunday, June 11 at 4:00 PM in the Sanctuary (childcare provided)
- Monday, June 12 at 6:30 PM via Zoom

Covenant Kids

Now Enrolling!

Preschool After School Summer Camp



covenant.afterschool@gmail.com
covenantkidspreschoolum@gmail.com
covenantkids.summertime@gmail.com



The Heat Is On

The Covenant Youth are collecting new electric box fans as a youth service mission project to give to Northwood Community Center where they will be given to those who ask for one. Bring your fans to the Gathering Area Monday through Friday or Sunday mornings and each week the youth will deliver them to Northwood Community Center. Let's help make our neighbors as comfortable as they can be this hot summer.

A Message of Gratitude

Words cannot express how much we love Covenant Church and Darren. Thank you so much for your prayers, visits, food, phone calls and text during and after my spinal surgery in March. We love our Covenant family. We have something special about caring for one another in our church and out in our community.

With Love,
Shirley & Wayne Williams

A Thank You Note to Covenant Church

We would like to thank the special people of Covenant Church for all the calls, texts, cards, visits, food and especially the prayers for Doug. He truly loved his church family.

We are blessed,
Kay, Mike, Erin, Matthew and Laura Ritchie

A Note of Thanks

Thank you for all the love, kindness and support you have shown us. We deeply appreciate your expression of sympathy and love during this difficult time. Your support means so much, and will always be remembered. Thank you for the prayer shawls for me and my mother. I wear mine daily.

Warmly,
Dan and Wendy Jones

A Donation in Memory of Laura Blacksten

Please accept this donation of \$100.00 in memory of Laura Blacksten. Laura's mother, Patsy Willard, told me she wanted everyone to know Laura after her service. Everyone knows Laura now and her service was beautiful.

Thank you,
Patricia Hall with English Road Baptist Church

A Donation in Memory of Laura Blacksten

I would like to contribute \$50.00 in memory of Laura Blacksten. My husband and I knew Laura from middle school through high school. She was one of the first people I met moving into town as a six-grader and was always so welcoming and nice. Please give her family our deepest condolences.

Thank you,
Andrea & Rager Clodfelter

A Donation in Memory of Doug Ritchie

A \$50.00 donation has been given in memory of Doug Ritchie on behalf of the Judy and James Gibson Living Trust.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to:

Please save this list for reference throughout the month of April.

1. Shelby Renshaw, Neil Whitaker, Debby Watterson, Ashley Askins, Logan Smith
2. Jake Keeling, Dylan Roberts, Chase Talent
3. James Brown, Markus Havelly, Payson Ivey
4. Alex Wichman
5. Malon Baucom
6. Jessica McKnight, Claire Payne
7. Brian Morris, Chloe Pate, Sawyer Parsley, Emma Grace Metzger
8. Joan Russ, Mike Hatchell, Matthew Henry, Evan Tatum, Christopher Gross, Jason Hawn
9. —
10. Dawn Crouell, Chloe Vaughn
11. David Carter, Ally Davis, Terran Henry
12. Betty Wood, Jeff Sutton, Jerry Burns, Tanya Simmons
13. Debi Mays
14. Anna Blacksten
15. Robin Gentile, Pam Willoughby-Ray, Patrick Blower, Evan Reep
16. Barbara Morris, Edith Yarbrough
17. Janet White, Chris Coble, Molly Beth McCain, Alex McGee
18. Alex Snage, Gay James, Penny Mehling
19. Judy Humberson, Max McCaskill
20. —
21. Jason Trost, Stevie Gordon, Daniel Trost, Laura Ritchie
22. Brenda Myers, Judy Bradshaw, Hannah Morris, John Councilman
23. Kelly Jones, Tanya Stewart, Taylor White
24. Christian James
25. Sherry Stookey, Jack Keeling, Shannon Monroe
26. —
27. Brad Aust, Sarah Iddings, Jadea Millen, Charlotte Wichman, Rowan Ivey
28. Rodney Shipwash, Mike Smith
29. Lari Perkinson
30. Bob Perkinson, Laura Keeling, Becky York



ATTENTION COVENANT MEMBERS:

If you do not see your name on the monthly Birthday List, please contact the church office (michelle@covenantchurchhighpoint.com or 336-841-3242, x10) with your full name and birth day/month/year and we will add you to the monthly birthday list for the newsletter. Thanks!



Baseball Night

VS

HIGH POINT
ROCKERS

MARYLAND
BLUE CRABS

THURSDAY JUNE 8, 2023

HIGH POINT ROCKERS

301 N ELM ST, HIGH POINT, NC 27262

GATHERING OF THE "OWLS" GROUP BUT ALL ARE WELCOME! PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE BY JUNE 1ST FOR TICKETS.

YOUTH GROUP

SUNDAY NIGHTS
6:00 - 7:30

DINNER, PRAISE & WORSHIP,
GAMES, AND BIBLE STUDY

Join the Choir!



CONTACT CHOIR DIRECTOR STEPHEN DURR
OR JOIN THE GROUP FOR REHEARSALS

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS IN ROOM 9 AT 7:30 PM

DISCOVER
Covenant

Third Sunday Mornings at 10 AM
Meeting in the Sanctuary



OPEN TO ANYONE THAT WANTS TO LEARN A LITTLE MORE ABOUT COVENANT CHURCH'S HISTORY, BELIEFS, VALUES, AND FUTURE PLANS. THIS GROUP IS PERFECT FOR NEW MEMBERS LOOKING TO GET STARTED AND CONNECT DEEPER.

Covenant Church Welcomes Their Newest Members, in order: Jan Phillips, Cynthia Bodnar, and the Tarrant Family; Lee, Dana, Drake, Rylan and Ashley.



SHINE
beam with steady radiance
Matthew 5:15

Sunday Mornings @ 10 am
Room 208

“SHINE!” - New Women’s Group
Beginning Sunday, May 7
Led by Hilah Cook

SUNDAY MORNING
New Connections
SMALL GROUP

ROOM 10 AT 10 AM
OPEN TO ALL AGES

FAMILY MATTERS
Family Matters
Sunday Morning Small Group
For Families with Young Children
Room 106 at 10 AM

SOLES TO SOULS
SUNDAY MORNING SMALL GROUP

Room 6 at 10 AM
Best Suited for Retirees

FAITH LINK
SUNDAY MORNING
SMALL GROUP

ROOM 2 AT 10 AM
OPEN TO ANYONE BUT BEST SUITED FOR NEMLY EMPTY NESTERS!

OMG!
A SMALL GROUP OF "MISFITS"
ROOM 3 AT 10:00 AM

The self-proclaimed "misfits" group is the perfect landing place for anyone wanting to go deeper while remaining uniquely themselves! Jesus surrounded himself with misfits and this group intends to follow Christ through study and community. This unique group of 40-somethings meet in Room 3 at 10 am.
OMG = Our Misfit Group
Open to All Ages / Led by Todd Shoemaker

Key Class
SUNDAY MORNING SMALL GROUP / ROOM 8 AT 10 AM
BEST SUITED FOR SENIORS AGES 70

JUNE 2023

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

				<p>1 10:30 am Worship Planning (Rm 2) 6:30 pm Praise Team (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4 9:00 am Traditional Worship 10:00 am Breakfast for Graduates and families 10:00 am Small Group Hour (All Ages) 11:00 am Contemporary Worship 6:00-7:00 pm Youth Group (Youth Room)</p>	<p>5 8:30 am Men's Bible Study (Rm 10) 12:30 Staff Meeting (Rm 10) 5:00—7:00pm Northwood Community Meal 7:00pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>6 6:30 pm Downtown Sound (Rm 8)</p>	<p>7 4:30 pm Music Therapy (Rm 10) 6:30pm Wednesday Kids Club 7:30 pm Choir Practice (Rm 8)</p>	<p>8 10:30 am Worship Planning (Rm 2) 6:30 pm Praise Team (Sanctuary) 6:35 pm OWLS Rockers Baseball Game</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 8:00am—6:00pm Northwood Community Center and the High Point Quilt Guild private event</p>
<p>11 9:00 am Traditional Worship 10:00 am Small Group Hour (All Ages) 11:00 am Contemporary Worship 6:00-7:30 pm Youth Group (Youth Room)</p>	<p>12 8:30 am Men's Bible Study (Rm 10) 12:30 Staff Meeting (Rm 10) 7:00pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>13 6:30 pm Downtown Sound (Rm 8) 6:30 pm Weekday Planning Meeting (Rm 10)</p>	<p>14 4:30 pm Music Therapy (Rm 10) 6:30 pm Wednesday Kids Club 7:30 pm Choir Practice (Rm 8)</p>	<p>15 10:30 am Worship Planning (Rm 2) 6:30 pm Praise Team (Sanctuary) WNCC Annual Conference at Lake Junaluska</p>	<p>16 WNCC Annual Conference at Lake Junaluska</p>	<p>17 WNCC Annual Conference at Lake Junaluska</p>
<p>18 WNCC Annual Conference at Lake Junaluska 9:00 am Traditional Worship 10:00 am Small Group Hour (All Ages) 11:00 am Contemporary Worship</p>	<p>19 8:30 am Men's Bible Study (Rm 10) 12:30 pm Staff Meeting (Rm 10) 7:00pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>20 6:30 pm Downtown Sound (Rm 8)</p>	<p>21 4:30 pm Music Therapy (Rm 10) 6:30 pm Wednesday Kids Club 7:30 pm Choir Practice (Rm 8)</p>	<p>22 10:30 am Worship Planning (Rm 2) 6:30 pm Praise Team (Sanctuary) Faith Friends Camp</p>	<p>23 Faith Friends Camp</p>	<p>24 9am—11am Northwood Community Breakfast Faith Friends Camp</p>
<p>25 9:00 am Traditional Worship 10:00 am Small Group Hour (All Ages) 11:00 am Contemporary Worship 6:00-7:30 pm Youth Group (Youth Room) Faith Friends Camp</p>	<p>26 8:30 am Men's Bible Study (Rm 10) 12:30 pm Staff Meeting (Rm 10) 7:00pm Boy Scouts</p>	<p>27 6:30 pm Downtown Sound (Rm 8)</p>	<p>28 4:30 pm Music Therapy (Rm 10) 6:30 pm Wednesday Kids Club 7:30 pm Choir Practice (Rm 8)</p>	<p>29 10:30 am Worship Planning (Rm 2) 6:30 pm Praise Team (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>30</p>	