

Important Dates for NCLC This Month

Sunday School each Sunday at 9:00 a.m.
Worship each Sunday at 10:00 a.m.
Each Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. – Bible Study via Zoom
Each Thursday beginning at 10:30 a.m. – Bible Study and Prayer
Tuesday, December 2 – Old Men’s Breakfast at 9:00 a.m. at Timberwoods
New Covenant Ladies Christmas Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. at 100 Main in Valdese
Wednesday, December 3 - Prepare the Sanctuary at 1:00 p.m. at 215 Pete Brittain Road
Wednesday, December 10 – Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
Friday, December 12 – Hanging of the Greens at 1:30 p.m.
Saturday, December 20 – Men’s Ministry 9:00 a.m. at church
Wednesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve Worship at 5:30 p.m.

Birthdays

- † David Williams – 7
- † Debbie Little – 8
- † Lloyd Wallace – 12
- † Kristen Keller – 20
- † Nora Raymond – 21
- † Rick Watts - 22

If we missed your birthday, please let Beverly or Dianne know.

A Peak at Our Finances

Year-to-date through October	
Donations received	101,607.38 (includes interest income of \$8,000
Expenses	<u>-97,473.18</u>
Net	4,134.27



New Covenant News

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A Monthly Publication of the Congregational Activities of
New Covenant Lutheran Church in Morganton, NC



North American Lutheran Church

MISSION STATEMENT: New Covenant Welcomes God's People
Founded in Faith, United by Love, and Gifted to Serve

Come Be Part of Something Special!
We’re getting our new building ready for worship, and we’d love for you to be a part of this joyful moment. Join us on **Wednesday, December 3rd at 1 PM** at our new location: **215 Pete Brittain Road**. Together, we’ll set up the altar, hang the banners, place the hymnals, and prepare our new worship space for its very first service. It’s a wonderful opportunity to lend a hand, share in fellowship, and help create a space that will bless our whole church family.

Many hands make light work—and your presence would mean so much!

Hanging of the Greens – December 12th at 1:30 p.m.
You’re invited to join us for a joyful afternoon of decorating as we prepare the Lord’s house to welcome Christmas guests. We’ll be hanging wreaths, placing Chrismons on the tree—including many beautiful new ones created during the Chrismon Monday Classes—and filling our new worship home with the spirit of the season. This is always a fun and meaningful time of fellowship as we work side-by-side to make our space shine for Christmas.



We would love to have you join us and share in the joy!

Christmas Eve Service on December 24th at 5:30 PM!



Join us for a beautiful candlelight service with Holy Communion as we gather to celebrate the joyous birth of our Savior. This special evening is a cherished time of worship, reflection, and wonder—made even brighter when shared with loved ones. We encourage you to invite family and friends to experience this meaningful celebration with our church family. We look forward to welcoming you on this holy night!



Satan will not linger long where God is praised and prayers are offered.

Max Lucado

Christmas Traditions

The Poinsettia

Mexican legend says a small boy knelt at the altar of his village on Christmas Eve. He had nothing to offer the Christ Child on his birthday because he had no money, but his prayers were sincere and a miracle gave him the present that could be bought by no one; the first Flower of the Holy Night. As it is told, the flower sprang up at his feet in brilliant red and green homage to the holy birth. Thus was born the flower we know as the Poinsettia. It has since become a very popular Christmas plant.



Candy Cane



A candy maker in America wanted to make a candy that would be a witness, so he made the Christmas candy cane. He incorporated several symbols for the birth, ministry and death of Jesus. He began with a stick of pure white, hard candy. White to symbolize the Virgin birth and the sinless nature of Jesus and hard to symbolize the solid foundation of the Church and firmness of the promises of God. The candy maker made the candy in the form of a “J” to represent the precious name of Jesus and could also represent the staff of the “Good Shepherd,” who reaches down to lift up the fallen lambs. Three red strips and a large one were added to display the scourging Jesus received and the blood shed on the cross to give us the promise of eternal life.

Christmas Tree

The custom of an undecorated Christmas tree is believed to have begun in Germany in the early 700s. The earliest story relates how British monk and missionary St. Boniface was preaching on the nativity to a tribe of Germanic was not sacred, the apostle of Falling, it crushed every shrub in event, perhaps, but legend has it miracle, calling it the tree of the Germany were celebrated by brought to America and the New tree was decorated, first with candles and candies, then with apples and confections, later with an abundance of ornaments and glistening tinsel. It is now one of the most symbolic of traditions.



Druids. To convince the people that the oak tree Germany chopped one down on the spot. its path except for a small fir sapling. A chance that Boniface interpreted the fir’s survival as a Christ Child. Subsequent Christmases in planting fir saplings. The Christmas tree was World during the 17th century. Eventually, the



Dear Church Family,

Thank you all so much for being with me throughout my confirmation journey. Thank you for loving me, helping me and welcoming me into the church as a new member. I will use my new Bible and book of worship a lot. Again, thank you all so much!

Emma Keller



Attention all NCLC Women!

The New Covenant Lutheran Women will meet for our annual Christmas Luncheon on TUESDAY December 2nd at 11:30 am at 100 Main in Valdese. Anyone who would like to carpool - please let Angela Williams know, and we can coordinate riding together. Come ready to eat, laugh, fellowship, and talk about what we would like to accomplish in 2026!

Christmas Concert

Two of our New Covenant family members, Al Hermanson and Angela Williams, will be performing, along with dozens of other singers at the 70th Annual Morganton Combined Choir Christmas Concert on Sunday December 7th. The concert will be at the First Baptist Church in Morganton at 5:00pm. Come and enjoy some beautiful music and bring some friends. The concert is free, and Al and Angela would love to see familiar faces in the crowd!



Ways We Minister and Reach Out

Glen Alpine Food Pantry – We were able to gather and donate 154 pounds of food in November! So far this year, New Covenant has donated 1415 pounds of food to the GAFP! This is an average of 128 pounds per month! And we still have December's collection and donation which will almost certainly bring our total to over 1500 pounds! Thank you so very much for your continued generosity! This local food pantry distributes to over 1100 people each month and sometimes demand exceeds supply, so any donations are GREATLY needed and appreciated!

Pregnancy Care Center – Adopt-a-Family As of Sunday November 16, New Covenant members have given \$575 toward our Pregnancy Care Center Adopt-a Family. This is in addition to several folks signing up to purchase clothes, toys, books, blankets, and toiletries for them! Plans are to take the wrapped gifts, along with Walmart and grocery store gift cards, to the Pregnancy Care Center the first week of December! Angela says that she hopes it will all fit in her vehicle and that the Momma can get it all home! What a loving and generous group we have here at New Covenant.